

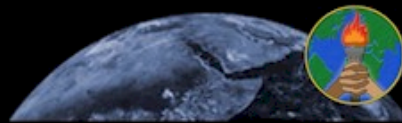
Consolidated weekly report

THREAT: Terrorism

The “war on terror” must fail because it is a self-defeating slogan. To make war on a tactic -- a raid, a breakout, an asymmetric attack on civilians, the use of chemical weapons -- makes no sense. These tactics have worked well throughout history and will continue to. “Terrorist” tactics were used by Americans against the British in the 1770’s, by the Israelis against the British, by Algerians against the French. Progress is only possible if the problem is clearly defined ... as **global militant Islam**. It may be political correctness that prevents that definition, or it may be that there is a genuine misunderstanding of the problem. Once confronted, the origins of **global militant Islam** are largely well-defined and, with sufficient cooperation by a range of nations, is a relatively simple problem to treat.

Near-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term
<p>In the near-term, the US may find it necessary to consolidate a broader support base in its global campaign against “terrorism” and will find it necessary to reach <i>détente en-bloc</i> with entities such as the European Union and the Organization of the Islamic Conference. But much depends on how the situations in Iraq and Afghanistan develop. How each is <i>perceived</i> within one or two years -- as a job well done, a quagmire, or a strategic withdrawal – will affect US credibility for several administrations.</p>	<p>Nations such as Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, and Turkey are best placed to depict violent Islamic militantism in clear contrast with global Islam but they can not join the “war on terror” to the extent the US expects while it remains a US war rather than a universal hazard because that would sacrifice their credibility at home. It seems unavoidable that the only way to build a general resilient consensus against global militant Islam is at the United Nations level and with the consent of concerned nations.</p>	<p>In the mid to longer term, the United Nations will either grow in stature and its ability to respond to crises or, for practical purposes, cease to exist. In this time scale there will be increasing pressure on the voting rules of the Security Council so that global interests are expressed as a consensus or some majority rather than the often sordid interests of one of the veto Powers. Through such reforms the UN would have a new legitimacy to tackle global challenges such as the “terrorism” of that day, or worse challenges such as epidemics and climate change.</p>

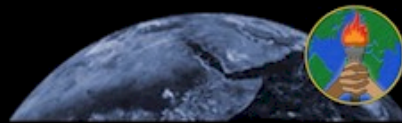
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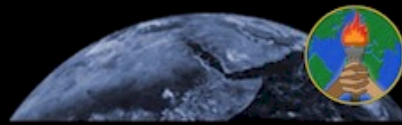
Hazard Level

Change Codes
↓ Deteriorated
• Steady
↑ Improved
↗ Alert

week-ended	See daily list of news items
2007 Jul 01	<p>↓ A DHS leak says that <i>al Qaeda</i> is planning a terror "spectacular" this summer --] "Official cites resemblance to warnings and intelligence before 9/11".</p> <p>Abortive London car-bombings in the entertainment district could have killed many. One report had just said "what will be worrying the security services at the moment is whether this is just the tip of a bigger plot" when a less than successful attempt was made at Glasgow airport, setting the UK threat level to the highest -- "critical". [Comment: Speculation on the reasons for the timing of the bombings ranged from anniversary of the 07 July 2005 bombings, the knighthood for Salman Rushdie, and the change of UK Prime Minister. The <i>Glasgow</i> connection favors the latter -- the new Prime Minister Gordon Brown is a <i>Scot</i>.] "Today I say: Rejoice, by Allah, London shall be bombed." said a web posting <u>17 hours</u> before the attempted London car-bombings. Also see: London bomb scare: A chronology of attacks. Growing Links Seen Among Southeast Asian Islamists; Southern Thailand Affected - [Comment: "Terrorist links" across <i>south-east Asia</i> are <u>far more tenuous</u> and <i>ad hoc</i> than this article suggests.]</p> <p>The Philippines stresses that Ollie North did not mean "<i>side-by-side</i>" when he said US and Philippines forces are fighting "<i>side-by-side</i>" in a report on <i>Fox</i>. [Comment: Under present Philippines law that would not be permitted.]</p> <p>A new wave of senior US officers seem better acquainted with the needs of <i>asymmetric warfare</i> and <i>insurgencies</i> than the "<i>shock and awe</i>" school; "<i>new senior officers are expected to give greater weight to an indirect approach to warfare</i>" -- New Players in Terrorism Fight.</p> <p>The Low-Tech War Against Terrorists -- "<i>Some 100 IED and remote controlled attacks occur daily in Iraq, and the technology has been exported to Afghanistan, Pakistan, Egypt, and now Lebanon</i>".</p> <p>The <i>Jamestown Foundation</i> says "<i>the alleged JFK plot appears to be an isolated incident concocted by a group of aging amateurs</i>" -- Spotlight on Trinidad and Tobago's Jamaat al-Muslimeen.</p> <p>An attack by "<i>terrorist insurgents</i>" killed 27 in Myanmar -- "<i>the KNLA, the military wing of the Karen National Union (KNU), has been waging a guerrilla war for the autonomy of the Karen State for almost six decades.</i>"</p>
2007 Jun 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amateur-grade <i>anti-satellite</i> weaponry is a real (theoretical) possibility; "<i>a terrorist organization or rogue state could threaten essential satellite systems</i>" -- DIY anti-satellite system. <p>"<i>The [UK] government's persecution of the Muslim community is alienating the very people whose support is needed to stop further atrocities.</i>"-- Breeding resentment.</p> <p>Heavily redacted FBI documents fail to satisfy suspicions of <i>mystery flights</i> in the days after 9/11 -- Bin Laden may have arranged for family to flee US.</p> <p>In Indonesia, recently captured <i>JI</i> leader Abu Dujana is refusing to give up fugitive mastermind Noordin Top -- "<i>it's not permitted to give up a Muslim brother to a government that does not implement Islamic law.</i>"</p>



	<p>In Northern Ireland, an insight into the life of a dedicated <i>Islamist</i>; "... <i>but at night, he allegedly assumed the role of a computer expert who made funds and shelter available to high-level Jemaah Islamiyah terrorists ...</i>" -- <i>Filipino terrorist was janitor, waiter by day.</i></p> <p>An interview with Saadi Yacef, one of the original "terrorists" in Algeria's independence fight against the French -- <i>Algerian Is Unrepentant on Role in Popularizing Terror Tactic.</i></p> <p>It is getting harder to detect movement of <i>terrorist funds</i> -- "they're now investing in securities and moving money through securities transactions".</p> <p>Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Chad – does "<i>terrorism</i>" really have any meaning in this part of the world, or is it just a word for any civilization the US does not understand -- <i>Somalia in the eye of the storm.</i></p> <p><i>African</i> countries of the <i>Sahel</i> -- Senegal, Mali, Niger, Chad are among the world's poorest and seem vulnerable to Islamist inspiration -- <i>W Africa a 'breeding ground' for terrorists.</i></p>
2007 Jun 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Violent G8 and WTO <i>protestors</i> have prompted calls for a European-wide database of <i>leftists</i> and <i>anarchists</i> managed by Europol -- <i>EU-wide database on far-left radicals?</i> <p>The <i>Jerusalem Post</i> thinks the West has lost the plot; "psychologically, it is natural to respond to a threat you think you can't do anything about by trying to ignore it" -- <i>Interesting Times: Quiet, America is sleeping.</i></p> <p>"Now, the CIA has set up shop on the Horn of Africa" -- <i>Taking the 'War on Terror' to Africa.</i> "'<i>Extraordinary renditions</i>' appears to have been extended to the Horn of Africa" -- <i>US Interrogates Terror Suspects in Ethiopian Jails.</i> "The CIA is recruiting <i>Arab-speaking Sudanese</i> citizens to infiltrate Middle Eastern radical groups ..." -- <i>US enlists Sudanese spies in war on terror. Deadly explosion hits Nairobi rush hour</i> - - "The explosion was just two blocks away from the site of Kenya's worst terrorist attack - the <i>1998 bombing of the US embassy.</i>"</p> <p>A profile of Abu Dujana, JI key actor arrested in Indonesia this week -- <i>Profile: Abu Dujana.</i></p> <p><i>Schools</i> not weapons are the real front line against the Taliban -- <i>The Taliban Lose One To The School Teachers.</i></p> <p>Spain has a unique status within the <i>Salafi jihadist</i> world-view -- <i>Catalonia: Europe's New Center of Global Jihad.</i></p>
2007 Jun 10	<p>↓ In Iraq, a <i>bomb</i> attack on a group of <i>tribal chiefs</i> who oppose <i>al-Qaida</i> may indicate a significant change of fortune for the <i>Salafists</i> in Iraq and beyond -- <i>Bombing Shows Schism Among Iraq's Sunnis.</i></p> <p>In the UK, <i>counter-terrorism</i> authorities will start a <i>register</i> of <i>terrorism-related persons</i>; "convicted terrorists and their supporters will be placed on a special register, <i>like sex offenders</i>, under new measures to be announced today" – <i>Terrorists will be put on special register.</i> Also in the UK, police are systematically tightening up controls on hazardous tankers; "we would be remiss not to do some preventative work on this" -- <i>Police move to foil 'tanker bombers'.</i></p> <p>In Spain, the <i>Basque</i> separatist group (ETA) said it has called off a ceasefire and that <i>hostilities</i> will resume at midnight June 6." -- <i>ETA has 100 gunmen, 'excellent terrorist infrastructure'.</i></p> <p>A remaining suspect in the alleged <i>JFK airport bombing</i> plot has surrendered -- <i>Suspect in JFK airport plot surrenders.</i> Some analysts see very weak connections between JFK and existing <i>Black Muslim</i> groups [Malcolm X, not bin Laden] in the <i>Caribbean</i>; others see a sea of troubles and "a 'loose-knit' confederation of extremists have found it easy to move around the tourist-friendly islands" --</p>



'Alarming' rise of radical Islam in Caribbean. In a tale better than "24", one of the plotters, arrested in **Trinidad**, was said to be headed for **Venezuela** where an **Iranian visa** was waiting ... -- *Terror suspect arrest fuels tension with Caracas.*

DHS has finally enlisted the advice of prominent **US Muslims** to advise on socio-cultural issues -- *Security agency enlisting Muslims to rebut radicals.* [It is perhaps too late.]

