

**US Rep. Sue Myrick's (NC-9)  
*"Wake Up America" Agenda***

***Background/Media Pack***

## **Sue Myrick Biography**

Sue Myrick is a dedicated wife; a mother of two children, three step-children, 12 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

She is a former small business owner, the first and only female mayor of Charlotte, NC, and came to Congress in the '94 Republican Revolution. Currently, she serves on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Prior to the start of the War in Iraq, Rep. Myrick was personally selected to be a member of President Bush's Working Group on Iraq.

After the Start of the Iraq War, Rep. Myrick met with the President, Vice-President, and top White house aids urging them to educate the American public about the threats we face, and mobilizing them to get involved in the War effort like Americans did during WWII. Due to the White House's inaction Rep. Myrick founded the Congressional Anti-Terrorism Caucus.

The Congressional Anti-Terrorism Caucus is bipartisan and has more than 120 Members. It is co-chaired by Reps. Myrick, Cramer (D-AL), Granger (R-TX), and Harman (D-CA). The idea behind the caucus is to allow members to meet with experts on terrorism so that they can get educated about the dangers we face from radical Islamists. In turn, the goal is to have Members take the information back to their home district and educate their constituents about the threats we face.

Rep. Myrick was the driving force behind a special terrorism conference that took place last October in Charlotte, NC. Over 400 law enforcement and local responders from North and South Carolina attended the conference. They heard from terrorism experts about the threats posed by radical Islamists, their techniques, and goals. They also received information from Federal and State agencies on resources available to help them combat terrorism.

Rep. Myrick has also read more than a dozen books written by terrorism experts, and met with more than 50 experts on the subject. All of this has lead to her development of her "Wake Up America" legislative agenda.

## **Recommended Book List**

Bruce Bawer: While Europe Slept: How Radical Islam is Destroying the West from Within

Tony Blankley: The West's Last Chance: Will we win the Clash of Civilizations?

Steven Emerson: American Jihad: The Terrorists Living Among Us

Brigitte Gabriel: Because They Hate: A Survivor of Islamic Terror Warns America

Mary Habeck: Knowing the Enemy: Jihadist Ideology and the War on Terror

Brian Jenkins: Unconquerable Nation

Omar Nasiri: Inside the Jihad: My Life with Al Qaeda: A Spy's Story

Walid Phares: Future Jihad: Terrorist Strategies Against America

Walid Phares: War of Ideas: Jihadism Against Democracy

Paul Sperry: Infiltration: How Muslim Spies and Subversives Have Penetrated Washington

Mark Steyn: America Alone: The End of the World as We Know It

Lawrence Wright: The Looming Tower: Al Qaeda and the Road to 9/11

- 1. Will call for a government investigation of all US military chaplains who were approved by Abdurahman Alamoudi.**

**Background:**

- Allegedly, the US Government allowed Abdurahman Alamoudi, then head of the American Muslim Council, to approve Muslim chaplains to serve in the United States military. In fact, Alamoudi, a leader in the radical Muslim Brotherhood, set up the Pentagon's Muslim chaplain's corps beginning in the early 1990s. In 2004, Alamoudi was sentenced to 23 years in jail on terrorism charges. The chaplains that were approved by Alamoudi have not been re-vetted since his sentencing. While there may be nothing wrong with the Muslims chaplains that he approved, it seems logical that our Government would re-check the chaplains who were approved by a convicted terrorist.**
- The investigation should also cover US military chaplains who received training at Islamic schools and think tanks connected with the radical Muslim Brotherhood.**

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**A Muslim School Used by Military Has Troubling Ties  
Saudi Institute That Preaches Strict Form Of Islam Trained Dozens of Troop  
Advisers By GLENN R. SIMPSON (THE WALL STREET JOURNAL December 3,  
2003)**

**F**AIRFAX, Va. -- When the Defense Department wanted to hire "a qualified imam for leading Friday prayer" for Muslim employees at the Pentagon last year, it posted a notice at the nearby Institute of Islamic and Arabic Sciences in America.

Nestled in an office park here, the institute was a logical place to look. Since the mid-1990s, it has helped train at least 75 people as Islamic religious advisers for Muslim-American troops world-wide. These "Islamic lay leaders," as the Pentagon calls them, are soldiers and civilian employees who volunteer to provide spiritual guidance when paid Muslim chaplains aren't available.

But the Defense Department's reliance on the Islamic institute has a potentially troubling side. There are signs that the school, an arm of the Saudi Arabian government, disseminates the intolerant and anti-Western strain of Islam espoused by the Persian Gulf kingdom's religious establishment.

The institute's published curriculum calls for studying "the ruinous effect" of Christian beliefs. Lecturers at the institute have included a cleric who congressional investigators say was a spiritual adviser to two of the Sept. 11 hijackers. And the Muslim-American activist who helped arrange for the institute to train Muslim lay leaders, Abdur Rahman Alamoudi, was indicted in October for taking from Libya money that prosecutors suspect was intended to finance terrorism.

Saudi officials have denied the view -- widely held among U.S. government and private terrorism experts -- that the strict Saudi version of Islam has helped provide an ideological justification for violence against the West. But lately, the kingdom has begun to reform its educational and religious establishments. Officials with the Islamic institute say it is avidly pro-American, peace-loving and religiously moderate.

Whatever the school's official philosophy, it's clear the Pentagon has done business with an operation with worrisome associations. The Defense Department, which says it no longer uses the school, now acknowledges it didn't look closely at the outside groups helping mold its Muslim programs. The military "stays out of the business of approving religious organizations" in deference to the constitutional separation of church and state, Charles Abell, the Defense Department's deputy undersecretary for personnel, told a Senate subcommittee in October. (See related article1.)

Some officials at the Islamic institute are formally affiliated with the Saudi Embassy in Washington and enjoy diplomatic status, according to the U.S. State Department. On several recent occasions, cars bearing Saudi diplomatic license plates occupied staff parking spaces outside the institute's offices. But a Washington spokesman for the Saudi government, who asks not to be named, says Saudi diplomats know little about what the institute does. After a series of inquiries about the institute, the spokesman adds that the Saudi government has now decided to close the school for unspecified reasons. Institute officials say they know of no such plans.

The Pentagon's programs for Muslim soldiers have come under intense scrutiny since the arrest in September of an Islamic chaplain accused of violating military secrecy

while working at the U.S. prison for suspected terrorists at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. That case, and the arrest of two Arabic translators accused of secrecy violations at Guantanamo, have prompted congressional hearings and an espionage investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Pentagon has released the Muslim chaplain, who was sponsored for his position by Mr. Alamoudi's group, while the case against him continues. It isn't known whether the chaplain or any Muslim lay leaders at Guantanamo were trained at the institute. Meanwhile, military officials are reviewing the two Muslim organizations they have used to certify a dozen or so Islamic chaplains in the wake of accusations that those organizations have links to terrorism.

What has gone unnoticed during this controversy is the role of the Institute of Islamic and Arabic Sciences in America in training the far-bigger network of Muslim lay leaders, who are in a position to influence the religious views of large numbers of U.S. soldiers. The institute, part of Saudi Arabia's state-run university system, is funded and controlled by the kingdom's Ministry of Higher Education.

Saudi government-backed religious charities, schools and wealthy Saudi individuals have long promoted the Wahhabi version of Islam. Wahhabism is named for Muhammad bin 'Abd al-Wahhab, an 18th-century Islamic purist who advocated returning to the Islam practiced in the seventh century by the Prophet Muhammad and his initial followers. As espoused in recent decades, Wahhabism condemns all Western influence on the Muslim world, and its tenets have been invoked by Osama bin Laden, among other terrorists.

Muhiaddin Saleh, a dean at the Islamic institute in northern Virginia, says, "There is no way the institute will allow or tolerate anyone to come here and send a message of hate or intolerance."

Dawud Alyasa, a Muslim convert who served as a military lay leader in the late 1990s and received training at the institute, agrees. "The classes were geared to basic principles of Islam, understanding who Allah is, prayer, some of the issues soldiers may have, such as fasting," and related matters, says Mr. Alyasa. He left the military in 2000.

#### Spiritual Needs

Until the 1990s, the Pentagon did little to tend to the spiritual needs of its growing Muslim ranks, now estimated at between 4,000 and 10,000. For Christian and Jewish troops, it has long maintained a world-wide network of more than 3,000 ordained chaplains and thousands of additional lay leaders, who back up the chaplains. But Muslims in uniform largely went without official religious attention.

About 10 years ago, Mr. Alamoudi, the Muslim-American activist, approached the Pentagon and offered to help. A naturalized American citizen, he was born in Eritrea but is a member of a large and influential Saudi business clan. As head of the American Muslim Council, a Washington lobbying group, he rubbed elbows with politicians in both parties. His organization had "contacts within the Muslim community that not many other institutions had," says Herman Keizer, a minister with the Christian Reformed Church in North America who then headed the Armed Forces Chaplains Board, which oversees military religious activity.

Mr. Alamoudi's entreaty resulted in the Pentagon setting up two programs: one to recruit Muslim clerics as chaplains and another to train troops and employees as Muslim lay leaders. An offshoot of Mr. Alamoudi's American Muslim Council began

certifying chaplains and worked with the Islamic institute to train lay advisers.

"There was some concern about the connections between [Mr. Alamoudi's organization] and countries in the Middle East," says Rev. Keizer, who left the military-chaplain board in 1994. But he declines to elaborate on this concern and confirms that it didn't stop the Pentagon from relying on Mr. Alamoudi and his group.

Recently, that reliance has become problematic. In October, Mr. Alamoudi was indicted on charges of illegally taking from Libya hundreds of thousands of dollars that federal prosecutors say they suspect "was intended for delivery" to terrorists in the Middle East or anti-American fighters headed for Iraq.

Prosecutors say Mr. Alamoudi is also at the center of a network of northern Virginia-based Islamic groups that are under federal investigation for possibly financing terrorism. Mr. Alamoudi was denied bail in October after prosecutors presented evidence in court that he "expressed his support for terrorism and repeatedly transferred money to terrorists," including the Palestinian group Hamas and front groups affiliated with al Qaeda. U.S. investigators have quoted him in court documents as discussing terrorism with an unidentified informant, and saying, "I prefer to hit a Zionist target in America or Europe."

Mr. Alamoudi has pleaded innocent to the Libya-related charges and hasn't been charged in the Virginia investigation. His lawyer, Stanley Cohen, says the accusations against his client are part of an attempt to intimidate influential Muslims. "There's a lot of smoke and huff and puff, but there's nothing there," the lawyer said. Mr. Cohen added that his client has had only limited involvement with the institute.

Pentagon spokesman James Turner declines to comment on the charges against Mr. Alamoudi. Mr. Turner says the military no longer uses the institute to train Muslim lay leaders, but he declines to elaborate or explain whether another group is doing such training. The last of five plaques commemorating the sessions in the institute's lobby is dated 2000.

### Training Sessions

Beginning in 1993, the institute, working in conjunction with the offshoot of Mr. Alamoudi's American Muslim Council, held at least five training sessions for Islamic lay leaders. Mr. Turner estimates that "75 to 100 Islamic lay leaders went there for training" during the 1990s.

The five-day training sessions, provided free of charge, taught "general concepts of Islam" that are "important in field situations where no cleric is available," Mr. Saleh, the institute dean, says. He offers an example: "If a Muslim dies, and they do not know how to bathe the body, it is a problem."

Military officials last year asked the Muslim lay leader who works at the Pentagon building in Arlington, Va., to post the notice seeking to hire an imam, or prayer leader, for the Pentagon, according to Army spokeswoman Martha Rudd. The institute was only one of several places where the notice was put up, Ms. Rudd says.

The posting was written by Zamil Ansari, a technician who works on contract for the Defense Department and serves as the Pentagon's Muslim lay leader. Mr. Ansari also served as an advisory board member on Mr. Alamoudi's American Muslim Council. Mr. Ansari declines to be interviewed, but through Ms. Rudd says he had only slight involvement with the council.

Mr. Alyasa, the former lay leader who attended institute classes, says that as an enlisted man in the Army, he began attending training sessions in the mid-1990s at a U.S. base in Landstuhl, Germany. The sessions were organized by the offshoot of Mr. Alamoudi's group, the American Muslim Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs Council, he says. In 1996, he says the Alamoudi armed-forces council arranged for him and about 60 other soldiers to travel to Saudi Arabia for the pilgrimage to Mecca that every devout Muslim is expected to make at least once. The trip was financed by the Saudi government, he says.

After he transferred to an Army base in Fort Belvoir, Va., where he worked as a hospital lab technician, Mr. Alyasa got involved in organizing religious activities for Muslims there. In 1998, the Alamoudi armed-forces council arranged for him to attend training sessions at the Islamic institute in Fairfax, he says. He was able to attend only a few of the classes because of his military duties, but he describes the training as addressing such issues as making sure that soldiers are able to follow Muslim dietary rules. In addition to helping arrange training sessions, the Alamoudi armed-forces group asked lay leaders to gather information on where Muslims served in the military, according to records from the group gathered by the Investigative Project, a Washington nonprofit.

Mr. Alyasa says that he is aware that the Saudis and their religious organizations, including the institute, adhere to an orthodox form of Islam, but he says he doesn't think that it fosters extremism. Saudi "scholars over there are the ones trying to warn people about doing these crazy things," he says.

The Islamic institute's Web site says that it presents Islam "peacefully and moderately." After Sept. 11, 2001, the site said the terrorist attacks "constitute clear violations to the teachings of Islam." Omar Alsabti, the institute's deputy director, adds in an interview: "A real Muslim cannot accept this kind of behavior. How can you kill 3,000 innocent people?"

For a seminar at the institute sponsored by Prince Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi ambassador to the U.S. and president of the school's board of trustees, the institute published several academic papers promoting U.S.-Saudi ties. "It's a straightforward academic institution, and we do not tolerate any kind of activities whatsoever that are against the spirit or rules or laws of the countries we practice in," says Mr. Saleh, the dean.

The school's 30 employees occupy a spacious two-story building containing offices, a library and a large room for prayer with separate entrances for men and women.

The library, where the imam-wanted notice was still posted as recently as October, has a limited selection focused mainly on books and magazines that espouse the Saudi religious establishment's anti-Western strain of Islam. "I basically went through the whole library. The only books that were there are Wahhabi books," says Ali al-Ahmed, head of the Saudi Institute, an independent Washington group that promotes civil-rights reforms in the kingdom.

