

# FACTSHEET

## COUNTERTERRORISM SUCCESSES

### GLOBAL COUNTERTERRORISM SUCCESSES

Since this Administration took office, it has been working with key partners around the world – including in the Gulf, Africa, Asia, and Europe – to support efforts to disrupt and dismantle al-Qa’ida (AQ) and its regional affiliates who remain intent on conducting further attacks against the Homeland and against U.S. interests around the globe. As a result of this multilateral effort, al-Qa’ida and affiliated organizations have sustained significant losses in places like Pakistan, Somalia, and Indonesia. The following are some of the most significant leadership losses these groups have suffered in the past year:

#### **April 2009**

- AQ commander Abu Sulayman al-Jaza’iri killed in Pakistan

#### **August 2009**

- Tehrik e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) leader Baitullah Mahsud killed in Pakistan

#### **September 2009**

- Jemaah Islamiyya (JI) operational planner Noordin Muhammad Top killed in Indonesia
- AQ in East Africa (AQEA) planner Saleh Ali Saleh Nabhan killed in Somalia
- Islamic Jihad Union (IJU) leader Nazhimiddin Zhalaov killed in Pakistan
- Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) leader Tohir Yuldashev killed in Pakistan

#### **December 2009**

- AQ operational commanders Saleh al-Somali and ‘Abdallah Sa’id killed in Pakistan

#### **February 2010**

- Taliban deputy and military commander Abdul Ghani Baradar captured in Pakistan

### DOMESTIC COUNTERTERRORISM SUCCESSES

Over the past year, the criminal justice system has been leveraged to disrupt plots and incapacitate suspected terrorists at home and abroad.

#### **April 2009**

- On April 28-29, 2009, five individuals -- Mohamad Ibrahim Shnewer, brothers Dritan, Shain and Eljvir Duka, and Serdar Tatar -- received sentences ranging from 33 years in prison, to life in prison plus 30 years, for plotting to kill U.S. soldiers in an armed attack on the military base in Fort Dix, New Jersey. All five individuals were convicted at trial in December 2008.

#### **September 2009**

- Najibullah Zazi was indicted on September 24, 2009, for conspiracy to use weapons of mass destruction against U.S. persons or property (pled guilty on February 22, 2010 to conspiracy to use weapons of mass destruction (explosive bombs) against persons or property in the United States, conspiracy to commit murder in a foreign country, and providing material support to al-Qa’ida);

- A superseding indictment was returned on September 24, 2009, charging Daniel Patrick Boyd, Hysen Sherifi, and Zakariya Boyd with conspiring to murder U.S. military personnel and federal firearms violations;
- On September 24, 2009, Hosam Maher Husein Smadi was arrested and charged in a criminal complaint with attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction against a 60-story building in Dallas, Texas;
- On September 24, 2009, Michael Finton was arrested on charged of attempted murder of federal employees and attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction in connection with a plot to detonate a car bomb outside the federal building in Springfield, Illinois;

### **October 2009**

- On October 22, 2009, a jury convicted Mohammad Zaki Amawi, Marwah Othman El-Hindi, and Wassim Mazloum of sentences ranging from 8 to 20 years for conspiring to commit terrorist acts against Americans overseas, including U.S. military personnel in Iraq;
- On October 27, 2009, David Headley and Thawwur Rana were arrested in connection with allegations of participating in a conspiracy to provide material support to, or to commit, terrorist acts overseas including an attack on the employees and facilities of the Danish newspaper that published cartoons of the prophet Mohammed in 2006. Additional charges were filed against Headley on December 7, 2009 relating to his involvement in the Mumbai attacks in November 2008 that killed approximately 170 people. A criminal complaint against retired Pakistani military major Abdur Rehman Hashim Syed (aka Abdur Rehman) was also unsealed on December 7, 2009.

### **November 2009**

- On November 23, 2009, terrorism charges were unsealed against eight defendants in the District of Minnesota charged with providing material and financial support to al Shabaab (bringing the total number of defendants publicly charged in Minnesota to 14);
- On November 24, 2009, four individuals were indicted to provide material support in the form of weapons, false passports, and counterfeit money to Hizballah.

### **December 2009**

- On December 14, 2009, Ehsanul Islam Sadequee (17 years) and Syed Haris Ahmed (13 years) were sentenced for conspiracy to provide material support to terrorism.
- On December 26, 2009, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab was charged with attempting to destroy a civilian aircraft in connection with his failed bombing attempt of a Northwest Airlines flight from Amsterdam to Detroit. The complaint was replaced by a six-count indictment on January 6, 2010, alleging attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction, attempted murder, attempt to destroy an aircraft.

### **January 2010**

- On January 9, 2010, Adis Medunjanin, an associate of Najibullah Zazi, was charged with conspiracy to commit murder in a foreign country and receiving military-type training from a foreign terrorist organization.

## **SUCCESS WITH LEGACY AL-QA'IDA CASES**

### **February 2009**

- *Christopher Paul: (Southern District of Ohio)* -- On Feb. 26, 2009, Christopher Paul was sentenced to 20 years in prison for conspiring to use explosives against targets in Europe and the United States. Paul joined al-Qaeda in the early 1990s, fought in Afghanistan and Bosnia and conspired with others to target Americans both at home and abroad.

**April 2009**

- *Ali al-Marri: (Central District of Illinois)* – On April 30, 2009, Ali al-Marri pleaded guilty to conspiracy to provide material support to al-Qaeda, admitting that he attended terrorist training camps, learned al-Qaeda tradecraft and was dispatched by al-Qaeda to carry out its terrorist objectives in America.

**May 2009**

- *Mohammed Warsame: (District of Minnesota)* – On May 20, 2009, Mohammed Warsame pleaded guilty to conspiracy to provide material support to al-Qaeda, admitting that he attended al-Qaeda training camps, sent money from Canada to one of his former training camp commanders and continued to exchange messages with individuals associated with al-Qaeda once in Minnesota.