

Al-Qaida

From: *Patterns of Global Terrorism, 2000*. United States Department of State, April 2001.

Description

Established by Usama Bin Ladin in the late 1980s to bring together Arabs who fought in Afghanistan against the Soviet invasion. Helped finance, recruit, transport, and train Sunni Islamic extremists for the Afghan resistance. Current goal is to establish a pan-Islamic Caliphate throughout the world by working with allied Islamic extremist groups to overthrow regimes it deems "non-Islamic" and expelling Westerners and non-Muslims from Muslim countries. Issued statement under banner of "the World Islamic Front for Jihad Against the Jews and Crusaders" in February 1998, saying it was the duty of all Muslims to kill US citizens--civilian or military--and their allies everywhere.

Activities

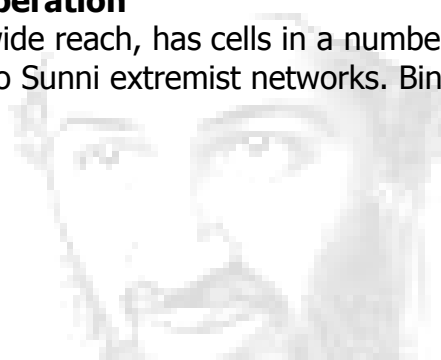
Plotted to carry out terrorist operations against US and Israeli tourists visiting Jordan for millennial celebrations. (Jordanian authorities thwarted the planned attacks and put 28 suspects on trial.) Conducted the bombings in August 1998 of the US Embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, that killed at least 301 persons and injured more than 5,000 others. Claims to have shot down US helicopters and killed US servicemen in Somalia in 1993 and to have conducted three bombings that targeted US troops in Aden, Yemen, in December 1992. Linked to the following plans that were not carried out: to assassinate Pope John Paul II during his visit to Manila in late 1994, simultaneous bombings of the US and Israeli Embassies in Manila and other Asian capitals in late 1994, the midair bombing of a dozen US trans-Pacific flights in 1995, and to kill President Clinton during a visit to the Philippines in early 1995. Continues to train, finance, and provide logistic support to terrorist groups in support of these goals.

Strength

May have several hundred to several thousand members. Also serves as a focal point or umbrella organization for a worldwide network that includes many Sunni Islamic extremist groups such as Egyptian Islamic Jihad, some members of al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya, the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, and the Harakat ul-Mujahidin.

Location/Area of Operation

Al-Qaida has a worldwide reach, has cells in a number of countries, and is reinforced by its ties to Sunni extremist networks. Bin Ladin and his key



lieutenants reside in Afghanistan, and the group maintains terrorist training camps there.

External Aid

Bin Ladin, son of a billionaire Saudi family, is said to have inherited approximately \$300 million that he uses to finance the group. Al-Qaida also maintains moneymaking front organizations, solicits donations from like-minded supporters, and illicitly siphons funds from donations to Muslim charitable organizations.

Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG)

From: *Patterns of Global Terrorism, 2000*. United States Department of State, April 2001.

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Description

The ASG is the smallest and most radical of the Islamic separatist groups operating in the southern Philippines. Some ASG members have studied or worked in the Middle East and developed ties to mujahidin while fighting and training in Afghanistan. The group split from the Moro National Liberation Front in 1991 under the leadership of Abdurajik Abubakar Janjalani, who was killed in a clash with Philippine police on 18 December 1998. Press reports place his younger brother, Khadafi Janjalani, as the nominal leader of the group, which is composed of several factions.

Activities

Engages in bombings, assassinations, kidnappings, and extortion to promote an independent Islamic state in western Mindanao and the Sulu Archipelago, areas in the southern Philippines heavily populated by Muslims. Raided the town of Ipil in Mindanao in April 1995--the group's first large-scale action--and kidnapped more than 30 foreigners, including a US citizen, in 2000.

Strength

Believed to have about 200 core fighters, but more than 2,000 individuals motivated by the prospect of receiving ransom payments for foreign hostages allegedly joined the group in August.

Location/Area of Operation

The ASG primarily operates in the southern Philippines with members occasionally traveling to Manila, but the group expanded its operations to Malaysia this year when it abducted foreigners from two different resorts.

External Aid

Probably receives support from Islamic extremists in the Middle East and South Asia.