Oregon ecoterrorist sentenced to 7 years in prison for arson -- "a top **FBI** official testified ... that *violent environmental and animal rights groups are the nation's top domestic terror threat*".

2007 Jun 03

↓ A mature plot, broken by an *informant*, to blow up *fuel tanks and pipeline* under **JFK Airport** seems unrelated to *al Qaeda* but to **Caribbean Islamists**. [Comment: The group that may be involved, **Trinidad's Jamaat-al-Muslimeen** is closer to **Malcolm 'X' Black Muslim** ideology. The event threatens the possibility of a *new "front"* with a *new demographic* disenchanted with the US.] **TB** already kills four people per minute every day; a new *highly drug-resistant strain/s* could be *really* dangerous if used as a weapon -- *New Strains of TB Can Be Used as a Powerful Bioterror Weapon.*

Is Libyan militant new face of al-Qaida? -- "*Abu Yahya al-Libi is now the most visible face of al-Qaida, surpassing even Ayman al-Zawahiri in actual video appearances.*" The **internet** continues to be a powerful tool for "terrorists" -- "when we started this research we had around 12 terrorist Web sites. Now we have more than 5,000 Web sites." **Bin Laden's** mission of offering *al Qaeda* ["the Base"] as a resource for like-minded groups is working out well; "[*al Qaeda*] has enabled the **Taliban** to develop from a *xenophobic, home-grown Islamist movement* into a more outward looking force that is helping to advance *al Qaeda's* global interests" -- *Taliban learns tactics, propaganda from al Qaeda.* [Comment: The local zealots who defeated the **Russians** have now become globalized.]

An intense battle continues between the **Lebanese** military and a radical group **Fatah al-Islam** in a **Palestinian** refugee quarter in **Tripoli** [northern Lebanon]. Much is at stake in what many see as a sudden *new front* against **Salafic** [**Sunni**] extremism. **Kuwait News Agency** says "*the recently-surfaced group is reportedly a cocktail of Arab nationals, advocating Al-Qaeda thoughts.*" They say "*We are ready to blow up Beirut and every other place in Lebanon*" -- *Lebanon gunmen dig in for 'two-year battle'.* [Comment: The **Fatah al-Islam** "foreigners" who arrived in the camp "recently" may partly comprise escapees from **Iraq**.]

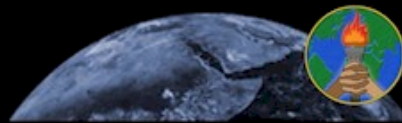
Nazis, criminals of every type, and now extremist groups seek Swiss hospitality; "*Switzerland serves Islamic-motivated terrorism as a place for retreat, preparation, logistics and propaganda*" -- *Muslim terror groups using Switzerland as base: govt.*

"*Al Qaeda has infiltrated nearby Algeria, Morocco and Tunis. Its eyes have turned to Nigeria because of its vast energy resources.*" -- *Nigeria's fresh start.* [Comment: **Islam** is predominant in **Nigeria's north**, in contrast to the **pagan** and **Christian south** but Islamists make no secret of their mission to bring Islam to all of the country.]

Psychologists and other specialists commissioned by the **Intelligence Science Board** says *interrogation techniques* used since the 2001 terrorist attacks are *outmoded, amateurish and unreliable* -- *Advisers call U.S. interrogation methods 'amateurish'.*

2007 May 27

- There is controversy over whether *violent environmental activists* [**ELF**, and others] should be dealt with under "terrorist" legal provisions; is it the *act* or the *agenda* that makes it terrorism? -- *Environmentalists Classified as Terrorists, Get Stiff Sentences. Bush Declassifies Alert on Al-Qaeda* [**Intelligence** of unknown validity in early 2005 that **Osama bin Laden** would like to attack the **US** seems barely worth the press release.]



2007 May 20

A "terrorist accomplice" was detained in **Tajikistan** for recruiting teenagers to study in a *madrasah* -- "*In the recent months, Tajikistan has launched struggle with Islamic manifestations different from traditional ones.*"

Despite war in **Gaza, Israel** says it has "*nothing to discuss*" with **Hamas** -- although founded through "terrorism", against the **British**, Israel now affects a high moral stance on the tactic.

Remembering David Galula's "*Counterinsurgency Warfare*" of 1964; "*thus, a mimeograph machine may turn out to be more useful than a machine gun*" -- *Excerpt: The Counter Insurgency Bible.*

A rift over *tactics* [similar to that thought to have emerged in **JI** in **Indonesia**] is seen in **Algeria's** militant **Islamists** and may offer a means of fragmenting the group.

Over 100 **Islamist militants** who campaigned against the **Egyptian** government in the 1990s have been released after more than 10 years in prison after agreeing to renounce *violence*.

2007 May 13

- **Mortars** hit as Prime Minister **Blair** thanks troops on his farewell visit -- **Iraqi insurgents** seem to have an undiminished grasp of current affairs and *sense of occasion*. Former head of **MI6** says **Islamist extremists** are still ahead of the curve; "*al-Qaida is showing an extraordinary ability to mutate in response to our successes*" -- *Anti-terrorism strategy needs overhaul, says ex-MI6 chief.* An insight into next-generation *asymmetric* operation; "*the LTTE has shown that it is possible to use commercially available space technologies for 'military' purposes.*" -- *Is Tamil Tigers thinking of an aerospace force?*

Sri Lanka along with **Israel** and **Afghanistan** will become partner nations of the *Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism* at the meeting in **Kazakhstan** next month.

Myanmar has banned sale of *remote-control toys* "*because of fears they could be turned into detonators for bombs ...*".

The **US** is introducing new legal provisions for *tipsters* "*to protect Americans from being sued for reporting to authorities suspicious activity that may lead to a terrorist attack*".

Rand says "*a threat assessment that ignores intergroup dynamics, including technology exchanges and beyond, is destined to be outdated quickly*" -- *Terror groups help each other with tech.*

Thailand says Southern *militants* may have been trained by **Indonesians** -- "*You really need to know certain bones of the necks to behead someone and Thais don't really know how ...*"

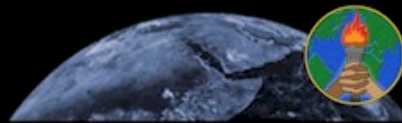
2007 May 13

- The **UN** has launched a *database* to assist member states in *counter-terrorism* endeavors -- "*the technical assistance matrix provides potential donors with a snapshot of where assistance is still needed by states in implementing Security Council resolution 1373 ...*"

Bombings at two *bridges* in **Baghdad** killed 23 -- flush with success of demolishing the *Sarafiyah bridge* exactly one month ago, these bombings may have been aimed specifically at the bridges.

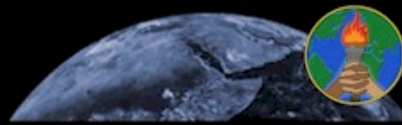
"*Operating out of the Tri-border [Paraguay, Brazil and Argentina], Hezbollah is accused of killing more than 100 people in attacks in nearby Buenos Aires ...*" -- *Hezbollah builds a Western base.*

One of the **Fort Dix Six** routinely *delivered pizzas* to the base -- "*my intent is to hit a heavy concentration of soldiers ... You hit four, five or six Humvees and light the whole place [up] and retreat completely without any losses.*" A sensible brief survey of *Islamic militantism* in the **US** by the *Council on Foreign Relations* -- *American Muslims and the Threat of Homegrown Terrorism.*



