

2006 INTERNATIONAL PIPELINE SECURITY FORUM

Al-Qaida Threats and Strategies

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UNCLASSIFIED – OSI

Petroleum Interests: Potential Targets

Likely Targets: Given AQ

1. Petroleum Industry Personnel
2. Petroleum Pipelines
 - a. Middle Eastern Countries
 - b. Any US or Coalition Country
3. Oil Refineries and Storage Facilities
 - a. East Coast – Storage Facilities
 - b. West Coast – Refinery Capacity

Unlikely Targets: Given AQ

~~Oil Wells~~

~~Any Muslim country only~~

Foundations of Global Terror

- Territory
- Infrastructure
- Finance
- ***Religious Authority and Legitimacy***
 - Role of terror organization communications
 - Role of Fatwa and religious authority who issues or endorses it

Al Qaida: What is It?

The Essence of Al-Qaida

- Neo-Wahhabism
- Religious doctrine of *Jihad* and *Hijrah* (Muhammad's migration from Mecca in 622 C.E.) as means to the end of *Dhimmi* and the expansion of *Dar al Islam*
- Internet communications and satellite television link the virtual umma (greater Islamic community)
- Terrorism becomes programming
 - Terrorists become actors in a drama that harkens back to Islam's Golden Age
 - Leadership fills the roles of director and producer
- End game??? – think strategic

AQ

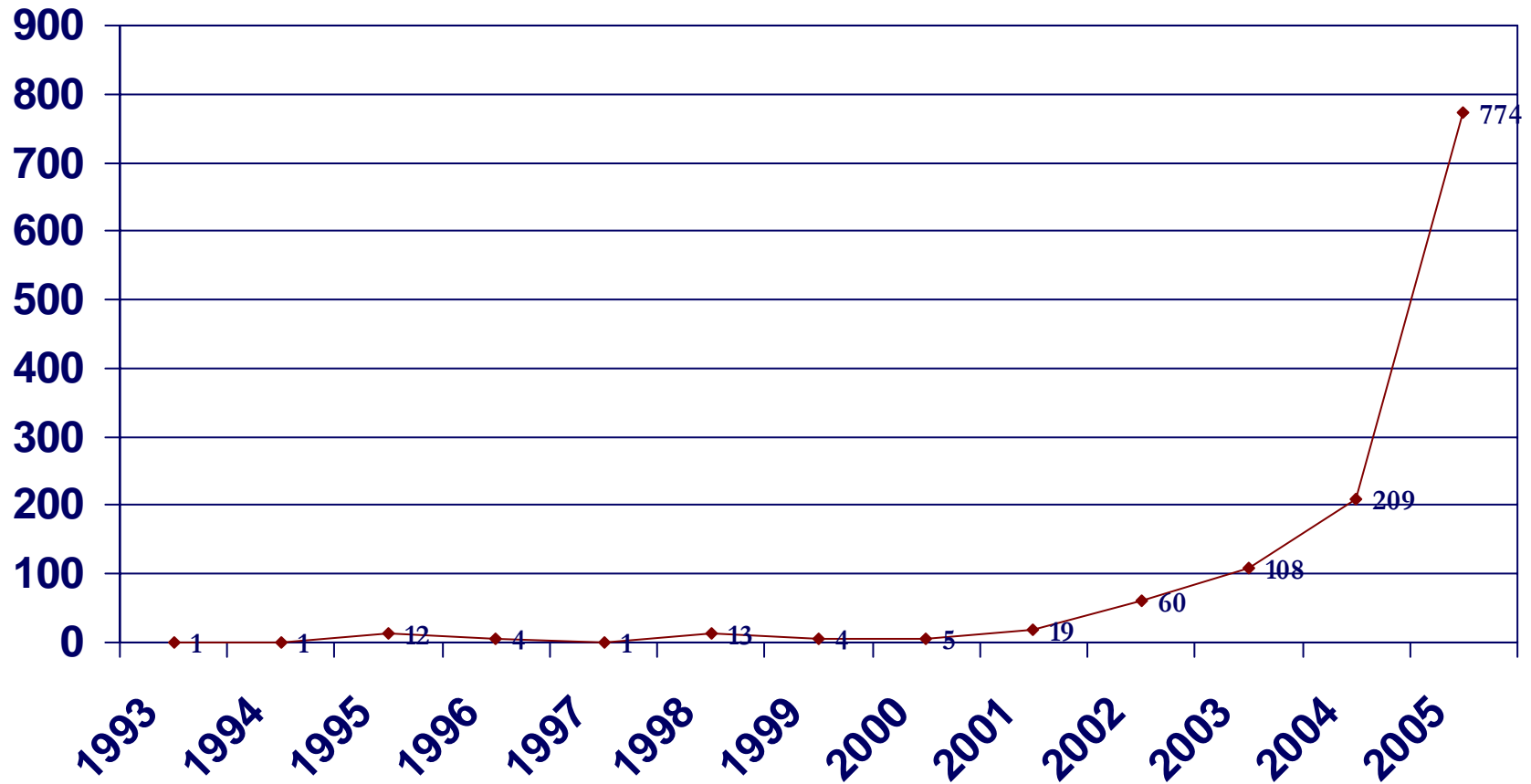
What they say?

What they do?

