



TLO INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

2009 Year in Review

Homegrown Terrorist Plots on the Rise in 2009

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JANUARY 2009

Bryant Neal Vinas

New Yorker Charged as al Qaeda Fighter



Bryant Neal Vinas

Vinas plead guilty in January 2009 to terrorism charges stemming from his arrest in Pakistan during 2008.

A convert to Islam, the Long Island native was accused of being trained by al Qaeda in Pakistan between March and August (2008) and participating in a rocket attack against U.S. Forces in September.

He “was charged with conspiracy to murder U.S. citizens, providing information to a terrorist organization, and receiving "military-type training" from a Al-Qaeda.”

“Vinas informed U.S. officials of an Al Qaeda plot to blow up a Long Island Rail Road commuter train in New York's Penn Station, saying that he had provided them with details of the New York transit system. This revelation lead authorities to issue a Nov. 25 2008 terror alert.”

Sources: <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1912512,00.html>

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/story?id=8148473&page=1>

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MAY 2009

James Cromitie

Plot to Blow Up NY Synagogues



James Cromitie

James Cromitie and three other New York men were arrested in an alleged plot to blow up area Jewish centers and military targets. The plot, however, was foiled by undercover agents.

Agents and police watched as the suspects planted what they thought were bombs outside two Jewish community centers in Riverdale, a Bronx, New York neighborhood. In one case the suspected terrorists planted a bomb inside a parked car. However, officials said the suspects were actually using fake explosives given to them in an earlier sting operation to make sure they didn't get their hands on real bombs.

The suspects also wanted to obtain stinger missiles to shoot down planes at the nearby Air National Guard Base at Stewart Airport. As part of the investigation, the suspects received what they believed were two stinger missiles to carry out their plot.

Source: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local-beat/FBI-Bust-Plot-Foiled.html>

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JUNE 2009

ABDULHAKIM MUJAHID MUHAMMED

ATTACK OF MILITARY RECRUITING CENTER



**ABDULHAKIM MUJAHID
MUHAMMED**

Muhammed killed an Army recruiter and wounding another in his attack of an Army-Navy recruiting center in Little Rock, Arkansas. Muhammed used the Google Maps application to investigate recruiting centers in at least five states, as well as Jewish institutions, a day-care center, a post office and a Baptist Church.

Muhammad, reportedly had been under investigation by an FBI joint terrorism task force after he traveled to Yemen and was arrested there for using a Somali passport.

While there, Muhammad — a U.S. citizen from Memphis who is a convert to Islam and was previously known as Carlos Bledsoe — studied jihad with an Islamic scholar.

Muhammad told authorities that he approached the recruiting center in Little Rock by car on Monday and started shooting at two soldiers in uniform, according to a police report.

Sources: <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/story?id=7732467&page=1>

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,524139,00.html>

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JULY 2009

DANIEL PATRICK BOYD

NORTH CAROLINA TERROR CELL



DANIEL PATRICK BOYD

Daniel Patrick Boyd (AKA “Saifullah” meaning Sword of God) and his sons, Dylan and Zakariya Boyd (AKA “Mohammed” and “Zak”) were planning on waging violent jihad against the West. Between 1989 and 1992, Daniel Patrick Boyd, or “Saifullah” received military style training in terrorist training camps located in Pakistan and Afghanistan. When Boyd finished his training, he fought against the Soviet Union and Communist rule in Afghanistan.

Daniel Boyd then became the ring leader of a North Carolina terror cell including; “Zak”, Zakariya Boyd; “Mohammed”, Dylan Boyd, Hysen Sherifi, Anes Subasic, Mohammad Omar Aly Hassan, and Ziyad Yaghi, which supported terrorism between the dates of November 9, 2006 and July, 2009.

“The purpose of the terrorism training cell was to advance violent jihad which included supporting and actively engaging in terrorist activities outside of the United States. It is alleged that the terrorist ring prepared to become “mujihadeen” and to die “shahid” or as martyrs furthering the cause of jihad. The group held fast to the belief that “fard ayn” or that violent jihad is the responsibility and requirement of every good Muslim. The group was committed to teaching and preparing others overseas for furthering jihad, as well as finding young converts to join their cause.”

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/x-12837-US-Headlines-Examiner~y2009m7d28-Daniel-Patrick-Boyd-Saifullah-Sword-of-God-planned-violent-jihad-in-Tel-Aviv-Israel>

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JULY 2009

ABDIFATAH YUSUF ISSE

MINNESOTA PIPELINE



ABDIFATAH YUSUF ISSE

Isse, a Seattle resident pled guilty in Minnesota to terrorism-related charges in connection with the disappearances of dozens of U.S. Somali youths, some of whom turned up fighting with suspected terrorists in Somalia and at least one of whom became a suicide bomber.

Court records indicated that Abdifatah Yusuf Isse, 25, a 2002 Roosevelt High School graduate and a former economics student at Eastern Washington University, traveled to Somalia to train with Al-Shabaab, a Somalia-based radical Islamist group that last year was designated by the U.S. State Department as a foreign terrorist organization.