2007 May 06

- The **Homeland Security Policy Institute** at *George Washington Univ* adds to the observations that the *internet* is important, if not an *enabling technology*, for '*global terrorism*' -- "*a nation that gave rise to Silicon Valley, Hollywood and Madison Avenue has been outplayed in the realm of ideas, effectively communicated in the new media. ... We've created this global village — the Internet — without a police department.*" The **Combating Terrorism Centre** associated with *West Point* says "*It is not possible to capture, kill, or incarcerate ideas ... [but] ... we can sabotage them by infiltrating their networks and flooding the web with bogus information*".
A suggestion that some forms of **CBRN** detection be incorporated cheaply into mass-market **cell phones** would be a "*game changer*" changing the paradigm for chemical, biological and radiation detection; low cost, low quality ubiquity would augment high-cost, thinly deployed devices.
The slums of **Casablanca** do not necessarily create *suicide bombers* but the conditions can be exploited by outsiders -- *Casablanca breeds new wave of bombers*.
More evidence that **Taliban** and **al-Qaeda** are distinct, and sometimes warring, entities -- *How Pakistan settled an al-Qaeda score*. Investigations in 10 of the 27 *suicide bombings* in different parts of **Pakistan** since 2002 have stalled because authorities are *not able to identify* the bombers.
By historical accident, local, state and federal authorities cooperate well in **Los Angeles** and the **LA Joint Terrorism Task Force** has come together better than others -- "*eighteen million people, trying to self-evacuate out of here, will collapse this place.*"
Some elements of the **US** establishment are readily admitting things are not going well; "*the military component of national power plays only a supporting role in this effort; the primary focus is on non-military influence*" says the **State Department** -- *War on terrorism going badly, US admits*. **US** intervention in **Iraq** has been the driver and force multiplier for suicide bombers elsewhere, but nothing worthy of the term '*sleeper cell*' has yet been found in the **US** -- *The missing sleeper cells*.
An Old Bailey judge sentenced five who plotted **bomb attacks** in the **UK** to *life imprisonment* -- "*you have received and taken advantage of the benefits that this society offered you, yet you sought to destroy it.*" The actors in the lethal **7/7 London bombings** met these five several times but security services chose not to widen the investigation to include them, bringing lingering recrimination that they failed in their duty -- *How secret service failed to stop bombers*. Also, the **Pakistan** intelligence service, **ISI**, is adamant that **UK** authorities had enough information to stop the 7/7 bombings -- "*There is no question that 7/7 could have and should have been stopped. British agencies did not follow some of the information we gave to them*". The 7/7 London bomb plotters were typical of those that the group **al-Muhajiroun** recruited but in the 1990s these groups were ignored, thought a risk only to *foreign governments* -- *The network*.
The **US** has designated **Harkat ul-Mujaheddin** (HuM), **Jaish-e-Mohammed** (JeM) and **Lashkar-e-Taiba** (LeT), operating mainly in the **Indian** sub-continent, as *foreign terrorist organisations*.
There was an expert observation that the demolition of the **Sarafiya Bridge** in **Baghdad [Iraq]** on 12 Apr 2007 displayed *sophisticated skills* (or superb luck) -- "*Bridges are notoriously difficult to destroy, so the triggered collapse of the bridge marks a new level of sophistication in engineering analysis for bomb placement.*"
Demolition of an important **highway ramp** in **Oakland [CA. US]** by a negligent **gasoline tanker** demonstrated the relative ease with which cities can be put to great cost by a single unstoppable incident.



2007 Apr 29

↓ The US State Department reports a 29% percent increase in terrorist attacks year-on-year in 2006 to around 14,000, excluding attacks on US troops; worldwide 5,800 attacks resulted in at least one *fatality*. New CENTCOM chief Admiral Fallon thinks "*long war*" has many unhelpful nuances and particularly conflicts with the US intention to vacate Iraq as soon as it can.

Saudi Arabia announced a series of arrests and weapons finds over recent months, breaking a plot that closely resembled 9/11 -- [Saudi arrests suspects planning oil attacks](#).

The Pentagon said a key *al-Qa'eda* operative has been captured -- Nashwan Abdulbaqi (aka Abdul Hadi al-Iraqi) is possibly the number-three in the group.

The US ambassador to Mali thinks Mali can be a bulwark in West Africa against Islamism sweeping south across the Sahel, but he says aid not military force is the key weapon.

US federal officers raided an Alabama militia group and "uncovered a small arsenal of home-made weapons that included a rocket launcher, 130 hand grenades and 70 IEDs".

A Pakistani Islamic charity has won a court case against closure -- "the court has instructed the government that such action cannot be taken under the rules of the UN". [The Pakistan government subsequently refused to obey the court order.] The suspected US head of the Tamil Tigers was arrested in New York -- "as the director of the US branch of the Tamil Tigers, based in Queens, New York, Kandasamy oversaw the organization's activities, including its fund-raising ... " EU foreign ministers have agreed to tell groups and individuals on its terror register why they are listed.

UK Home Secretary Reid says Don't scare the public -- fear does not necessarily produce security; also, don't underestimate the threat of economic or electronic attack.

A good primer on *suicide tactics* in the history of *asymmetric warfare* -- "men will refuse to accept longer a burden they find too great to bear" -- [Roots of suicide terrorism \[book review\]](#).

The Chlorine Institute recently alerted the FBI to several thefts or attempted thefts of 150-pound chlorine tanks from *water treatment* plants in California.

"al Qaeda has more bases, more partners, and more followers today than it did on the eve of 9/11" -- [Al Qaeda Strikes Back](#). The head of Scotland Yard observes that *al-Qaida* seems to be thriving despite the "war on terror" -- one reason for the resilience of Islamist extremism is the *lack of trust* in authorities by local *Islamic communities*. "... the United States now seems poised to start at the wrong end of the learning curve in facing a new challenge" -- [The Counterinsurgency Fight: Think Globally, Lose Locally](#).

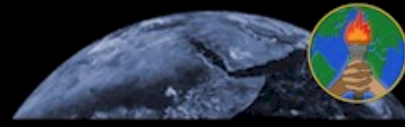
2007 Apr 22

• *Reaching out ...* a Canadian has been beaten and threatened with death in Ontario [Canada] for articles he wrote about a Pakistan group *Minhaj-ul-Quran*.

Displaying an edge vicious even by Philippines standards, seven men have been *beheaded* and their heads delivered to the army on the southern Philippine island of Jolo – the *Abu Sayyaf* group, more *kidnap* criminals than ideological *Islamists*, are probably responsible.

The UK High Commissioner to Australia said that Britain's involvement in Iraq was not prompted by terrorism, causing much scurrying in the Australian government.

After eons of inactivity, the UK government says it is forming a group to counter *Islamist propaganda* -- "If you want to take the fight to the terrorists you've got to defeat their propaganda and their ideas as well as their methods," said Prime



Minister **Blair** -- [Group to hit back at al Qaeda propaganda](#). [Comment: The 10 year delay in implementing this self-evident measure – and intervening events such as **Iraq** -- will probably mean an extra 20 years to reach any real cordiality with Islamic communities; a truce in an 800-year conflict is not achieved overnight.]

A detailed description of the "layered" approach now used on some **Islamist** militant **web-sites** -- [British Islamists' Cyber Camouflage](#).

The **Islamic Army in Iraq** and other groups have criticized the **al-Qaeda**-affiliated **Islamic State of Iraq** for its tactics. [Comment: It is strategically crucial to remember that various insurgent groups in Iraq have different -- and conflicting -- goals.] An insurgent group in **Iraq** declared it is making its own **rockets**, not a surprise given hundreds of thousands that were employed in the massive Iraqi **arms industry**. Many observers agree with an **al Qaeda**-related **Iraqi** group that Iraq is the best thing that could have happened for **Islamic militantism** -- "*if Afghanistan was a school of terror, then Iraq is a university of terrorism*".

In **Morocco**, there were questions about the presumed **suicide bombing** near the **US Consulate** in **Casablanca** – a *remote detonation* system was discovered and the bombers did not have the **profile** of bearded Islamists -- [Bombers 'did not have clear targets'](#).

The founder of **Algeria's Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat**, which has recently changed its name to al Qaeda Organisation in the Islamic Maghreb, rejects violence as a tactic – the group is seeking to make a "second Iraq" in Algeria.

A new paper -- [Assessing al-Qaeda's Chemical Threat \[PDF\]](#).

Malaysia joins others in calling for a universal informative, actionable definition of **terrorism** -- head of Malaysia's **Counter-Terrorism Center** says "*In your own country, I would hesitate to define terrorist for you, but you would know one when you see one by his conduct.*" [Comment: In the absence of a definition, "terrorism" is merely a pejorative for those we don't like; our friends are "freedom fighters".]

The **US Congressional Research Service** observes that **success** against a multi-mode, multi-factor phenomenon such as **terrorism** is measured in viewer-selected ways that may not actually represent success on the ground; *arrests, money spent, deaths* may or may not actually equate with "success" -- [Report: It's tricky to measure terror](#).

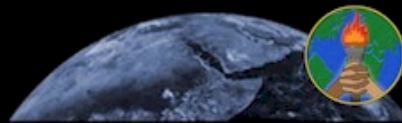
2007 Apr 15

↓ Brief outline of the Symposium "*Common Security and the Global War on Terrorism*" jointly organized by the **Pakistan Army** and **US Central Command** -- [Land Forces Symposium in Pakistan for Evolving Universal Definition of "Terrorism"](#). Addressing the *Symposium*, Pakistan's High Commissioner to the **UK** observes that realizing "terrorism" can not be defeated solely by **military force** does not of itself translate into an **adequate multidimensional response**.

The Saudi government promises a crackdown on **extremist clerics**, at least those that threaten **Saudi Arabia** -- "*without efficient and positive action from Saudi scholars, clerics, mosque imams, thinkers, newspapers and television channels, we cannot develop and strengthen an ideological security.*"

Controversially, a German (female) researcher claims **women** play a major role in the survival of **terror groups**; "*women are ensuring the survival of Islamic terror organisations such as al-Qa'ida and Jemaah Islamiyah by passing on extreme ideologies to their children and relatives*" -- [Women ensure survival of terror groups](#).

In **Iraq**, 16 killed by a **female** bomber is a reminder of the gradually increase in participation by women [not to mention men disguised as women] in **asymmetric** conflicts. [The **Tamil** separatists of **Sri Lanka** first brought equal opportunity to suicide bombing.] An argument in the *Jerusalem Post* so simple it may be valid: **Islamic militantism** is driven in major part by **demographics** of a "youth bulge"; of



the 27 nations with a “youth-bulge”, 13 are Muslim -- *'Youth bulge' violence*. One of several **bombings** in **Casablanca** [Morocco] seems to have targeted **US** assets; by week's end, Moroccan police arrested the alleged 'mastermind' and had found where the bombs were made. The **al Qaeda Organization in the Islamic Maghreb** claimed responsibility for bombings in **Algiers** [Algeria]; one roadside bomb seemed aimed at a subsidiary of **Halliburton** – this newly-focussed "*lethal and talented group*" on Europe's doorstep opens a new virtual front; two summaries of the situation in **North Africa** and its relevance to **Europe** -- *Al-Qaida in the Maghreb [Analysis]* and *Algeria could provide springboard for European terror [Analysis]*. NATO promised all assistance to **Algeria** [and NATO special ally **Morocco**] to counter terrorism -- fighting “global terrorism” has now been identified as a new priority for 26-nation NATO.