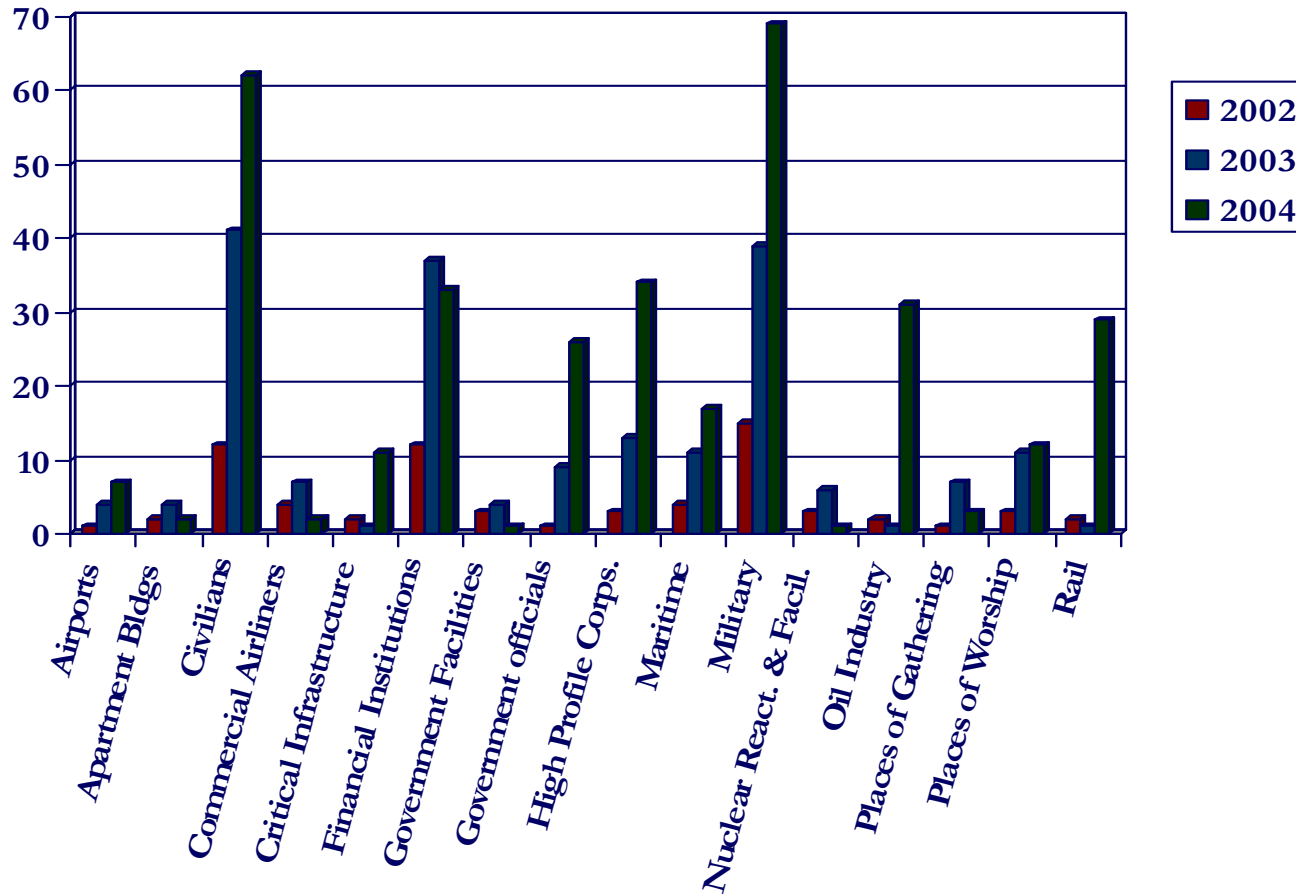
What is off the table?