The magazine rack in the library includes only a handful of English-language periodicals, all of which promote fundamentalist Islam. One is the official journal of the Saudi government religious agency responsible for international proselytizing, the Muslim World League. "Islamic terrorism is merely a figment of imagination," said an article in the September issue. "The hallucination of the Islamic terrorism created by Western manipulators and the Zionist zealots is gradually breaking down."

Some Arabic-language books the school carries and distributes denounce other religions, according to Mr. Ahmed, head of the Saudi Institute. Mr. Ahmed has translated parts of one book the institute has distributed at conferences and seminars titled "The True Religion," which condemns Judaism and Christianity as "deviant."

Regarding Christianity, the Islamic school's curriculum calls for studying "the ruinous effect of these beliefs on the innate human disposition and the modern situation."

Anwar al-Aulaqi, the former imam at a mosque in San Diego, also has lectured at the institute. A congressional report on Sept. 11 released this July said Mr. Aulaqi counseled two of the hijackers while they stayed in San Diego and then transferred to a mosque that both hijackers attended in northern Virginia shortly before the attacks. Mr. Aulaqi, who is now believed to be in Yemen, has denied knowing of the hijackers' plans.

Islamic institute officials say they aren't responsible for lecturers' controversial views. "It is an open society we have here," Mr. Saleh says.

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**NEED HELP? TOP 5 QUESTIONS**

- I don't live in a major urban area. How could a terrorist attack possibly affect my family?
- How can I help motivate my friends and community to become more aware of current affairs and more involved in homeland security and the war on terror?

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**FSM's Must Reads**

Published: June 8, 2007



*In this final installment of FSM Contributing Editor Adrian Morgan's hair-raising series on the Muslim Brotherhood, we learn of ignorant American politicians who try to make deals with this nefarious lot. These politicians betray not only the people who elected them and the nations they serve, but they jeopardize the security of the Western world at large. Find out who they are.*

**The Muslim Brotherhood's Long-Standing War On The West**  
Part Four (of Four)

By Adrian Morgan

**UK Politicians Legitimize The Brotherhood**



In Britain in 1997, the Muslim Brotherhood founded the Muslim Association of Britain (MAB). This group claims to be moderate, and promotes missionary (dawah) work among the young. Its founder, Kamal Tawfik Helbawy, was at that time the Brotherhood's European spokesman. Born in Egypt in 1939, he had been a member of the Brotherhood since the age of 12. He co-founded the World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY) in

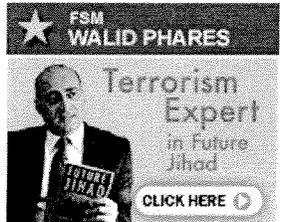
Saudi Arabia in 1972 with Abdullah bin Laden, Osama's nephew. WAMY is an organization which has been accused of funding terrorist organizations, including Hamas. Kamal Helbawy was

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**TODAY'S HOT TOPICS**

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- 3 'See No Progress'
- 4 Jimmy Carter to Meet With Terror Group Leader
- 5 April 8th Views and News [Click Here](#)
- 6 The New Liberal Taboo
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WAMY's first president.

In November 1997, in the same year that he had founded MAB, Helbawy helped to found the Muslim Council for Britain (MCB), which was officially inaugurated on March 1, 1998. As Helbawy stated in a 2005 interview: "I played a role in the establishment of the MCB. Our objective was that the MCB should remain independent and its primary function should be to represent and protect the interests of Muslims."

The MCB, whose senior members have supported extremism, enjoyed an unprecedented position with Blair's government, acting as advisers on all things Islamic. In June 2005 its then-secretary general Iqbal Sacranie was given a knighthood by Blair, even though he is an anti-Semite who wishes to see Holocaust Memorial day scrapped. In 1996, Sacranie supported plans to invite Osama bin Laden to the UK to lecture to Muslims, claiming the terrorist was an "Islamic Scholar". Despite boycotting memorials for the Shoah, Sacranie nonetheless attended a memorial service for Sheikh Yassin, the founder of terror group Hamas. This service was held at London's Central Mosque in 2004.

In 2005, the MCB persuaded Blair to introduce a bill which would have outlawed any criticism of Islam, which was neutered by the Lords, parliament's Upper House. In June 2006, the unelected MCB succeeded in persuading the elected Blair government to abandon its 18-month campaign to outlaw forced marriage, which annually affects at least 250 young Muslim girls.

The government has been so manipulated by the claims of the "moderate" Muslims in Britain, that MI6 and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office have actively courted the Muslim Brotherhood. The overtures to the Brotherhood have been made through a unit called the "Engaging With the Islamic World Group" (EWIG) which was founded in 2003. EWIG is led by a 27-year old former Muslim radical called Mockbul Ali. In July 2006, this group used taxpayers' money to pay Yusuf al-Qaradawi, spiritual leader of the Brotherhood, to attend a conference in Turkey. On July 14, 2005, one week after the London bombings, Mockbul Ali argued that a visa should again be given to Qaradawi. That document and others can be found here.

After the London suicide bombings of July 7, 2005, the Blair government invited Tariq Ramadan, son of Said Ramadan and grandson of Hassan al-Banna, to sit on a working committee. This committee was set up to find ways of preventing radicalism amongst Britain's youth. Ramadan is not even a UK citizen, and according to Jean Charles Brissard, he has had meetings with known terrorists in his native Switzerland. The UK government sponsors a website promoting "the radical middle way" of Islam, where Ramadan has his own page. Tariq Ramadan is still barred from entering to the US, though he insists he is not a Muslim Brotherhood member.

US Politicians Duped By The Brotherhood



In the United States, one individual maintained a pretense of "moderation" which would later embarrass the left and the right. According to the testimony of Dr. Michael Waller to the US Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Abdurahman Alamoudi was a member of the Muslim Brotherhood. A man born in Eritrea in 1951, he arrived in the US in 1979 and became a

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naturalized US citizen on May 23, 1996. From 1985 onwards he became involved in many Muslim groups. In 1990 he founded the Washington DC-based American Muslim Council (AMC), which Waller states "has been described as a de facto front of the Muslim Brotherhood." The AMC was an affiliate of the American Muslim Foundation, which was also headed by Alamoudi. Despite this, in June 2002 the FBI called the AMC "the most mainstream Muslim group in the United States."

What is of concern is the manner in which Alamoudi persuaded US authorities under two administrations of his reliability. Around 1993, he was an adviser for the Pentagon on which Muslim chaplains should serve in the US military. He continued this role until 1998. From 1997 he acted for the State Department as a "goodwill ambassador" to Muslim countries. He was regularly at the Clinton White House and had advised Hillary Rodham Clinton on managing *iftar* dinners since 1996. Alamoudi had made donations to the Democrat party but was open to wooing the opposition.

In 1998, as Frank Gaffney recounted, Republican Grover Norquist formed the Islamic Institute, which aimed to recruit Muslim and Arab Americans to support the GOP. Alamoudi made contributions both to the Islamic Institute and later, in 2000 and 2001, he made payments to a lobbying firm connected with Norquist.

Alamoudi's Brotherhood connections were not touted openly, but in August 1997, he was publicly proclaiming on Fox TV that Hamas was a "freedom fighting organization". Hamas had started its first bombings of Israeli civilians in February 1996, a year earlier. On October 28, 2000, Alamoudi attended an anti-Israel protest at Lafayette Park outside the White House, where he was caught on video proclaiming "I have been labeled... as being a supporter of Hamas. Anybody supporters of Hamas here? Hear that, Bill Clinton. We are all supporters of Hamas. I wish they added that I am also a supporter of Hezbollah. Anybody who supports Hezbollah here?"

Shortly after the White House outburst, Hillary Clinton returned a donation of \$1,000 to her election war chest, which Alamoudi had presented on May 25 of that year. Alamoudi embarked upon at least 10 clandestine trips to Libya. On September 28, 2003, after returning from a multi-stage excursion he was arrested at Dulles International Airport. He was handed a 19-count indictment on October 23, on charges including money laundering and dealing with a prohibited nation.

Alamoudi had been stopped at Heathrow on August 16, 2003 before boarding a flight to Syria, and had \$340,000 of Libyan money seized. On July 30, 2004, he pleaded guilty to three charges - violating conditions barring transport to, and commerce with, prohibited nations (Libya), failure to disclose to IRS his income, and lying to ICE federal investigators. On October 15, 2004, Alamoudi was given a jail sentence of 23 years. He had told officials that he provided Libyan money to London-based Saudi dissidents to finance a plot to assassinate Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah.

Politicians may have been fooled by Alamoudi, who headed sixteen US-based Islamist organizations, but despite what is known of the Muslim Brotherhood's support of terrorism and extremism, US politicians are now openly courting the Brotherhood. On April 5 this year in Egypt. House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer met with Mohammed Saad el-Katani, the leader of the Brotherhood's 55 members within the Egyptian parliament. Hamdi Hassan, the Brotherhood's spokesman, said Hoyer met with el-Katani once at the parliament building and later at the home of the US ambassador to Egypt.

On May 27, a delegation by four members of the House of Congress again met with Mohammed Saad el-Katani in Egypt. The delegation was led by David Price, a Democrat who represents

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### **The Enemy Within**

While Said Ramadan was establishing European bases for the Muslim Brotherhood in Geneva and Munich, similar actions were being taken in the United States. In 1962, an organization called the "Cultural Society" was set up, the first Muslim Brotherhood body to be formed on American soil. Muslim Brotherhood members are sworn to secrecy when they join up ("kitman" or concealment) so exact details of this group are murky. The Cultural Society mainly drew its recruits from foreign Muslim students at mid-western universities, such as Illinois, Indiana and Michigan. The name "Cultural Society" was employed to draw attention away from its Brotherhood identity. The following year, the Muslim Students Association (MSA) was formed by the US Brotherhood, and up until the 1970s, new bodies proliferated.

The website of a newer Brotherhood-founded group, the Muslim American Society (MAS) describes its founders as "pioneers" - "The call and the spirit of the movement reached the shores of North America with arrival of Muslim students and immigrants in the late 1950s and early 1960s. These early pioneers and Islamic movement followers established in 1963 the Muslim Student Association (MSA) of the U.S and Canada as a rallying point in their endeavor to serve Islam and Muslims in North America. Other services and outreach organizations soon followed, such as the North American Islamic Trust (NAIT), the Islamic Medical Association (IMA), the Muslim Arab Youth Association (MAYA) and the Muslim Youth of North America (MYNA), to name a few."

All of the groups listed above were formed by the Muslim Brotherhood. MYNA was founded by Ahmed Elkadi, who was the US Brotherhood's treasurer from the 1970s until 1984, when he became its president. He held this position until 1995, but has since left the Brotherhood. He did not resign from his position as president of the US Ikhwan (MB) - he was pushed.

Other groups were founded by the US Brotherhood later - the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) was formed in the 1980s as an outgrowth of the Muslim Students Association (MSA).

The Muslim American Society, under Brotherhood leadership, was incorporated in 1993 in Illinois. The decision to incorporate the MAS was made at a meeting of 40 Ikhwan (MB) members at a hotel near the Alabama-Tennessee state line. Shaker Elsayed, a leader within MAS, has admitted the Brotherhood had founded the Muslim American Society, saying: "Ikhwan members founded MAS, but MAS went way beyond that point of conception."

MAS is based in Falls Church, Virginia, the same town where Abdurahman Alamoudi lived. Five miles away in Alexandria lay the US headquarters of the World Assembly of Muslim Youth or WAMY, which was co-founded by a Brotherhood member, Kamal Helbawy. On Friday May 28, 2004 the WAMY offices were raided by agents of the FBI, ICE and the Joint Terrorism Task Force. An affidavit from a customs agent claimed that one WAMY publication included a section entitled "Animosity Toward the Jews", and stated: "The Jews are humanity's enemies: they foment immorality in this world." The affidavit mentioned links with WAMY and the terrorist group Hamas.



The director of MAS' "Freedom Foundation", Mahdi Bray, pushed for the release of a Falls Church citizen, Ahmed Omar Abu Ali, who had been accused of plotting to assassinate George W. Bush in an al-Qaeda plot. Ali, who had been

educated at the Saudi-funded *Islamic Saudi Academy* in Alexandria, was convicted on November 22, 2005 and sentenced to 30 years' jail on March 29, 2005.

MAS, which has 10,000 members in 53 chapters across the US, is also involved in the disputes at Minneapolis-St Paul airport, where Somali taxi drivers have refused to carry passengers carrying alcohol. Three quarters of the 900 drivers are Muslim, mostly from Somalia. Last year, 5,400 potential rides were turned down because passengers had alcohol. The Metropolitan Airport Commission sought guidance from Muslims, and a fatwa was made by the MAS. Khalid Elmasary declared: "It is expressly stated. Transportation of alcohol for Muslims is against the Islamic faith, and therefore forbidden." The issue still has not been resolved.

It is sometimes hard to work out if such Muslim "representatives" are really following the ways of the prophet, or are following the plans laid out in Muslim Brotherhood's "Project" manifesto for gaining national and global power.



Mahdi Bray, who is based in Washington, D.C., where he has a radio talk-show, is accused of taking part in protests where there were calls for the death of Jews. Steve Emerson in his book *American Jihad* stated that at the October 28, 2000, rally for Hezbollah and Hamas at Lafayette Park, "Mahdi Bray, stood directly behind Alamoudi and was seen jubilantly exclaiming his support for these two deadly terrorist organizations." Three weeks earlier, Bray had "coordinated and led a rally where

approximately 2,000 people congregated in front of the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C.... at one point during the rally, Mahdi Bray played the tambourine as one of the speakers sang, while the crowd repeated: 'Al-Aqsa is calling us, let's all go into jihad, and throw stones at the face of the Jews.'

Bray, who was awarded a Congressional Black Caucus award in September last year, has issued a press release claiming "victory" in the settlement of a vindictive lawsuit launched by the Islamic Society of Boston (ISB), which attacked 16 organizations and individuals, including Steve Emerson.