Italy suggests there should be **NATO** or **UN** guidelines on **ransoms** but "*kidnapping cases were too sensitive to create a blanket no-negotiation rule.*"

The **US Domestic Nuclear Detection Office** hopes to deploy next-generation **nuclear detectors**, at \$350,000 per unit, by July 2007.

A medical journal confirmed **the plague** [the *pneumonic* rather than the more romantic *bubonic* version] would be a quite efficient **biological weapon** -- "*it is now possible to harness the ability of the plague to spread by respiratory droplets, and make aerosol-based weapons capable of causing widespread pneumonic plague outbreak.*" -- *The Plague As A Weapon?*

A reminder of **bin Laden's** "bleed until bankrupt" strategy -- *Al-Qaeda focuses on economic targets*. [Is it working?]

2007 Apr 08

↓ In **Iraq**, another **chlorine gas** attack by a truck bomber has killed 30. [In *asymmetric* conflict, the insurgent is economical and tends to repeat actions that have worked before, until the tactic is thwarted.]

Key facts on hunted al Qaeda militants in Somalia [FactBox] -- "*Washington believes the following six al Qaeda operatives or associates are still in the Horn of Africa nation.*" The **US** is interrogating “**terror suspects**” in **Ethiopian** prisons -- "*would have been irresponsible to pass up an opportunity presented by the Ethiopian intervention in Somalia late last year to learn more about terrorist operations.*"

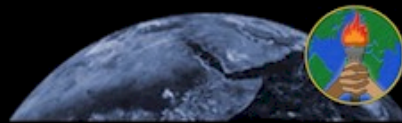
A good sitrep on **Islamist extremism** in **Morocco** -- *Is Al Qaeda's influence spreading to Morocco?*. An in-depth review of **Islamist extremism** in **Europe** -- *Wahhabism: from Vienna to Bosnia*. In **Algeria** there is a new battle between government forces and **Islamist rebels** -- "*more than a week of assaults by thousands of troops in the mountains and forests in the east of the north African country.*" An **Assyrian Christian** read on **Syria** as a state actor that can not be ignored -- *Syria's relationship with al Qaeda*.

The **UK** is considering a system of **Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ABSOs)** against **Islamist militants** considered high risk but who have not committed an offence – ABSOs are already successfully used as a non-custodial preventive mechanism against antisocial youth [under-age vandals, etc]. A scholarly article -- *Hizb ut-Tahrir (Britain) as a New Religious Movement*.

Yemen is recruiting **women** into **counter-terrorism** roles -- "*Male terrorists often disguise themselves as women ... but Yemen's strict social code means that women suspects cannot be touched by the men on the unit.*"

An **Australian army** captain has been charged with the theft of eight **M72 rocket launchers** and sale of them to **criminal** or **terrorist** entities.

A raid late last month in Java [**Indonesia**] is thought to be even more significant than first thought -- "*It's significant because what it's done is prevented, we believe, future bombing attacks in Indonesia.... The group were well advanced.*"



There is thought to be a generational change in *al Qaeda* -- "*The jihadis returning from Iraq are far more capable than the mujahedeen who fought the Soviets ever were.*" US analysts warn that the "*next 9/11*" could be staged by *Muslims* from *Europe* -- "*could be launched by Muslims from Britain or Europe who feel like 'second-class citizens' alienated by a 'colonial legacy'.*"

Some say the **US Justice Department's** definition of what constitutes a "**terrorism**" prosecution may be on the "*expansive side of the ledger*" -- "*the government is counting as domestic terrorism some cases that appear to have little, if anything, to do with the kind of organized attacks perpetrated by Al Qaeda on 9/11.*"



2007 Apr 01

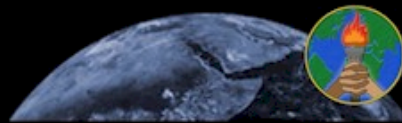
- **Bosnia** is turning on the *Wahhabi* militants in the population -- "*because of the Wahhabi military support in the 1990s, the Bosnian government has been reluctant to crack down on Wahhabi religious and military training efforts.*"
 An argument that failing to conceive of the "fight" against *Islamists extremism* properly means it can never be won -- *It's Time to Stop Making 'War' on Terrorists.*
 Another useful item -- *Ideology is the new battlefield: Security expert.*
 The EU is formalizing efforts to protect *critical infrastructure* -- the **EU Justice and Security Commission** expects "*a swift adoption of the proposed Directive concerning the protection of European critical infrastructures ...*"
 Two items appeared on the *Muslim Brotherhood*, a non-violent, highly influential organisation illegal in **Egypt** at the historical root of the modern *jihadist* tradition -- *Hear out Muslim Brotherhood* and *The Moderate Muslim Brotherhood: friend or foe.*

2007 Mar 26

- The recent **Iraq chlorine bomb** raises worries of a similar attack in the **US** -- "*poor security at the plants could lead to the theft of ingredients needed to build a bomb like the ones detonated in Iraq.*"
Bangladesh's Conference Of Ulemas [religious leaders] propose *committees* in every *mosque* that will monitor *extremist* propensities.
India's Home Minister reminds everyone that *hawala* is a very important way illicit funds are moved, but the illicit use of normal *banking channels* should not be ignored.
Iraqi insurgents seem to have crossed yet a further line of the despicable -- "*Insurgents in Iraq detonated an explosives-rigged vehicle with two children in the back seat after US soldiers let it through a Baghdad checkpoint...*"
 A *death sentence* has been handed down on the killer of a **Pakistani** Minister one month after the crime.
 Those being tried for the attempted "*bombing*" in **London** on 21 July 2005 say the bombs were *fakes* intended as an anti-war message. [The major ingredient was *flour.*]

2007 Mar 19

- **Pakistan's** Senate says "*Any strategy to combat terror must focus on winning the hearts and minds of the people instead of bringing in more firepower*".
Moroccan security services have arrested seven *Salafists* involved in a recent *bombing* – they had been earlier released under a *royal pardon*.
 Based on experience elsewhere, the threat of *home grown terrorism* is probably growing in the **US** -- "*the agencies involved ... are yet to come up with precise*



answers on why it is that America has yet to come up with a **national assessment** of the problem".

In one of the most shocking attacks so far in **Thailand's** worsening Islamic insurgency, women and children on a bus were massacred.

Malaysia thinks the threat to the **Malacca Strait** has been overstated -- "so far we don't think the threat is really real at this point of time."

NATO denies involvement in a raid in **Pakistan's tribal areas** -- "It may have been other military forces, but it was not NATO." [That is ... deniable.]

"Most medical professionals do not know how to deal with **radiation injuries**."

An expert again observes "terrorists" are proving harder to profile -- "there is no standard **jihadi terrorist**."

2007 Mar 12

- The **US** is reported to be hunting **bin Laden** anew in **Pakistan** -- "Reports that the trail has gone stone cold are not correct" says a US official.

"**Zawahiri** has fashioned a core group of around 100 Arab trainers - experts in explosives, finances, communications, military training, urban warfare and propaganda" - [How a battered al-Qa'eda was rebuilt](#).

The **Islamic American Relief Agency**, now defunct, was indicted in the **US** for **unlawful money transfers** to **Iraq**. Over half of **UK terrorism arrests** have been freed without charge -- less than 20% are **charged** with terrorism offenses; only 3% of arrested persons are **convicted**.

An Australian anthropologist is calling on T.E. Lawrence's insights [*Lawrence of Arabia*] to brief troops in **Afghanistan** on the **ethno-social** context. **Counter-terrorism** officials from nine countries met in **Paris** for "closed-door talks on creating a new **international network** to ward off attacks and to work out a **common definition of charges**." An important observation from **India** that **beat policing** is under-used in **counter-insurgency**, doing what distant war-rooms of analysts can not -- [Policemen on foot can help break terrorist modules](#). A good overview of **ethno-religious** considerations in **Iran** and its neighbors -- [Iran Blaming the West for Sunni Unrest](#).

2007 Mar 05

- **Anarchist terrorism by pretext**: 50 of 100 arrested after violent street clashes in **Denmark** were foreigners who traveled to Copenhagen for the confrontation.

In what may prove to be landmark diplomacy (or a useless scrap of paper) **Saudi Arabia** and **Iran** declare neither want **Sunni-Shi'ite** rivalries abroad in the world.

During the annual border disputes officials meeting **India** gave **Bangladesh** a list of 176 "**terrorist training camps**" in Bangladeshi territory; Bangladesh says none exist.

The **UK Foreign Secretary** still sees a solution in **Afghanistan**, a civil solution -- "given alternative livelihoods, men the **Taliban** paid to fight for them would turn elsewhere."

A Christian-leaning source depicts the threat the **Muslim Brotherhood** poses to the **US** -- [America's Islamist Threat](#). A comprehensive survey of **cyber-jihad** -- [Cyberspace as a Combat Zone: The Phenomenon of Electronic Jihad](#)

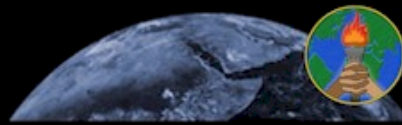
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[note: After a reappraisal of the real and actual hazard of **Terrorism** in the context of the other threats, the hazard-level has been down-graded.]

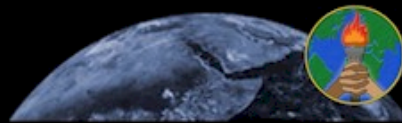
2007 Feb 26

- The Governor of **Pakistan's Balochistan** implores the West to talk to **Taliban** says "You can't slaughter all of them. There has to be, eventually, some sort of a political accommodation ..." [It must be remembered the West was able to converse with the Taliban when they were allies against the **Russians**.]

