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Counter Terrorism Activities

EU Proposes Rules on Wire Transfers

In an effort to increase safeguards against terrorist financing, the European Commission has proposed that banks require the name, address and bank account number for anyone making an international money transfer and at least the bank account number for within EU transfers. The legislation follows on the heels of the July 7 and July 21 bombings in central London and goes beyond United States money-transfer rules in applying it to transactions of any amount as opposed to only those great than \$5,000. Not only would this information be necessary for a transfer to proceed, but banks will be instructed to keep a record of all transactions for police use and to report any suspicious activities to the proper authorities. The commission hopes to bring the law into force in January 2007.

For more information: <http://www.iht.com/articles/2005/07/27/news/union.php>

UN Security Council Expands Sanctions Against al-Qaeda and the Taliban

On July 29th, the United Nations Security Council voted unanimously to adopt a resolution that will strengthen sanctions against al-Qaeda and the Taliban as well as their affiliates and splinter groups. The previous resolution of 1999, required all 191 UN member states to impose a travel ban and arms embargo on al-Qaeda and the Taliban, in addition to freezing their financial assets. Building upon this, the new resolution elaborates on who is included among the “associates” also subject to sanctions. They are defined as any individual or entity “participating in the financing, planning, facilitating, preparing or perpetrating of acts or activities by, in conjunction with, under the name of, on behalf of, or in support of” al-Qaeda or the Taliban. Also covered is “any cell, affiliate, splinter group or derivative” of them as well as any group or individual recruiting for them or supplying them with arms. This landmark document, co-sponsored by the United States, Denmark, France, Greece, Japan and Russia definitively spells out expectations of member states in the fight against terrorism and terrorist financing. The Security Council called for closer coordination with Interpol and for the first time strongly urges all (UN) Member States to implement the comprehensive, international standards embodied in the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) Forty Recommendations on Money Laundering and the FATF Nine Special Recommendations on Terrorist Financing.

For more information:

UNSC Resolution 1617: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2005/sc8468.doc.htm>

News Articles:

http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/breaking/072905sun_terror.php

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2005-07/30/content_3286318.htm

<http://go.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=worldNews&storyID=9216097&src=rss/worldNews>

Think-Tank Urges Public to Watch Out for Terrorists

The Mackenzie Institute, a Toronto security think-tank, has compiled a list of suspicious activities that civilians should be watching for to prevent future terrorist bombings like the ones that occurred last month in London. Examples of suspicious activities include a car buyer who insists on paying in cash or an apartment that smells of chemicals. An article in the National Post listed additional activities mentioned in the report:

- *The theft or loss of badges, credentials, ID cards, government/military/emergency vehicles, uniforms.*
- *Photographing, sketching or surveillance of facilities or prominent buildings.*
- *Unusual patterns of seemingly unimportant activity: Examples might include increased foot traffic on a little used access tunnel underneath an office tower, or a fisherman who keeps returning to a point close to a nuclear power plant.*
- *A group of men ... who occupy a house, apartment or motel rooms with no apparent purpose and who have no apparent patterns of departure/arrival that are consistent with commuting to work or school.*
- *If there is a smell of chemicals (particularly ammonia or acetone) coming from the above site, call it immediately. They may be cooking up explosives.*
- *Bulky clothing that may be inappropriate for the weather and circumstances can conceal a vest bomb.*

For more information:

Mackenzie Institute Paper: <http://www.mackenzieinstitute.com/2005/precursors-attack.htm>

Post Article: <http://www.canada.com/national/nationalpost/news/story.html?id=183e5d17-6ce2-4bb0-9ac9-5e1bbb7bc9fa>

Recent Events

- July 11-29: Interagency Coordination and Counterterrorism Course (ICCT); National Defense University.
- July 18-22: GAFISUD Conference; Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- August 1-5: National Workshop on Anti-Terrorism Legislation; Panama.

- August 22-24: FIU Training Course; Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- August 22-26: Port Security Train the Trainers Workshop; Port of Spain, Trinidad.
- Aug 29 – Sept 2: FBI Hostage Negotiation Course; Montego Bay, Jamaica.

Future Events

- Sept 5-8: Regional Seminar on Integrity; Barbados.
- Sept 8-9: 2nd Annual Counterterrorism Exercise; Montego Bay, Jamaica.
- Sept 14-16: 2nd Meeting of Government Experts on Cyber Security; Sao Paolo, Brazil.