There was no settlement agreed between the parties - the Islamic Society of Boston mysteriously dropped its lawsuit, which claimed "defamation", on May 29, 2007. With MAS coming to its defense, and with Muslim Brotherhood member Abdurahman Alamoudi listed as one its founders and trustees, with the Muslim Brotherhood's spiritual leader Yusuf al-Qaradawi as another early trustee, it is not unreasonable to assume that the Islamic Society of Boston began its life in 1982 as another outreach of the Muslim Brotherhood. In 2002, Qaradawi appeared by videolink at an ISB fund-raising event.

The ISB, which is building the largest mosque in Eastern United States at Roxborough, Boston, was in January 2006 defended by Arsalan Iftikhar, the legal director of the Council of American Relations (CAIR), who said: "Unfortunately, I see the Boston case as indicative of a growing trend in anti-Muslim rhetoric that has grown after 9/11." It should be noted that the two co-founders of CAIR, Omar Ahmad and Nihad Awad, were officials of the Islamic Association for Palestine, which was established by Hamas member Mousa Abu Marzook, and has been called a "Hamas Front". Nihad

Awad and Ahmed Bedier, head of CAIR's Florida chapter, have both openly pledged their support for Hamas, which itself is derived from the Muslim Brotherhood.

With its previous links to Muslim Brotherhood members, ISB may be thankful that it was not listed as an "unindicted co-conspirator" in a plot to fund Hamas. This has been the recent fate of CAIR. In a trial in Dallas, Texas, Ghassan Elashi, the head of CAIR's Texas chapter, is accused along with a staggering list of co-conspirators. Elashi was also head of Texas branch of the outlawed Holy Land Foundation. The indictment maintains that other officials from the Texas branch of the Holy Land Foundation had conspired with numerous others to supply funds to Hamas. Ghassan Elashi and his brothers Bayan and Basman were convicted of "conspiracy to provide material support to terrorists" on [April 13, 2005](#). Elashi was given a seven year sentence on [October 13, 2006](#).

The named co-conspirators include eight Muslim Brotherhood individuals and organizations: Abdurahman Alamoudi, Gaddor Ibrahim Saidi, the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), Muslim Arab Youth Association (MAYA), Nizar Minshar, North American Islamic Trust (NAIT), Raed Awad and Tareq Suwaidan. The trial will begin on July 16. The trial will hopefully clarify further the exact roles of CAIR, and also the mysterious American contingent of the Muslim Brotherhood.

The Muslim Brotherhood is not a body to be trusted. It claims peace and moderation, while simultaneously planning to conquer the globe by fair means or foul. It propagates anti-Semitism, and justifies and supports the murder of Israeli civilians. Its current motto is: "Allah is our objective. The Prophet is our leader. Koran is our law. Jihad is our way. Dying in the way of Allah is our highest hope." Those politicians who try to make deals with such a group are betraying not only the people who elected them and the nations they serve, but they jeopardize the security of the Western world at large.

# #

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Testimony of  
**Dr. Michael Waller**  
Annenberg Professor of International Communication  
The Institute of World Politics

October 14, 2003

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VERSION

Statement of J. Michael Waller  
Annenberg Professor of International Communication  
Institute of World Politics

Before the

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security

Senate Committee on the Judiciary

14 October 2003

Thank you, Chairman Kyl, and members of the Subcommittee for holding this important series of hearings. Thank you also for inviting me to testify on the subject of terrorist penetration of the U.S. military and prison systems via corruption of the chaplain programs, and how it fits in with a larger foreign-sponsored campaign to build terrorist support networks inside this country.

I am testifying in my capacity as Annenberg Professor of International Communication at the Institute of World Politics, a graduate school of statecraft and national security in Washington. My expertise is in the political warfare of terrorist groups, not the theology of Islam.

Enemies of our free society are trying to exploit it for their own ends. These hearings ensure that policymakers and the public know and understand how our enemies' operations work within our borders.

Chaplains are only one avenue terrorists that and their allies have used to penetrate and compromise the institutions of our civil society.

The recruitment and organization of ideological extremists in prison systems and armed forces is a centuries-old problem, as is the difficulty that civil societies have had in understanding and confronting the matter. While in tsarist prisons, Stalin and Dzerzhinsky organized murderers and other hardened criminals who would lead the Bolsheviks and their Cheka secret police. Hitler credited his time in prison as an opportunity to reflect and write Mein Kampf. Terrorist inmates and others communicate and organize among themselves and with the outside

world via the rather open nature of our correctional system, and are known to do so in secret with collaborative lawyers by abusing the attorney-client relationship.

Chaplains are a vital part of military and correctional life, and until recently they have been above reproach. For several years, however, some of us have been alarmed that the small but important Muslim chaplain corps in the military has been harmed by those with an agenda that is more political than spiritual. This raises legitimate – indeed pressing – national security concerns.

The nation now finds itself with suspicions about the integrity of certain Muslim chaplains and how one or more may have been able to penetrate one of the nation's most secure terrorist detention facilities at Guantanamo, Cuba, breaking through the heavy compartmentation that was designed in part to keep the detainees from communicating with one another and with the outside. That particular case is pending in the legal system, but its gravity is magnified by an important fact: the group that vetted the suspect chaplain was founded by a Wahhabi-backed member of the Muslim Brotherhood with a long track record of supporting terrorist leaders from the Egyptian Islamic Jihad to Hezbollah. It shares an office with him and, reportedly, even the same tax identification number.

My testimony will discuss:

- The foreign entities and individuals who created the Muslim chaplain corps for the United States military;
- The parties responsible for nominating and vetting Muslim chaplains for the U.S. armed forces;
- The issue of state-sponsored penetration of the U.S. military and prisons;
- Challenges to our ability to understand the nature of the problem; and
- The larger context of which the chaplain program is part.

Initial research findings

Our country's security, intelligence and counterintelligence services missed a lot before 9/11, and have been so deluged with information since then that it is often hard to make sense of it even two years later. Those inside government, and those of us outside, are early in the analytical process. My testimony is based entirely on the public record, and is intended to help connect the dots among what can be a maze of confusing names and organizations. Much of the research has been done with the staff of the Center for Security Policy.

In short, this is what my colleagues and I have found:

- Foreign states and movements have been financing the promotion of radical, political Islam, which we call Islamism, within America's armed forces and prisons.
- That alien ideology, with heavy political overtones, preaches intolerance and hatred of American society, culture, government, and the principles enshrined in

the U.S. Constitution.

- Adherents to that ideology directly and indirectly spawn, train, finance, supply and mobilize terrorists who would destroy our system of government and our way of life.
- They have created civil support networks for terrorists at home and abroad, providing material assistance, fundraising operations, logistics, propaganda, legal assistance in the event of arrest or imprisonment, and bringing political pressure to bear on policymakers grappling with counterterrorism issues.
- The Islamists exploited the nation's prison chaplancies and the created the Muslim chaplain cadre in the armed forces as one of several avenues of infiltration, recruitment, training and operation.

Toward understanding the problem

Before I begin, one should note that a great battle is taking place today within the Islamic faith around the world. Many Muslims have come to me and to my colleagues with information about how their mosques, centers, and communities have been penetrated and hijacked by extreme Islamists who have politicized the faith and sought to use it as a tool of political warfare against the United States. We would not know what we already know were it not for the active collaboration of Muslims from many countries and currents who fear the political Islamists, and it is clear that federal terrorism-fighters and the nation at large have benefited likewise.

As a society, we have not understood the nature of the problem. Some, such as the FBI leadership, have contorted themselves to unusual lengths to avoid honest discussion of the issue.

The testimony of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) before this subcommittee on 26 June of this year is a case in point, where the witness failed even to discuss the subject on which he was requested to testify, which was on growing Wahhabi influence in the United States. The FBI Director himself has a splendid staff of speechwriters who painstakingly avoid using the words "Islam" and "terrorist" in the same sentence. Such dissembling does a disservice to the American public and arguably has harmed efforts to protect the country from terrorism.

Part of the trepidation against honestly discussing the issue is the atmosphere of fear and intimidation surrounding part of the discourse. Oftentimes as soon as a non-Muslim notes that nearly 100 percent rate of terrorist attacks were perpetrated in recent years by those who call themselves Muslim, certain self-proclaimed Muslim "leaders" in the United States take to the airwaves, the press and the Internet to denounce the critic as being "racist" or "bigoted." Some of their non-Muslim friends have done the same, creating a chilling effect on open discussion, leading to poor public understanding of the conflict at hand.

Curiously, there is no shortage of normal Muslims in this country who agree with the critics. However, they are not organized and often have felt too intimidated to speak out.

Significantly, our research shows the most virulent of the denunciations have come from the self-proclaimed Muslim “leaders” who are tied to foreign or domestic terrorist organizations; foreign – mainly Wahhabi – funding; and in crucial cases, the Muslim Brotherhood. As we will see, a reported Muslim Brotherhood member, who had built a political pressure group in Washington that the FBI certified as “mainstream,” frequently assailed the arrests of bona fide terrorists as bigoted actions that would harm the American Muslim community.

When we discuss the chaplain issue, we should keep it in a larger context. That context spans 40 years of Wahhabi political warfare as an element of religious proselytizing – or, some would argue, political warfare of which proselytizing is an element.

The strategic goal is twofold: to dominate the voice of Islam around the world; and to exert control over civil and political institutions around the world through a combination of infiltration, aggressive political warfare, and violence.

We see this happening globally: In Pakistan and Egypt, the United Kingdom and continental Europe, in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo, in Russia and Turkey; in Southeast Asia, parts of Africa and Latin America; and here in the United States.

This trend is one of the factors that unites so much of the world – including the Islamic world – in the Global War on Terrorism. And that factor helps to explain why some countries find it so difficult to cooperate to their full potential, and why other leaders have been nothing short of courageous.

Hearings this subcommittee held last June and September have illuminated the issue and started to connect the dots. Chairman Kyl, you said it exactly on September 10 that “we must improve our ability to ‘connect the dots’ between terrorists and their supporters and sympathizers. We must understand their goals, their resources and their methods, just as well as they understand our system of freedoms and how to exploit them for their terrible purposes.”

### Part 1: Chaplains, the Wahhabi Lobby, and the Muslim Brotherhood

The process for becoming a Muslim chaplain for any branch of the U.S. military, currently involves two separate phases. First, individuals must complete religious education and secondly, they must receive an ecclesiastical endorsement from an approved body. As several recent media reports have noted, federal investigators long have suspected key groups in the chaplain program – the Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences (GSISS) the American Muslim Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs Council (AMAFVAC), and the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) – of links to terrorist organizations.

- The Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences (GSISS) trains Muslim

chaplains.

o Operation Green Quest investigators raided GSISS offices in March 2002, along with 23 other organizations. According to search warrants, federal agents suspected GSISS and the others of “potential money laundering and tax evasion activities and their ties to terrorists groups such as al Qaeda as well as individual terrorists . . . [including] Osama bin Laden.”

o Agents also raided the homes of GSISS Dean of Students Iqbal Unus, and GSISS President Taha Al-Alwani. Press reports identify Al-Awani as Unindicted Co-Conspirator Number 5 in the Palestinian Islamic Jihad case of Sami Al-Arian in Florida.

- The American Muslim Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs Council (AMAFVAC) accredits or endorses chaplains already trained under GSISS or other places, like schools in Syria.

o AMAFAC operates under the umbrella of the American Muslim Foundation (AMF), led by Abdurahman Alamoudi.

o According to Senator Schumer’s office, AMAFAC and AMF share the same tax identification number, making them the same legal organization.

- The Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) endorses trained chaplains for the military.

#### Religious education and ecclesiastical endorsement

As of 8 June 2002, nine of the fourteen chaplains in the U.S. military received their religious training from the Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences (GSISS) in Leesburg, Virginia.

Following training at GSISS or another religious school, the majority of Muslim chaplains receive their endorsement from the American Muslim Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs Council (AVAFVAC).

ISNA provides ideological material to about 1,100 of an estimated 1,500 to 2,500 mosques in North America. It vets and certifies Wahhabi-trained imams and is the main official endorsing agent for Muslim chaplains in the U.S. military.

An organ of ISNA, the North American Islamic Trust (NAIT) has physical control of most mosques in the United States. NAIT finances, owns, and otherwise subsidizes the construction of mosques and is reported to own between 50 and 79 percent of the mosques on the North American continent.

#### Origin of military chaplain problem: Muslim Brotherhood penetration

One can trace part of the military chaplain problem directly to its origin: A penetration of American political and military institutions by a member of the Muslim Brotherhood who is a key figure in Wahhabi political warfare operations against the United States.

The Muslim Brotherhood is an international movement founded in 1928 that

seeks the destruction of all state and geographic divisions, rejects the idea of the nation-state and all forms of secularization, and works toward creating a world pan-Islamic state with a government based on Muslim sharia law. Initially it was uncompromising in its rejection of secular society, but in recent years changed its strategy to renounce violence (“ostensibly,” in the word of the Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram), and to take over or dominate political parties, unions, and professional syndicates. It is technically banned in its home country of Egypt, but operates through cutouts. Al Ahram calls the Muslim Brotherhood a “political movement” because of its political goals.

The Muslim Brotherhood’s slogan is “God is our purpose, the Prophet our leader, the Qur’an our constitution. Jihad our way and dying for God’s cause our supreme objective.”

Following the assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, the Muslim Brotherhood became part of the international Wahhabi infrastructure, with the Saudis providing sanctuary and support. Its functional leader, Ayman Al-Zawahiri, is widely believed to be al Qaeda’s second-in-command after Osama bin Laden. Al-Zawahiri is currently on the FBI’s Most Wanted Terrorists list for his alleged role in the 1998 bombings of the U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

#### Alamoudi: The operations chief in the U.S.

In 1990 Abdurahman Alamoudi, an émigré from Eritrea of Yemeni descent and a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, set up a political action organization in Washington called the American Muslim Council (AMC). This subcommittee heard testimony almost six years ago that the AMC, based at 1212 New York Avenue NW, was inter alia, the “de facto lobbying arm of the Muslim Brotherhood.”

Earlier this month, AMC advisory board member Soliman Biheiri, whom federal prosecutors say was “the financial toehold of the Muslim Brotherhood in the United States,” was convicted of violating U.S. immigration law.

Alamoudi is presently in jail on federal terrorism-related charges. He was arrested in late September 2003 at Dulles International Airport after British law-enforcement authorities stopped him with \$340,000 in cash that he was trying to take to Syria. U.S. officials allege that the money may have been destined for Syrian-based terrorist groups to attack Americans in Iraq. Charges include illegally receiving money from the Libyan government, passport and immigration fraud, and other allegations of supporting terrorists abroad and here in the United States.

