Institute of Terrorism Research and Response

Actionable Intelligence Briefing

11 November – 12 November 2009

PAIB-06

TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

WEDNESDAY BRIEFING

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS:

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

BANKING AND FINANCE

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

POSTAL AND SHIPPING

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

WATER

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SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD, BANKING AND FINANCE, COMMERCIAL FACILITIES, GOVERNMENT FACILITIES, POSTAL AND SHIPPING, TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, WATER

Jihadists Acquiring Ricin

Arab language researchers of the Targeted Actionable Monitoring Center (TAM-C) have identified internal jihadist communications identifying the desire to utilize the biological toxin substance, Ricin, in a terror attack. The requested target was the London Stock Exchange.

Although the described intended target is the London Stock Exchange, the substance can be utilized anywhere a powder, mist, or liquid can be introduced.

The jihadist involved in the identified communication cites a source that "if this one gram was put in the central ventilation system of a commercial tower it could kill everybody in it within a few hours."

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), depending upon quantity and means of introduction, death can occur within 36-72 hours. Depending upon the means, the lethal dose is extremely small.

********ANALYSIS********

TAM-C analysts believe that, although the stated target in the communication was the London Stock Exchange, the introduction and discussion of the topic will broaden the potential list of targets — such as aircraft ventilation systems, water and food supplies. Additionally, the postal service could be exploited to transport ricin-filled envelopes or containers to unsuspecting recipients.

While the described tactic of introducing the toxin into an office tower's ventilation system is not new, the training being conducted through the jihadist's internet discussion has the ability and intent to spread the knowledge to a much wider audience of people willing to conduct such an operation.

Security personnel who have not previously verified the security of their building's air intake system should do so.

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Jihadists Examine the 'Non-Attack' in Germany

TAM-C reported in PAIB 01 (30 October 2009) that al-Qaeda was threatening to target German assets in America and/or American assets in Germany. The Alert below is an update on this situation:

In the wake of explicit threats of deadly attacks to be carried out in Germany by al-Qaeda terrorists on a Sunday in October, which have not materialized, two jihadist communications intercepted by TAM-C analysts put the AQ spin on the non-event.

The analysis presented says:

1. "The threat was directed to the West as a whole and not only to Europe or to Germany. Germany was just an example."

2. "Germany's hints that it wants to remove the American nuclear weapons on its soil are a clear result of the growing danger to these weapons [from a nuclear-armed al-Qaeda]."

3. The threats were actually against Americans on German soil, and not against Germany itself.

4. The communication does not settle the question of the declared target dates of attack having passed already, but it says, "What about the fourth [clue, in addition to the day of the week and the month named in AQ communications], which he did not reveal? Will this fact change the whole picture? ...The strike is sure to come if Europe does not withdraw its forces, but when? I am sure that it is closer that Merkel thinks."

********ANALYSIS********

Although the dates specified in past al-Qaeda communications for a large-scale attack on Germany have passed, the threat should still be considered as an active one.

The latest jihadist communication seems to expand the circle of threat to encompass American military bases in Germany, as well as German or American targets throughout the West.

TAM-C reiterates its previous advisories regarding the current heightened threat levels to German assets in the Commonwealth (and vice versa), including the need for specific awareness of pre-operational surveillance by the adversary.

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Al-Qaeda in Somalia Continues to Threaten the US

In PAIB 03 (4 November 2009), TAM-C reported that Somali jihadists were calling for strikes against American and Israeli targets. An additional danger included the activation of “Lost Boys” (Somali-Americans indoctrinated and trained in Somalia and then returned to the US). The Alert below is an update on this situation:

The Africa Desk of the Targeted Actionable Monitoring Center (TAM-C) has identified a change in leadership of al-Qaeda in the Horn of Africa. This change in leadership indicates a higher likelihood of terror activity.

The new leader, Nageh Fadli Abdallah Mohammed, although originally from Yemen, is familiar with conducting terror operations in Africa. He is believed to have been involved in the attack on the Israeli hotel in Kenya in 2002 and a US embassy in 1998.

TAM-C analysts believe that the new leader of al Qaeda in the Horn of Africa will attempt to assert his authority with terror activity in the near future. Al-Shabab is equivalent to al Qaeda in the Horn of Africa.

TAM-C reported in PAIB 03 that a spokesman for al Shabaab (Somali Young Mujahideen) recently requested that Muslims attack Israeli and American embassies everywhere and "kill any person holding a passport of America and Israel."

