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Item 4: Algerian al-Qaeda affiliate threatens the Algerian elite with attacks in France (Country Profile)



<u>Graphic</u>: This seal of the al-Qaeda (<u>Group Profile</u>)-affiliated Algerian GSPC (<u>Group Profile</u>) accompanies their statements and propaganda.



Orientation/Introduction:

Please review the introduction to the Terror Web Watch at Intel Report.

<u>Item 1</u>: "Letter and parcel bombs" topic of instruction on operation "planning forum"

On the "planning and preparation" forum of the password-protected *al-Firdaws* site, information instructing in the construction and delivery of letter and package bombs was greeted enthusiastically, judging for comments posted by members.

Three pages of instruction on making and delivering different types of letter and package bombs were posted by a user describing himself only as "Ossama." The user describes letter bombs as a way "to carry out an assassination or to spread alarm." Though he describes in some detail how to position a small amount of explosive and a detonator in mailings, the emphasis in the instruction is on how to avoid having the letter bomb detected, rather than the basics of rigging up the explosives. He describes how the post office uses "electromagnetic devices" to detect metals in letters and packages. To thwart this, he says that one can "use a chemical igniter that cannot be detected." He also suggests placing the letter "directly into the mailboxes of individuals or institutions, right after the mailman normally comes." He also claims that "a limited number of letter bombs may get through, in spite of inspection by the electromagnetic device, because of error or lack of precision."

He describes how such booby trapped mailings are detected: by an odd smell, metal pieces inside, pieces moving loosely within the letter, or unnatural bulkiness or weight. He also describes what he claims happens during the investigation of a suspicious package, including what protective equipment the specialist opening such letters may wear and how he inspects the letter using a sharp blade and a tweezers set behind bulletproof glass or concrete. He warns that "fingerprints are taken" from suspicious letters "by specialists…in order to determine the identity of the person who sent it or moved it."

The writer also says that "some institutions exposed to danger will have electromagnetic devices [themselves], to provide a second filter in addition to the first filter...at the post office."

The writers' familiarity with the different safety precautions taken to detect such bombs indicates at least some careful research into the matter, if not some experience. The filtering processes are described in order that one trying to carry out such a plot could figure out how to get around them. The instructions, however, do not contain enough information about putting together the explosives themselves that an amateur could do it from these notes. Rather, they seem aimed at someone who already has some knowledge in engineering explosive devices, who may benefit from this additional information in choosing how to configure the device.

The writer recommends magazines as a good vehicle for letter bombs. He also recommends using photocells in detonators, such that the letter or package explodes as soon as the contents are exposed to light. Such detonators have been used by Palestinian groups in the past. However, the writer gives no indication as to whether his experience comes from Palestinian terrorist groups or elsewhere. In closing, he makes no suggestions for specific targets, only saying that this method "is used when those carrying out the operation are staying far from the theater of the operation, out of fear of being caught…"

<u>Item 2</u>: "Al-Qaeda in Palestine" puts out a flyer and a pamphlet for the occasion of the start of Ramadan

Al-Qaeda in Palestine is a group that has declared its existence but has not carried out any confirmed attacks in the region. It released an announcement of its formation and a video of members allegedly firing off rockets in Gaza in July (Intel Report), but there was no confirmation or evidence that the video footage of the two men firing off the rockets took place in the Gaza Strip or that they were actually aimed at an Israeli settlement.

These pictures (below) were taken of materials the group is said to be passing out in Gaza and are posted on the message forum of the Hamas (Group Profile) Web site in addition to other Jihadist sites. A message on that Hamas site forum says that the material was being handed out today in Rafah at the al-Awda mosque, which

would have been full for Friday prayers.





A translation of the flyer on the right appears below.

[begin translation]

Qaeda al-Jihad in Palestine Rejoice, O Muslims, at the return of the rightly-guided Caliphate!

O ye who believe! if any from among you turn back from his Faith, soon will Allah produce a people whom He will love as they will love Him,- lowly with the believers, mighty against the rejecters, fighting in the way of Allah, and never afraid of the reproaches of such as find fault. That is the grace of Allah, which He will bestow on whom He pleaseth. And Allah encompasseth all, and He knoweth all things.

