



TRC TWW Report

Terror Web Watch Report



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Item 1: Plans continue regarding how to establish al-Qaeda in Israel and the Palestinian territories.

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Graphic: The cover of Item 4, al-Qaeda poisons manual



Orientation/Introduction:

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

Item 1: Plans continue regarding how to establish al-Qaeda in Israel and the Palestinian territories.

Little is known about the true identity of "Abu Mujahid al-Ansari," a self-described Palestinian Salafi Muslim who has published various analyses on Jihadist websites. Seemingly, he has some credibility or authority in the online Jihadist community because he is allowed to post statements on the limited-access, controlled website "Muntada al-Ansar."

This piece he writes contributes to an ongoing dialogue around whether al-Qaeda should try to establish cell in the Palestinian territories (For other examples, see Terror Web Watch Item 1: [link](#)). It is worthwhile because it describes some of the problems thwarting al-Qaeda operations in the area, such as the fact that the Palestinian community is considered a hostile host community and the animosity between Al-Qaeda and aligned Salafi groups and more established Palestinian terrorist groups.

It also is illustrative of the intense interest al-Qaeda and its supporters have in seeing operations commence in Israel, against both Jews and "collaborator" Palestinians, like current President Mahmoud Abbas. One of the solutions given here, that a small, Palestinian Salafi group act as a conduit and aid to al-Qaeda while " sleeper" cells are being established, presents one idea of how al-Qaeda may try in the future to gain a foothold in this area. It would be very difficult to accomplish successfully in Israel ([Country Profile](#)) or the Palestinian territories, but it is important to keep in mind that al-Qaeda operatives have successfully carried out an attack in Israel in the past – the bombing by two British Muslims of the popular Tel Aviv café "Mike's Place" ([Terrorist Incident](#)).

[begin translation]

Now is the time, al-Qaeda....By Abu Mujahid al-Ansari

My brothers under God
Peace to you, the compassion and blessings of God

Many have wondered about the possibility of opening an al-Qaeda military wing in the Land of Rabat [Israel and the Palestinian territories]. There is resistance to this idea. However, I wish, my brothers, to clarify some of the major points relating to this topic.

First: It very important and necessary that al-Qaeda put together armed groups in the Land of Rabat, and that the members of this group follow the Salafi way, meaning that the Koran is their constitution and the Sunna is their methodology, and that they follow the ways of the Salaf [Muslims of the 7th and 8th centuries] in their Jihad against the Jews. Do not tell me that there are no Salafis here. My brothers, not every son of the Land of Rabat is a hypocrite and a traitor, seeking out only money and whatever is in his own personal interest. It is true that a large percentage of organizations and parties commit treason against God and the religion and the Umma, but this does not mean that the sons of the Land of Rabat follow them.

Second: I would warn the brothers in al-Qaeda against involvement with any Palestinian organization active in the occupied land. Most of them cannot be relied upon at all to help set up a branch of [al-Qaeda]. The Hamas movement is based on brotherhood, rather than Salafi principles. Hamas sells the blood of its martyrs and then participates in elections run by the Jews and Crusader Americans. As for Islamic Jihad, they are dangerously close to the Shi'a Iranian regime, and the Fatah movement is secular. The rest are all red, leftist, dirty, communist groups who do not even merit a mention from us.

Third: The brothers in the al-Qaeda organization must understand that it has become necessary for them to expand their Jihad activity to include the Land of Rabat. It does not make sense to attack Jews in other countries in the world when there are Jews right here in the Land of Rabat stealing our land, killing our men, and



desecrating our al-Aqsa mosque. If now is the not the right time to commence al-Qaeda operations against the Jews in the Land of Rabat, when will it ever be the right time?

Fourth: Many are concerned that, if al-Qaeda were to recruit from the men of the Land of Rabat, the [recruits] may be collaborating with the Jews or [Palestinian] security services, enabling a security breach of al-Qaeda. Let me just say that there are a number of ways al-Qaeda can avoid this kind of thing. The most important, and the simplest, is to open communication and establish cooperation with leaders of one of the small, trustworthy Salafi groups, after their reliability has already been assessed. The coordination with the group would begin from the outside, by way of some of the brothers, rather than when al-Qaeda was already on the inside. Preparation and planning the Jihad attacks on the Jews would occur after confidence has been established. This is only one of a number of ways that the [Palestinian] brothers can carry out military and security operations, such as gathering weapons and other resources, for al-Qaeda while it establishes sleeper cells in the Land of Rabat.