AQ Communications Analysis

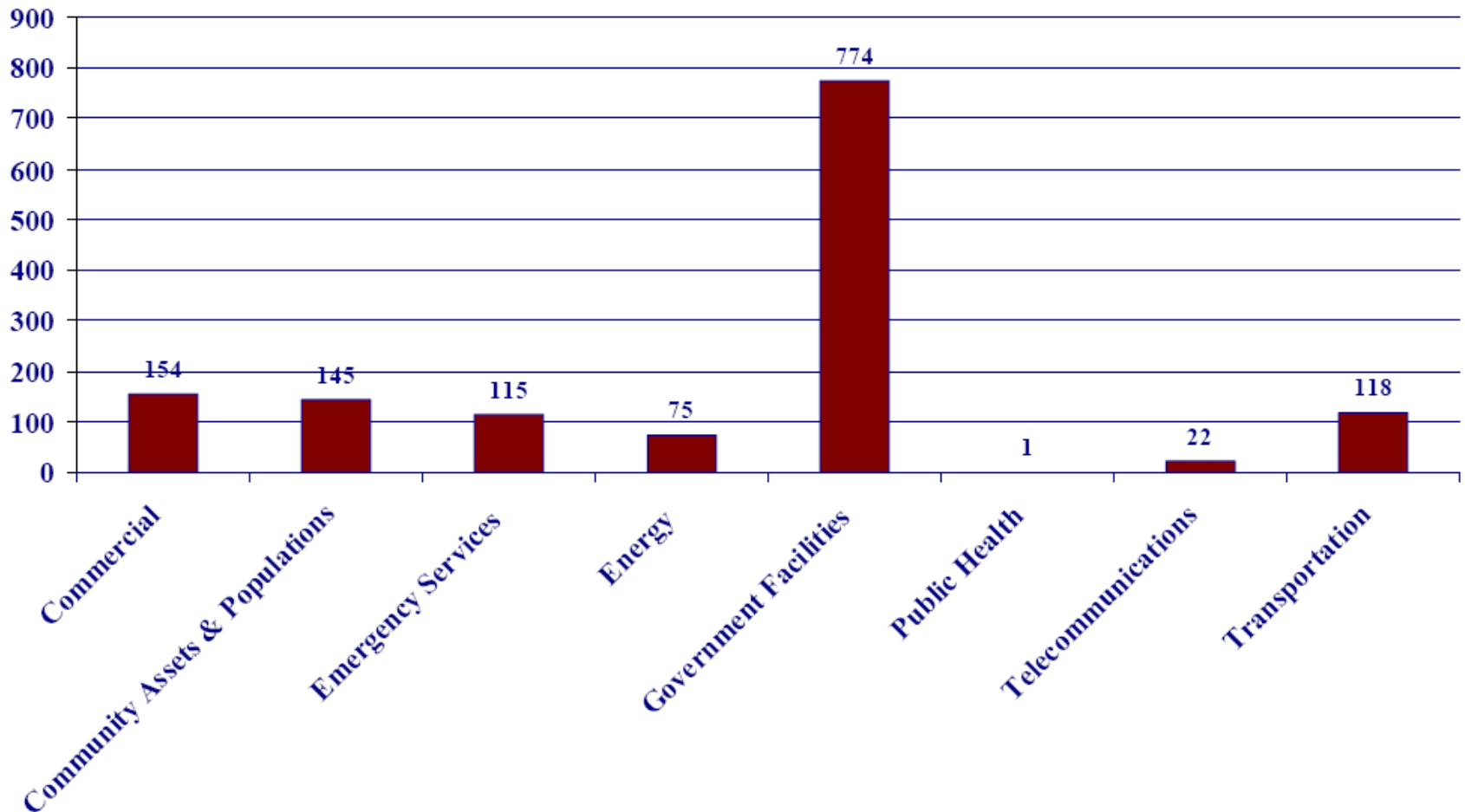
AQ Communications



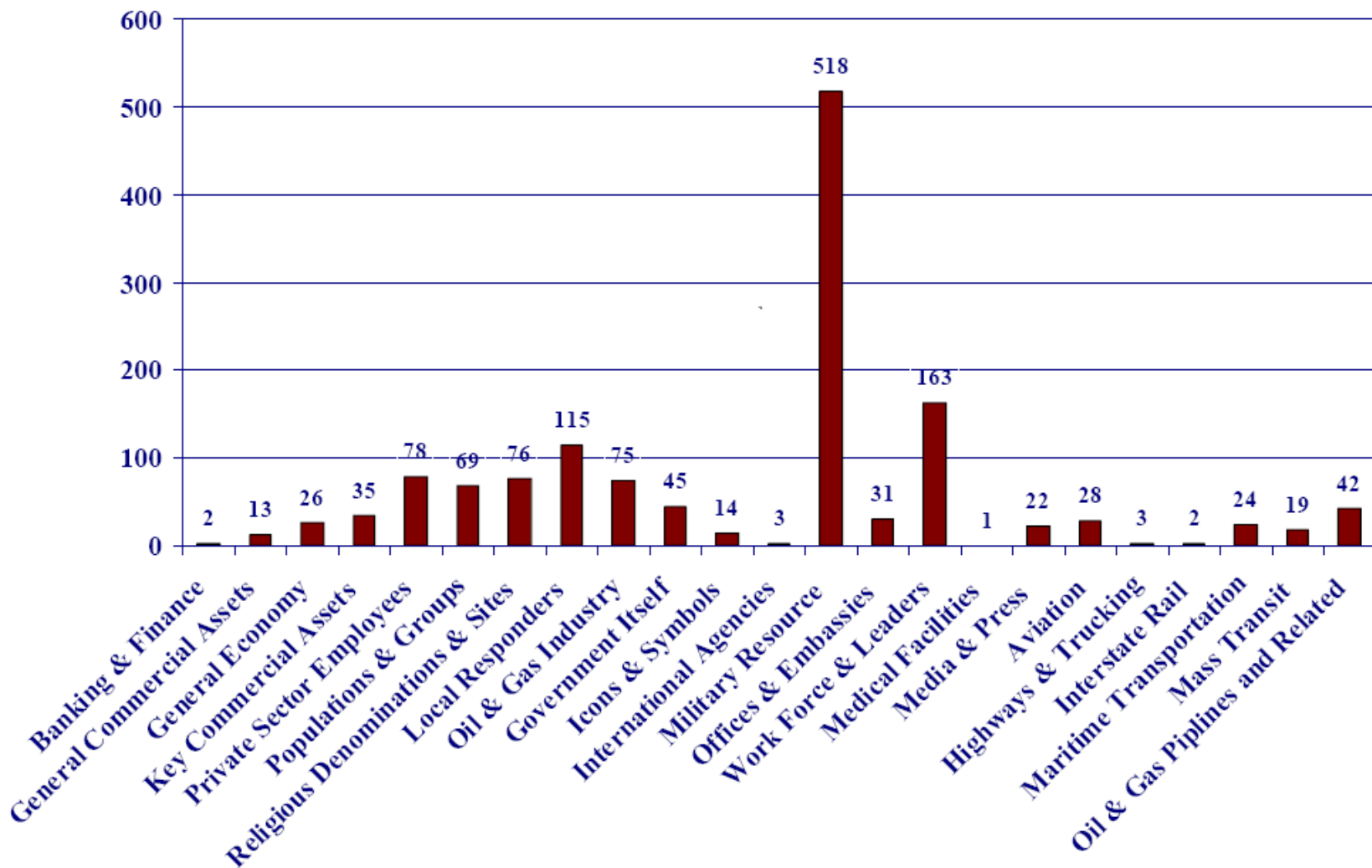
Target References



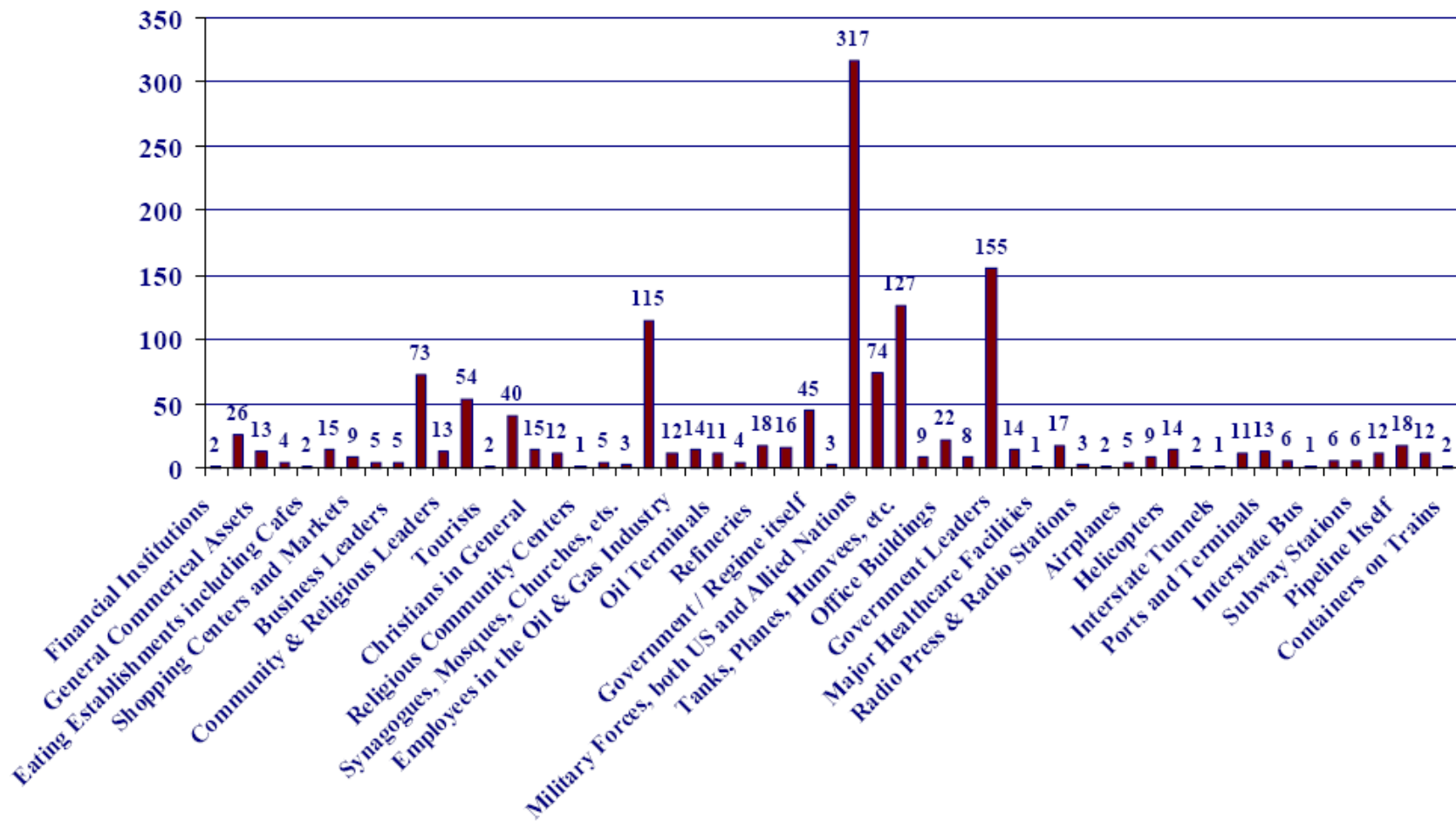
2005 Targets: Major Classification



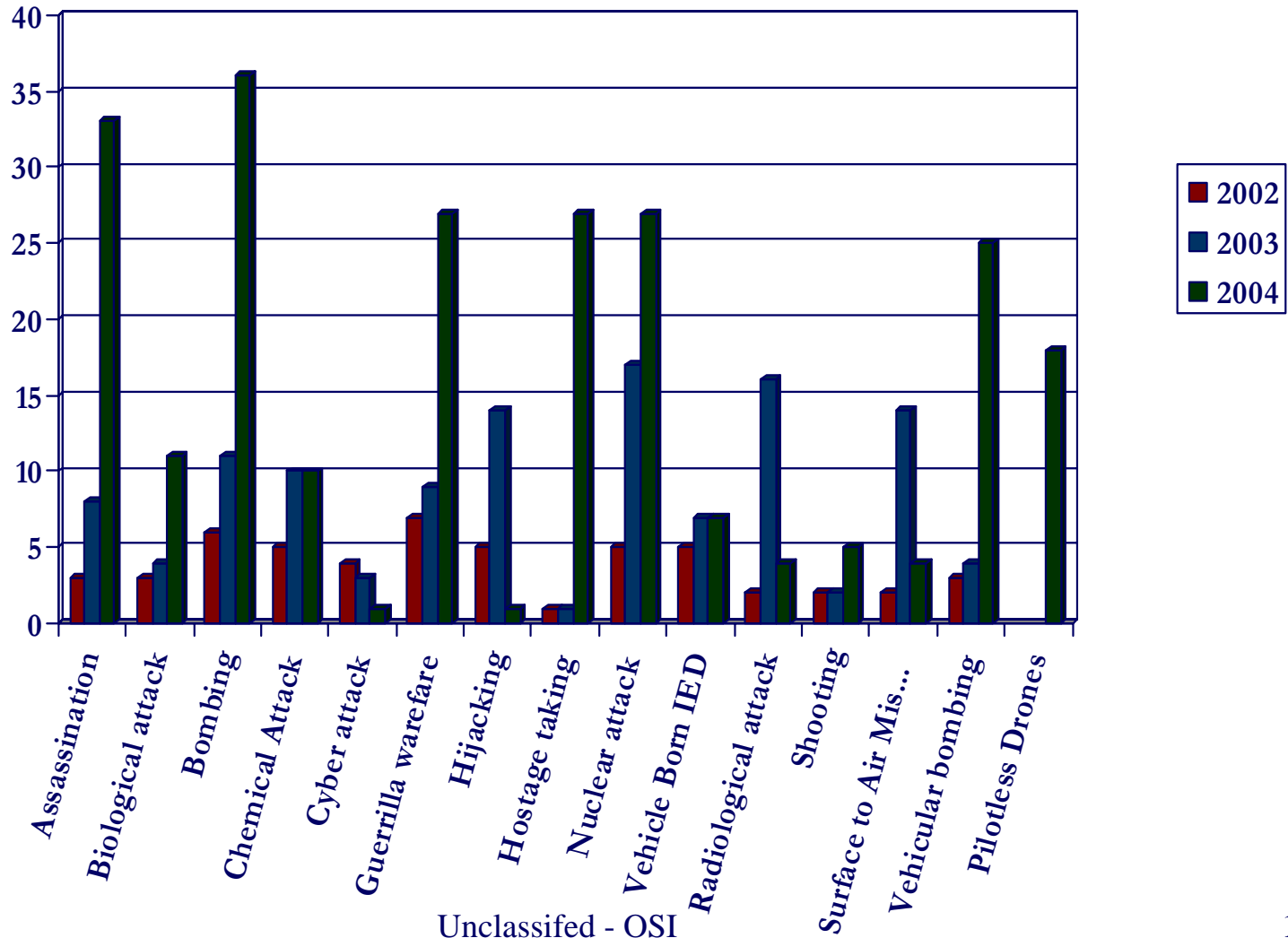
2005 Targets: By Sector



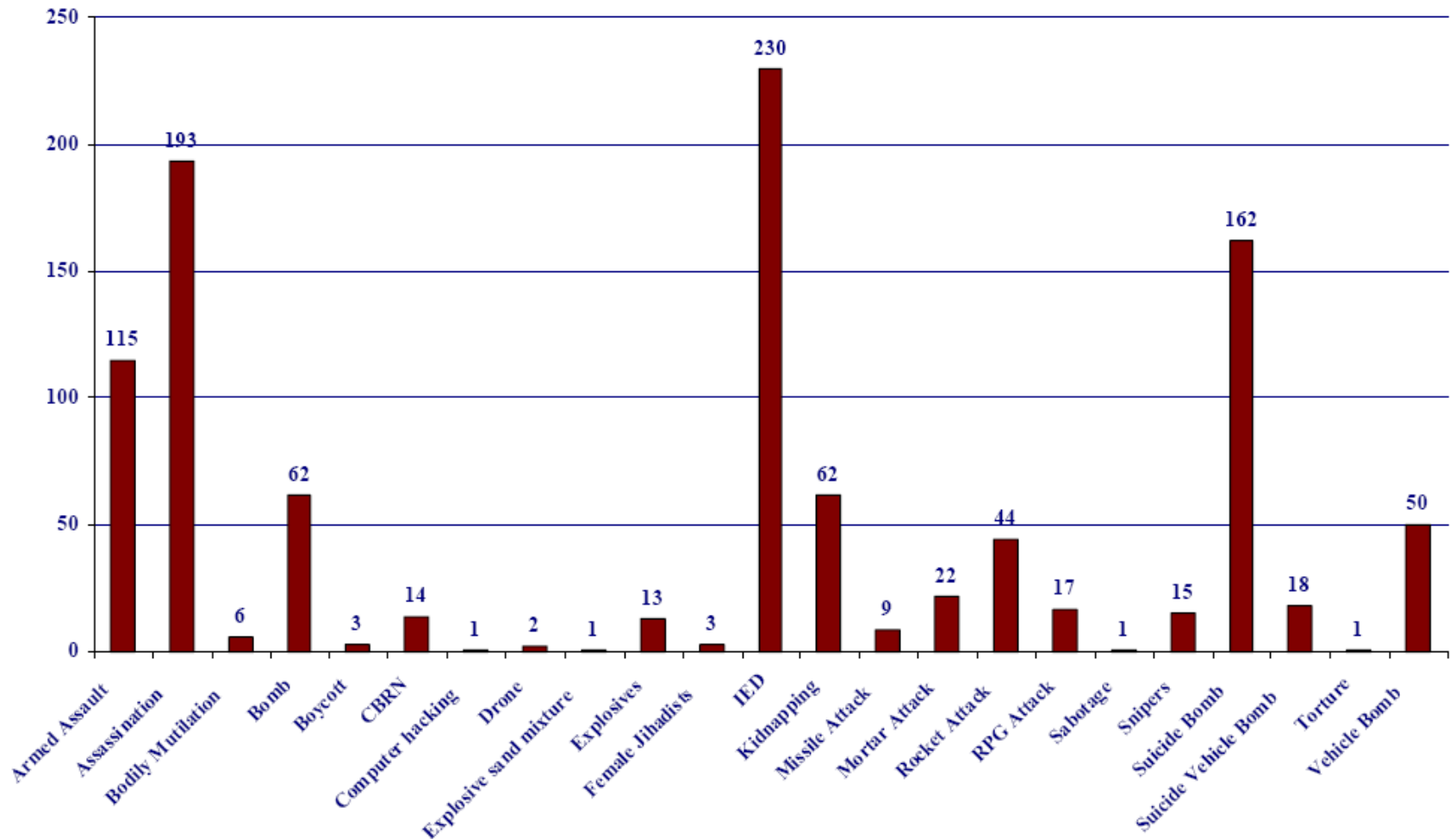
2005 Targets: By Subsector



Attack Means



2005 Attack Means



Prior Attack Analysis

AQ: Tactical Operations and Capabilities

- Centers of Knowledge
 - Martyrdom operations
 - Assassination
 - Assault and sniping
 - Sabotage
 - Boycott
 - IEDs
 - RPG and Rockets
 - CBRNE

AQ: Timing of Attack

- If you consider the major operations conducted by AQ and AQ affiliates (excepting attacks in Iraq) from and including CY1998:
 - 61% have occurred during the 4-month window running from August to November.
- Of the AQ operations considered by many as notorious:
 - 71% of those attacks occurred during the August to November window.
- If you focus on US assets, attacks on US governmental personnel, or attacks in CONUS:
 - 100% from August to November window.
- Thus, 71% of AQ attacks occur within 33% of the year.
- The most common months are October then August.

Fatwa Analysis

Introduction of Fatwa