An overview of **terrorist websites** -- [How Modern Terrorism Uses the Internet](#). Elsewhere, another overview -- [Islamist Websites as an Integral Part of Jihad: A General Overview](#).



	<p>An <i>Islamist</i> zealot killed a Pakistani woman government minister -- "he revealed during interrogation that he is against the involvement of women in politics and government affairs." Three Explanations for al-Qaeda's Lack of a CBRN Attack -- Jamestown says ... <i>Disrupted; Deterred; Waiting their opportunity.</i> Algeria's Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat (GSPC) continues to be of interest -- "al Qaeda's aim is for the GSPC to become a regional force, not solely an Algerian one." Clashes between the Yemeni army and followers of a Shiite rebel leader in the north of the country have caused at least a 100 deaths.</p>
2007 Feb 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At present the FBI considers <i>kitchen sink bombs</i> the most likely terrorist weapon to be used in the US -- TATP is still the concoction of choice for the risk-taker. Three members of the Qari Zafar group were arrested in Karachi [Pakistan] with <i>suicide vests</i>. Islamists -- or Balochi separatists -- devastate a court-room in Quetta [Pakistan] killing at least 15. It was announced that five Salafists were arrested during January [2007] in Tunisia hatching a plot to attack the UK embassy there. French police arrested eleven al Qaeda suspects, "thought to be part of networks recruiting fighters to be sent to Iraq ..." A Saudi al Qaeda-affiliated group called for attacks on US oil sources -- "It is necessary to hit oil interests in all regions which serve the United States, not just in the Middle East." [This made Venezuela nervous.] Egypt continues to purge the influential Muslim Brotherhood by arresting 73 more members -- Human Rights Watch says the government is intolerant of <i>opposition</i>. Remarks by National Security Advisor India on <i>terrorism</i>, particularly <i>funding</i> -- International Terrorism and Asymmetric Warfare
2007 Feb 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What chance do modern <i>anti-laundering</i> methods have against HAWALA, the underground money transfer system that has survived more than a thousand years? Yemen is launching a large operation against Shi'ite Houthis in the Saada region and has cut all communications in the area. Egypt has freed a cleric at center of CIA kidnap ["<i>rendition</i>"] case because there was "no obvious reason why Nasr should remain in custody any longer." Coming days after a grenade attack on Save the Children Fund, an attack on Red Cross [ICRC] in Pakistan seems motivated by outrage at the UN's unseemly habit of working with <i>women</i>. Charges have been laid in the UK against most of those recently arrested for plans to kill a UK Muslim soldier. Gordon Brown, UK prime minister presumptive, says <i>radical Islamism</i>, like <i>communism</i> of the Cold War, needs to be fought "at all levels" -- "the sad truth at the moment is that the other side, al Qaeda, are doing it better." The UK Chatham House think-tank says "We need to deal with the prospect that the first nuclear terrorist is in fact more likely to be American or European." The wave of seven <i>letter bombs</i> in the UK seem to be related to a local issue such as <i>speeding fines</i> but is terrorism nevertheless. [It gives insight into how a sense of <i>powerlessness</i> can lead even "normal" people to terrorist acts.]
2007 Feb 05	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Following an alleged plot against Muslim soldiers in the British Army, extra protection has been arranged -- there are some 330 Muslims in the 100,000-strong UK armed forces, of whom about 250 are in active service. Al-Qaeda is said to have told UK "cells" to carry out a wave of <i>beheadings</i> -- the "strategic" assassination instruction was issued to dozens of al-Qaeda followers in the UK. In the face of credible threats, UK authorities are holding exercises to handle Beslan -style siege -- "the threat is considered so credible that MI5, the police and the SAS have conducted at least two mock counter-terrorism exercises..."



In a fierce engagement in **Iraq**, zealot followers of a **Madhi** showed army-like order - - "They fought according to a military arrangement, and they moved as platoons and companies." [An earlier **Mahdi** ("chosen one") captured Khartoum in 1885.] **Sunni** extremists in **Iraq** did not miss the holiest day in the Shiite calendar -- **Ashoura** -- to stoke Iraqi **sectarian violence**.

"The fight against violent jihadists will continue, although we must be careful not to see Iraq as the prototype of how it should or will be waged" -- America's long wars.

Responding to a perceived threat from the **Muslim Brotherhood**, President **Mubarak** has instigated 34 amendments to the **Egyptian** constitution to thwart **religious parties**. Relations worsen between the **Egyptian** government and the **Muslim Brotherhood** -- "They have made **al-Azhar University** look... like it is exporting terrorism".

An **Islamist** website threatens any **African Union peacekeepers** that deploy to **Somalia** -- "Somalia is not a place where you can come to earn a salary - it is a place where you can die". **Yemen** has granted political asylum to a top **Somali** Muslim leader -- Yemeni officials believe that **Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed** could play a key role in reconciliation in the anarchic country torn apart by clan rivalries. **Yemeni** soldiers were killed in an **Islamist** attack. **Yemen** tells **Shi'ite** rebels to disband or face war -- "Yemen accuses the rebels led by the **Houthi** clerics of wanting to install **Shi'ite religious rule**". An **Islamist** website threatens any **African Union peacekeepers** that deploy to **Somalia** -- "Somalia is not a place where you can come to earn a salary - it is a place where you can die".

Saudi Arabia has arrested 10 in crackdown on terrorist **funding** -- "raised donations illegally and smuggled and transferred funds to suspicious bodies that use them to lure citizens and attract them into turbulent parts".

Islamists battled **Algeria's** army in the most serious Islamist attack for several months. **Algeria's** top security official discounts the importance of **Algeria's Salafist Group for Call and Combat** as a threat in North Africa.

Turkish police claim they have detained 46 **al Qaeda** suspects in raids across Turkey - in the provinces of **Konya, Istanbul, Izmir, Kocaeli, Mardin**.

In **Pakistan**, 6 are held for "planning suicide attacks" -- "sectarian literature and a computer disk showing militants slaughtering two suspected government spies were also recovered".

In **Thailand** the government seems no closer to the answer on the **New Years Eve bombings** -- dissident elements in the Thai army or southern insurgents.

An ex-**Guantanamo** inmate will run in an **Australian** election -- **Mamdouh Habib**, released in January 2005, was held in Guantanamo Bay without charge for almost three years. A new **Australian Crime Commission** task force will investigate the possibility that **motorcycle gangs** are selling **weapons** to **terrorists**.

The **US Nuclear Regulatory Commission** says making **nuclear facilities** crash-proof is against terrorists is "impracticable".

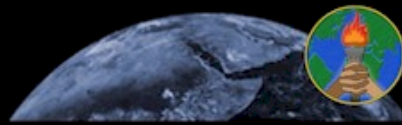
2007 Jan 29

- In **Algeria**, the **Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat** (GSPC) is said to be adopting the name **Al Qaeda Organization in the Islamic Maghreb**. An **Egyptian** state paper has attacked **Iranian** confrontational policies on nuclear development -- The Ottomans (**Sunnis**) still fear the return of the (**Shi'ite**) Persian Safavids (1501 to 1760).

At the **Davos WEF**, **Pakistan's** prime minister **Shaukat Aziz** said that **education** and **poverty**, not **religion**, are the roots of **terrorism**.

A new **Australian Crime Commission** task force will investigate the possibility that **motorcycle gangs** are selling **weapons** to terrorists.

The **Greek** leftist guerrilla group **Revolutionary Struggle** has belatedly claimed



responsibility for the RPG attack on the *US Embassy* in *Athens*.

In a worrying tactic, **Iraqi** insurgents *disguised* themselves as US troops to mount an attack -- "...the men wore what appeared to be legitimate US military uniforms and badges, and drove cars commonly used by foreigners..." **Kidnapping** is now big business in **Baghdad** -- "*They kidnap 10 Sunnis, they get ransom on five, and kill them all, in each big kidnap operation they make at least \$50,000, it's the best business in Baghdad.*"

The **UK** has [belatedly] established an *information unit* to counter *al Qaeda* propaganda -- "*The unit will be modeled on the "public information office" set up by the British Army as part of the campaign to defeat the IRA in Northern Ireland.*" [It should better be modeled on the **Malay Emergency**.] Now 103 agents are proscribed under the **UK Anti-terrorism Act** (2001), including 45 *viruses*, 21 *bacteria*, 18 *animal pathogens*, 13 *toxins*, and two *fungi*.

2007 Jan 22

- **Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies** [India] says *terrorism financing* is a subset of *money laundering* - examining what is specific to terrorism is the key to interdiction. **Jamestown Foundation** published a scholarly exploration of *decentralized jihad*. see [Al-Suri's Doctrines for Decentralized Jihadi Training](#) **Dutch** security commentators observe the ever-increasing importance of the *internet* in online training for terrorists -- "*Spreading propaganda via internet is approached professionally, has a wide reach and relatively little counter-argument.*" A court heard that the **London suicide bomb** plot of 20050707 failed only due to good luck -- the bombs of hydrogen peroxide, acetone, acid and chapatti flour were not correctly made.

As part of ongoing sweeps against the **Muslim Brotherhood**, **Egypt** has remanded six *Islamists* in custody. A review of the *Islamists* bombings in 1998 (**Nairobi, Dar es Salaam**) and 2002 (**Kikambala**) - see [Dark Secrets Behind Al Qaeda Terror Raids](#) *Le Figaro* says the Algerian **GSPC** [*Salafi Group for Call and Combat*] has found a new reason for being -- the training of *jihad* professionals; trained jihadis are now fanning out across the **Maghreb** from Algeria.