His court-appointed attorney said Isse was likely being recruited as a possible suicide bomber.

Source: http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2009479125_somalia16m.html

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SEPTEMBER 2009

NAJIBULLAH ZAZI

TAXI CAB CONFESSIONS



NAJIBULLAH ZAZI

The Colorado resident was arrested Sept. 20 on charges of misleading investigators after allegedly denying he recognized his handwriting on bomb making materials. His father, Mohammed Wali Zazi, 53, and a New York City man, Ahmad Wais Afzali, were also arrested on similar allegations.

A joint FBI-New York Police Department task force feared Zazi may have been involved in a potential plot involving hydrogen peroxide-based explosives like those cited in an intelligence warning issued Monday, according to two other law enforcement officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak about the investigation.

According to the Department of Justice, "a federal grand jury in Brooklyn returned a one-count indictment alleging that between Aug. 1, 2008 and Sept. 21, 2009, Zazi knowingly and intentionally conspired with others to use one or more weapons of mass destruction, specifically explosive bombs and other similar explosive devices, against persons or property within the United States. The indictment also alleges that Zazi and others traveled in interstate and foreign commerce, used email and the Internet, and that this offense and the results of the offense would have affected interstate and foreign commerce."

- Sources: <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1925270,00.html>
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2009/09/19/najibullah-zazi-feds-prep_n_292518.html
<http://wcbstv.com/breakingnewsalerts/najibullah.zazi.indicted.2.1205295.html>

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SEPTEMBER 2009

HOSAM MAHER SMADI

DALLAS



HOSAM MAHER SMADI

Smadi was arrested in an FBI sting. Authorities said the Jordanian, who claimed to be a supporter of al-Qaeda, parked an SUV packed with what he thought were explosives outside Fountain Place, a 60-story office tower at Ross Avenue and Field Street.

When Smadi dialed a cellphone that he thought would detonate the "truck bomb," authorities said, he was arrested by undercover FBI agents who had been posing as fellow anti-American terrorists.

Smadi was charged with trying to detonate a weapon of mass destruction.

The arrest was part of an FBI sting operation that began after an agent monitoring an online extremist Web site discovered Smadi espousing jihad against the U.S. more than six months ago.

Source: <http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/latestnews/stories/092409dnmetbombarrest.1b177db8b.html>

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SEPTEMBER 2009

BETIM KAZIU

BROOKLYN RESIDENT JOINS AL-SHABBAB



"Betim Kaziu", a terrorist from Brooklyn was indicted yesterday for allegedly seeking training and weapons from Islamic militants to fight US troops overseas.

The [FBI](#) said Betim Kaziu, a US citizen, traveled to Cairo in February and later to Kosovo, where he was arrested in August.



AL-SHABAAB TERRORISTS

Along the way, Kaziu allegedly sought to join Al-Shabab, an armed movement listed as a terrorist group by the [State Department](#), and train in Pakistan to fight American troops in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Balkans.

Kaziu sought to purchase weapons in Egypt, according to the indictment filed in Brooklyn federal court.

"This case is a textbook example of a successful international effort to investigate and apprehend those who would engage in terrorist acts and preempt their plots," said U.S. Attorney Benton Campbell.

Source: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/brooklyn/item_ivLj4y41DpJxnrdpLQ9jbK

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SEPTEMBER 2009

MICHAEL FINTON

ILLINOIS



MICHAEL FINTON

Michael C. Finton, 29, who also went by the name Talib Islam, was arrested in Springfield, Ill., after federal officials said he attempted to set off explosives in a van outside a federal courthouse in the Illinois capital.

A decoy device was provided to Finton by FBI agents posing as al-Qaida operatives. Finton was charged with trying to detonate a weapon of mass destruction. Finton also is charged with one count of attempting to murder federal officers or employees.

Finton had been closely monitored by federal agents including an FBI special officer who posed as a low-level al-Qaida operative in the months leading up to his arrest, according to a federal affidavit in his case.

Public records show Finton was in an Illinois prison from 1999 until 2005 after being convicted of aggravated robbery and aggravated battery. After getting out, Finton told his parole officer he had converted to Islam, the affidavit said.

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2009/09/24/michael-finton-charged-by_n_298669.html

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OCTOBER 2009

DAVID COLEMAN HEADLEY

CHICAGO



**DAVD COLEMAN
HEADLEY**

David Coleman Headley, who is a U.S. citizen conducted massive logistical surveillance of the proposed terrorist targets in India's financial capital, Mumbai, for more than two years prior to the 26th November 2008 terrorist attack. This was revealed in the new federal charges that were filed against him.

David Coleman Headley allegedly got the technical know-how of terrorism by attending terrorism-training camps in Pakistan, which are run by the notorious Lashkar e Tayyiba (Lashkar). He was embroiled in a full-fledged conspiracy with its members and other people in laying the foundation of the terrorist attack in India and in Denmark too, over another issue, federal law enforcement officials announced today.