Fifth: The brothers in the al-Qaeda organization must understand that the Salafi brothers in the Land of Rabat are right now organizing themselves into one Salafi group in order to raise the banner of "There is no god but God" [the creed of Islam]. These brothers have the religiosity to carry out Jihad work, and they refuse to join any faction because they do not believe in any faction but Islam. These brothers pursue their goals, and are not discouraged by the worsening situation. I ask the brothers in al-Qaeda to remember that Salafi Islam reaches well into the Land of Rabat, and that they can rely on the Salafi sons of the land to help al-Qaeda form groups there.

Sixth: Everyone, not just al-Qaeda, needs to recognize that there must be an effort to carry out a variety of Jihad operations in the Land of Rabat to destroy the cheap hudna and those who trade in the people's blood and land and to fight the traitorous, corrupt [Palestinian Authority] that collaborates with the Crusader Jewish government. As a Palestinian living in the Land of Rabat, I see with my own eyes the squandering of our progress and the decrease in martyrs giving up their blood, and I insist that the al-Qaeda organization come to the Land of Rabat and put into place a team to organize the Mujahideen. This is the right of all the brothers, and the right of the true religion of Islam. With the help of God Most High, we can establish this and get our revenge with martyrdom attacks against the apostates [referring to Palestinians who "collaborate" with the Jews, e.g. the Palestinian Authority], and rid our Muslim land of the businessmen [those who "trade the people's blood and land"].

My brothers under God

What has motivated me to develop a plan along these lines is the change in the [practice of the] religion and in the land, which has compounded my growing concern over the treason of the hudna and the casting aside of weapons.

I call at the top of my voice, to all who carry the seed of belief in their hearts:

Your brothers in Palestine need your support to strengthen their ranks and unify their strikes in the Land of Rabat. The al-Aqsa mosque belongs to Islam, not Palestine, and the Land of Rabat refers to the Rabat of the Muslims, all of them, not just the Palestinians. Come. My brothers, and join your brothers the Mujahideen. We must throw out the Jews and raise the word of truth and fight corruption in the Land.

Finally, I say that God will assist your brothers the Mujahideen in the Land of the Two Rivers and in Chechnya and in the chosen land [the Arabian Peninsula] and in the Land of the Nile and the Land of Rabat and in every inch of the earth.

Those who believe in God are helped to victory
Allahu Akbar, God be Praised

Peace to you and the blessing and compassion of God

Your brother under God,

Abu Mujahid al-Ansari



The Land of Rabat

Source: Muntada al-Ansar

[end translation]

Links: Al-Qaeda ([Group Profile](#)), Hamas ([Group Profile](#)), Islamic Jihad ([Group Profile](#)), Fatah ([Group Profile](#))

Item 2: Al-Qaeda in the Land of the Two Rivers ([Group Profile](#)) announces that the "Triangle of Death" is coming to British troops in the south of Iraq ([Country Profile](#)).

The Madrid attacks ([Terrorist Incident](#)) showed how concentrating resources on a less committed country could accomplish more than attacking a more determined opponent like the United States ([Country Profile](#)) (in fact, this was the thesis of the document that is believed to have inspired the Madrid bombing – available from TRC upon request). By focusing on the less committed of the two main occupying countries of Iraq, Zarqawi's group may believe they have a chance of driving Britain ([Country Profile](#)) out.

According to expert D. Walters, another parallel with the Madrid attacks is the timing: Britain faces an upcoming election, Zarqawi and his planners may be hoping that if they kill enough British troops in the weeks or days leading up to the election they may be able to turn the British public's support against Tony Blair.

Walters similarly contends that another important point in this article is the attention paid to increasing numbers of Iraqis aiding the British forces (referred to here as "human armor"), which may indicate concern by the al-Qaeda leadership that the British are making progress in the war for the "hearts and minds" of Iraqis.

[begin translation]

Monday 9/3/1426, corresponding with 4/18/2005

In the name of God the Merciful and the Compassionate

A statement from the al-Qaeda organization in the Land of the Two Rivers

Praise God and peace and blessings upon the Messenger of God and upon his friends and companions

The upper leadership of al-Qaeda has decided to increase its attacks against the British forces centered in the south of Iraq, to make both the south and north of the country a hell and a burial Ground for every Crusader colonist in the land of the Islamic Umma.

We wish to warn every collaborator and every spy [refers to Iraqis aiding the British] who offer security protection and act as human armor to the British forces located in Iraq.

To the collaborators and spies aiding the British forces:

Repent to God and join our brothers the honorable Mujahideen. The honorable Mujahideen will not show mercy to any collaborator or any spy cooperating with the British when we begin our strikes against the British forces.

We are giving some time now for the spies and collaborators working with the British to repent and to decide to ask God for forgiveness and join up with their brethren the Mujahideen.