Some of the last remnants of the good old days of terrorism -- **Germany's Red Army Brigade** -- may soon be released from prison. The **RCMP** is taking seriously a series of terrorist threats from a **Quebec separatists**. The **Sri Lankan** Foreign Minister says the **LTTE** [*Tamil Tigers*] perfected the art of *suicide bombing* and transferred the technologies to *al-Qaeda*.

2007 Jan 15

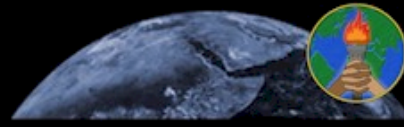
- An insight perhaps into **Taliban** recruitment difficulties -- "*An Afghan insurgent leader ...sent about 200 ill-equipped fighters, some wearing plastic bags on their feet, into Afghanistan, where most were killed...*"

ASEAN nations have agreed on a unified list of *terrorist groups* -- "... the first in the world to spell out concrete measures against terrorist groups..." [The agreement uses the **UN definition** of Terrorism.].

The **US** is trying to block wider diffusion of the Islamist **al-Zawraa cable channel** in **Egypt** and beyond -- but "*if the Egyptians submit to US pressures, the Europeans will not.*"

The top-dollar **Homeland Security Terrorism Task Force** finds: "**Salafi Jihadism** is the main threat" and "*There is every indication that the number and magnitude of attacks on the U.S., its interests and its allies will likely increase.*" It is estimated (but not confirmed) that the **FBI** is investigating around 8,000 for terrorism in the US -- but, compared with the UK, "*We see relatively fewer active plots involving physical attacks within the United States*".

The *Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat* (**GSPC**) says it is "awaiting instructions from **Osama bin Laden**" before it begins attacks on **French** interests in



2007 Jan 08

Algeria. **Egyptian** President Hosni **Mubarak** reiterates the dangers of simplistic **democracy** and political freedom – if Egypt were a free democracy it would probably be an **Islamist** regime.

↓ The **Australian Army** has blamed the **privatization** of logistics support for the theft of **grenade launchers** -- "*The current security problems are a consequence of past wholesale privatisation of Defence Force supply and logistic support.*"

Canada's intelligence service, **CSIS**, is surprised there has not already been a '**dirty bomb**' incident -- "*The technical capability required to construct and use a simple RDD is practically trivial*"

The **Bangladesh Rapid Action Battalion** arrest 6 suspected **Islamic militants** seized material including 80 hand **grenade** casings, about 15 kilograms (33 pounds) of a gel **explosive**, a detonator and a **book on "jihad"** or holy war.

Dar al Hayat [Lebanon] published an update on **Islamist movements in North Africa**. *Daily Star* [Lebanon] published a brief survey of **Islamist movements in the Sahel region (Algeria, Sudan, Chad, Mali)**

A new **Palestine-based** Islamist group, **Saddam Hussein Martyrs Brigades**, swore to "*hit America, Israel, Iran and all the traitors to our people*". [single-source, uncorroborated]

The US has realized there is a "**war of ideas**" out there, somewhere - "*I think we have to think about influencing people.*" Other utterances revealed the US thinks (in contrast to the **war on terror**) that it is at war with "**Jihadi Islam**" -- finally, the speech-writers are dragged - screaming - into 1995

Forum experts said there are 47 **extremist groups** in **South-east Asia**. In **Thailand** a mysterious series of deadly **bombings** in **Bangkok** seemed to be the work of those opposed to the **post-coup** administration, not the work of southern **Islamic separatists** – the bombers were "in uniform" said the defense minister, "*That is the reason why we have concluded that the bombings had nothing to do with the south ...*"

US Treasury has proscribed three entities for supporting **Syria's WMD** proliferation -- "*Syria is using official government organizations to develop nonconventional weapons and the missiles to deliver them*"

Spanish police discovered a cache of **explosives** [100kg] in the **Basque** region -- although **ETA** had declared a cease fire in March 2006, some elements are still ready for battle.

A new software release called "**Mujahideen Secrets**" offers *pretty good privacy* for jihad communications.

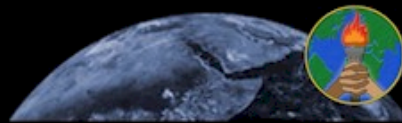
Philippines authorities are certain that "**Bali bombers**" are sheltering with **Abu Sayyaf** actors in **Jolo** -- "*When we captured the camp in Indanan . . . [we got] all of the materials they made for instructions and deployment of bombs.*" "**Development** is a new name for **peace**" -- the chairman of the **Filipino Bishops' Conference** says "*Peace is brought about by justice ... the promotion of the common good by one and all.*"

2007 Jan 01

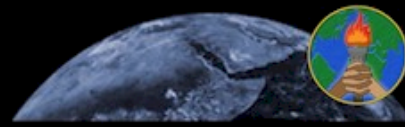
↓ To the surprise of all, a series of **bombs** (7 or 8) were set off in **Bangkok [Thailand]** in the final hours of 2006 -- the post-coup administration were quick to say it was more likely the work of **political opponents** than **southern Muslim insurgents**.

A large **car bomb** exploded at Madrid's Barajas airport [**Spain**] and a **Basque** group claimed responsibility in phone warnings -- "*If the blast does turn it to be the work of ETA it might spell the end of the truce.*"

Dept. of Homeland Security issued a **Fact Sheet**, on *National Special Security Events*. Alarming perhaps, the **Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)** has decided to keep the decade-old design rules for new **nuclear plants and facilities** and make them fulfill security requirements for today's threats "later". The US is moving to



	<p>build a <i>terrorist fingerprint database</i> -- a massive database may be able to build links between incidents [prints on bomb parts, weapons, etc]. Canada's Human Security Center says <i>armed conflicts</i> and <i>coups</i> are down since 1963 but <i>terrorism</i> and violence against civilians is up <u>three-fold</u> since 2000.</p>
<p>2006 Dec 25</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French and other sources have said the <i>channel tunnel</i> is currently a terror target--a plan was put together in Pakistan and is being directed from there. The terrorism rumor-mill said 12 "English brothers" -- <i>al Qaeda</i> western recruits -- are trained and ready to go operational in home countries. ["English" likely just has the sense of European.] The <i>al Qaeda</i> deputy says the US is talking to wrong people in Iraq -- "Any road other than <i> jihad </i> will lead us nowhere but to failure and loss." The US administration has signed into law an incentives scheme for <i>bio-terror vaccines</i> -- "\$1.07 billion over two years would be used to help biotechnology companies make the leap from initial research to ready-to-buy procurement" ↑ An influential Egyptian Islamist group -- <i>al-Gama'a al-Islamiyya</i> --has made an a avowal to cease violence, a conscious ideological reversal -- "... an outstanding example of a collective shift away from violence by leaders of a prominent radical Islamist organization."
<p>2006 Dec 18</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamestown published a more thorough appreciation of the recent report "<i>Militant Ideology Atlas</i>" by the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point. Egypt is cracking down on the Muslim Brotherhood --"<i>The group is officially banned, but its supporters make up parliament's largest opposition group and it is tolerated.</i>" ✎ The FBI warns that if ailing Egyptian Sheik Omar Abdel-Rahman dies, it may trigger attacks in US; he is serving a life sentence in the US. A Russian Supreme Court has upheld the conviction of five <i>Islamists</i> in Tatarstan -- the Naberezhniye Chelny-based organization <i>Islamic Jamaat</i> is believed to be responsible for over 30 criminal acts, including several murders. Britain is considering the US approach of a <i>terrorism "Czar"</i> to achieve a promise of "<i>seamless intelligence</i>". There is evidence of a growing role of <i>women</i> in <i>terrorist movements</i> in several places. Eleven Islamic terrorist suspects were arrested in Ceuta, a North African enclave in Spain --"It was an <i>Islamic cell</i> in the process of being formed ..." A poll in <i>southeast Asia</i> shows many see <i>terrorism</i> as a "national threat" -- Indonesia 89%, Thailand 82%, Singapore 78%, Japan 71%, Korea 71%, the Philippines 71%, Vietnam 61%, Malaysia 59%.
<p>2006 Dec 11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 22-year-old swapped a set of stereo speakers for four hand grenades, a handgun and bullets he hoped to use in a <i>shopping mall</i> during the holiday rush. [felony stupidity?] A set of 30 rules of the <i>Taliban</i> have been published -- "<i>No jihad equipment may be used for personal means, jihadis should not smoke, ...</i>" A blast from the past of the good old days of simple terrorism --: Fabio Matteini, a <i>Red Brigade</i> operative recently released from prison, was rearrested for armed terrorism. Turkey arrested ten with suspected links to <i>al-Qaeda</i> -- "...police also seized bomb-making materials as well as <u>a CD coated with a special material which would explode if inserted into a computer.</u>" The ASEAN summit in the Philippines was postponed -- due to a looming <i>typhoon</i> said the government, due to an unacceptable <i>terrorist threat</i> according to others. Following US accusations, Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay say Washington has not provided any "new information" to support claims of terrorist financing in the <i>tri-border area</i>. Experts said that US port security measures are unlikely to stop a nuclear plot --"I don't know that there's that much Chertoff [Homeland Security] can do" -- the only answer is to dry up supply of fissile material. The US is exploring ways to make stolen <i>nuclear devices</i> useless-- "A nuclear bomb equipped with such safeguards could theoretically be left on the streets of Los Angeles or Manhattan." Russia's FSB held a conference of the <i>National Antiterrorist Committee</i> in Khabarovsk (Russia's far east) on local agency involvement in anti-terrorism measures. There is a recent upturn in <i>Islamist</i> attacks in urban areas in Algeria. Another report claimed that private wealthy Saudis are funding [<i>Sunni</i>] insurgents in Iraq. Illustrating the globalized nature of <i> jihadism </i>,



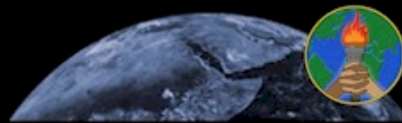
2006 Dec 04

foreigners recently arrested in **Egypt** for “terrorism” links included **French, US, Belgian, Syrian** and **Tunisian** nationals. A report claimed linkages of **French** citizens -- some of **North African** [Algerian?] origin - to **Egypt** and **Syria**. **Jordan** sentences four terrorists to death -- of the four sentenced for firing rockets at two **US** warships in **Aqaba** in 2005 three were tried *in absentia*. **Syria’s State Security Court** has sentenced four for links with the **Islamist Islamic Liberation Party**. **Pakistan** reports it has uncovered a plot by militants for a **helicopter** attack. In what may be the first confirmed **al-Qaeda** presence in **India**, some are certain (mainly **Israeli** intelligence) that **Goa’s** tourist areas have been investigated for an attack.

