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(30 December 1999) Terrorism: Near-Term Threat Undiminished

US interests at home and abroad face a heightened risk of attack in the coming weeks, particularly from extremists associated with Bin Ladin, who are continuing preparations for operations despite crackdowns.

North African extremists in [REDACTED] continue to prepare for attacking targets in the US. [REDACTED] cell members [REDACTED] finished fabricating bomb components, and an associate delivered unspecified goods to [REDACTED] the next day.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] described plans for attacks on tourist targets in [REDACTED] throughout next year. [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED] a cell member still at large--an explosives expert trained in Afghanistan--said he planned to go to the US before returning to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] an Arab in Afghanistan associated with Bin Ladin last Friday mentioned the shipment of a "gift" and told an associate to watch for a "surprise from us in the news, like the first one."

- [REDACTED] extremists associated with Bin Ladin and the Islamic Movement of [REDACTED] are planning to car-bomb our Embassy in [REDACTED] next month or in February, when they expect less security.

Reporting on terrorist preparations has not revealed plans to use chemical, biological, or radiological materials, but growing interest in such materials, especially among millennial cults, increases the threat of unconventional attacks.

(30 December 1999) Heightened Threat From Hizballah, [REDACTED]

Five alleged Hizballah members detained last week in the [REDACTED] were trying to acquire false travel documents and airline tickets for entry into the US before the New Year, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(30 December 1999) Threat From Cults and Millennial Groups

[REDACTED] that any cult or millennial group is planning to attack specific millennium celebrations. Aside from a few Christian sects trying to enter Israel for what they believe will be Armageddon next year, those cults and millennial groups with violent tendencies are keeping a low-profile.

Computer degradations due to Y2K glitches are likely to facilitate opportunistic attacks by groups or individuals, including hackers who may be affiliated with terrorist organizations. Bin Ladin affiliates arrested this month in Pakistan, for instance, are linked to the extremist Muslim Hackers Club.

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