To the British forces and those who are cooperating with them:

Know that "the Triangle of Death" is coming to you, and that the attacks that come will not be like the hit-and-run attacks that you have seen so far. Death is coming to you.



To the British Government which lives under the biggest security delusion in the world: You must understand that all of your security measures and all of the increases in human armor in the way of spies and collaborators only strengthens the determination of the Mujahideen to attack.

Zionist America meets with punishment every day at the hands of the heroes of the al-Qaeda Organization in the Land of the Two Rivers for the crimes it this Zionist state has committed against the Muslims in the countries of Islam.

Britain will now take the same amount of punishment that faces America, until justice for Islam is achieved, [justice] for every crime committed against Muslims anywhere in the world.

Britain and its followers will not leave Iraq without punishment. The criminals must pay the price for what they have done to the Muslims before they leave the Iraqi quagmire. They will be an example to any country in the world which thinks about invading any of the countries of Islam, and to any country that thinks that it is protected under the cover of America when it comes to killing Muslims.

As the Mullah says: "God will help you to victory and make fast your feet"

The al-Qaeda Organization in the Land of the Two Rivers

[end translation]

Item 3: Al-Qaeda ideologue publishes book urging operations against Musharraf's government in Pakistan ([Country Profile](#)).

This book was uncovered on the Jihadist site al-M2sada. It was written by "Abu Musab al-Suri," who some are calling one of the most dangerous terrorists at large. Abu Musab al-Suri, or "Abu Musab the Syrian" has had close contact with both Osama Bin Laden, Ayman Al-Zawahiri, and Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. He was also close to the leader of the cell that carried out the Madrid train bombing in 2004; this is what has led his name to come up with increasing frequency in the media. Al-Suri is believed to have had a major influence on the theological beliefs of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. He was a key ideologue in the original al-Qaeda core group, one of the main editors for the former al-Qaeda magazine "al-Ansar." According to the TRC-affiliated Terrorism Knowledge Base: "[Al-Suri], a Spanish citizen by marriage, formerly directed and taught at terrorist training camps in Afghanistan ([Country Profile](#)) where he met with Usama bin-Laden [sic] and is known to be an expert in the use of poisons. Nasar was indicted in Spain ([Country Profile](#)) in 2003 for training al-Qaeda "sleeper" agents to be sent to Spain, Italy ([Country Profile](#)) and France ([Country Profile](#)), and the U.S. Government has offered a \$5 million reward for his capture. He is viewed by American intelligence officials as a 'propagandist,' a man valuable for his wealth of influence and contacts within the Islamist terrorist movement but not seen as an actual planner of terrorist attacks [[source](#)]." For more on al-Suri, see ([article](#)).

This book, though undated, appears to be one of al-Suri's latest if not his most recent. It is entitled "Musharraf's Pakistan: the Problem and the Solution." About half of the 161-page book is concerned with establishing the religious basis for waging Jihad in Pakistan against the Musharraf government, its soldiers, and security forces. The book contends that Pakistan "is currently under foreign occupation by America, and therefore Jihad there is a religious duty for every Muslim." It describes the current Pakistani government as "infidel and apostate," enabling US control over the country. To emphasize the point, the cover (see below) displays an illustration of the American flag flying over Pakistan, and the title page contains a picture of President Pervez Musharraf and George Bush shaking hands. An appendix contains clippings of newspaper articles, several of them from the English language Pakistani newspaper "The Daily News," which discuss Pakistan's assistance to the United States in hunting down al-Qaeda operatives. This is presented as proof of the country's betrayal of Islam and its servitude to the United States.

Al-Suri claims that "Muslims in Pakistan must to rise up with their weapons against Musharraf and bring down his government," elaborating on the necessity of fighting back against Pakistani soldiers and security officers when



they "are hostile to Muslims." He urges Pakistanis to aid and support the foreign Arab Mujahideen who come to fight and also to support Mullah Omar and the Taliban.

In many ways, this manifesto feels like a Pakistan version of Osama Bin Laden's lengthy December 16 audio recorded speech directing Jihad in Saudi Arabia ([Country Profile](#)), in which Bin Laden lays out the Islamic justifications for attacking the Saud regime and its military and security personnel ([WAR Report](#) and [WAR Report](#)). The justifications are very similar: the government is infidel and apostate, does not follow Shari'a law, facilitates American imperialism in the country, and allows the United States to use the country as a launch pad to attack a neighboring nation (Iraq in the case of Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan in the case of Pakistan). As in the Bin Laden speech, the emphasis on this paper is on attacking the agents and politicians of the regime, rather than just the symbols of the foreign presence – westerners and their interests -- as has been the case in the past.