Since Alamoudi has not had his trial, it may be inappropriate in this Judiciary subcommittee setting to discuss the case further, other than to say that one of his attorneys, Kamal Nawash of Northern Virginia, spoke to the suspect after his arrest and called the case politically motivated. Nawash told reporters less than

two weeks ago that Alamoudi “has no links whatsoever to violence or terrorism. On the contrary, he supported the U.S. war on terrorism.”

Alamoudi has a long public record that indicates why his instrumentality in founding and shepherding the U.S. Muslim military chaplain program unfortunately calls into question the integrity of the entire Muslim chaplaincy, and requires thorough investigation.

Alamoudi successfully burrowed into the American political mainstream until some of his extremist statements made him a public liability. My testimony will not discuss the details of his political activity other than to say that it included both main political parties and two administrations.

#### Alamoudi timeline

A timeline of events and statements shows that the Pentagon’s Muslim chaplain program was compromised at the start due to the fact that Alamoudi founded it and guided it, and nominated the first chaplains.

During the time he and his organizations were involved in the chaplain program, Alamoudi was a senior figure in Northern Virginia-based entities that were raided or shut down for alleged terrorist financing; he openly spoke out in support of Hamas and Hezbollah, he campaigned for the release of a Hamas leader, and he attempted to secure the release of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad leader convicted for his role in plotting to bring down civilian airliners and bomb bridges, tunnels, and skyscrapers in New York City.

1979: Abdurahman Alamoudi emigrated to the United States.

1985-1990: Alamoudi was executive assistant to the president of the SAAR Foundation in Northern Virginia. Federal authorities suspect the Saudi-funded SAAR Foundation, now defunct, of financing international terrorism. SAAR is the acronym for Sulaiman Abdul Aziz al-Rajhi, a wealthy Saudi figure and reputed financier of terrorism. Victims of the 11 September 2001 attacks allege in court that “The SAAR Foundation and Network is a sophisticated arrangement of non-profit and for-profit organizations that serve as front-groups for fundamentalist Islamic terrorist organizations.”

1990: Alamoudi founded the American Muslim Council (AMC) as a tax-exempt 501(c)(4) organization, based at 1212 New York Avenue NW in Washington. The AMC has been described as a de facto front of the Muslim Brotherhood. The AMC’s affiliate, the American Muslim Foundation (AMF), is a 501(c)(3) group to which contributions are tax-deductible. SAAR family assets financed the building at 1212 New York Avenue NW.

1991: Alamoudi created the American Muslim Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs Council (AMAFVAC). Its purpose: to “certify Muslim chaplains hired by the military.” Qaseem Uqdah, a former AMC official and ex-Marine gunnery

sergeant, headed AMAFVAC.

1993: The Department of Defense certified AMAFVAC as one of two organizations to vet and endorse Muslim chaplains. The other was the Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences (GSISS).

- March: Alamoudi assailed the federal government's case against Mohammed Salameh who was arrested ten days after the first World Trade Center bombings in February: "All their [law enforcement] facts are – they are flimsy. We don't think that any of those facts that they have against him, or the fact that they searched his home and they found a few wires here or there – are not enough." Salameh was convicted in the bombing plot and is currently serving a life sentence in prison.
- In December 1993, Alamoudi attended the swearing-in ceremony of Army Capt. Abdul Rasheed Muhammad (formerly Myron Maxwell), the first Muslim chaplain in the U.S. military, and pinned the crescent moon badge on the captain's uniform. "The American Muslim Council chose and endorsed Muhammad."

From about 1993 to 1998, the Pentagon retained Alamoudi on an unpaid basis to nominate and to vet Muslim chaplain candidates for the U.S. military.

1994: Alamoudi complained that the judge picked on the 1993 World Trade Center bombers because of their religion: "I believe that the judge went out of his way to punish the defendants harshly and with vengeance, and to a large extent, because they were Muslim."

- He began a public defense of Hamas: "Hamas is not a terrorist group ... I have followed the good work of Hamas...they have a wing that is a violent wing. They had to resort to some kind of violence."

1995: Alamoudi continued his Hamas defense, arguing that "Hamas is not a terrorist organization. The issue for us (the American Muslim Council) is to be conscious of where to give our money, but not to be dictated to where we send our money."

- Alamoudi accompanies AMAFVAC chief Qaseem Uqdah on a tour of naval installations in Florida to assess the needs of Muslims in the U.S. Navy.

1996: In 1996, Alamoudi became a naturalized citizen of the United States. In so doing he swore to defend the Constitution against "all enemies, foreign and domestic."

- Alamoudi spoke out in response to the arrest at New York's JFK Airport of his admitted friend, Hamas political bureau leader Mousa Abu Marzook. Months after the arrest, Alamoudi blamed the February 25th Hamas suicide bombings of Israeli citizens on Marzook's detention: "If he was there things would not have gone in this bad way. He is known to be a moderate and there is no doubt these events would not have happened if he was still in the picture."
- He continued to defend Marzook: "Yes, I am honored to be a member of the

committee that is defending Musa Abu Marzook in America. This is a mark of distinction on my chest ... I have known Musa Abu Marzook before and I really consider him to be from among the best people in the Islamic movement, Hamas – in the Palestinian movement in general – and I work together with him.”

- May 23: Alamoudi became a United States citizen.
- As one point during the year, Alamoudi spoke at the annual convention of the Islamic Association of Palestine in Illinois, stating in Muslim Brotherhood terms:

o “It depends on me and you, either we do it now or we do it after a hundred years, but this country will become a Muslim country. And I [think] if we are outside this country we can say oh, Allah, destroy America, but once we are here, our mission in this country is to change it.”

o Alamoudi called on the president to “free Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman,” the Egyptian Islamic Jihad leader serving a life sentence for his role in the early 1990s of bombings and attempted bombings in New York, and for plotting to destroy civilian airliners.

- And again: “I know the man [Marzook], he is a moderate man on many issues. If you see him, he is like a child. He is the most gracious person, soft-spoken. He is for dialogue... [His arrest] is a hard insult to the Muslim community.”
- August 1996: Alamoudi was there when the U.S. Armed Forces commissioned its second Muslim chaplain, Lieutenant JG Monje Malak Abd al-Muta Ali Noel, Jr. “We have taken a long and patient process to bring this through,” Alamoudi said. He spoke of cultivating others to take posts in the political system and law enforcement: “We have a few city council members. We are grooming our young people to be politicians. We also want them to be policemen and FBI agents.”
- Alamoudi protested federal airline safety measures concerning terrorism.

1997: Back to Hamas: “I think [Hamas is] a freedom fighting organization.”

2000: Alamoudi publicly embraced not only Hamas but Hezbollah. At a videotaped protest in front of the White House on 28 October, Alamoudi shouted, “Anybody who is a supporter of Hamas here? Hear that, Bill Clinton. We are all supporters of Hamas. I wish they added that I am also a supporter of Hezbollah. Anybody who supports Hezbollah here?”

- Alamoudi described a two-track political approach, advocating prayer for the destruction of the United States, but counseled that while working within the U.S., his allies should try to change policy: “I think if we are outside this country, we can say oh, Allah, destroy America, but once we are here, our mission in this country is to change it.”

2001: In January, Alamoudi attended a conference in Beirut with leaders of terrorist organizations, including al Qaeda.

- November 2001: After NBC and other channels broadcast a 2000 videotape of him proclaiming support for Hamas and Hezboollah, Alamoudi told reporters, “I should have qualified what I have said. I should have said that we should support

Hamas and Hezbollah in the effort for self-determination.”

2002: Alamoudi protested the arrest Imam Jamal Abdullah Al-Amin (formerly known as H. Rap Brown): “I think there is a witch hunt against Muslims.” Al-Amin, who held a former AMC post, was later convicted of murdering a Georgia law-enforcement officer.

- March: Federal agents raided Alamoudi’s American Muslim Foundation during Operation Green Quest, as well as several other organizations which Alamoudi had led, staffed, or otherwise been affiliated.
- April: Alamoudi reacted to the Department of Justice’s ordering of names of known or suspected terrorists to be added to federal, state and local police nationwide: “I really don’t understand a government that acts on suspicion instead of facts. America is no longer the land of the free.”
- Alamoudi modified his tone on Hamas: In an op-ed for the Orlando Sentinel on April 30, 2002, Alamoudi explained, “Hamas may be on the State Department’s list of terrorist organizations, and may deserve that designation for some of its actions – such as unconscionable bombings of civilians – but this is not the ‘Hamas’ I support. What I support is the legal military defense of Palestine, and the political and humanitarian work of Hamas to provide representation to the occupied territories as well as medical, educational and other desperately needed social services to the Palestinian people.”
- June: AMC Executive Director Eric Vickers was asked on Fox News and MSNBC to denounce Hamas, Hezbollah, the Islamic Jihad and al Qaeda by name. Vickers would not in one instance, he stated that al Qaeda was “involved in a resistance movement.”
- The FBI announced that Director Robert Mueller would address the AMC’s second annual national lobbying conference. The FBI called the AMC “the most mainstream Muslim group in the United States.”

2003: In September, Army Capt. James “Yousuf” Yee, a Muslim chaplain who ministered to the 660 terrorist detainees at the U.S. Naval base at Guantanamo, Cuba, was arrested and identified as having been “sponsored” by the AMAFVAC.

- Alamoudi was arrested by federal agents as he returned from a trip to Libya, Syria, other Arab countries, and the United Kingdom.
- At his bond hearing, attorneys May Shallal Kheder and Maher Hanania of the law firm Hanania, Kheder & Nawash represented him. The third partner of the firm, Kamal Nawash, spoke to him in jail and identified himself on October 1 as an Alamoudi lawyer.

Somehow despite all the above public events, the Pentagon found fit for Alamoudi to start and effectively run the Muslim military chaplains program. Somehow the State Department saw Alamoudi as an appealing representative of the United States in its public diplomacy activities, making him a “goodwill ambassador” to Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Syria, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and elsewhere, as part of the USINFO program.

### Saudi recruitment of American military personnel

U.S. counterintelligence is vigilant against recruitment of American military personnel by foreign intelligence services, but has been blind toward the possible recruitment of American officers into Wahhabi political extremism or Islamist terrorist networks. See Appendices 3, 5 and 6 for case study of Bilal Philips, a former Jamaican Communist Party member-turned-Saudi agent of influence who claims to have converted thousands of American soldiers from the Persian Gulf War period to the present.

Philips, recruited in the U.S. by Tablighi Jamaat, went to school in Saudi Arabia, was made a proselytization official by the Saudi Air Force. One of his greatest influences was Mohammad Qutub, who developed a political theory for Islamist revolution and who taught Osama bin Laden.

### Value of religious conversions to terrorists

Islamists terrorists view conversions of non-Muslims to Islamism as vital to their effort. Europeans and Americans from non-Muslim backgrounds do not fit the terrorist profile. They know their societies far better than immigrant terrorists, and they blend in seamlessly. They also have Western passports. Some analysts view the conversions as a new generation of political and social protest against the West and toward the "Third World." According to a recent report:

The young people in working-class urban areas are against the system, and converting to Islam is the ultimate way to challenge the system," said Roy, a director of the National Center for Scientific Research in Paris. "They convert to stick it to their parents, to their principal... They convert in the same way people in the 1970s went to Bolivia or Vietnam. I see a very European tradition of identifying with a Third World cause."

The converts are useful to a new al Qaeda strategy of "training the trainers," a method that the increasingly decentralized organization used to export terrorism to other countries.

### Part 2: Radical Islamist Domination of Muslim Prison Recruitment Efforts

Radical Islamist groups, most tied to Saudi-sponsored Wahhabi organizations suspected by the U.S. government of being closely linked to terror financing activities, dominate Muslim prison recruitment in the U.S. and seek to create a radicalized cadre of felons who will support their anti-American efforts. Estimates place the number of Muslim prison recruits at between 15-20% of the prison population. They are overwhelmingly black with a small, but growing Hispanic minority. It appears that in many prison systems, including Federal

prisons, Islamist imams have demanded, and been granted, the exclusive franchise for Muslim proselytization to the forceful exclusion of moderates.

- The Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences (GSISS) trains prison chaplains. It trained Imam Umar the Bureau of Prisons chaplain who was fired after the Wall Street Journal profiled his post-September 11th extremist rhetoric.
- The Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) refers Muslim clerics to the U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

#### The Agenda

- “Yvonne Haddad, an academic who studies Muslims in America, noted in a lecture at Stanford University that the two loci of Islamic awakening in the United States are the university and the prison. It makes sense to connect these two centers of Islamic activity for sake of establishing Islam in the United States.”

#### Radical Imams

- “In the U.S., just two weeks after the September 11 attacks, Muslim Chaplain Aminah Akbarin at New York’s Albion Correctional Facility was put on paid administrative leave after telling inmates that Osama bin Laden should be hailed as “a hero to all Muslims” and that the terror attacks were the fault of President Bush....According to published reports, radical Islamists—Muslims who follow a rigid interpretation of the Koran called Wahhabism—have put a high priority on reaching disaffected inmates around the world and recruiting them for their own deadly purposes.”
- Some prison-oriented groups prey on that disaffection. A leader of the Chicago-based Institute of Islamic Information & Education (III&E) said after 9/11,
  - o “I know that Osama bin Ladin is a true Muslim with in depth knowledge of the Qur'an and teachings of the Prophet. I would never suspect that he would do anything against the teachings of Islam and harm anyone who is a civilian and has not taken up arms against Islam or Muslims....”
  - “I would absolve the Taliban from any part of the air crashes at the WTC, the Pentagon and other place....”

#### The Islamist Appeal

- The prison recruitment question is occurring worldwide. “Dr. Theodore Dalrymple, a prominent psychiatrist who often works in British prisons, says Islam has assumed a presence disproportionate to the relatively small number of Muslim inmates (Four-thousand Muslims are among the 67,500 inmates)... ‘A visitor to our prisons might be forgiven for concluding that Britain was an Islamic country,’ Dalrymple wrote in London’s Daily Telegraph. ‘He would reach this conclusion because he would see a vast amount of Islamic literature . . . quite unmatched in quantity by any Christian literature, which is conspicuous mainly by its absence.’... Islam, Dalrymple says, is attractive to inmates ‘because it revenges them upon the whole of society...By converting to Islam, the prisoner is therefore expressing his enmity toward society in which he lives

and by which he believes himself to have been grossly maltreated.”