- Following the attempted dual suicide car bombing of the ARAMCO Abqaiq oil refinery in eastern Saudi Arabia by AQ of the Arabian Peninsula on February 24, 2006, a decree on targeting oil installations composed by **Abdul Aziz bin Rashid al-Anazi** was distributed amongst jihadist forums.
- The sixty-three page document, divided into multiple chapters, contains Islamic law justifications for waging “economic jihad” and seeks to **dispel** the belief of those mujahideen that oil is a vital resource for the Muslims and should not be targeted.
- The fatwa also introduces the rules of engagement and identifies permitted and prohibited targets and permitted and prohibited attack means.

Fatwa

- Formal opinion of canon lawyer (mufti)
- Generally issued in response to question of a religious nature
- Authority directly dependent on perceived, recognized authority of the issuer
- Plays role in terrorist operations when issued by ulema sympathetic to militant movements – terrorist organization's rules of engagement
- Development of fatwa database to help understand tactics, targets, and profiles that are permitted by a militant group's *misinterpretation* of Islamic law

Posting of Fatwa on Attacking Petroleum-Related Interests

Posting Background

- Fatwa posted 26 February 2006
- Fatwa dated 15 June 2004
- Posted – Islamic Renewal Organization
- Statement by – Al-Qaida (AQ) Organization in the Arabian Peninsula