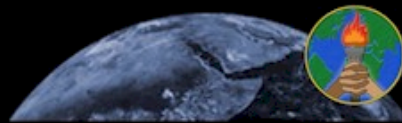
- Better late than never, **Rand** says look at *past experience* for guidance in the “War on Terror”. [Whether this includes the **Malay Emergency** is not clear.] Some commentators propose a **NATO** extended to include the **Pacific Rim** as the best world-wide organization to tackle terrorism. What makes a **Muslim radical**? -- A **Gallup World Poll** of 9,000 interviews in nine Muslim countries finds "radicals" are often richer and better educated. [article contains many statistical graphics] **Significant Terrorist Incidents, 1961-2003: A Brief Chronology** -- a useful inventory of terrorist incidents from the State Department, starting with "First U.S. Aircraft Hijacked, May 1, 1961". <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ho/pubs/fs/5902.htm> **Saudi** authorities have added more to the thousands of **al Qaeda** sympathizers they have arrested since the 2003 suicide attacks on expatriate estates in Riyadh. An **Egyptian** court sentences 10 members of **One God and Jihad** for the Sinai bombings. A **Balkan-based Islamist** network has been uncovered -- "**Bosnian and Macedonian** citizens living in **Italy** were in close contact with alleged terrorists in the Balkans and other European countries, notably **Austria**." **Abu Hafs**, "one of the most notorious terrorists in the region", **bin Laden’s** "top **Caucasus** representative", is one of five "rebels" killed in **Dagestan** by **Russian** agents. The **Organization of the Islamic Conference** is to set up an international **Zakat** [Charity] Council [If successful, a transparent method for collecting and distributing Islamic charitable monies may displace some questionable Islam financing.] A **US** judge strikes down parts of the **Executive Order on Terrorism** -- "federal anti-terrorism laws put **charities** and individual donors at risk of prosecution for providing benign assistance to foreign groups... " German lawmakers approve a new “anti-terror” **database** --"The database is designed to help investigators track down suspects by consolidating police and intelligence service data in one place starting next year." **Los Alamos National Laboratory** has conditioned **bees** to detect traces of a range of **explosives**. Rear Adm. Joseph Walsh, the commander of the 25 **US attack submarines** in the Pacific, says the primary targets of American submarines are terrorists, particularly those in **Southeast Asia**. For the first time, **female** activists have been mentioned in connection with alleged **Ji**-related groups in the **Philippines**. **Pakistani intelligence agency** has freed 5 men from dozens missing in recent years, following **Supreme Court** examination of alleged **illegal detentions**. UK intelligence reports foreign **ihadis** increasingly out in the open in **North Waziristan [Pakistan]**. **Al-Qaeda in Iraq** has issued a statement denouncing the **Pope’s** visit to **Turkey** condemning the "crusader campaign" against **Islam**. **Shining Path** rebels in **Peru** say rumors of the group’s demise are exaggerated; they vow to keep up attacks.

2006 Nov 27

- British army experts defused at least six **explosive devices** delivered by a **Protestant extremist** to the **Northern Ireland** Assembly. The **EU’s** data protection panel has said **SWIFT** must stop transfer of transaction data to **US** anti-terrorism authorities.



	<p>The web gives now has a rich knowledge base on waging a <i>jihād</i> of electronic warfare -- "In the radical Islamist forums, you find sections that are the electronic jihād equivalent of how to make bombs." More information emerged on Europe-based terrorism cells - "Investigators say the evidence reveals the workings of the kind of cell most feared by officials in Europe." The Hudson Institute has released its latest volume on the ideological dynamics of the worldwide Islamist movement. Speakers at the <i>International Sufi Conference</i> in Lahore [Pakistan] expressed hope that Sufism can start to play a positive role in resolving Islamist conflicts. In Thailand, the leader of Bersatu [Unity] tells <i>Al-Jazeera</i> that his umbrella group is willing to negotiate, but younger insurgents are not; they want independence and may now have association with JI. In a particularly brutal act in almost daily shootings and bombings, insurgents in southern Thailand burn a government teacher alive. South-east Asian authorities will step up intelligence information on the Sulu - Sabah - Sulawesi well-trod terrorist route between the Philippines and the rest of South-east Asia.</p>
<p>2006 Nov 20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Washington Post</i> reviewed a new book, the well-told story of [a pseudonym] who penetrated al-Qaeda's training camps in Afghanistan in the mid-1990s as a spy for France's intelligence services. In Afghanistan – al Qaeda operative Abu Nasir al-Qahtani [aka Mohammad Jafar Jamal al-Kahtani], who escaped custody from <i>Bagram</i> in July 2005, has reportedly been captured near <i>Khost</i>. The UK says al Qaeda seeking nuclear materials for attacks -- "We know the aspiration is there. We know attempts to gather materials are there, we know that attempts to gather technology are there." A top-dollar Rand study suggests what the knowledgeable were saying five years ago, that ideology is al Qaeda's Achilles' heel --"attacking the ideological underpinnings of global jihādism" is the only chance of progress. Another top priced intelligence report revealed al Qaeda is alive and well exactly where it was birthed and nourished by US support 20 years ago, in western Pakistan. The Combating Terrorism Center at West Point are tracking jihādist / salific ideas on the internet to the sources of the next generation of activists. Israel has discovered explosives belts with "unusually large amounts of liquid explosives" that escape most standard detectors. Philippines police intelligence claim JI militants in <i>Mindanao</i> and <i>Sulu</i> are seeking suicide bombers from <i>Java</i> and <i>Sulawesi</i> after failing to find local recruits.
<p>2006 Nov 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The head of MI5 has warned on active terrorist threats -- "<i>Today, my officers and the police are working to contend with some 200 groupings or networks, totalling over 1,600 identified individuals.</i>" A suicide bomber in Pakistan kills 35 soldiers on a training ground --"The bomber wrapped a chadar (cloak) around his body and came running into the training area." A plot to blow up the NY Stock Exchange and attack Britain with gas-filled limousines and a "dirty bomb" was serious enough to earn a UK resident 40 years jail.
<p>2006 Nov 06</p>	<p>↓ An under-reported Islamist insurgency continues in Algeria with the killing of 8 Algerian soldiers. Indicative of transnational linkages -- Australians suspected of conspiracy to commit JI-related attacks in Australia have been arrested in Yemen on suspicion of links to al Qaeda. The Cato Institute recommends of process of disengagement from the Middle East. Militants blame the US for a Pakistani airstrike on an alleged Islamists training camp at a madrasah near the Afghan border that killed 80.</p>
<p>2006 Oct 30</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight "foreigners" – allegedly with al Qaeda links -- on Australian and Danish



2006 Oct 23

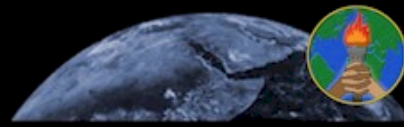
passports have been arrested in **Yemen** for smuggling arms to **Somalia**.
A profiler analyzing known *al Qaeda* memberships says: An engineering degree is almost a prerequisite ... When they leave the mosque and start praying in their living rooms, that is a red flag
A **Canadian** Judge has struck down part of Canada's new *terrorism law*, saying the clause that limits the definition of terrorist activity to acts motivated by religion, politics or ideology is *unconstitutional*.
Pakistan and **Afghanistan** confirm their intention to both call tribal *jirgas* to form strategy on the *al Qaeda – Taliban* situation.
!!! The **UK** Home Secretary has warned *al Qaeda*'s "single extremist narrative" is winning the *battle of ideas*. Commentators have noted that **Al-Qaeda**'s "branding strategy" is a threatening trend; "... on an operational level these agreements open new opportunities to establish *training and logistics* bases" **Afghanistan** says Taliban chief **Mullah Omar** is in Quetta [**Pakistan**]; Pakistan says "The entire world knows that he is in **Afghanistan**". The sixth deadly bombing in a month, an *IED* in the north-western city of Peshawar, is probably another *Islamist* challenge to **Pakistan**'s secular regime. A UPI analyst commenting on the *War on Terror* notes "America did not win the *Cold War* by mistreating or killing communists."
Hoax SMS messages in Manila [**Philippines**] are an insight into how hoaxes imitating *reverse-911* [UK: 999] systems could cause mass disruption.
After the *coup*, the *insurgents* in southern **Thailand** are displaying greater willingness to talk; the (unnamed) head of **Bersatu** ("United") gives an interview to *Time*.