- “A key area of recruitment, the sources said, are U.S. prisons and jails, where al Qaeda and other organizations have found men who have already been convicted of violent crimes and have little or no loyalty to the United States... ‘It’s literally a captive audience, and many inmates are anxious to hear how they can attack the institutions of America,’ said one federal corrections official.”

#### Saudi Involvement

- “Islamic Affairs Department of [the Saudi Arabian] Washington embassy ships out hundreds of copies of the Quran each month, as well as religious pamphlets and videos, to prison chaplains and Islamic groups who then pass them along to inmates. The Saudi government also pays for prison chaplains, along with many other American Muslims, to travel to Saudi Arabia for worship and study during the hajj, the traditional winter pilgrimage to Mecca that all Muslims are supposed to make at least once in their lives. The trips typically cost \$3,000 a person and last several weeks, says Mr. Al-Jubeir, the Saudi spokesman.”

#### Islamic Society of North America (ISNA)

The Islamic Society of North America is an influential front for the promotion of the Wahhabi political, ideological and theological infrastructure in the United States and Canada. Established by the Muslim Students Association, ISNA seeks to marginalize leaders of the Muslim faith who do not support its ideological goals. Through sponsorship of propaganda, doctrinal material and mosques, is pursuing a strategic objective of dominating Islam in North America.

ISNA provides ideological material to about 1,100 of an estimated 1,500 to 2,500 mosques in North America. It vets and certifies Wahhabi-trained imams and is the main official endorsing agent for Muslim chaplains in the U.S. military.

Politically, ISNA has promoted leaders of the American Muslim Council (AMC), the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the Islamic Association for Palestine (IAP), and the Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC).

#### Magnitude of the Threat

- “For many disaffected young people, their first contact with Islam comes in jail. Over the past 30 years, Islam has become a powerful force in America’s correctional system. In New York State, it’s estimated that between 17 and 20 percent of all inmates are Muslims – a number that experts say holds nationally.”

- “Currently, there are approximately 350,000 Muslims in Federal, state and local prisons - with 30,000-40,000 being added to that number each year.... These inmates mostly came into prison as non-Muslims. But, it so happens that once inside the prison a majority turns to Islam for the fulfillment of spiritual needs... It is estimated that of those who seek faith while imprisoned, about 80% come to Islam. This fact alone is a major contributor to the phenomenal growth of Islam in the U.S.”

Notable Prison Converts

- Richard Reid (the Shoe Bomber) was converted by a radical imam (Abdul Ghani Qureshi at the suggestion of his father, a Jamaican-born career criminal who converted to Islam) in a British prison. British MP Oliver Letwin says that Reid's conversion to Islam suggests that young inmates are being targeted by radical organizations.
- Jose Padilla (aka Abdullah al-Muhajir) – “the Dirty Bomber” - was exposed to radical Islam during time in American prisons, and from there was recruited into the al Qaeda network.
- Aqil converted to Islam while serving time in California's boot-camp system. He went to an Afghani training camp with one of the men accused of kidnapping and murdering Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl.

## Appendix 1

Summary of Muslim military chaplain founder Abdurahman Alamoudi's organizational affiliations (asterisk \* indicates the organization was raided in federal counterterrorism probes)

Executive Assistant to President of SAAR Foundation\*

Regional Representative for DC Chapter, Islamic Society of North America (ISNA)

Acting President, Muslim Students Association, U.S. & Canada

Founder, former executive director, American Muslim Council (AMC)

President, American Muslim Foundation (AMF)

Board Member, American Muslim Council (AMC)

Founding Trustee, Fiqh Council of North America, Inc.\*

Board member, Mercy International\*

Secretary, Success Foundation\*

Founding Secretary, United Association for Studies and Research\*

Director, Taibah International Aid Association\*

Board Member, Somali Relief Fund (Prominent Al-Qaeda operative, Wadih El Hage, now serving life in prison for masterminding 1998 embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania, reportedly had Somali Relief Fund business card in his possession during a 1997 raid on his home by Kenyan officials.)

First Endorsing Agent for Muslim Chaplains, US Military

Board member, American Muslims for Jerusalem

President, Muslims for a Better America

Head, American Task Force for Bosnia (group founded by AMC and directed by Khaled Saffuri)

Board member, Interfaith Impact for Justice and Peace

Board member, the Council on National Interest Foundation (founded by Paul Findley [www.cionline.org](http://www.cionline.org) )

## Appendix 2: Key Organizations Involved in Muslim Prison Recruitment

National Islamic Prison Foundation (NIPF) – Contact: Mahdi Bray; 1212 New York Ave. NW, Suite 525, Washington, DC 20005. This is the same address as the American Muslim Council (AMC).

- “Specifically organized to convert American inmates to Wahhabism.”
- NIPF “coordinates a coast-to-coast campaign to convert inmates to Islam. Foundation officials claim an average of 135,000 such conversions per year. More than 10 percent of the 2 million plus U.S. prison population is Muslim. When black American Muslims are released from prison with the customary \$10, a suit of clothes and a one-way bus or train ticket, they know any mosque or masjid [Islamic center] will shelter and feed them and help them find a job.”

Islamic Society of North America (ISNA)

- “The Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) and Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA) have been bringing prison chaplains and volunteers together since 1998 in their "Islam in American Prison" conferences. These delegates deliberate on various ways of serving inmates, such as the provision of free literature within prison, helping the families of those incarcerated, building halfway houses for those released, and similar other beneficial measures.”

National Association of Muslim Chaplains – Contact: President, Imam Warithuddin Umar

- Founded by Warith Deen Umar, a radical prison convert, who offered his views of Islam and the Sept. 11 attacks to the Wall Street Journal arguing that “The hijackers should be honored as martyrs, he said. The U.S. risks further terrorism attacks because it oppresses Muslims around the world.” He was later fired from his job as a contractual consultant with the U.S. Bureau of Prisons and barred from continuing his volunteer chaplaincy in New York State Prisons.
- “The Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences hosted the annual National Association of Muslim Chaplains conference in Leesburg, Virginia on May 31st through June 2nd, 2000. Seventy-five Muslim prison chaplains from New York, Maryland, North Carolina and other areas were present.”

The Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR)

- “CAIR has recently dedicated more resources to assisting Muslims in prison. ‘We are meeting with the appropriate government agencies, researching case law and contacting more inmates to see how we can help Muslims practice Islam in prison with the limited rights they have,’ says CAIR Civil Rights Coordinator Hassan Mirza.”

Institute of Islamic Information & Education (III&E) – Contact: Managing Director, M. Amir Ali, Ph.D.; P.O. Box 410129, Chicago, IL 60641

- “There are indications that each piece of literature of the Institute sent to a prisoner is circulated and read by at least ten persons; based on this estimate the

III&E is reaching out to more than 20,000 individuals a year in the prison system. The cost of correspondence is somewhere \$25 to \$40 per letter and enclosures, which includes management, rent, utilities, personnel, material and postage.”

- “Helping Hand to Other Islamic Organizations: From the beginning the Institute has adopted the policy of cooperation with other sister Islamic organizations and da’wah workers. Time to time some Islamic organizations have asked for the help of the III&E in handling correspondence with the prisoners. World Assembly of Muslim Youth, WAMY, headquartered in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, receives many letters from the U.S. WAMY used to refer all their letters from prisons to the III&E which were responded. All letters received by the III&E from Africa, Asia, Europe and South America are sent to WAMY because she has the resources to handle such letters. The Institute has handled letters referred to her by Muslim Community Center, Chicago (MCC), American Islamic College, Chicago, Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA) but these organizations no longer refer their letters to the Institute. For the last one year Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) began sending some of the letters she receives to the Institute for responding. The Institute response to all referred letters begins with an introductory sentence to let the inquirer know that it was the response to their letter sent to so and so organization.”

- “Amir Ali, of the Institute of Islamic Information and Education, talked about the services his organization provides Muslim inmates, from prison visits to books to classes in Arabic and Islamic history. Groups also provide correspondence courses in other subjects, 24-hour toll free phones or collect-calling services for inmates to call family, mentorship programs for new converts and half-way houses to help re-integrate Muslim inmates into society after release. Amir Ali readily acknowledged the support of Saudi Arabia in providing these services.”

- “The Institute does not send copies of the Qur’an to individuals because of the lack of resources and all such inquiries are referred to the Saudi Embassy.”

- From an article appearing on III&E website: “the hearts of Americans and of similar nations will be filled with such an amount of dread of you (and you are more than one billion people) that will be many times the dread which is filling their hearts nowadays of Taliban regime (who are no more than a handful in a plain).”

- From the “Article Collection of III&E Managing Director Dr. Amir Ali, Ph.D.”:

- o “I know that Osama bin Ladin is a true Muslim with in depth knowledge of the Qur'an and teachings of the Prophet. I would never suspect that he would do anything against the teachings of Islam and harm anyone who is a civilian and has not taken up arms against Islam or Muslims....”

- o “I would absolve the Taliban from any part of the air crashes at the WTC, the Pentagon and other place....”

- o “If [ Hamas has ] any justification for harming civilians, this would be limited to the Israelis living in Israel....”

- o “Pakistan, Afghanistan, Yasser Arafat and the Arab world are coming under pressure to cooperate in arresting and handing over Osama Binladin to the American government. It would be wrong to arrest a Muslim leader and hand him over to the enemies of Islam....”

- o “Phenomenal success was achieved for the Bush administration through

success in the WTC terror.”

Islamic Prison Services Foundation – Contact: Nasir Shahid; 1709 4th St. NW, Washington, DC 20001.

Islamic Prison Outreach – Contact: Imam Alauddin Shabazz; 10326 S. Hoyne, Chicago, IL 60643.

Islamic Correctional Reunion Association – Contact: Mohammad Firdause; 6336 S. 66th Ave, Tinley Park, IL 60477

Islamic Prison Service Dawah – Contact: Ali Jabbar Hakkim; 4715 Fable St., Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

### Appendix 3: Al Qaeda's tactical use of Muslim converts

The following is a reprint of an article by Sebastian Rotella, “Al Qaeda's Stealth Weapons,” Los Angeles Times, 20 September 2003.

The convicted terrorist has a hard-core moniker: "the blue-eyed emir of Tangier."

But Pierre Richard Robert was once a French country boy, an athletic blond teenager living in a house built by his father among pastures here in the Loire region.

Robert liked drinking and fast bikes more than school. He got interested in Islam when he played soccer at the Turkish cultural center in a neighboring industrial town. He said he wanted to convert because Allah watched over him as he sped downhill into town on his bicycle.

"I told him it's not like changing shirts," said Ibrahim Tekeli, a leader of the Turkish community. "The imam told him, 'I want you to reflect and talk to your family first.' But Richard said: 'I've already reflected... For months before I made my decision, I would run the red light on the big hill every day going real fast. I would always pray to Allah to protect me. And I never got hit by a car.' "

Fourteen years later, though, Robert has hit bottom. A Moroccan court sentenced him to life in prison Thursday after convicting him of recruiting and training Moroccan extremists for a terrorist campaign.

He joins an unlikely group of men with non-Muslim backgrounds that includes Richard Reid, the British "shoe bomber" convicted of trying to blow up an airliner; American Jose Padilla, an alleged Al Qaeda operative being held as an enemy combatant; and Christian Ganczarski, a German convert arrested in June by French police.

Robert and Ganczarski were not just foot soldiers, investigators say. They

represent a dangerous trend as police chop away at Islamic networks two years after the Sept. 11 attacks: converts who assume front-line roles as recruiters and plotters.

The number of converts has grown as Islamic militants have struck a chord with young Europeans from non-Muslim backgrounds. These "protest conversions," as scholar Olivier Roy calls them, have less to do with theology than with a revolutionary zeal dating to Europe's ultra-left terrorist groups of the 1970s and '80s.

"The young people in working-class urban areas are against the system, and converting to Islam is the ultimate way to challenge the system," said Roy, a director of the National Center for Scientific Research in Paris. "They convert to stick it to their parents, to their principal... They convert in the same way people in the 1970s went to Bolivia or Vietnam. I see a very European tradition of identifying with a Third World cause."

As demographics and immigration propel Islam's spread in Europe, the number of French converts -- the vast majority of them law-abiding -- has increased steadily to about 100,000, Roy said.

Extremists of European descent worry police for the same reasons that Al Qaeda prizes them: their symbolic value, their Western passports and their fanaticism.

"Converts are the most important work for us right now," a French intelligence official said. "They want to show other Muslims their worth. They want to go further than anyone else. They are full of rage and they want to prove themselves."

The rise of the converts actually may be a sign of Al Qaeda's weakness, a need to fill a vacuum as leaders are hunted down. The limited hierarchy of Islamic networks can make leadership a question of circumstance and initiative. A Spanish investigator said Al Qaeda has "many soldiers, some sergeants and the generals."

Ganczarski and Robert were no generals, but they allegedly stepped up to plot attacks and recruit. And investigators say Ganczarski, 36, became a pivotal figure in Europe during the post-Sept. 11 period because of his alleged ties to Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, Al Qaeda's now-imprisoned operational boss, who turned increasingly to converts while on the run.

Ganczarski is being held in a French jail as a suspected conspirator in the bombing of a Tunisian synagogue that killed 21 people, including French tourists, in April 2002.

Investigators say Mohammed controlled the plot from Pakistan despite the vigilance of U.S. spy satellites that intercepted some of his coded conversations with accomplices. To elude detection, he used non-Arabs in Europe to support the Tunisian suicide bomber, Nizar Nawar, police say.

On the day Nawar blew himself up in a truck-bomb at the historic synagogue on the island of Djerba, he called Mohammed in Pakistan, investigators say, and Ganczarski's home in Duisburg, Germany. A German wiretap recorded the latter call: As if addressing a mentor, Nawar asked Ganczarski for a blessing, investigators say.

Although the Germans lacked proof to arrest Ganczarski, who denied involvement in the attack, the widening investigation soon involved French, Spanish and Swiss police. It revealed Ganczarski's access to Al Qaeda's "hard core," in the words of a Swiss intelligence report dated last December.

Ganczarski called Mohammed's Swiss cell phone in Pakistan "numerous times" in the months before the Djerba attack, according to the report.