Armed Islamic Group (GIA)

From: *Patterns of Global Terrorism, 2000*. United States Department of State, April 2001.

Description

An Islamic extremist group, the GIA aims to overthrow the secular Algerian regime and replace it with an Islamic state. The GIA began its violent activities in early 1992 after Algiers voided the victory of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS)--the largest Islamic party--in the first round of legislative elections in December 1991.

Activities

Frequent attacks against civilians, journalists, and foreign residents. In the last several years the GIA has conducted a terrorist campaign of civilian massacres, sometimes wiping out entire villages in its area of operations and frequently killing hundreds of civilians. Since announcing its terrorist campaign against foreigners living in Algeria in September 1993, the GIA has killed more than 100 expatriate men and women--mostly Europeans--in the country. Uses assassinations and bombings, including car bombs, and it is known to favor kidnapping victims and slitting their throats. The GIA hijacked an Air France flight to Algiers in December 1994. In late 1999 several GIA members were convicted by a French court for conducting a series of bombings in France in 1995. The Salafi Group for Call and Combat (GSPC) splinter faction appears to have eclipsed the GIA since approximately 1998 and is currently assessed to be the most effective remaining armed group inside Algeria. Both the GIA and GSPC leadership continue to proclaim their rejection of President Bouteflika's amnesty, but in contrast to the GIA, the GSPC has stated that it limits attacks on civilians. The GSPC's planned attack against the Paris-Dakar Road Rally in January 2000 demonstrates, however, that the group has not entirely renounced attacks against high-profile civilian targets.

Strength

Unknown, probably several hundred to several thousand.

Location/Area of Operation

Algeria.

External Aid

Algerian expatriates and GSPC members abroad, many of whom reside in Western Europe, provide financial and logistic support. In addition, the Algerian Government has accused Iran and Sudan of supporting Algerian extremists.

The Harakat ul-Mujahidin (HUM)

From: *Patterns of Global Terrorism, 2000*. United States Department of State, 2001.

Former Name

Harakat ul-Ansar (HUA)

Description

Formerly known as the Harakat al-Ansar, the HUM is an Islamic militant group based in Pakistan that operates primarily in Kashmir. Long-time leader of the group, Fazlur Rehman Khalil, in mid-February stepped down as HUM emir, turning the reins over to the popular Kashmiri commander and his second-in-command, Farooq Kashmiri. Khalil, who has been linked to Bin Ladin and signed his fatwa in February 1998 calling for attacks on US and Western interests, assumed the position of HUM Secretary General. Continued to operate terrorist training camps in eastern Afghanistan.

Activities

Has conducted a number of operations against Indian troops and civilian targets in Kashmir. Linked to the Kashmiri militant group al-Faran that kidnapped five Western tourists in Kashmir in July 1995; one was killed in August 1995 and the other four reportedly were killed in December of the same year. The new millennium brought significant developments for Pakistani militant groups, particularly the HUM. Most of these sprang from the hijacking of an Indian airliner on 24 December by militants believed to be associated with the HUM. The hijackers negotiated the release of Masood Azhar, an important leader in the former Harakat ul-Ansar imprisoned by the Indians in 1994. Azhar did not, however, return to the HUM, choosing instead to form the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JEM), a rival militant group expressing a more radical line than the HUM.

Strength

Has several thousand armed supporters located in Azad Kashmir, Pakistan, and India's southern Kashmir and Doda regions. Supporters are mostly Pakistanis and Kashmiris and also include Afghans and Arab veterans of the Afghan war. Uses light and heavy machineguns, assault rifles, mortars, explosives, and rockets. HUM lost some of its membership in defections to the JEM.

Location/Area of Operation

Based in Muzaffarabad, Pakistan, but members conduct insurgent and terrorist activities primarily in Kashmir. The HUM trains its militants in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

External Aid

Collects donations from Saudi Arabia and other Persian Gulf and Islamic states and from Pakistanis and Kashmiris. The source and amount of HUM's military funding are unknown.

al-Jihad

From: *Patterns of Global Terrorism, 2000*. United States Department of State, April 2001.

Other Names

Egyptian Islamic Jihad
Islamic Jihad
Jihad Group

Description

Egyptian Islamic extremist group active since the late 1970s. Close partner of Bin Ladin's al-Qaida organization. Suffered setbacks as a result of numerous arrests of operatives worldwide, most recently in Lebanon and Yemen. Primary goals are to overthrow the Egyptian Government and replace it with an Islamic state and attack US and Israeli interests in Egypt and abroad.

