



TRC TWW Report

Terror Web Watch Report



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Graphics:

Graphics are included throughout the TWW edition.



Orientation/Introduction:

Please review the introduction to the Terror Web Watch at [Intel Report](#).

Item 1: Iraqi insurgent videos available: A sniper takes down coalition soldiers; the Islamic Army in Iraq ([Country Profile](#)) releases a lengthy propaganda video.

A group calling themselves "the Army of Mujahideen" has released a video, which shows a sniper fire at six different Coalition servicemen in Iraq. It claims they are American, but the tape is too blurry to verify that fact. The video shows the rifle's site being trained on the soldiers and then shows them go down. The video is available from TRC upon request.

The Islamic Army in Iraq has released a 40-minute tape called "It is Allah who fires." The tape shows a medley of the group's operations. There are a number of scenes of Mujahideen firing off mortars, preparing and burying roadside IED's, and firing rockets at planes and vehicles. One scene depicts a child of about two or three years old wearing a ski mask and struggling to lift the barrel of an AK-47. Another scene shows a group of about 10 men, lined up behind the helmet of a Coalition soldier. The man behind the camera announces that this is a message to Iyad Allawi. He then leads the group in an eerie cheer:

Say 'Allahu Akbar!' Say 'Allahu Akbar!'
[group] Allahu Akbar! Allahu Akbar!
Say 'Allahu Akbar!' Say 'Allahu Akbar!'
Allahu Akbar! Allahu Akbar!
What is our way?! What is our way?!
Al-Jihad! Al-Jihad!
What is our way?! What is our way?!
Al-Jihad! Al-Jihad!

The last segment shows interviews with hostages the group has taken, including an Italian that it claims to have executed. According to the tape, most of the hostages – the Muslim ones – repented in front of the "Shari'a court" of the Islamic Army and were released. These include two Indonesian women, who are given Korans by the group.

A second tape released by the same group is entitled "the Scandals of Democracy in Iraq." It shows Iraqi police storming houses and arresting people and a reception for US soldiers put on by Shi'a Iraqis. The notable thing about this film is that, to obtain the footage, the group – one of the deadliest in Iraq -- would have to have had someone on the inside for both the police operation and the reception.

Item 2: "Biological Weapons" from the training site of terrorist Abu Musab al-Suri.

Abu Musab al-Suri has proven to be quite a prolific ideologue and terrorist trainer. He has several books, videos, and training manuals available for downloading from the Web. A particularly dangerous terrorist, al-Suri seems to speak English and Spanish, to have a considerable background in chemicals and poisons, and to be a well-published and popular ideologue. He is Bin Laden and Zawahiri – ideologue and fighter – wrapped into one. It is he, not Bin Laden, who is thought to be Abu Musaab al-Zarqawi's mentor and spiritual leader. Zarqawi's tributes to the Syrian terrorist, born Omar AbdulHakim,



can be seen in the Iraqi terrorist leader's selection of the same *nom de guerre*: Abu Musab. Also, al-Suri's books dating back to the pre-9/11 ([Terrorist Incident](#)) period are put out under al-Suri's brand "the Pulpit of Tawhid and Jihad." Zarqawi, as is well known, later named his Iraqi terrorist group "Tawhid and Jihad" ([Group Profile](#)). Even the logo of Tawhid and Jihad's media wing (left) shows tribute to the logo of al-Suri's "Pulpit" (right).



Perhaps most dangerous about al-Suri, who is still at large, is that his ambitions go further than the conventional weapons that al-Qaeda ([Group Profile](#)) has employed so far. His training manuals deal with chemicals, poisons, and toxins. Yet another document posted to a site with other al-Suri training materials is titled simply "Biological Weapons." The 15-page document focuses on how the pneumonic plague could be made into a biological weapon.

The 15-page Arabic document describes in detail how to inject carrier animals, like rats, with the virus and how to extract microbes from infected blood, cultivate them in nutrient agar, and how to dry them so that they can be used with an aerosol delivery system.

The project is similar to – and the document references– the weapon developed by the United States during World War II that involved using an aerosol delivery system to disseminate the plague. The document also gives as an example the use of the plague as a biological weapon by the Japanese in Manchuria.

Like al-Suri's other manuals discussed previously in Terror Web Watch ([Intel Report](#) and [Intel Report](#)), details are provided that suggest that the writer may have gone through the process described. Specifics such as how much of the plague animals should be injected with, how long they will live as carriers, what temperature the microbes need to be kept at, what dyes to use to watch the bacteria spread in the nutrient agar, and other details are provided.

Referencing a report produced by the World Health Organization in 1970, the document suggests that "releasing fifty kilograms of the dry powder with a microbe concentration of 6×10^8 over a city of five million people in a developed country like the United States ([Country Profile](#)) could yield 150,000 infected and 36,000 dead." It adds "the plague is thus an ideal and appropriate microbe to use as a biological weapon for the following reasons: pneumonic plague can be sprayed with an aerosol and it will cause alarm and panic that will be very difficult to control."