The Umma has been exposed to different phases of the conspiring of the people of disbelief. One was the fall of the Islamic caliphate and the breaking up of the Umma into small, weak statelets that do not have any power over anything. As such, they have seen humiliation and disgrace for a number of years. The people of disbelief in this age have been able to melt and dilute the Islamic identity and character into something that allowed the Islamic world to be conquered in a very short period of time.

The West was able to distance the Muslims from their religion, and that was accomplished by partitioning the Umma into small statelets and putting in place governments that were loyal to them, in order to strike out at any who called [the people] to Islam. They enforced upon us their laws, which have no connection with Islam. The Umma tasted cups of humiliation and degradation. Out of this has come the current circumstances of the Islamic world, in a dangerous [state of] apostasy.

Yes, the Muslims are apostates of the religion of God. God has commanded us to rule by his book. As He said: "Whoso does not rule by what God has passed down, for they are infidels."

He commanded us to unity: "Worship God as [one] group, and do not be divided." And this was so that the Umma would not be conquered by a party or a movement. By unity and by the pooling of efforts, a single goal could be accomplished, and this was to apply the Sharia of God.

This is an invitation from us to all of the factions in the area to come together under one banner, the banner of Islam, and the word of Tawhid.

We must focus our efforts on the establishment of a complete and cohesive Muslim society, a society of brotherhood and love. There will not be divisions into parties, rather we will form the party of those who strongly worship God. We will work to be one Muslim populace devoted to God, and not devoted to a party, or the enemy. It will also be necessary to enforce the Sharia [laws] of God, and to apply it to ourselves, first, so that God will change our situation for the better. "God will no chance what is, until they have changed themselves."

The one solution is a *rubanniya* [approx: "Islamically correct"] group, established to assume this role in order to complete the front and to not take some and leave others. Its one, entire goal is to apply completely the laws of God in His land.

Hereby, Qaedat al-Jihad in Palestine will commence unifying our group and restoring the Islamic character to honor, by way of an Islamic *rubbaniya* group which will seek to establish the Sharia of God on earth. This will occur by directing the Muslims towards true Islam and pushing them to apply it in the land.

Our goals:

- 1. Molding the humane character into a *rubbaniya* mold.
- 2. Applying the Sharia of God by establishing an Islamic state.
- 3. Unifying the Islamic Umma by unifying Islamic societies.
- 4. Implanting the way of the Caliphate into the hearts of Muslims, and then onto the earth itself.
- 5. Establishing an Islamic state over all populations.

God Most High said: "Fight them until there is no discord, and all of religion is for God." The Prophet, peace and blessings upon Him, said "Whoso is not concerned for the Muslims is not one of them." And the Prophet also brought the glad tidings of the victory over Constantinople and Rome and the return of the rightly-guided Caliphate.

These are our goals and it is required of every Muslim to strive towards with all that he possesses in strength.

Know that your assistance to the religions of God will be your victory, and will make fast your feet [Koranic passage].

And finally...we congratulate you on the coming of the month of atonement and forgiveness [Koranic passage].

Your brothers/Qaedat al-Jihad - Palestine

[end translation]

<u>Item 3</u>: Bomb making instructional video shows how to construct an explosive out of gas canisters found in many Arab world kitchens

Such gas tanks fuel the stoves of Arab homes across the region and are thus extraordinarily easy to come by. A video posted on the *al-Firdaws* Web site shows how to make an explosive out of an empty container by filling it

with oxygen and acetylene. The video shows in great detail how to fill the empty gas containers with oxygen and acetylene, spending much time explaining how to make and attach a detonator.

The film is in the same style and format as a number of other bomb-making instructional videos that have been produced recently, whose level of detail, professionalism, and simplicity represent great efforts to create training materials simple and clear enough that amateurs feel sufficiently confident in the instructions to attempt to construct their own devices.

The only clue to the possible location of production for these videos is that some of the glues shown in the video have labels printed in English and are from the Korean company Alteco.