Activities

Specializes in armed attacks against high-level Egyptian Government personnel, including cabinet ministers, and car-bombings against official US and Egyptian facilities. The original Jihad was responsible for the assassination in 1981 of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. Claimed responsibility for the attempted assassinations of Interior Minister Hassan al-Alfi in August 1993 and Prime Minister Atef Sedky in November 1993. Has not conducted an attack inside Egypt since 1993 and has never targeted foreign tourists there. Responsible for Egyptian Embassy bombing in Islamabad in 1995; in 1998, planned attack against US Embassy in Albania was thwarted.

Strength

Not known but probably has several hundred hard-core members.

Location/Area of Operation

Operates in the Cairo area. Has a network outside Egypt, including Yemen, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sudan, Lebanon, and the United Kingdom.

External Aid

Not known. The Egyptian Government claims that both Iran and Bin Ladin support the Jihad. Also may obtain some funding through various Islamic nongovernmental organizations, cover businesses, and criminal acts.

Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU)

From: Patterns of Global Terrorism, 2000. United States Department of State, April 2001.

Description

Coalition of Islamic militants from Uzbekistan and other Central Asian states opposed to Uzbekistani President Islom Karimov's secular regime. Goal is establishment of Islamic state in Uzbekistan. Recent propaganda also includes anti-Western and anti-Israeli rhetoric.

Activities

Believed to be responsible for five car bombs in Tashkent in February 1999. Took hostages on several occasions in 1999 and 2000, including four US citizens who

were mountain climbing in August 2000, and four Japanese geologists and eight Kyrgyzstani soldiers in August 1999.

Strength

Militants probably number in the thousands.

Location/Area of Operation

Militants are based in Afghanistan and Tajikistan. Area of operations includes Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Afghanistan.

External Aid

Support from other Islamic extremist groups in Central and South Asia. IMU leadership broadcasts statements over Iranian radio.

Asbat al-Ansar

Description

Sunni extremist group operating in Lebanon and Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and receives training and funds from bin Laden's network. It has threatened to assassinate the U.S. ambassador in Beirut, and experts say it represents one of several attempts by bin Laden to insert himself into the already frenzied Palestinian-Israeli struggle.

Activities

Lebanon suffered several terrorist attacks in 1999 involving local actors and victims. On 8 September, for example, a bomb exploded at the Customs Department office in Sidon, causing no injuries. Unidentified gunmen on 8 June shot and killed four judges at a courthouse in Sidon. Although Lebanese authorities had not apprehended the assailants, they believed the Palestinian extremist group Asbat al-Ansar was responsible.

Salafi Group for Call and Combat (GSPC)

Description

Currently assessed to be the most effective remaining armed group inside Algeria.

Activities

GSPC states that it limits attacks on civilians but a planned attack against the Paris-Dakar Road Rally demonstrates that the group has not entirely renounced attacks against high-profile civilian targets. Currently targets Algeria and northern Africa. Based in Algeria.

Libyan Islamic Fighting Group

Description

The FIG is an Islamic group which has been established to support the cause of Islam and Muslims by following the creed of Ahlul-Sunnah Wal Jama'ah. In accordance with this principle, FIG regards the governing regime in Libya as an oppressive, corrupt and apostate regime that is at war with Allah. Abdullah Sadddek, the Amir (leader) of the FIG, is well-known as a Libyan citizen who resides in Tripoli.

Activities

The Fighting Islamic Group (FIG) is a Libyan opposition group that has claimed responsibility for "Wadi Al-Shateh's" operation which was carried out by a number of Mujahideen as an attempt to get rid of Moammar Qadhafi in 1996. In response to Qaddhafi's threat to eliminate opposition outside of Libya, on 18 June 1998 the FIG affirmed that the retaliation will be in kind and outside of Libya.