Since neo-Nazi Larry Wayne Harris was able to successfully obtain the plague from US labs with a plan to execute an attack, it has been made much harder in this country to get a hold of the plague. However, the former USSR is known to have developed weapons using the plague, and it is very likely that those supplies are not as secure as the ones in the United States. There are other countries, such as India



([Country Profile](#)), where natural cases of the plague occur, and the document suggests that one source of the plague would, of course, be the blood of someone infected by it. The idea of terrorists in India looking for plague victims from whom they can draw blood seems far-fetched, however. The manual does not suggest any other sources from which the plague may be obtained.

The document also gives some information on *Clostridium botulinum* as an alternative biological agent that can also be disseminated using an aerosol system.

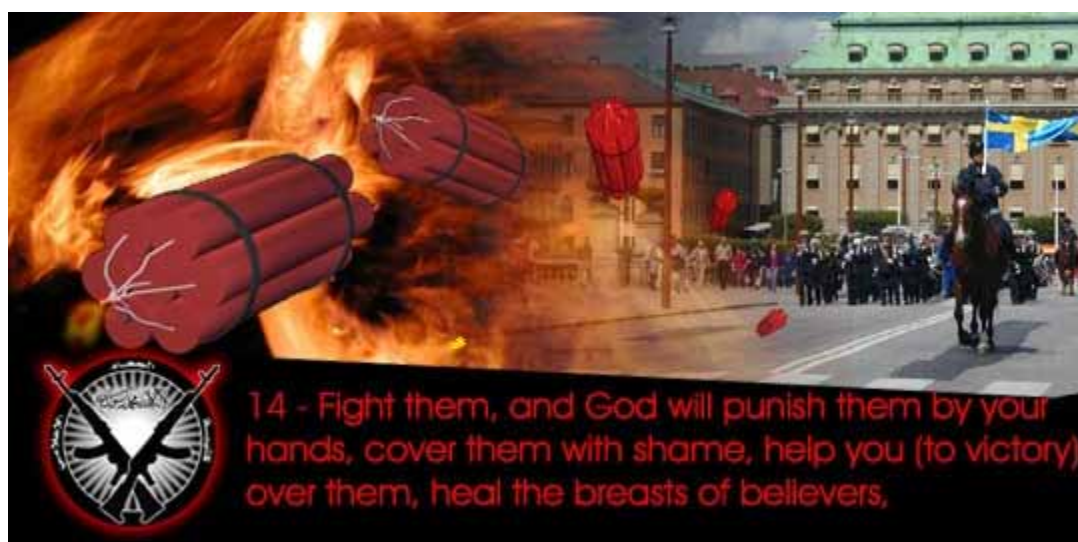
Item 3: Threats against Sweden ([County Profile](#)) appear in the wake of Swedish preacher's comment.

Threats to Sweden have appeared since Swedish Christian preacher Runar Sjøgaard referred to the Prophet Mohammed as a "confused pedophile." The comment was published in a Swedish newspaper and has led to a flare-up in tensions between ethnic Swedes and the country's large Muslim immigrant population. An open letter "to Sheikh Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, Commander and Leader of the al-Qaeda Organization in the Land of the Two Rivers ([Group Profile](#))...from the oppressed Muslims of Sweden," posted on the site www.almjlh.com last week asks Zarqawi to help Swedish Muslims kill Sjøgaard.

It is not so much that the author of the letter believes that Zarqawi will release a fighter to go to Sweden and kill Sjøgaard, but messages like these are posted in an attempt to create inertia behind a local cause in the online pro-terrorist community. If a region or country gets enough attention, and the online support system of thousands of people are behind the cause, rooting for an attack, eventually someone will be inspired to try something. We may have already seen this work: the recent Cairo attacks ([Terrorist Incident](#) and [Terrorist Incident](#)), the Qatar theater bombing ([Terrorist Incident](#)), and even the Madrid train attacks ([Terrorist Incident](#)) may have been inspired by the online "Terror Web."

Even more disturbing than this letter was a series of graphics threatening Sweden that went up on the same Web site a couple of days later (See below).





This does not appear to be the work of an accomplished violent terrorist group, but of a group called the "Brigade for the Media Jihad," which was created solely to produce pro-Jihad propaganda. Terror Web Watch covered the group's creation and its call for members in February ([Intel Report](#)). It is yet unknown whether or not the propaganda group has any connection to real, on-the-ground violent operatives or whether it is more disembodied, operating only in cyberspace. Even if it does not have actual guns on-the-ground, if enough attention can be drawn to Sweden in cyberspace, a real physical threat may develop.

Sweden might seem like a strange target for Islamist groups: it is one of the more-Muslim friendly countries in Europe and it is not involved in the Iraq occupation. But it is precisely because Sweden has been rather soft about its Islamist population and lax with immigration standards that it could start to see more proliferation and activity of violent Islamist groups within its borders.

Item 4: Video from a Kashmiri training camp available.

A video made at an al-Qaeda training camp in Kashmir has been released by the Islamic Media Center, al-Qaeda's media wing. The video shows Mujahideen doing various physical and weapons training drills at a camp. It is undated. The video is available from TRC upon request.



Item 5: Picture of an "American Crusader" circulated on the Terror Web.

The following picture, said to be taken in Fallujah, has received a lot of attention on various Web sites where it is posted as proof of the United States' real intentions: to fight Muslims and Christianize Iraq. While it may be just a little graffiti and a joke, the amount of circulation the picture has gotten should serve as a warning to soldiers that any flippancy and lack of religious sensitivity can be used against them.



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