The phone call intercepts also pointed to a Swiss convert, Daniel "Yusuf" Morgenej, who had befriended the German in Saudi Arabia, authorities say. Swiss police questioned and released Morgenej. But Spanish and French investigators say he and Ganczarski remain suspected links in an intricate chain leading to the plot's accused money man, a Spanish exporter.

Moreover, the Djerba plot appears to have been part of a larger effort led by Mohammed to deploy converts. Padilla, the American who allegedly schemed to set off a radioactive bomb, was arrested in Chicago in May 2002 after arriving from Switzerland. In the preceding weeks, Padilla placed four calls to the same phone number for Mohammed that Ganczarski had called, according to the Swiss intelligence report.

Ganczarski was born in Gleiwitz, Poland. His family moved to Germany when he was 9. He dropped out of school and found work as a metallurgist in the Ruhr Valley. It was on the shop floor that a fellow immigrant, a North African, introduced him to the Koran, officials say.

"Ever since his youth, it appears he was greatly preoccupied with questions of faith," said a senior French law enforcement official.

His radicalization accelerated when he met a Saudi cleric visiting European mosques in search of Western-born acolytes. In 1992, Ganczarski received a scholarship to attend an Islamic university in Medina, Saudi Arabia, the senior official said.

Ganczarski spent three frustrating years in Medina. He took special courses to overcome his lack of schooling, but failed to enter the university, the senior official said. Yet his zeal did not seem to waver.

He traveled to Afghanistan in 1998 -- the first of four sojourns -- trained at an Al Qaeda camp and saw combat there and in Russia's breakaway republic of Chechnya, officials say.

Ganczarski met Osama bin Laden and other Al Qaeda leaders, who entrusted him with handling computers and communications, the senior official said. Bin

Laden saw converts as "an especially potent weapon," the official said.

Returning from Afghanistan after the Sept. 11 attacks, Ganczarski persisted in trying to organize plots even after the Tunisian case drew attention to him, officials say.

An alleged accomplice from Duisburg has told French interrogators that Ganczarski began preparations for an attack on the U.S. Embassy in Paris. Karim Mehdi said the two explored a technique developed by Mohammed in Afghanistan. It involved packing model planes with 3 or 4 kilos of explosives and diving them into a building by remote control, according to the senior French official.

"They got as far as acquiring material," the official said. "They did a lot of research on planes in Germany. You can pilot these planes from a mile away. The embassy is a double target -- you hit the French and Americans in one blow."

U.S. officials declined to comment, citing a policy of not discussing threats to embassies.

Mehdi also admitted scouting targets for a planned car bombing at tourist sites on Reunion island, a French territory in the Indian Ocean, officials say. Mehdi said Ganczarski was an "organizer and the financier" of the plot, according to French Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy, who described the German as "a high-ranking member of Al Qaeda."

Ganczarski found refuge for a time in Saudi Arabia, where he took his family last November. But after this year's terrorist attacks on expatriate compounds in Riyadh put pressure on the Saudis, they expelled him to France. Under tough anti-terrorism laws, Judge Jean-Louis Bruguiere has accused Ganczarski in the Djerba attack based on his alleged ties to the plotters, and has at least two years to bring him to trial. Authorities are also interested in the fact that Ganczarski had phone numbers for two imprisoned members of the Hamburg cell that planned the Sept. 11 attacks.

Ganczarski's alleged access to the inner circle is not surprising. Al Qaeda has embraced true believers regardless of ethnicity. Just as many converts marry Muslim women, some terrorism suspects of Arab origin have European wives, who often equal them in ideological ferocity.

"The Ganczarskis, the Roberts, they show that the radicalization is here, not just in the Middle East," said Roy, the French scholar. If Al Qaeda's urbanized, globalized jihad continues to attract angry Europeans, the network could gain a "second wind," he said.

Robert, 31, could be a case in point. Like Ganczarski, the Frenchman represents a breed of blue-collar convert -- neither jailhouse recruit nor university radical.

He grew up in the French hamlet of Chambles. His studies ended at Anne Frank

Middle School in Andrezieux, the industrial town just down the hill where his father worked at a glass factory. The teenager made Turkish friends doing spot jobs in textile plants and playing in the Turkish soccer league, which was popular with French and immigrant youths because it used the best field in town.

The Turks of Andrezieux, who describe themselves as moderate Muslims, remember Robert as a silent kid crouching off by himself in the mosque. Like many converts, he had struggled with "drinking, stupid things" and yearned for discipline and purpose, said Tekeli, 35, a veteran union activist.

"In Europe you have everything you need: work, health benefits, family," he said. "Yet something is missing. People find it in religion. And Islam is the religion that is growing. The French young people are more open than their parents."

Robert's stunned father called his change of faith "a betrayal," Tekeli said. But when Robert turned 18 and decided to study Islam in Turkey, his parents paid for the trip. Robert traveled to Konya, a center of tourism and religion that is a magnet for European converts.

When Robert returned to France in 1992, the French intelligence official said, he complained that Turkey was "too secular."

He went to Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Afghanistan, where in the mid-1990s he trained at a camp run by Al Qaeda, according to French and Spanish investigators.

He also married a Moroccan woman and began wandering between Europe and Morocco. They came to Chambles for an extended stay about seven years ago, living at his parents' house before renting apartments around the nearby city of St. Etienne, a fading landscape of shuttered arms factories and abandoned coal mines.

Robert had acquired a beard, traditional Islamic garb and the name Yacub. During visits in 1999 and 2000 to an Islamic bookstore in St. Etienne, he impressed the manager with his Arabic and his religious knowledge.

"He knew more than me," said the manager, Ahmed Abdelouadoud.

Robert's aggressive ideas caused conflict even at fundamentalist mosques, the intelligence official said. He became an itinerant late-night preacher in housing projects, Tekeli said.

He also got involved in the used-car racket in which Islamic extremists are active, buying cars in Europe for resale in Morocco. In 1998, he was jailed in Belgium on suspicion of auto theft.

That was nothing compared with his clandestine activity in Tangier, the Moroccan smuggling haven where Robert, by then a father of two, spent most of his time the last two years. He was convicted Thursday of recruiting several

dozen young men for terrorist cells he set up in Tangier and Fez.

Robert's Al Qaeda credentials crossed cultural borders: The group made him its "emir." He led weapons training sessions in forests and deserts, according to the court's verdict.

Then came the May 16 suicide bombings that killed 45 people in Casablanca, the worst attack ever in Morocco, a kingdom that prides itself on its relative tolerance. Police rounded up hundreds of extremists, catching Robert in a forest at the wheel of a pickup truck with fake Dutch plates.

Authorities charged that he served as a leader of a network that had planned a coming wave of attacks on tourist and commercial targets. After initially confessing, Robert denied it all and said he had been tortured because police needed a foreign fall guy.

"I am the victim of a frame-up by the security services," he said in a statement relayed by his lawyer.

Robert also testified during his trial that he had worked as an informant for French intelligence, a claim French officials denied.

Investigators say Robert was part of a strategy of "training the trainers" -- a model of how an increasingly decentralized Al Qaeda will function. The network exported terrorism to Morocco through a handful of recruiters who quickly whipped locals into killing shape, officials say.

Robert also wanted to bring his war home to France, police say. He and Abdulaziz Benayich, a die-hard holy warrior with longtime ties to European terrorist cells, schemed about using a bazooka or rocket-propelled grenade on targets including a giant refinery and a plutonium shipment near Lyon, about an hour from Robert's hometown, investigators say.

When Spanish police captured Benayich in June in Algeciras, across the strait of Gibraltar from Morocco, he had shaved off his body hair -- as is done in a purification ritual that precedes suicide attacks.

"He was preparing for an attack," a Spanish police commander said. "Benayich is very dangerous."

Although some French officials feel Robert's threat has been exaggerated, he narrowly avoided the death penalty that was requested by prosecutors.

His old friends have watched the news reports. Robert looked exhausted in court, a pale figure surrounded by guards. He had shaved his beard. One day he wore the red and yellow jersey of Galatasaray, a Turkish soccer team.

At that moment, the "blue-eyed emir" resembled the 17-year-old his friends remember: crouched over the handlebars on his way to town, praying to Allah, gathering speed.

###

Appendix 4: Tablighi Jamaat convert and Saudi agent of influence claims to have converted thousands of U.S. troops

Global News Wire  
Inquires may be directed to NTIS, U.S. Dept of Commerce  
World News Connection

August 3, 2003

#### JAMAICAN-BORN CANADIAN INTERVIEWED ON ISLAMIC MISSIONARY WORK AMONG US TROOPS

Interview with Dr. Bilal Philips, a Jamaican-born Canadian, by Mahmud Khalil in Dubai; date not given

(Khalil) How did you convert to Islam and when did that take place? (Philips) That was in 1972, four years after converting to communism in Canada out my belief in the establishment of justice and equality, only to discover that it was a mere verbal slogan that communism bragged about. During my search for a philosophy, through which I could apply justice and equality in words and deeds, I had the opportunity to learn about Islam. I traveled to London to study this religion under a missionary group (jama'at al-tabligh) for three months. But, I did not benefit much during that trip, as the group did not concentrate on the Islamic shari'a sciences. I returned to Canada and sought to obtain a scholarship in the land of the cradle of Islam.

I was admitted into the Faculty of Islamic Call (Al-Da'wah) in Medina for six years, during which I spent two years learning the Arabic language.

During this period, I attended lectures by Shaykh Nasir-al-Din al-Bani, Ibn-Baz, Abu-Bakr al-Jaza'iri, and Hammadi al-Ansari. I then obtain the M.A. in the creed from King Sa'ud University in Riyadh. At the same time, I worked as teacher of Islamic education in "Manart al-Riyad" schools. (Khalil) How did you switch from teaching to preaching Islam to the US Forces stationed in Al-Khubar? (Philips) The idea came from Ali al-Shammari who had a strong urge to convert US soldiers into Islam. But, he did not speak English well. So he sought my help in Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Bahrain. Since that date, I began giving religious lectures to US soldiers on Islam.

(Khalil) Was the matter confined to giving religious lectures, or did it go beyond that to persuading US soldiers to convert to Islam. And, when precisely did you begin your call and how long did it last? (Philips) I can say that we began our campaign to convert US soldiers to Islam after the end of the war in Kuwait and the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces. The campaign lasted five and a half months

during which we formed a special team, which spoke fluent English. We set up a big camp in the US military barrack in Al-Khubar for this purpose called: "Saudi Camp for Cultural Information." (Khalil) Were you doing that with the official permission of the Saudi authorities and the US Forces Command? (Philips) No, but a considerable number of US officers and men asked us to deliver such lectures. So I can say that the US Army welcomed our work.

(Khalil) Why, in your opinion, did some US officers welcomed giving such lectures on Islam to their soldiers? (Philips) I believe it was to divert their soldiers' attention from other issues, as Saudi Arabia lacked entertainment places for these. The Christian missionaries accompanying the US forces tried, before the conversion of 11 US soldiers, to shut down the camp and stop the lectures we gave to the soldiers. In the meantime, the camp acquired the name of "conversion to Islam camp," especially since the number of soldiers who converted to Islam daily were about 15 to 20. This is in addition to the fact that many US soldiers bought copies of the Holy Koran in the English language.

(Khalil) Who were the members of the team that helped you in your work? (Philips) It was a special team whose members spoke fluent English. I recall that we expanded our work at the time to the point of operating for 24 hours. We obtained an apartment in the barrack and divided the team into groups working on rotation.

(Khalil) What were the means and methods used to persuade US soldiers to convert to Islam? (Philips) At first we prepared the soldiers mentally. A member of the team with experience in broadcasting and American psychology undertook that job. He called in 200-250 soldiers. Once he prepared them psychologically, I began giving the lectures and opened the floor for discussion on different issues. In my answers to their questions, I often linked the topics to the call for conversion to Islam.

(Khalil) Wer

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**2. Will call for a government investigation of all US prison chaplains who were approved by Abdurahman Alamoudi.**

**Background:**

- **Allegedly, the US Government allowed Abdurahman Alamoudi, then head of the American Muslim Council, to also approve Muslim chaplains to serve in prisons managed by the U.S. Federal Bureau of Prisons. In 2004, Alamoudi was sentenced to 23 years in jail on terrorism charges. The chaplains that were approved by Alamoudi have not been re-vetted since his sentencing. While there may be nothing wrong with the Muslims chaplains that he approved, it seems logical that our Government would re-check the chaplains who were approved by a convicted terrorist.**

# Warith Deen Umar: "Be prepared to kill"

January 10, 2004

Warith Deen Umar gave a speech in January of 2004. Umar is formerly the Chaplain for the State of New York Department of Corrections. Investors Business Daily reported in a 2007 editorial that " Warith-Deen Umar was caught preaching to inmates -- mostly black converts like himself -- that 9/11 was a miracle of faith and that the hijackers should be celebrated as martyrs."

In 2006, Umar pled guilty to a gun charge and was sentenced to a year of home detention. This charge arose out of an incident in which, according to the Government's Sentencing Memorandum:

*Umar got into a dispute with one of his tenants (the "Victim") at 756 Union Avenue, Bronx, New York. During this altercation, Umar retrieved a shotgun, pointed it at the Victim, and said, in sum and substance, that he was going to kill the Victim. These actions ended the confrontation when the Victim fled. When the police arrived on the scene, an officer questioned Umar about the dispute. Umar reported that he had weapons in the home and showed the officer the weapons, which were kept in the closet. Umar also indicated that he had no permit for the shotgun.*

The same memorandum noted the following:

*According to published news reports, in 2003, Umar was quoted in the Wall Street Journal as praising the 9/11 hijackers, stating, among other things, that "even Muslims who say they are against terrorism secretly admire and applaud" the hijackers. As a result of his statements, Umar was banned from the state prison system, where he had continued to visit inmates after his retirement.*

...

*Finally, in 2005, prior to Umar's arrest, Umar was once again engaged in incendiary speech during periodic Friday sermons he gave at a mosque in the Bronx. During these speeches, Umar frequently preached about jihad, describing it as fighting and killing...that's the real jihad. Umar discussed his banishment from the prisons, and talked about his next step as "jihad." Umar railed about the Iraq war, describing how "brothers" in Iraq were killing "pigs" (American soldiers). Finally, Umar stated that he does not want to die of old age, but as a martyr, and advocates fighting if you can, or if you're older, to give money to the brothers who are fighting. These are merely a few examples of the kind of actions Umar advocates to his followers.*

The sentence might have been more had not the presiding judge granted Umar leniency in consideration of his personal achievements.