 - Grouped claimed responsibility for 24 February attack on oil installation in Saudi Arabia's Eastern Region

Fatwa Posting

- Posting referred to e-book entitled “*The Religious Rule on Targeting Oil Interests*”
- Actual title: “*The Laws of Targeting Petroleum-Related Interests and a Review of the Laws Pertaining to Economic Jihad*”
- Published by Center for Islamic Research and Studies, an AQ media arm
- Authored by Shaykh Abdullah bin Nasser al-Rashid a/k/a Abd-al-Aziz bin Rashid al-Anzi a/k/a Abdelaziz bin Rashid al-Anzi
 - Saudi religious scholar
 - **Neo-Wahhabist** influenced by both Egyptian and Saudi authorities
 - Jailed by Saudi authorities
 - Regular contributor to Sawt al-Jihad, AQ’s online magazine
- Also attributed to Global Islamic Media Front, an AQ affiliate

Overview of Fatwa on Attacking Petroleum-Related Interests

Overview

- The fatwa stated that the targeting of oil-related targets as a **legitimate** means of economic jihad as long as certain rules were followed.
- **Proportionality** was a key consideration and the fatwa urged Jihadists to make sure the benefits outweighed the costs of any action.
- **Prioritization** was given to targets that would not damage long-term oil production capability, but would instead cause oil prices to rise.

