

(03 August 1999) Bin Ladin: Determined and Capable Despite Setbacks

Bin Ladin for the past several weeks has changed location daily and eschewed media contacts to avoid being captured or killed and because of his--and the Taliban's--concerns about US missile strikes.

slowed communications with field

His organization's capabilities have suffered from the arrest of key operatives. Bin Ladin in interviews last year expressed anger over the arrests of his senior procurement officer and the chief of his organization in the UK.

(03 August 1999) **Allies Watching Their Backs**

Bin Ladin's closest ally, the Egyptian Islamic Jihad (EIJ), is reeling from the arrests of some [REDACTED] members since June of last year. With its chain of command weakened, the group has had increasing difficulty contacting colleagues and moving men, money, and materiel.

- [REDACTED] members are preoccupied with living expenses and obtaining documentation needed to leave countries where they fear arrest.
- The EIJ disruptions may have influenced the Egyptian al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya's decision to declare a unilateral cease-fire last March, possibly costing Bin Ladin a surrogate for terrorist operations.

(03 August 1999) Organization Still Dangerous

The ongoing activity of Bin Ladin operatives reflects the resilience of his organization in the face of setbacks. [REDACTED] his personnel still are planning attacks in widely scattered locations such as Washington, Uzbekistan, and several African countries.

- The Taliban has imposed token constraints on Bin Ladin's activities in Afghanistan but continues to grant him access to his organization.
- Bin Ladin's organization despite disruptions has maintained worldwide resources-- [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ELJ members in [REDACTED] are involved with Bin Ladin associates in preparations for operations and that other ELJ personnel recently discussed potential operations with colleagues in [REDACTED]

The extent of Bin Ladin's reach and the variety of targets ██████████ make anticipating attacks difficult. US forces in the Arabian Peninsula are Bin Ladin's most desired target, but ██████████ he continues to consider targeting more vulnerable facilities elsewhere.

- The diverse targets mentioned in the reporting, combined with a high incidence of Bin Ladin-related walk-ins, suggest a deliberate effort to mislead us.

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