Recent Developments in the News

- This October the **St. Kitts and Nevis Ministry of National Security, Justice, Immigration and Labour will introduce machine readable passports** in an effort to enhance border security. This component is in keeping with the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) accepted standards and regulations. The initiative is part of a unified effort by CARICOM countries and although it will not negate specific citizenship, the new passports will carry the CARICOM logo and the Federation's Coat of Arms.

For more information: <http://www.caribbeannetnews.com/cgi-bin/GPrint2002.pl?file=2005/07/28/introduce.shtml>

- Legislation has been submitted to the Dutch government that would make the **“glorification” of terrorism, war crimes, or genocide punishable by up to a year in prison and a fine of €4,500 (US \$5,400)**. The bill was proposed by Justice Minister Piet Hein Donner in an effort to control inflammatory comments that have increasingly strained relations between the Muslim and non-Muslim communities following the November 2 murder of filmmaker Theo van Gogh by a Muslim extremist.

For more information: <http://calibre.mworld.com/m/m.w?lp=GetStory&id=152089831>

- On July 29, the **European Commission announced a new anti-terrorism proposal that will require phone and Internet companies to keep a record of all calls for a year and messages for six months**. The contents of these calls and messages will not be recorded, but numbers and addresses of subscribers as well as start/log in and end/log out times will be. Although many businesses fear the additional expenses that will be incurred to comply with such legislation, the commission plans to go ahead with it this September although compensation amounts remain vague.

For more information: <http://www.cellular-news.com/story/13605.php>

- July 29 saw France's Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy, announce a **new anti-terrorism plan that includes the expulsion of a dozen Islamists between now and the end of August**. Men accused of preaching in favor of a "holy war," terrorism, and suicide bombings either at home or in Iraq will be returned to their countries of origin, most commonly in France's case to its former North African colonies. France, which has Europe's largest Muslim population, will pursue this policy towards Islamists regardless of citizenship or residency.

For more information:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/core/Content/displayPrintable.jhtml?xml=/news/2005/07/30/ncleric30.xml&site=5>

- Franco Frattini, the European Union Justice and Home Affairs Commissioner, warned that **Iraq has become a hub of training for suicide bombers**, "millions" of whom may return to Europe once the Iraqi regime stabilizes. Frattini stressed the need for a common EU strategy to attack the roots of radical Islamic terrorism by cooperating with moderate Muslim leaders to isolate extremists. To that end, he called for an inter-religious dialogue to be set up by next spring, saying that moderate Muslim leaders "cannot remain silent" and must "condemn terrorism ... publicly."

For more information: <http://www.tkb.org/NewsStory.jsp?storyID=79056>

- Following the July 29th UN Security Council resolution to crack down on financing for al-Qaeda and its allies, **Interpol promised tighter cooperation with the United Nations in the fight against terrorism**. Under the resolution, the international police body will receive a list of banned groups and their members from the UN to be added to organization's pre-existing database. The resolution also urged UN member states to report all lost or stolen travel papers to Interpol for registration in its global database.

For more information: [UN Counter-Terrorism News Bulletin – 1 August, 2005](#)

- Many watchers of the counter-terrorism operations and investigations ongoing in the European Union see **cooperation between member states "hamstrung by bureaucracy."** Barriers to information sharing and duplicity between regional organizations is preventing necessary integration at a time when the threat is largely transnational and inter-state cooperation is proving vital to success. The international nature of terrorism has been driven home once again by the recent arrest in Rome of Osman Hussain (also known as Hamdi Issac), a suspect in the London bombings. Hussain is to be extradited to Britain after a lengthy dispute over proceedings with the Italian justice system.

For more information: <http://news.ft.com/cms/s/dec6bf80-0228-11da-9481-00000e2511c8.html>

- On August 3, **Thai security personnel arrested an Algerian-born Briton carrying 452 forged passports** from numerous countries including France, Spain, Portugal, and Belgium. Mahieddine Daikh, a naturalized British citizen, was stopped at Bangkok's international airport and says he was paid £15,000 (US\$26,500) to act as courier for the travel documents for sale in London. According to his story, Daikh was hired by someone in London and the passports were purchased from an unidentified Pakistani man on Samui Island, a popular tourist resort area in southern Thailand.

For more information: *UN Counter-Terrorism News Bulletin – 4 August, 2005*
http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/crime_thailand_dc

- British Prime Minister Tony Blair has outlined a series of proposals to expand his government's deportation powers to cover foreigners who encourage terrorism. To that end, **Britain detained 10 people on August 11 with an eye to return them to their countries of origin.** Home Secretary Charles Clarke said in a statement that they "now have good reason to believe ... that [the deportees] will not be subject to torture or ill-treatment" although Prime Minister Blair said he was prepared to amend human rights laws to make deportations more straightforward.