Abu Musab al-Suri seems to be gaining influence in the "Terror Web" world, as the highest ranking international terrorist who is able to get new material onto the Web in a semi-regular basis. Especially as the speeches and statements of Ayman al-Zawahiri and Bin Laden come with less frequency, Al-Suri is positioned to be an active, leading ideologue for the masses of dispersed terrorists, both the experienced and aspiring. Al-Suri has a special kind of credibility among the Jihadist community because he is not only a religious leader and ideologue, but as a poisons expert, he is also an able practitioner, in Afghanistan he was a terrorist trainer, and he is also known to be capable planner of attacks. This situation is worth monitoring: whether his lengthy call for Jihad in Pakistan is responded to by fighters on the ground.



باكستان مُشرف



[Picture: Cover of "Musharraf's Pakistan"]

Item 4: Book "A Course in Poisons and Poisonous Gases" by al-Qaeda poisons' expert posted online.

Abu Musab al-Suri [for background, see Item 3] was an al-Qaeda poisons expert in Afghanistan. A book of experiments conducted with various poisons has been published on the web, accessible by a link on the prominent Jihadist website al-M2sada. The book's cover (see Graphic) says that the book was prepared by "Abu Khazifa al-Shemi," but the experiments inside are said to be those of al-Suri on the Web site on which the book was made available. Al-Shemi may have been a lab assistant of sorts who recorded the lab reports; according to the narrative of the reports more than one person was carrying out the experiments. The book also bears the



logo and watermark of the Islamic Media Center, which is seen on other training manuals that were produced and used by al-Qaeda in Afghani training camps. The book was scanned from a hard copy and put into PDF format for posting on the web.

The book is a compilation of a number of different lab reports in which various poisons are produced and then tested on rabbits. The preparations for the different poisons are described. Observations of the effects on the animals - how much time it takes for the loss of muscle control to kick in and how long different amounts of poisons take to kill the animals, for instance, are recorded. The poisons tested in the experiments include: the incredibly dangerous "rotten meat" poison (read more [here](#)), Potassium cyanide, Hydrogen cyanide, pure nicotine extracted from cigarettes, Alkaloid poison, Sodium nitrate, Hydrogen sulfide, Thallium, Sodium azide, Mercury, and others. The amounts that would be needed to kill a person are also given in most cases.

From a counter-terror perspective, the experiments that involve injecting poisons are not of great concern because in terms of a terrorist attack such a method of poison dispersal would not be greatly effective. What is concerning is the experiments that demonstrate how certain poisons can be mixed with agents that open the pores of the skin and can, therefore, be transmitted by contact. DMSO, or Dimethyl Sulphoxide, is the main one used in the experiments described here on the rabbits. DMSO is used commercially in skin creams to open the pores of the skin to the nutrients in the creams, but it can also be a fatally effective vehicle for transmitting poisons by touch. The manual says that DMSO is widely available and easy to obtain from various medical sources.

This would be very effective from a terrorists' point of view: a smear of the poisons on the faucets or toilets of public bathrooms, doorknobs of office buildings, door handles of malls, hand rails in a subway station, elevator buttons, even the swings, monkey bars, and slides of a playground would instill mass fear without needing to plan out a difficult mass casualty event. If a playground or office building or subway is hit in this way, many people in the targeted city will not commute, not go to work, and not send their children to school out of fear. The effectiveness of a few random deaths in public places on the psyche of a metro area was witnessed during the sniper attacks in Washington DC in the fall of 2002.

At the end of the manual, there are recommendations for additional uses of these poisons. One is to use TNT to create a poisonous bomb with chemicals, "in the form of a missile." It also gives the option of using a spray gun for a quick dispersal, "which is cheap and easy to use, especially for use on children." It does not suggest why this method would be appropriate for children, but reasonable conclusions can be drawn, such as the fact that children would be less likely to attack the attacker than adults, so the terrorist would have more time to disseminate poison. Also, they children do not need to be sprayed with as much poison to ensure a lethal dose.

It manual also discusses the use of poison darts, dipping bullets into poison to ensure a lethal gun wound, and constructing a hand grenade filled with shrapnel soaked in poisons like cyanide or ricin.

Item 5: Video Available: A video depicting Iraqi insurgents celebrating over a downed Bulgarian helicopter containing American, Bulgarian, and Filipino passengers is being widely downloaded.

Insurgents in Iraq – specifically the group "the Islamic Army in Iraq" ([Group Profile](#))-- have released a gruesome video depicting themselves celebrating and calling out "Allahu Akbar" over the remains of the helicopter that was shot down on April 22 ([Terrorist Incident](#)). The film has circulated widely on Jihadist Web sites. It is available from TRC upon request.

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