2006 Oct 16

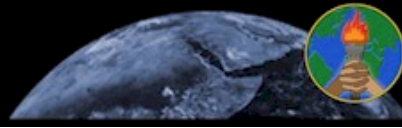
!!! The head of **Germany**'s security intelligence agency, the Bundesnachrichtendienst (**BND**) says terrorists have a definite goal of destroying Western *energy infrastructure* and supply -- "Questions of *energy security* will fundamentally help determine the security agenda of the 21st century".
The **EU** is funding 15 projects on anti-terrorism R&D, bringing the commitment to *security research* to 45 million Euros (\$56M) since 2004.
Terrorists jailed in **Indonesia** are spending their time *translating* Middle Eastern terror manuals for mass distribution. Despite actions **Pakistan** has already taken, the **US** is continuing to apply pressure about the estimated 1,000 foreign students in *Islamic Schools*. Dulmatin's wife captured in Jolo [**Philippines**] days ago is said to have admitted Dulmatin and other **Ji** members are training militants including **MILF** in the Philippines.

2006 Oct 09

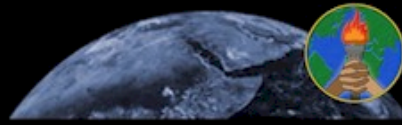
• **Pakistan** is requiring *foreign students* to have *No Objection Certificates* from their home countries -- "We want them to be owned by their countries."
Global Politician [USA] published a useful comprehensive listing of *al Qaeda* links with *biological agents*. Information recovered from safe houses when an *al Qaeda* leader in **Iraq** was killed six months ago placed the group's leadership in the *Waziristan* region of **Pakistan** and gives an insight into the group's leadership.
The **FBI** was reported worried *the Mob* might collaborate with *terror groups* if the price is right.



2006 Oct 02	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• President Musharraf has rejected MoD [UK] views that ISI has compromising links with al Qaida, and that Pakistan is on the brink of instability. A leaked US Intelligence Assessment says groups such as JI could expand "outside their traditional areas of operation" but the Australian Defence Minister expressed doubts. Testing by the FBI and at government labs showed that small containers of <i>liquids</i> 'don't pose a real threat' on <i>aircraft</i>. Five years on, the <i>anthrax</i> death of five is almost a cold case – the FBI says "It could have come from anywhere in the world."
2006 Sep 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A <i>National Intelligence Estimate</i> issued in April has confirmed "The war in Iraq has become a primary recruitment vehicle for violent Islamic extremists". A French paper at <u>four removes of hearsay</u> says Osama bin Laden is dead; later reports said he is not dead but quite ill. Philippines military says that bombs seized in Sulu "show a capability heretofore unseen; ... close similarities to improvised bombs [IEDs]being used in the Middle East and Afghanistan." A US study says radicalized <i>prisoners</i> are a potential pool of recruits by terrorist groups while in prison. An analyst says that Southeast Asia "has become a key link in US efforts to unravel the secret web of international terrorism."; or should be. An Australian academic reminded the intelligence community it needs to engage more with Asia to stop the growth of radicalism; HUMINT not SIGINT.
2006 Sep 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An evolving "nuanced understanding" of <i>counterinsurgency operations</i> by the US military has produced new wisdom such as "The most important decisions are not made by generals." <i>Shoko Asahara</i>, leader of <i>Aum Shinrikyo</i> in Japan, has exhausted all appeals and may be <i>executed</i> within 6 months. <i>Car-bomb</i> attacks on <i>oil refineries</i> in Maarib and Dhabba in Yemen have been foiled. The Salafist <i>Group for Call and Combat</i> in Algeria signed up with the <i>al-Qaida</i> franchise. A significant Turkey-Central Asia [Turkic] alliance met to address terrorism. A <i>University of Chicago</i> study finds that <i>occupation</i> of homeland is a common root cause of <i>suicide bombings</i>. The NAM Summit tried to broaden the definition of 'terrorism' to include the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the US occupation in Iraq. A former member says southeast Asia's <i>JI</i> has a new manual and a new emphasis on smaller operations by <i>smaller independent groups</i>. Philippines troops have seized four CDs in <i>Bhasa Indonesia</i> in Sulu which may be of high intelligence value, relating to <i>al-Qaeda</i> operations in Southeast Asia and adjoining regions. President Musharraf of Pakistan said the "center of gravity" has shifted from <i>Al-Qaeda</i> to the <i>Taliban</i> -- the <i>Taliban</i> has roots in the people, <i>Al-Qaeda</i> does not.
2006 Sep 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In what may be the final word on the matter, a Senate Committee says there were <i>no al-Qaeda / Iraq</i> links — the White House has recognized <i>al-Qaeda-led</i> threats has morphed into a more dangerous <i>al-Qaeda-inspired</i> threat, and that Palestine is the single most-important issue — US attorneys reject 91% of terrorism-related cases forwarded to them; of cases prosecuted, only 5% of convictions receive more than 5 years jail — Chatham House says that today's situation with <i>al-Qaeda</i> is mixed -- more moderate groups are appearing in the pan-Islam world, but more local crises are identifying with pan-Islam.
2006 Sep 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A series of bombings in Turkey was blamed on Kurdish separatists (<i>PKK</i>). <i>Islamofascists</i> became the word of the week; no-one quite knew why—Australian



	<p>security said the terrorism threat in the region is now just as great as ever—an anti-terrorist battle on Sulu island (Philippines) where the US is providing logistic and intelligence support is harder and longer than expected—UK police arrested 14 suspected Islamist extremists, but not in connection to the recent liquid explosives plot. The Nelson Institute [USA - VA] says Africa's "weak governments" provide a "natural base" for the next <i>al-Qaeda</i> front.</p>
<p>2006 Aug 28</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Bombs on German trains failed to detonate due to a construction fault — days later a fake bomb on a train demonstrated the effect of "pure" terrorism in a nervous community. The first person in Australia convicted of planning a terrorist attack has been sentenced to 20 years. Pakistan authorities and the inter-tribal <i>grand jirga</i> of North Waziristan are near to landmark agreement that would deprive "foreign militants" of much of their support. US experts warned of dangers to the food supply: "compared to bio-terror, agro-terror is appallingly easy." — but a learned journal rained on the terrorism parade: "The massive and expensive homeland security apparatus erected since 9/11 may be taxing all to defend the United States against an enemy that scarcely exists."
<p>2006 Aug 21</p>	<p>↓ An ex-State Dept policy officer said the relative success of Hizbollah in Lebanon provides a dangerous model that can be emulated elsewhere — it was claimed Al-Qaida's No. 3 masterminded the plot to blow up the Heathrow transatlantic flights — the US Attorney-General Gonzales said terrorists are using the <i>internet</i> — the US President said "the United States of America is engaged in a war against an extremist group of folks" — the first conviction under Australia's new anti-terror laws has been overturned on appeal due to a "technicality" in the collection of evidence.</p>
<p>2006 Aug 14</p>	<p>↓ Hezbollah's actions in Lebanon have provided a new hero for the Arab world but at great cost to Lebanon — a major plot rivaling 9/11 to blow up several aircraft over the Atlantic using <i>liquid explosives</i> was cracked in the UK - a British Muslim phoned in a suspicion and arrests in Pakistan were integral - but there is immense pressure on UK police to follow through to plausible convictions.</p>
<p>2006 Aug 07</p>	<p>↓ Al-Zawahri has welcomed an Egyptian group with lineage back to the assassination of Anwar Sadat to the al-Qaida franchise — observers said an al-Qaida-related group is consolidating a power-base in Bangladesh — DNI has started a National Intelligence Estimate on the foreign Islamist influence in Iraq, the first Estimate on Iraq since mid-2004.</p>
<p>2006 Jul 31</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 39th Joint Regional Intelligence Center was established, in Los Angeles; the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence says progress on the systematic coordination for the 16 US intelligence agencies is "disappointing" and "heavy-handed" actions have produced only turf wars. Russia promulgated a list of 17 terrorist groups -- it is different in criteria and detail to that of the US; Analysts warned that continued repression of Hizb ut-Tahrir in Central Asia may drive support to the more extreme Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan.
<p>2006 Jul 24</p>	<p>↓ One analyst said ... the US thought it was a good idea to directly fight Islamic militantism in a place such as Iraq; the problem is that al-Qaeda thought it was a good idea too. The Taliban seem to have hired a media consultant; a Wahhabi sheik issued a <i>fatwa</i> against Hezbollah, the FBI realised ... <i>al-Qaeda, Hezbollah - what's in a name?</i> The Sufi Muslim Council was launched in Britain and, encouragingly, was attacked by the Muslim Council of Britain – the only hopeful sign in an unhelpful week. [Sufism is a highly intellectual moderate form of Islam.]</p>
<p>2006 Jul 17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A paper at a Malaysian conference argued that western atheistic capitalism is certain to continue the crusade against Islam that destroyed the Caliphate in 1924; Kyrgyzstan had some counter-terrorist successes, as did Yemen with Russian help.



	<p>The U.S. army chief ominously cautioned that the “war on terror” is closer to the beginning than the end.</p>
2006 Jul 10	<p>↓ A plot to attack New York’s Holland Tunnel was busted. The agent once in charge of the disbanded CIA bin Laden unit said 10 years of experienced had been squandered. A year after the event, al-Qaida – rightly or wrongly – claimed credit for the 7/7 London bombings. The UK Foreign Office was said to be building alliances with the Muslim Brotherhood; if true, possibly the most intelligent move in recent years in the struggle against global militant Islam..</p>
2006 Jul 03	<p>↓ An increasing amount of serious literature suggest the ‘War on Terror’ is dangerously misconceived and that a thorough détente between the West and the Muslim world is precondition for any resolution of the several conflicts associated with the ‘War on Terror’. Terrorism is a tactic, not a cause.</p>
Commencement of Service	