Al-Itihaad al-Islamiya

Description

Armed organization formed in the early 1990s to fight for an Islamic state in Somalia; also said to be active in Ethiopia. Has killed Christian relief workers in the Horn of Africa in an effort to set up an Islamic state there

Islamic Army of Aden

Description

Created by Abu al-Hassan, whose aim is to overthrow the Yemeni government. The organization itself is probably a loose guerrilla network of a few dozen men, Yemenis and non-Yemenis. Zayn al-Abidin Abu Bakr al-Mihdar, the Yemeni founder and purported leader of the 15-20 kidnapers of British tourists in the Christmas season of 1998, was executed. After having initially denied the existence of any such force as the Aden-Abyan Islamic Army, the Yemeni government claims to have wiped it out.

Activities

One of the leads investigators are following into the October 12 Aden harbor bombing of the USS Cole is an obscure network known (or perhaps formerly known) as the Aden-Abyan Islamic Army. Terrorism experts are familiar with this group's past missions, including attacks on Yemeni socialists prior to the 1993 parliamentary elections, the kidnapping of 16 Western tourists in Abyan on

December 28, 1998 -- four of whom died in a botched rescue mission by the Yemeni government -- and other bomb attacks in and around Aden over the past several years.

Usama bin Laden

Other Names

Usama Bin Muhammad Bin Ladin, Shaykh Usama Bin Ladin, the Prince, the Emir, Abu Abdallah, Mujahid Shaykh, Hajj, the Director

Description

Number One suspect in the September 11th, 2001 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. He is believed to be behind the 1998 bombings of two U.S. embassies in East Africa, the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center in New York, and attacks on U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia and Somalia.

Muhammad Atif

Other Names

Subhi Abu Sitta, Abu Hafs Al Masri

Description

Commander of the Islamic Army for the Liberation of Holy Sites, which claimed responsibility for the 1998 bombings of U.S. Embassies in East Africa. An Egyptian who is bin Laden's second-in-command and whose daughter married bin Laden's son.

Sayf al-Adl

Description

A leader of a terrorist Egyptian group who is thought to be in hiding in Afghanistan

Shaykh Sai'id

Other Names

Mustafa Muhammad Ahmad

Description

His name closely resembles that of a man in the United Arab Emirates who Newsweek magazine said received mailed packages and wired funds from the hijackers in the days before the Sept. 11 attacks.

Abu Hafs the Mauritanian**Other Names**

Mahfouz Ould al-Walid, Khalid Al-Shanqiti

Description

Confident of bin Laden.

Ibn Al-Shaykh al-Libi**Description****Abu Zubaydah****Other Names**

Zayn al-Abidin Muhammad Husayn, Tariq

Description

Described as Usama bin Laden's CEO. He allegedly ran the House of Martyrs, a Pakistan-based camp for terrorist recruits. He is a Palestinian who is the accused leader of an aborted plot to blow up hotels and holy sites in Jordan during the millennium celebrations

Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi**Other Name**

Abu Abdallah

Ayman al-Zawahiri

Description

Senior Al Jihad commander and bin Laden's top lieutenant. He is bin Laden's physician and the founder of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad. He is accused of the 1981 assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

Thirwat Salah Shihata

Description

Senior Al Jihad leader. A leader of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad who supposedly specializes in finances

Tariq Anwar al-Sayyid Ahmad

Other Names

Fathi, Amr al-Fatih

Muhammad Salah

Other Names

Nasr Fahmi Nasr Hasanayn

Description

He is thought to be a top leader of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad. Among the many terrorist groups allied with bin Laden, it is perhaps the one most closely interwoven with his al Qaeda group, according to terrorism experts.

Makhtab Al-Khidamat/Al Kifah

Description

Offices started by bin Laden during the 10-year guerrilla war with Russia to recruit soldiers from as many as 50 countries. Known as the "Services Office", it is an organization that bin Laden established in the 1980s to aid the Afghan rebels fighting the Soviet army. The group, which received funds from Islamic charities around the world, built roads and hideout tunnels for the guerrillas, and sent them by the hundreds to Pakistan for training.

Wafa Humanitarian Organization

Description

Based in Saudi Arabia, distributes food and constructed a medical clinic in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Al Rashid Trust

Description

Charity group based in Pakistan and created by Islamists who support the Taliban. A Web site soliciting donations for the Taliban calls on supporters to contact the Al-Rasheed Trust -- a different spelling from that used in the executive order -- at an address in Karachi, Pakistan. Terrorism expert Steven Emerson said the Web site referred to the organization Bush cited.

Mamoun Darkazanli Import-Export Company

Description

Provides wholesale televisions, radios, and other electronic appliances.