Overview cont'd

- The fatwa highlights six elements impacting oil rates, noting that in his listing of terror, *“Commerce is based on caution and fright. As soon as there are greater hazards, the oil rates rise.”*
- Four different oil targets are identified: oil wells, pipelines and seaports, oil facilities, and people connected to oil installations
- Legitimate personnel targets include: Oil ministers, “great oil merchants,” guards, and employees of the facilities.
- *“It is not permissible to kill a person simply because he works for an oil company or for an installation, but only if he clearly helps the infidels against the Muslims. For example, someone transporting fuel to the American army in Iraq, or guarding the complexes of the crusaders working in the oil facilities, or guarding a machine or a center of the American occupiers or of its collaborators in Iraq and the Peninsula.”*

Overview cont'd

- **Benefit:** Harm inflicted upon the enemy, including rising oil rates, monies spent to secure oil reserves, costs of research into fuel alternatives, and “damage to the U.S. financial reputation.”
- **Cost:** Conversely, al-Anazi discusses the potential harm to Muslims, stating that once oil installations are targeted, the enemy will invade the country and seize control over the oil wells, financial damage will be dealt to the employees of the oil installation, environmental and medical damage, and “media damage.”
- “The devils and their media will take advantage of these operations in order to distort the image of the mujahideen.”

Justification in Fatwa for Primary Targets

Religious/Legal Obstacles to Targeting Petroleum Related Targets

- Destruction or squandering of Muslim community property, for example, oil wells in Muslim lands
- Prohibition against murder
- Prohibition against suicide
- Prohibition against theft of the property of a Muslim
- Bida

Measure for Measure

And fight the Pagans [Christians and Jews who have not accepted Islam] all together as they fight you all together.”*

**Noble Koran*

Role of Economy to West

- Westerners engage in shirk, attributing partners to Allah (worshipping the economy)
 - Oil
 - Dinars
 - Luxuries
- Economy is also a weapon of the West
- *“Nor will they cease fighting you until they turn you back from your faith if they can.”*

Primary Target

- A strike at the heart of the economy will cause greater harm to the enemy
 - Economy is primary target
 - Oil is proxy for Western economy
- Attack on economy will generate greater harm to West than attacks against military forces
- Doctrine that justifies attack in general – economic jihad

Jihad

- Introduces the concept of economic jihad
- Purpose of economic jihad
 - Take spoils from infidels
 - Recover the assets of Muslims from the enemy
 - Protect resources from infidel or Muslim aggressor
- Jihad is indispensable to restrain the fury of the unbelievers
 - Fighting is not the only means of Jihad
- Jihad must be undertaken for the glory of Allah
- Concept of *bida* or innovation – important theme that must be overcome by analysis in fatwa

Bida

- For example, the author of the fatwa addresses those who reject economic jihad because:
 - Jihad can only be employed when decreed by a Muslim sovereign ruling a Muslim territory
 - Muhammad did not practice economic jihad
- According to the author, these contemporary sources are incorrect
- According to the fatwa, economic jihad is not bida

Introduction of Precedents on Targets

- Imposition of jizyah as precedent
 - Tax siphoned infidel resources
 - Subdues and humiliates them
- Collateral damage is permissible
 - Destruction of Muslim assets
 - Death or harm to Muslims
- Acts need not directly benefit Muslims if they inflict damages on infidels

Legitimate Jihad Tactics

- Strikes
- Economic embargoes
 - Active
 - Does not enhance funds of Muslims but does cause damage to infidels
 - Quickest results come from targeting food and water
 - Seven years of famine in Joseph story
- Economic boycotts
 - Passive
 - Avoid purchasing the products of an enemy of Islam

Priority in Jihad

- In other works in “Sawt al-Jihad,” Al-Anzi spells out the obligation to fight an “unjust Muslim ruler”
- That obligation, he now finds, is subordinate to the fight against the infidel

Attack on Oil Interests

- Oil is at the center of the battle
- Infidels have control over oil interests
- Muslim, therefore, cannot squander a property he does not possess
- Thus, oil is a legitimate target under Sharia

Jihad and Oil Facilities: Legitimate Targets

1. Targeting oil facilities is legitimate because it harms the economic interests of the infidels, which is a powerful way to gain revenge at this stage.
2. The destruction of infidel property is a legitimate part of war so long as the benefits outweigh the costs (presumably to the Muslims.)
3. Oil facilities are actually Muslim property which has been illegally seized by the infidel.
4. It is acceptable to destroy Muslim property which has been seized or is danger of being seized by the infidel so long as the destruction inflicts more harm on the infidel than the potential benefit conferred to Muslims when the property is returned.

