

13 February 2001

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ***Bin Ladin's unconventional capabilities:***

[REDACTED]
Bin Ladin operatives could conduct crude chemical and biological (CB) attacks using poisonous gases or biological toxins that would carry heavy psychological impact but inflict no more casualties than a large vehicle bomb. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- Students training at a Bin Ladin-affiliated camp in Afghanistan use commercially available chemicals with little sophisticated equipment. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] several improvised CB weapons—including improvised mortar or artillery shells—with instructions for assembling them. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] several possibilities exist.

- The least probable scenario is that Bin Ladin's organization is designing or testing an actual nuclear device.
- Uranium might be used to produce a brighter or more visually impressive display that makes an explosion appear larger, but it would cause only a small increase in the explosive's performance.
- Natural uranium would not significantly increase the lethality of a radiation dispersal device because it carries only a slight radiation hazard, but the use of uranium might be calculated to create panic and disruption. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
continued . . .

For further information, contact the Chief, Assessments and Information Group, DCI Counterterrorist Center, at [REDACTED] secure.

[REDACTED] Islamic mujahidin fighters are gaining access to crude CB production information and training through their international network based in Afghanistan. The network uses training camps, electronic media, and the Internet to disseminate CB data.

- [REDACTED] mujahidin of various nationalities— [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] have received poison training at an Afghan terrorist training camp during the past four years. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] some mujahidin, including those affiliated with Bin Ladin, are attempting to add unconventional weapons to their arsenal and are contemplating scenarios for their use. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] he received training in explosives and poison in Afghanistan, [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED] had received explosives and poison training in Afghanistan, where cadre discussed techniques for poisoning [REDACTED].

- [REDACTED]

CIA