Here is the transcript of a portion of Umar's 2004 speech.

## Transcript:

**Umar:** *We want this government to go back to your leaders and tell them, boss, we gonna have to accept Islam sooner or later so lets learn the [Shahada, or declaration of faith] Illa ha Illa la... Because if we don't we are going to lose everything. [People in the audience scream "Takbir! Allah u Akhbar!]* And

*they are going to lose everything, why?*

*What is my [word unclear] Quran, Allah promised us success, he promised us victory, he promised us victory but he also promised us that there will be some loss. So we should be prepared for the loss. We should be prepared to lose some people, we gonna lose some people, be prepared. Sisters, be prepared to stay at home some time, you may not be able to go to the Masjid. you might not even be able to go out in [word unclear]. OK? Be prepared mentally*

*Brothers, be prepared to fight, be prepared to die, be prepared to kill. It's a part of the deen, and this ain't your brother just saying this, this is history, this is Quran, nobody can deny it. and we need to let the enemies know.*

Original item available at: <http://www.investigativeproject.org/article/351>

# Warith Deen Umar on Terror

January 10, 2004

Warith Deen Umar gave a speech in January of 2004. Umar is formerly the Chaplain for the State of New York Department of Corrections. Investors Business Daily reported in a 2007 editorial that " Warith-Deen Umar was caught preaching to inmates -- mostly black converts like himself -- that 9/11 was a miracle of faith and that the hijackers should be celebrated as martyrs."

In 2006, Umar pled guilty to a gun charge and was sentenced to a year of home detention. This charge arose out of an incident in which, according to the Government's Sentencing Memorandum:

*Umar got into a dispute with one of his tenants (the "Victim") at 756 Union Avenue, Bronx, New York. During this altercation, Umar retrieved a shotgun, pointed it at the Victim, and said, in sum and substance, that he was going to kill the Victim. These actions ended the confrontation when the Victim fled. When the police arrived on the scene, an officer questioned Umar about the dispute. Umar reported that he had weapons in the home and showed the officer the weapons, which were kept in the closet. Umar also indicated that he had no permit for the shotgun.*

The same memorandum noted the following:

*According to published news reports, in 2003, Umar was quoted in the Wall Street Journal as praising the 9/11 hijackers, stating, among other things, that "even Muslims who say they are against terrorism secretly admire and applaud" the hijackers. As a result of his statements, Umar was banned from the state prison system, where he had continued to visit inmates after his retirement.*

...

*Finally, in 2005, prior to Umar's arrest, Umar was once again engaged in incendiary speech during periodic Friday sermons he gave at a mosque in the Bronx. During these speeches, Umar frequently preached about jihad, describing it as fighting and killing...that's the real jihad. Umar discussed his banishment from the prisons, and talked about his next step as "jihad." Umar railed about the Iraq war, describing how "brothers" in Iraq were killing "pigs" (American soldiers). Finally, Umar stated that he does not want to die of old age, but as a martyr, and advocates fighting if you can, or if you're older, to give money to the brothers who are fighting. These are merely a few examples of the kind of actions Umar advocates to his followers.*

The sentence might have been more had not the presiding judge granted Umar leniency in consideration of his personal achievements.

Here is the transcript of a portion of Umar's 2004 speech.

## Transcript:

**Umar:** "Rise up and fight. And fight them until turmoil is no more and strike terror into their hearts." You think there is no terror in Quran? It's called [word unclear] read it in the 56<sup>th</sup> surah of the Quran.

*There's no lack of translation, there's no mistranslation There's not one Sheikh says one thing, no, it's very clear. "When you fight, you strike terror into the heart of the disbeliever."*

*There was a time they came to Rasool Allah when and he had a vision and he said he looked into the future and he said in the future, the kuffar [unbeliever] will not be afraid of the Muslims and the brother said, "Ya Rasool Allah, is it because our numbers will be very small?"*

*He said "Our numbers will be tremendous, It will be because of the Wahn."*

*He said, "What is the Wahn?"*

*He said, "The Wahn was the weakness is the fear of death and the love of the material things in the dunya."*

*Now we came to that stage very recently, the kuffar, this was the period that was prophecy, the kuffar was not afraid of the Muslims up until a few days ago now they frightened to death. Green alert, red alert, orange alert. The Muslims are praying. They getting on our planes, they may shoot us down. They scared to death. Alhamdulillah. When I see it I say [unclear] Let's chatter. 'We heard some chatter, listen man get the army out here, we heard some chatter!' [Audience: laughter]*

*We are doing what we are supposed to be doing. If the FBI is here, they usually are.*

*There's going to be a time when you can't come in here, we are going to catch you and we are going to cut (pauses) the label off your lapel. You thought I was gonna say something else [Audience: laughter] we may do that also.*

*But we gonna cut that label off and we gonna expose you and we gonna expose the imams and the organizations that bring them to their knees and that is how we are going to be successful in dividing the community into those that want to follow this deen according to Allah and his Messenger and those who want to work with the enemy.*

*And those who want to work with the enemy, let me put some fear in your heart. We are going to catch you and put a tire around you, and you know what we do after that, I don't have to say it.*

Original item available at: <http://www.investigativeproject.org/article/350>

# Top Jail Imam in Hate Tirade

by Niles Lathem  
*The New York Post*  
March 9, 2006

WASHINGTON - The head of Islamic chaplains in the New York City Department of Correction said in a recent speech that the "greatest terrorists in the world occupy the White House," Jews control the media, and Muslims are being tortured in Manhattan jails.

The outlandish remarks were made by one of the city's most prominent Islamic leaders, Imam Umar Abdul-Jalil, the executive director of ministerial services for the city Department of Correction. **He spoke at a conference of Islamic leaders in Tucson, Ariz., and was secretly recorded by the counterterrorism organization The Investigative Project.**

The recordings capture Abdul-Jalil - speaking at two separate symposiums on Islam in America held by the Muslim Students Association on April 15 and 16 last year - making incendiary charges and espousing extremist views.

Abdul-Jalil, 56, who is also imam of the Masjid Sabur mosque in Harlem, initially denied making the comments - but later admitted to The Post that the tape was most likely accurate and said his words are being "taken out of context."

At one conference session, Abdul-Jalil charged that Muslims jailed after the 9/11 attacks were being tortured in Manhattan, according to the tape.

"They [some Muslim inmates] are not charged with anything, they are not entitled to any rights, they are interrogated. Some of them are literally tortured and we found this in the Metropolitan Correctional Facility in Manhattan. But they literally are torturing people," Abdul-Jalil said.

Abdul-Jalil also accused the Bush administration of being terrorists, according to the tape.

"We have terrorists defining who a terrorist is, but because they have the weight of legitimacy, they get away with it . . . We know that the greatest terrorists in the world occupy the White House, without a doubt," he said.

At another session, Abdul-Jalil urged American Muslims to stop allowing "the Zionists of the media to dictate what Islam is to us" and said Muslims must be "compassionate with each other" and "hard against the kufr [unbeliever]."

Abdul-Jalil, a Bronx resident who said he converted to Islam while at Attica prison in 1970, participated in interfaith reconciliation efforts after 9/11. He recently took part in an educational ceremony with Gov. Pataki on Martin Luther King Day.

**"His comments betray an effort to instill hatred of the United States as the enemy of Islam by making a series of false allegations portraying the U.S. as an evil country," said anti-terror expert Steve Emerson, director of The Investigative Project.**

**"This is a man who is supposed to be spreading words of reconciliation and moderation as head**

**Islamic chaplain - not inciting followers to believe that the U.S. government and 'Zionists' are plotting a conspiracy of persecution against Muslims," Emerson added.**

In two telephone interviews with The Post while ministering to inmates of Rikers Island yesterday, Abdul-Jalil insisted that he was not promoting extremism.

He said he was "offended, as an African-American, that someone would have the audacity to question my citizenship" and love of his country.

Abdul-Jalil is the latest Muslim chaplain working for city and state agencies to come under fire.

Last year, the city Fire Department forced Imam Intikab Habib to resign as chaplain for publicly doubting that al Qaeda hijackers brought down the World Trade Center towers and suggesting there was a broader "conspiracy."

Three years ago, Pataki fired Imam Warith Deen Umar, the former chief Muslim chaplain for the state prison system, after it was reported he was expressing support for the 9/11 terrorists.

Original item available at: <http://www.investigativeproject.org/article/124>

# Mayor's Decision To Suspend, Not Fire Imam Is Criticized by Some

by Jill Gardiner  
*The New York Sun*  
March 15, 2006

Mayor Bloomberg's decision to suspend instead of firing the city jail system's top chaplain was criticized yesterday by some as a watered down punishment that relied more on technicality than substance.

Surrounded by a group of clergy members, the mayor announced that Imam Umar Abdul-Jalil would be suspended for two weeks without pay after saying, among other things, that "the greatest terrorists in the world occupy the White House."

The mayor made it clear that the punishment was not doled out for what the imam said but for failing to qualify his comments, which were part of two speeches delivered last year, by saying that he was talking as a private citizen, not a city employee.

In a fervent freedom of speech argument, Mr. Bloomberg said the imam had every right to state his mind, even if what he said offended people.

"Just because somebody criticizes the government or makes comments that are construed as offensive does not mean that that person is an agent of violence or an enemy of the United States," Mr. Bloomberg said.

The announcement comes nearly a week after Mr. Bloomberg launched an investigation into the imam's comments, which also included a line about not allowing "the Zionists of the media to dictate what Islam is to us." Mr. Bloomberg said there is no indication that Abdul-Jalil, who is paid \$76,602 a year and oversees 40 other chaplains, has used his position to encourage inmates to act out with violence.

Council Member Simcha Felder said he was "confused" by the decision. He said that while he had not seen the speeches and did not have an opinion about whether the statements were appropriate, the city has the right to judge non-civil service members such as Abdul-Jalil, who serve at the behest of their bosses.

**Mr. Felder said he has heard positive things about Abdul-Jalil from rabbis, but does not buy the rationale that those in the imam's position can say whatever they want. The head of the Investigative Project, Steven Emerson, who released the imam's speech last week, said the case should have raised questions about militant Islamic recruitment in the prison system.**

**"The issue is not about freedom of speech," he said during a telephone interview. "I don't think anyone disagrees that Jalil has the right to make these comments. The question is does he have the right to make them in his capacity as the head correctional chaplain?"**

The imam's lawyer, Norman Siegel, a civil rights attorney, said the city went too far with its punishment and that it was clear Abdul-Jalil was speaking on his own behalf. He also did not rule out the possibility that he would challenge the punishment and said the imam was sorry that his statements were "taken out

of context."

The mayor's actions did have some supporters. The executive vice president of the New York Board of Rabbis, Joseph Potasnik, said he was troubled by comments in the speech, but was behind the decision not to fire him. He was on hand yesterday for the mayor's City Hall announcement.

Other said they thought mayor recognized that he did not have the legal footing to fire the imam.

The head of the New York region of the Anti-Defamation League, Joel Levy, said he supported the mayor.

He said it seemed like the mayor struggled with the decision, but that he probably determined he could not legally dismiss the imam. He also said he would hold out hope for an apology from the imam.

Original item available at: <http://www.investigativeproject.org/article/147>

# N.Y. Muslim Police Chaplain: White House = Terrorists

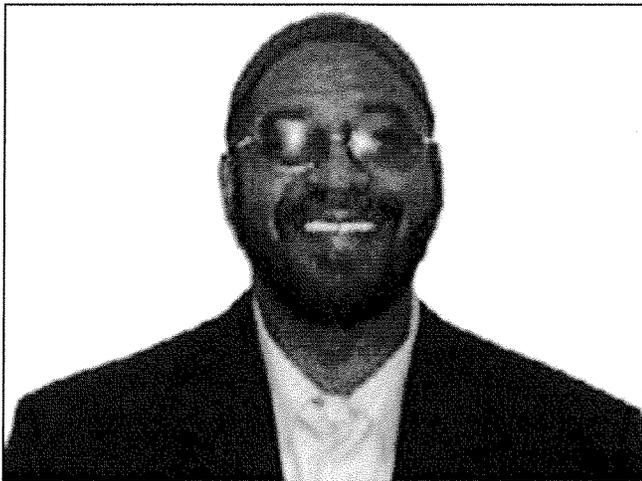
April 15, 2005

Imam Abdul Jalil, a chaplain in New York's Prison System, spoke at a Muslim Students Association Conference in Tucson, Arizona in April 2005, stating that the greatest terrorists in the world occupy the White House.

## Transcript:

*Jalil: We have terrorists defining who the terrorist is, but because they have the weight of legitimacy they get away with it. We know that and I don't want to become too political on this, I want to be focused. We know that the greatest terrorists in the world occupy the White House, without a doubt. That is a fact, it depends upon how you define it or who is defining or controlling the dialogue.*

Click here to see IPT Executive Director Steven Emerson speaking about Jalil's comments on MSNBC's *Scarborough Country*.



Imam Abdul Jalil

Original item available at:  
<http://www.investigativeproject.org/article/241>

**3. Will call for the Government Accounting Office (GAO) to investigate the selection process of Arabic translators in the FBI and DoD.**

**Background:**

- **It has come to Representative Myrick's attention that the FBI, desperate for new hires, is currently recruiting candidates through pro-jihad publications, organizations and conferences connected to the radical Muslim Brotherhood.**

**CONGRESSMAN FRANK PALLONE, JR.**  
*Sixth District of New Jersey*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
October 20, 2003

CONTACT:  
Andrew Souvall (202) 225-4671

**PALLONE EXPRESSES OUTRAGE OVER FBI DENIAL  
OF EMPLOYMENT TO OVER 90**

**ARAB-SPEAKING SEPHARDIC JEWS**

Washington, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) today called on the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate reports that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) denied applications for linguist positions from over 90 Arabic-speaking Sephardic Jews and called on U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft to require the FBI to reconsider the applications. Pallone made the request in a letter to the Attorney General today.

"I find it outrageous that, despite a shortage of Arabic-speaking translators, none of the 90 plus Jewish applicants met FBI qualifications," the New Jersey congressman wrote. "It is my worry that the FBI denied their employment solely because of their religion. If this is the fact, I find this most disturbing."