Jihad and Oil Facilities - Interests

There are four types of oil related interests:

1. Oil Wells
2. Oil Pipelines and Seaports
3. Oil Facilities (Refineries, Oil Plants, Transportation, Pumping Stations)
4. Petroleum Industry Personnel

Oil Wells

- Attacks are powerful acts of vengeance with long lasting effects:
 - Delays due to repair time;
 - Delays due to fire extinguishment; and
- Devastating effects:
 - Rising oil prices;
 - Decrease in oil production; and
 - Negative impact on US economy and reputation;

Oil Pipelines

- Attacks on pipelines cause damage to the infidel in many ways already identified
- Pipelines are easier and less costly to attack than oil wells and are virtually impossible to protect
- Pipeline attacks are less detrimental to the environment and present fewer public health concerns for the Muslims
- Pipeline attacks cause less adverse publicity than oil well attacks
- Pipeline attacks offer great benefits and deal a powerful blow to the enemy

Oil Facilities

- Costs and benefits of attacks on oil facilities are similar to those associated with pipeline attacks
- However, targeting oil facilities results in a far less substantial decrease in oil supplies and drilling activities
- Absolutely necessary to ensure that oil facilities are owned by a country or an infidel that can be properly attacked
- Benefits of attacking oil facilities, if permissible, outweigh the insignificant costs

Petroleum Industry Personnel

- Sharia basis:
 - Rules pertaining to blood and the permissibility of spilling of blood
 - Forbidden to spill the blood of a righteous man whose blood is sacrosanct for the purpose of impacting oil production
 - However, if an otherwise permissible operation and target result in the death of a person with sacrosanct blood, the operation can be undertaken and the righteous man becomes a martyr
 - Blood that is not sacrosanct should not be spared

Petroleum Industry Personnel cont'd

- It is forbidden to kill a person simply because he works for oil company unless it is evident that he is assisting the infidels against the Muslims.
Permissible targets include any individual:
 - Working for a company that supplies the US military in Iraq with fuel
 - Guarding non-Muslims that work inside the oil facilities
 - Guarding one of the American occupiers
 - Guarding the bases in Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula
- Targeting leaders impacts the stability of the markets and the economy's reputation and could have an effect on production

Damages to Infidels

- Rising oil prices
 - Fear supply shortages
 - Actual shortages
 - Resulting from Jihadist operations
 - Resulting from heightened security measures slowing down oil production and export
 - Rising insurance costs
 - Spot market purchases increase out of fear of supply disruption
 - Perception by traitor governments that as prices rise, their reputations fall
- Security costs
- Increase in expenditures for oil as a percentage of GNP
- Increased allocation of funds for research on alternative energy sources
- Investor erosion
- Damage to America's economic reputation

Damages to Muslims

- Negative impact on commerce and market conditions in the country
- Detrimental to the environment and the public health
- Potentially forfeiting the opportunity to use the oil interest once the Muslim nation reassumes ownership
- Negative publicity as a result of the attacks
- Opportunity to mischaracterize Jihad to the public
- Possibly drive people away from Islam

At this time, the costs of attacking oil wells in Muslim lands exceed the possible benefits

AQ-Like Terrorist Footprints in the United States and Canada

Islamist Terrorists: Locations

- New York City (Metro)
- Boston, MA
- Fort Lee, NJ
- Laurel and Potomac, MD
- Washington, DC
- Herndon, VA
- Springfield, VA
- Raleigh, NC
- Charlotte, NC
- Orlando, Tampa, Boca Raton, and Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- Philadelphia, PA
- Cleveland, OH
- Montreal, Toronto, Canada
- Chicago, IL
- Detroit, MI
- Plainfield, IN
- Columbia, MO
- Kansas City, MO
- Oklahoma City, OK
- Arlington, TX
- Dallas, TX
- Houston, TX
- Denver, Co
- Tucson, AZ
- Seattle, WA
- San Francisco, Santa Clara, LA, and San Diego, CA

Muslims of America (MOA)

- Who are they?
- Where are they?
- What have they done?
- Why do we care?

Muslims of America (MOA)

- Muslims of the Americas operates communes of mostly black, American-born Muslims.
- a/k/a Jamaat ul-Fuqra (Arabic for “community of the impoverished”), a terrorist organization founded by a notorious Pakistani cleric, Sheikh Mubarak Ali Gilani.
- Sheikh Gilani, is the cleric with whom Daniel Pearl had arranged an interview back in January of 2002.

Known MOA Training Compounds

- **Marion, AL**
- **Baladulla, CA**
- **Oak Hill, CA**
- **Buena Vista, CO**
- **Commerce, GA**
- **Macon, GA**
- **Hyattsville, MD**
- **Coldwater, MI**
- **Deposit, NY**
- **Hancock, NY (U.S. Headquarters)**
- **Talihina, OK**
- **York County, SC**
- **Dover, TN**
- **Falls Church, VA**
- **Red House, VA**
- **Onalaska, WA**

Identifying the Links between White-Collar Crime and Terrorism, John Kane ; April Wall, National Criminal Justice Reference Center, NCJ Number: 209520.

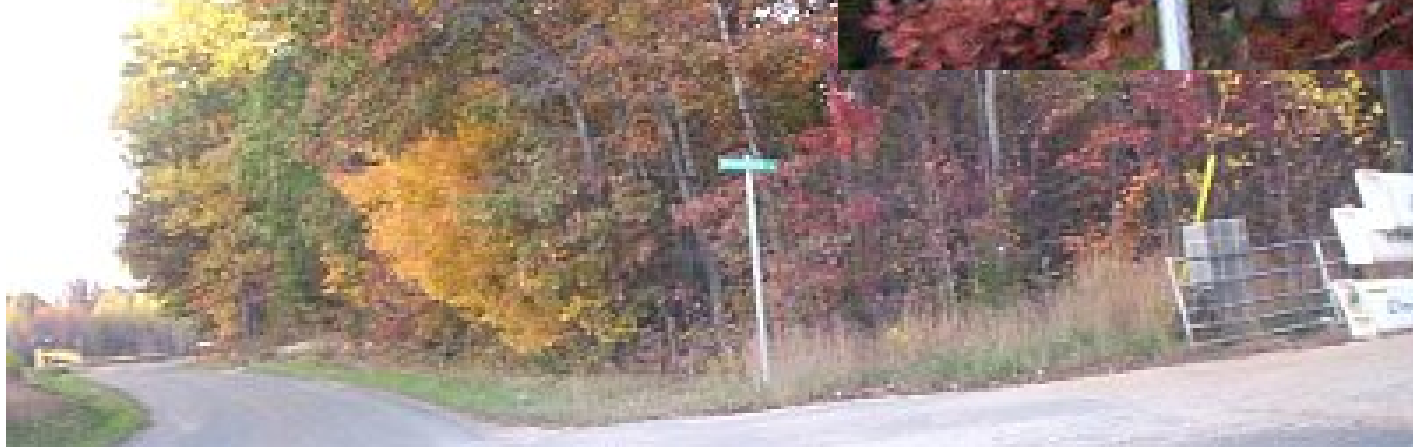
MOA Compound in Commerce, GA



MOA Compound in Red House, VA



MOA Compound near Meherrin, VA



MOA Compound in Colorado

Trout Creek Pass: 100-acre training compound, Colorado



Photograph courtesy of Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and Attorney General's Office