TAM-C also notes that a spokesman for al Shabaab recently made direct threats against Kenya and countries providing military personnel to the African Union peacekeeping detachment in Somalia.

********ANALYSIS********

TAM-C analysts believe the new leadership of the al Qaeda affiliate in the Horn of Africa will assert his leadership by pushing for an immediate increase in terrorism.

TAM-C analysts note that the threat of killing Americans is of special concern because of the number of Somali "Lost Boys" from America who have received jihadi indoctrination and military training in Somalia. As a result of the return of some of the "Lost Boys", there is increased potential of a Somali Young Mojahedin-influenced terror attack, including lone-wolf actions, on American soil.

TAM-C recommends that local authorities in the Commonwealth maintain close relationships with community leaders of immigrant Somali communities in order to ascertain if such recruitment is occurring in those communities.

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Protesting the 'Military-Industrial Complex'

The Targeted Actionable Monitoring Center (TAM-C) has identified plans by peace activists to protest Lockheed Martin located at 280 Hansen Access Road, King of Prussia, PA, 19406-2424. The event will take place on 28 November 2009 from 12-2PM.

The protestors will meet at the intersection of Mall and Goddard Boulevard, in between the King of Prussia Mall and the IMAX Theatre.

The group organizing this "Say No to Lockheedville" protest is the **Brandywine Peace Community**, a Swarthmore, PA-based organization that runs regular anti-war vigils and protests in the Philadelphia region, often in partnership with other peace groups.

This regional coalition of anti-war groups have protested against Lockheed Martin in the past, as well as military-oriented sites such as the Army Recruitment Center at the Franklin Mills Mall in Philadelphia, PA, the target of monthly protests (this month: 21 November).

********ANALYSIS********

TAM-C analysts believe that the location of the protest — on the side of a busy boulevard in a suburban area with virtually no sidewalk or pedestrians — naturally limits the intensity of the protest as well as the number of protestors. For the same reason, counter-protests are highly unlikely.

When their focus is not directed at Lockheed itself, protestors will likely gather at the traffic light on the corner of Mall and Goddard to wave signs at cars.

TAM-C analysts have found no indication that this protest will be disorderly. However, Lockheed Martin is an key commercial-resource, not only for the Commonwealth, but for the United States. The possibility exists that the high-profile nature of the target will attract radical protestors from the ranks of local Communist and/or Anarchist movements.

TAM-C analysts are aware that such elements have dominated "anti-war" events before such as a September 2009 protest against the aforementioned Army Recruiting Center in Philadelphia, succeeding in shutting it down for at least two hours. Seven activists were arrested.

TAM-C analysts will monitor the protests against Lockheed Martin and the Army Recruiting Center to determine whether radical elements plan to use illegal actions against these sites.

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GOVERNMENT FACILITIES, COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

Tea Parties against Amnesty and Illegal Immigration

TAM-C researchers have identified 14 November 2009 as the date for nationwide 'Tea Parties against Amnesty and Illegal Immigration', including locations in the Commonwealth:

City: **Hazleton, PA**
Street Location: 40 N. Church St. City Hall
Times: 2-5pm
Organizer Contact Info
Organizer: Dan Smeriglio

City: **Valley Forge, PA**
Street Location: Valley Forge Rd & Gulph Rd 'Valley Forge National Park'
Times: 12 Noon - 4pm
Organizer Contact Info
Organizer: Stephanie Galonska
Phone: 610-495-0176

TAM-C analysts have collected disparate communications among individual white nationalists expressing an affinity for the Tea Party ideology and a willingness to join the protests.

The fact that these particular Tea Parties are focused not on healthcare but on protesting illegal immigrants - and also, the Obama administration's policies on this issue - increases the likelihood that individual white-nationalists will attend.

Though there are no indications of organized white-power rallies outside the Tea Parties themselves — the possibility exists that white nationalists in attendance will cause a disturbance by provoking and intimidating mainstream Tea Party activists and/or pro-immigration counter-protestors.

TAM-C analysts note that organizers have promised that events in 2009 are only "round one" in a long battle to challenge illegal immigration. Though they claim to have planned 50 different 'Tea Parties against Amnesty and Illegal Immigration' on 14 November 2009, supported by over 3400 people, the organizers also state that these events are simply "warm-up sessions" before Spring 2010 — when they plan to hold truly "large-scale operations."

TAM-C analysts will continue to monitor the Tea Party movement in the Commonwealth in order to detect any illegal, racist, and/or anti-government actions.

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