For more information:
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/4747573.stm
http://news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/nm/20050811/ts_nm/security_britain_dc

- On August 5th, **Australian officials announced an evacuation plan for the city of Sydney** that is modeled on the one used in the aftermath of the London bombings. In the event of a terrorist attack, text messages on mobile phones will alert police wardens to begin evacuating office workers and shoppers from Sydney's central business district and gather them together at three open-air evacuation sites where they can be directed to the best transport home. The location of those evacuation sites remains confidential for security purposes so they themselves do not become targets.

For more information: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/SYD151674.htm>

- The **British Home Office is reviewing a proposal to hold special pre-trial hearings for terror cases in secret.** The purpose of these secret hearings would be to review security sensitive evidence against the defendant and would be conducted by a security-cleared judge. There are no plans to hold full criminal trials in secret and in such cases where secret hearings were held, the full trial would proceed in a conventional court with a different judge.

For more information:
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/4133564.stm
http://www.irishexaminer.com/pport/web/world/Full_Story/did-sgH8VDIb0Qx8wsglO-LCk0lOvU.asp

- From August 9 – 16, **Panama played host to around 3,500 troops from across the region for a series of military exercises** aimed at protecting the Panama Canal against terrorist attacks and the illicit drug trade. The exercise codenamed ‘Panamax 2005’ included crews from United States, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Peru and the Dominican Republic and included both land and sea operations. Panamanian Justice Minister Héctor Alemán said the exercises would help secure the canal, considered by some as the “nerve center” of the world’s drug trade.

For more information: <http://www.eians.com/stories/2005/08/09/09lead.shtml>

- **A Syrian man was charged on August 11th for plotting to attack Israeli cruise ships on Turkey’s Mediterranean coast.** This development comes after Israel diverted 5 cruise ships to Cyprus from their destination in Turkey last week due to credible intelligence of just such a terrorist attack. Louasi Sakka was arrested trying to board a flight to Istanbul using a fake name and his presumed partner, Hamed Obysi, also Syrian, was caught trying to bribe Turkish border police to let him into neighboring Syria. Turkish officials have blamed a recent spate of bombings in Turkey’s resort towns on the Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK), but Israel has continued its policy of redirection in light of the new information.

For more information: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/08/12/international/europe/12turkey.html>

- **French IT services group Steria joins Hyundai Information Technologies and Sagem as a producer of new biometric ID cards,** announced the International Labour Organization (ILO) on 18 August. Under the Seafarers’ Identity Documents Convention drafted by the ILO and the International Maritime Organization that came into force from February 2005, these biometric ID cards will replace all existing local ID cards carried by some one million seamen worldwide. Although they will simplify procedures for obtaining visas and aim to increase security against the growing threat of international terrorism, they are not intended to replace passports.

For more information: [UN Counter-Terrorism News Bulletin – 19 August 2005
http://www.steria.no/fit/index.db2?id=78](http://www.steria.no/fit/index.db2?id=78)

New Documents in OLAT

- Resolution 1617 (2005); United Nations Security Council.
- Waiting for the Kaboom: Indicators to Watch for; John Thompson, President of the Mackenzie Insitute.

Books

- Dying to Win: The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism.
Robert A. Pape; Random House: May 2005.
In his book, Robert Pape presents his groundbreaking research into the psyche of the suicide bomber. Using the first comprehensive database of every suicide terrorist attack in the world since 1980, which he compiled, Pape seeks to explain the strategic, social, and individual factors responsible for this growing threat. One of the world's foremost authorities on the subject, Pape clearly and systematically debunks the numerous widely held misconceptions about suicide bombers and their motivations, creates "demographic profile" of modern suicide terrorist attackers and offers the essential tools to forecast when some groups are likely to resort to this method and when they are not. An insightful study, this book is appropriate for policy-makers, academics and lay people alike.
- Dying to Kill: The Allure of Suicide Terror.
Mia Bloom; Columbia University Press: May 2005.
The history of suicide terrorism is long and storied dating back to the first century Zealots and continuing up through extremists of all sorts today. Mia Bloom describes this history in her book, Dying to Kill, and goes even further in analyzing the reasons groups have turned to it and how government actions and popular support (or the lack thereof) have affected its usage and success in achieving stated goals. Bloom also includes a fascinating chapter on female suicide terrorists, particularly in Chechnya and Sri Lanka, and its perception as a source of female empowerment.