MOA Links to Crime

Bombings:

- Tempe, AZ
- Sand Diego, CA
- Rockford, IL
- Quincy, MA
- Clinton Township, MI
- Detroit, MI
- Kansas City, MO
- Akron, OH
- Portland, OR
- Philadelphia, PA
- Houston, TX
- Seattle, WA
- Bethany, WV

Murders:

- Tucson, AZ
- Badger, CA
- Los Angeles, CA
- Augusta, GA
- Canton, MI
- Clinton Township, MI
- Detroit, MI
- Akron, OH
- Philadelphia, PA
- Seattle, WA
- Tacoma, WA
- Bethany, WV

Other:

- Barstow, CA
- Colorado Springs, CO
- Englewood, CO
- Washington, DC
- Florida
- Baltimore, MD
- Dearborn Heights, MI
- Jersey city, NJ
- Binghamton, NY
- Buffalo, NY
- North Carolina
- Roanoke, VA
- Wisconsin

Identifying the Links between White-Collar Crime and Terrorism, John Kane ; April Wall, National Criminal Justice Reference Center, NCJ Number: 209520.

MOA Known to Use White-Collar Crime to Support Terrorist Activities

Crimes	Examples
Identification fraud	Creating and using false birth certificates, social security cards, and driver's licenses
Money laundering	Moving funds through a fictitious company (e.g., PSI and 789 Security), distributing money outside of the country and to accounts within the U.S.
Credit card fraud	Establishing accounts under fictitious names and purchasing merchandise
Bank fraud	Falsifying cashier's checks
Insurance fraud	Filing fraudulent worker's compensation claims and accident reports
Investment fraud	Collecting funds for a fictitious investment
Computer crime	Stealing personal information and creating fraudulent documents
Immigration fraud	Making false statements on immigration forms to secure fraudulent documents, enter the U.S., and secure a job
Intellectual Property Crime	Selling pirated movies with fraudulent packaging
Tax fraud	Failing to report and pay taxes on income
Mail fraud	Collecting money and distributing illegally obtained money through the mail
Wire fraud	Communicating information concerning criminal activity by telephone and e-mail
Stealing rental property	Renting equipment using false identification, reporting to the rental company that it was stolen, and selling it
Stealing information	Using a fictitious security company to gain access to secured property and private information for use in a white-collar crime, bombing, or murder scheme

Identifying the Links between White-Collar Crime and Terrorism, John Kane ; April Wall, National Criminal Justice Reference Center, NCJ Number: 209520.

Coordinated Terrorist Activity

White Supremacists and Islamist Terrorists

- Both types of groups reject the cultural norms present in modern American society such as multiculturalism and the U.S. presence abroad
- National Alliance and the Aryan Nation have both reached out to Islamist terrorists
- American Front: less well known group but has the potential to do something very bad once.
 - Many members have a strong chemicals background
 - WMD potential

Tactical Alliance

- Increased white supremacist rhetoric recently have not denounced terrorist activities
- The groups have similar interests but clearly very different end-game scenarios
- This could lead to a short term alliance for one large event
- Both groups believe:
 - U.S. is corrupt
 - The U.S. should be isolationist
 - U.S. leaders are acceptable targets
 - Civilians and other non-combatants are acceptable targets

Missing Piece

- One missing piece: Buy-in from upper management in White Supremacist groups
- Many of the groups are filled with people who are hesitant to actually “pull the trigger.”
- Young members may be sufficiently indoctrinated and committed to follow through with an attack

OSI Documented Links

- National Alliance has suggested coordinated training with Hezbollah and Shia groups in the tri-border region between Brazil, Argentina, and Paraguay
- National Alliance, on their website, has indicated a more than passing relationship/alliance with Al Qaida
- Both groups share an extremist militant mentality – one neo-fascist Islam, the other a neo-fascist Christianity

South America – The Tri-Border Region



Tri-Border Region

- The area is formed by the cities of:
 - Puerto Iguazu, Argentina
 - Foz do Iguazu, Brazil
 - Ciudad del Este, Paraguay
- As of 2002, the area had:
 - Approximately 630,000 residents
 - Roughly 25,000 of which were Arab or of Arab decent, having arrived from Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, and the Palestinian Territories approximately 50 years ago

Tri-Border Region cont'd

- The area has long been a sanctuary for drug traffickers and South American terrorist organizations such as FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia) and ELN (National Liberation Army)
- International terrorists suspected in area:
 - Hezbollah
 - Hamas
 - Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ)
 - Al-Fatah
 - Al-Qaida

Gangs

- International connections and distributional channels
- Narco-terror connection suspected with evidence increasing (National Security concern)
- South and Central American gangs positioned centrally in drugs, arms trafficking, and border smuggling
- Gangs of immediate concern:
 - Mara Salvatrucha (MS13) (El Salvadorian)
 - 18th Street (El Salvadorian)

Third Positionists: A Strategic Alliance?

- A political ideology that emphasizes the commonalities between the extreme left and the extreme right
- These groups have found themselves fighting side by side against globalization in recent years.

Third Positionists

- The third position incorporates the anti-Semitic extremism of the hard right with traditionally leftist ideas and tactics.
- Third Positionists advocate a redistribution of wealth, a ban on animal testing, and respect for the environment.
- Third Positionists seek to overthrow existing governments and replace them with mono-cultural nation states built around the idea of supremacist racial nationalism and/or supremacist religious nationalism.
- Third Position neo-fascists have organized in the U.S., Europe, and the Middle East, and they maintain some kind of loose network, at least for the purposes of discussing their shared ideas and agenda, but in some cases involving meetings and even funding.”

One Final Look at Fatwa

“The fact that it is permissible for a Muslim to kill himself... constitutes the first proof for the permissibility of destroying everything other than himself if it serves the interest of the Muslims and damages the infidels.”

Thank You

Believe in God. But tie your camel well.

Moroccan Proverb

Questions or Observations?

*Any comments or questions may be directed to
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