According to the court records the forty-nine year old Headley, was charged in a 12-count criminal information with six counts of conspiracy to bomb public places in India, to murder and maim persons in India and Denmark, to provide material support to foreign terrorist plots, and to provide material support to Lashkar, and six counts of aiding and abetting the murder of U.S. citizens in India.

Source: http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/world/charges-filed-against-david-coleman-headley-in-the-2611-attacks_100285762.html

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OCTOBER 2009

TAREK MEHANNA

BOSTON



TAREK MEHANNA

A pharmacist living with his parents in the suburbs of Boston was arrested on federal terrorism charges. The authorities said he had conspired to attack civilians at a shopping mall, American soldiers abroad and two members of the executive branch of the federal government.

The man, Tarek Mehanna, 27, was charged with conspiracy to provide material support to terrorists. The conspiracy occurred from 2001 to 2008, the acting United States attorney, Michael K. Loucks, said at a news conference in Boston.

The complaint filed on Wednesday also states that Mr. Mehanna and his associates traveled to Pakistan, Iraq, Syria and Yemen, seeking training from terrorist groups to fight against American soldiers. But the groups rejected them.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/22/us/22terror.html>

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OCTOBER 2009

LUQMAN AMEEN ABDULLAH

DETROIT



**LUQMAN AMEEN
ABDULLAH**

Federal authorities arrested several members of a radical Sunni Islam group in the U.S., killing one of its leaders at a shootout in a Michigan warehouse, the U.S. attorney's office said.

Agents were trying to arrest Luqman Ameen Abdullah, 53...on charges that included conspiracy to sell stolen goods and illegal possession and sale of firearms.

In the 43-paged complaint...the FBI said Abdullah, also known as Christopher Thomas, was an imam, or prayer leader, of a radical group named Ummah whose primary mission is to establish an Islamic state within the United States.

Abdullah was "advocating and encouraging followers to commit violent acts against the United States"...

He told them it was their "duty to oppose the FBI and the government and it does not matter if they die"...

"They are not taking cues from overseas," said Jimmy Jones, a professor of world religions at Manhattanville College and a longtime Muslim prison chaplain. "This group is very much American born and bred."

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,570613,00.html>

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NOVEMBER 2009

NIDAL MALIK HASAN

FORT HOOD, TEXAS



NIDAL MALIK HASAN

Federal law enforcement officials told the Associated Press that Hasan had come to their attention at least six months ago because of Internet postings that discussed homicide bombings and other threats. The officials said they are still trying to confirm that he was the author.

The gunman, Major Nidal Malik Hasan, first said to have been killed, was wounded but alive in a hospital under military guard, said Lt. Gen. Bob Cone at Fort Hood. He was shot four times, and was on a ventilator and unconscious, according to military officials. "I would say his death is not imminent," Cone said.

One of the Web postings that authorities reviewed is a blog that equates homicide bombers with a soldier throwing himself on a grenade to save the lives of his comrades.

Hassan went on a mass shooting spree at Fort Hood, killing 12 and wounding over 30.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,572305,00.html>

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DECEMBER 2009

THE PAKISTANI FIVE

WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA



SARGODHA, Pakistan — Five young American Muslims arrested in Pakistan met with representatives of an al Qaeda-linked group and asked for training but were turned down because they lacked references from trusted militants, a Pakistani law enforcement official said Thursday.

The young men apparently first tried to contact jihadist groups through Facebook and YouTube, then traveled to Pakistan to attempt personal meetings, a Pakistani diplomat in Washington said.

The case is another worrisome sign that Americans may be susceptible to recruitment to terrorist networks from within the United States. It comes on the heels of charges against a Chicago man accused of plotting international terrorism.

Source: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/dec/10/pakistan-police-5-americans-have-al-qaida-link/>

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DECEMBER 2009

Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab

INBOUND INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT TO DETROIT



**Umar Farouk
Abdulmutallab**

Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula on Monday claimed responsibility for the attack on a U.S. airliner bound for Detroit on Christmas Day, saying it was retaliation for a U.S. operation against the group in Yemen.

In a statement posted on the Internet, Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula said 23-year-old Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab coordinated with members of the group, an alliance of militants based in Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Abdulmutallab is accused of trying to detonate an explosive device hidden on his body as the plane approached Detroit on a flight from Amsterdam...Law enforcement officials say he tucked below his waist a small bag holding a potentially deadly concoction of liquid and powder explosive materials. The device burst into flames without exploding, according to authorities, and Abdulmutallab was subdued by passengers. The plane landed safely.

Officials said he came to the attention of U.S. intelligence last month when his father, Alhaji Umar Mutallab, a prominent Nigerian banker, reported to the American Embassy in Nigeria about his son's increasingly extremist religious views.

Abdulmutallab had been placed in a U.S. database of people suspected of terrorist ties in November, but officials say there was not enough information about his activities to place him on a watch list that could have kept him from flying.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,581307,00.html>

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QUESTIONS, COMMENTS
OR CONCERNS...???



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