<u>Item 4:</u> Algerian al-Qaeda affiliate threatens the Algerian elite with attacks in France (<u>Country Profile</u>)

The following document has been posted to the Web site of the Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat (GSPC) (Group Profile). This week, the group denounced a recent referendum in Algeria (Country Profile) in which an overwhelming percentage of the population voted to end the civil war between the current government and the

pro-Islamist movement, agreeing to accept the legitimacy of the current, secular regime (<u>WAR Report</u>). Two months ago, GSPC posted the following announcement on their Web site, urging Algerian Muslims in France to attack the Algerian elite as they reside and vacation in France. The GSPC may be counting on the fact that Algerians in France may be more radical or Islamist than those in Algeria. Though the statement has been on the site for two months, it is perhaps as relevant as ever, as the GSPC and pro-Islamist Algerians and France may feel pressure to do something in the wake of a referendum that seems to threaten to squash Islamist ambitions for Algeria. The call also demonstrates that the GSPC is willing to take the fight to French soil, a potentially dangerous development. Specifically in this statement, the group mentions night clubs and places that sell alcohol frequented by Algerians, potentially hinting at a target set the group would like to attack or inspire an attack upon.

Begin translation:

Peace and Blessings of God upon Mohammed and his Companions

A call to the sons of Islam in France.

Brothers of Islam:

The believers are loyal to one another, and the oppressors are loyal to one another.

We see [fit] to address our brothers in religion dwelling in the French nation to remind them of the requirement to help the brother Mujahideen in Algeria in what they are confronting.

We do not doubt your jealousy over the honor of this religion, and we do not doubt the that overtakes you when any Muslim people are attacked, no matter what their nationality or citizenship. We saw previously what you did when America attacked the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, and we hear today what your spiritual positions and heroic sacrifices against the Infidel alliance controlling the land of Iraq and its people, that ease the chests of all the Muslims. However, we wanted to remind you only that your brothers in the GSPC have been ceaselessly attacked by the enemies of God and the enemies of his religion and his religious law [sharia] since the nineties of the last century.

It is up to you, brothers in belief, to remember always that we need your support, your backing, and your assistance no matter what amount or kind of support this is.

Why did we choose to speak to you, exactly?

We chose to direct this speech to Muslims that are jealous over their religion in France rather than those in any other countries because these days we are grappling with a band of criminals, a family of infidels and apostates who sell their consciences to Satan and who are excessive in slaughter, torture, and displacing Muslims in Algeria. All of this because they know that they have safe haven in France. They destroy the economy of the country and plunder the riches of the Muslim people because they are preparing comfortable retirement in France. They strive to deform the identity of these people and distance them from their religion, to spread corruption amongst them in order to arrive, at the end, at their Christianizing and their assimilation with the French people, such that France is the [place of] original citizenship, and Algeria is just a crossroads.

Who are these criminals, the ruthless enemies of Islam?

Our real enemies are not only these military leaders, our enemies are also that many different civilian factions. They are known by their complete loyalty to the policies of the French, which gives them great position in the pyramid of power. They rule over the Algerian regime and over the important media outlets, and over the large public companies, and over the cultural institutions, and different diplomatic delegations, and other things of that sort in influential centers in the country. The danger to these civilians tops many times over the danger presented by the generals, yes, the danger brought by this rabid campaign upon family law and upon the educational system to change them into what will serve the imperialist goals is greater than that brought by the campaign to comb the hulls and drive out the Mujahideen, with no comparison.

What are we requesting from our brothers and our supporters in France? Brothers in religion and belief:



Would it please you if al-Jazeera cast off its identity and changed its direction, and returned once more into a colony, in which American and European colonists sowed corruption?

Would if please you if your brothers in Algeria were murdered, their women widowed, and their children orphaned, while you watch these executioners and butchers take their vacations amongst you? You leave them to relax in France, to restore their strength and return to Algeria with new spirit to betray Islam and to wage war on the people of belief?

Help your brothers in Algeria counter these criminals in France.

Encircle them, and lie in wait for them in every path, drive them out as best as you can.

If you say, "where do we find them?" We say, search for them in dens of profanity and places of pleasure and gambling, wait for them in front of night clubs and places that sell alcohol, because they are like beetles, who live only in dirty places. If you are not able to root them out, at least carry out a campaign to expose them to the Islamic generation, to implicate them in scandal, to reveal them, in order to disrupt their comfort.

God helps his servant, as long as the servant helps his brother

God helps those who help Him, for God has the power to bestow dignity

The Salafi Group for Preaching and Combat

25 Jumada al-Thania 1426 [August 1 2005]

[end translation]

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