Arabic translation is a critical component of anti-terrorism investigations and it has been widely reported that the FBI faces a backlog of untranslated Arabic documents and recorded conversations. In October of 2001, the FBI's New York office approached Sephardic Bikur Holim, a New York based social services charity that works with Arab Jews, to submit applications for Arabic linguist positions in the FBI. Sephardic Bikur Holim subsequently submitted over 90 applicants, however not one was ultimately hired by the FBI.

"Given the critical nature of this type of work and the high demand for this specific and rare skill, this kind of discrimination cannot be tolerated," Pallone wrote. "The need for vigilance and heightened security in the face of the terrorist attacks our nation has experienced is a necessity. However, we must remain equally concerned that these applicants receive equal consideration for employment, without discrimination based solely on their religion."

The FBI faces difficulty recruiting fluent American-born translators, because the Arabic language is rarely studied in American colleges, but since 2001 has started hiring translators born in the Middle East. Many of the Sephardic applicants possessed extensive translation experience, including Arabic translation work for Israeli radio and TV news stations, as well as the Israeli Army. Also, because many of the applicants were born or lived in Arab speaking countries, they have extensive knowledge of the nuances and colloquialisms in the Arabic language that a non-native speaker may miss.

"This is not just a matter of discrimination, it's a matter of national security," Pallone said. "These untranslated documents could hold the key to information about future terrorist plots against the United States and here we have over 90 people who are willing to help translate

them."

Text of the letter follows.

October 20, 2003

Honorable John Ashcroft

Attorney General

United States Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Room 1145

Washington, DC 20530

Fax: 202-307-2825

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

It is with great concern that I am writing today regarding reports the FBI turned down applications for linguist positions in the FBI from nearly 100 Arabic-speaking Jews.

In October of 2001, the FBI's New York office approached Sephardic Bikur Holim, a New York based charity that works with Arab Jews, to submit applications for Arabic linguist positions in the FBI. Sephardic Bikur Holim subsequently submitted over 90 applicants, however not one was ultimately hired by the FBI.

Arabic translation is a critical component of anti-terrorism investigations and it has been widely reported that the FBI faces a backlog of untranslated Arabic documents and recorded conversations. I find it outrageous that, despite a shortage of Arabic-speaking translators, none of the 90 plus Jewish applicants met FBI qualifications.

Many of these applicants possessed extensive translation experience, including Arabic translation work for Israeli radio and TV news stations, as well as the Israeli Army. Also, because many of the applicants were born or lived in Arab speaking countries, they have extensive knowledge of the nuances and colloquialisms in the Arabic language that a non-native speaker may miss.

While I have not personally reviewed the applications of the 90 Jewish candidates, I find it very hard to believe that none of them met the necessary qualifications to be offered a position. It is my worry that the FBI denied their employment solely because of their religion. If this is the fact, I find this most disturbing. Given the critical nature of this type of work and the high demand for this specific and rare skill, this kind of discrimination cannot be tolerated.

I respectfully request that you ask the FBI to immediately reconsider the applications submitted by Sephardic Bikur Holim. The need for vigilance and heightened security in the face

of the terrorist attacks our nation has experienced is a necessity. However, we must remain equally concerned that these applicants receive equal consideration for employment, without discrimination based solely on their religion.

I ask that you please keep me abreast of the review process for these applicants. I look forward to your immediate and timely response to this request.

Sincerely,

FRANK PALLONE, JR.

Member of Congress

CC. Robert Mueller, Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Pasquale J. Damuro, Assistant Director in Charge

New York City Field Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation

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**WorldNetDaily™**

Monday, April 14, 2008

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**HOMELAND INSECURITY**

## FBI chokes on backlog of untranslated Arabic

Reams of key material pile up as bureau  
faces shortage of linguists, loyalty issues

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Posted: August 11, 2003  
1:00 am Eastern

By Paul Sperry

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WorldNetDaily.com

WASHINGTON – A shortage of Arabic translators is not only hurting intelligence-gathering efforts in Iraq, where troops are hunting Saddam Hussein and armed resisters, but also at home, where FBI agents are trying to ferret out al-Qaida terrorist cells before Osama bin Laden can activate them for another attack here.

Al-Qaida has trained up to 120,000 terrorists around the world, and some of them are inside the U.S., according to the recently declassified 9-11 report.

The bureau is having a hard time recruiting fluent American-born translators, because the Arabic language is rarely studied in American colleges, FBI officials say. So it's having to hire translators born in the Middle East, who require longer background checks.

"It's very problematic," said FBI spokesman Ed Cogswell, although he says the bureau has made recent strides in recruiting.

The shortage has caused a backlog of untranslated Arabic materials collected from electronic surveillances of suspected Islamic terrorists conducted in the U.S., and from interrogations of suspected terrorists conducted abroad, mostly at prisoner camps in Afghanistan and Cuba. The backlog also includes reams of documents in Arabic and other tongues recovered in Afghanistan and other countries.

According to the General Accounting Office, the lack of home-grown qualified linguists has resulted in thousands of hours of tape-recordings and pages of documents that have not been translated or studied – though Cogswell says the backlog recently has been reduced.

It's also created loyalty issues.

Former FBI counterterrorism agents warn that the shortage may be leading to inaccuracies in wiretap information obtained through federal courts under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, or FISA.

Donald Lavey, who worked in counterterrorism for 20 years at the FBI, said wiretap translations by Mideast-born agents should have a "second opinion," because their backgrounds may "prejudice" their interpretation and analysis.

"We are at war, and we need more than one translator for each subject under electronic surveillance," he said. "We are relying too heavily on single Arab translators for significant information, and worse yet, investigative guidance."

He says translators will often leave out large sections of conversation in surveillance logs, because they deem it irrelevant to the investigation.

"It's noted as 'personal' or 'family' information with a comment by the translator that there is no substantive investigative information. It is viewed as immaterial to the case," Lavey said.

"But this is often inaccurate," he added. "Very easily, and too often, something like, 'I am picking up my brother at the station,' is overlooked and never made note of, but it may be very significant."

Cogswell responded that case supervisors "try to vet [logs] through two people, if they can."

Lavey recalls a problem with a former Arab translator in the FBI's Detroit office who tried to back out of secretly recording a fellow Muslim suspected of terrorism by claiming the subject had threatened his life.

"I know of one case where a translator claimed to have heard the subject speaking about him and making threats against him," Lavey said. "Three other translators listened and did not hear any of that information."

He also cites the more recent case of Gamal Abdel-Hafiz, an immigrant Muslim, who twice refused on religious grounds to tape-record Muslim terrorist suspects, hindering investigations of a bin Laden family-financed bank in New Jersey and Florida professor Sami Al-Arian, recently indicted for his ties to the Palestinian Islamic Jihad terrorist group.

A fellow FBI agent, Robert Wright, said Abdel-Hafiz finally explained to him that "a Muslim does not record another Muslim," after first claiming he feared for his life. Other agents said he contacted Arab subjects under investigation without disclosing the contacts to the agents running the cases.

Despite his divided loyalties, the FBI subsequently promoted Abdel-Hafiz by assigning him to the U.S. Embassy in Saudi Arabia, a critical post for intelligence-gathering. Three-fourths of the Sept. 11 hijackers were Saudis. After Wright and another agent blew the whistle in the media, he was put on administrative leave.

Then there's the case of Jan Dickerson, a Turkish translator hired by the FBI last November.

In screening her for a clearance, the FBI missed her ties to a Turkish organization under investigation by the FBI's own counter-intelligence unit, according to a CBS News report. The bureau even let her translate the tapes of conversations with a Turkish intelligence officer stationed in Washington who was the target of the probe.

A co-worker who reviewed Dickerson's translations told CBS News that she left out information crucial to the investigation, such as discussion of methods to obtain U.S. military and intelligence secrets. She

had marked it as "not important to be translated."

Dickerson recently left the FBI and now lives overseas.

Lavey argues for stricter background checks on translators from the Middle East.

"Care needs to be taken at this point in time as to their religious background and political views," he said.

Cogswell confirmed that most of the Arabic translators the bureau hires are from the Middle East.

He told WorldNetDaily that they nonetheless aren't scrubbed any more than other agents.

"They go through the same background check as everyone else – full field background investigations," Cogswell said, though he says their checks take "a little longer" because investigators have to travel to their home countries to ask questions.

Lavey and other agents worry that the religious bonds of Muslim agents may trump their oath to protect and serve America.

In a moment of candor, Ihsan Bagby, a black convert to Islam who has taught at American universities, revealed what many skeptics say is the true sentiment of devout Muslims in America.

"Ultimately we can never be full citizens of this country," he said, "because there is no way we can be fully committed to the institutions and ideologies of this country."

Muslim group leaders here in Washington are on record saying they hope the U.S. Constitution will one day be replaced by Koranic law.

Yet the FBI has assigned some of its Muslim agents to educate other agents about Islam.

At the FBI's New York field office, just blocks from Ground Zero, a Muslim agent from Pakistan has been lecturing agents about Islamic customs as part of a bureau-wide Muslim sensitivity-training program ordered by FBI Director Robert Mueller.

### **1980s backlog**

Lavey says that at some FBI field offices, wiretap conversations of Arab terrorist suspects recorded as far back as the '80s have only "very recently" been translated into English. He notes that key discussions by plotters of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing were caught on tape months before the attack, but weren't translated from Arabic to English until well after the bombing.

That any backlog still exists two years after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks is outrageous, he says.

"The bureau can no longer tolerate that situation in a war," Lavey said.

Cogswell, while not excusing the backlog, explains that the FBI does not have a large pool from which to recruit translators to clear the backlog. He fairly notes that the Arabic language is a difficult and demanding one to learn, and few Americans are fluent in it.

But Lavey says the FBI was advised years ago to send more agents to learn Arabic at the bureau's language school. It was also told to lengthen the course.

"It was pointed out to headquarters that agents leaving language school after one intensive year of Arabic were ill-prepared to use the language effectively , and that, at a minimum, another half year was needed to learn a dialect conversationally," he said. "This information was ignored."

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BACK

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## Lost In Translation

Aug. 8, 2004

(CBS) This is the story of hundreds, if not thousands, of foreign language documents that the FBI neglected to translate before and after the Sept. 11 attacks -- documents that detailed what the FBI heard on wiretaps and learned during interrogations of suspected terrorists.

Sibel Edmonds, a translator who worked at the FBI's language division, says the documents weren't translated because the division was riddled with incompetence and corruption.

Edmonds was fired after reporting her concerns to FBI officials. She told her story behind closed doors to investigators in Congress and to the Justice Department. Most recently, she spoke with the commission investigating the Sept. 11 attacks.

She first told **Correspondent Ed Bradley** her story a year after Sept. 11.

Because she is fluent in Turkish and other Middle Eastern languages, Edmonds, a Turkish-American, was hired by the FBI soon after Sept. 11 and given top-secret security clearance to translate some of the reams of documents seized by FBI agents who have been rounding up suspected terrorists across the United States and abroad.

Edmonds says that to her amazement, from the day she started the job, she was told repeatedly by one of her supervisors that there was no urgency, - that she should take longer to translate documents so that the department would appear overworked and understaffed. That way, it would receive a larger budget for the next year.

"We were told by our supervisors that this was the great opportunity for asking for increased budget and asking for more translators," says Edmonds. "And in order to do that, don't do the work and let the documents pile up so we can show it and say that we need more translators and expand the department."

Edmonds says that the supervisor, in an effort to slow her down, went so far as to erase completed translations from her FBI computer after she'd left work for the day.

"The next day, I would come to work, turn on my computer, and the work would be gone. The translation would be gone," she says. "Then I had to start all over again and retranslate the same document. And I went to my supervisor and he said, 'Consider it a lesson and don't talk about it to anybody else and don't mention it.'

"The lesson was don't work, and don't do the translations. ...Don't do the work because -- and this is our chance to increase the number of people here in this department."

Edmonds put her concerns about the FBI's language department in writing to her immediate superiors and to a top official at the FBI. For months, she said she received no response. Then, she turned for help to the Justice Department's inspector general and to Sen. Charles Grassley, whose committee, the Judiciary Committee, has direct oversight of the FBI.

"She's credible," says Grassley. "And the reason I feel she's very credible is because people within the FBI have corroborated a lot of her story."

The FBI has conceded that some people in the language department are unable to adequately speak English or the language they're supposed to be translating. Kevin Taskasen was assigned to Guantanamo Bay in Cuba to translate interrogations of Turkish-speaking al Qaeda members who had been captured after Sept. 11. The FBI admits that he was not fully qualified to do the job.

"He neither passed the English nor the Turkish side of the language proficiency test," says Edmonds.

Critical shortages of experienced Middle Eastern language translators have plagued the FBI and the rest of the U.S. intelligence community for years.

Months before the first World Trade Center bombing in 1993, one of the plotters of the attack was heard on tape having a discussion in Arabic that no one at the time knew was about how to make explosives - and he had a manual that no one at the time knew was about how to blow up buildings. None of it was translated until well after the bombing, and while the FBI has hired more translators since then, officials concede that problems in the language division have hampered the country's efforts to battle terrorism.

According to congressional investigators, this may have played a role in the inability to prevent the Sept. 11 attacks. The General Accounting Office reported that the FBI had expressed concern over the thousands of hours of audiotapes and pages

of written material that have not been reviewed or translated because of a lack of qualified linguists.

"If they got word today that within, in a little while, the Hoover Dam was going to be blown up, and it takes a week or two to get it translated, as was one of the problems in this department, you know, you couldn't intervene to prevent that from happening," says Grassley.

In its rush to hire more foreign language translators after Sept. 11, the FBI admits it has had difficulty performing background checks to detect translators who may have loyalties to other governments, which could pose a threat to U.S. national security.

Take the case of Jan Dickerson, a Turkish translator who worked with Edmonds. The FBI has admitted that when Dickerson was hired, the bureau didn't know that she had worked for a Turkish organization being investigated by the FBI's own counter-intelligence unit.

They also didn't know she'd had a relationship with a Turkish intelligence officer stationed in Washington who was the target of that investigation. According to Edmonds, Dickerson tried to recruit her into that organization, and insisted that Dickerson be the only one to translate the FBI's wiretaps of that Turkish official.

"She got very angry, and later she threatened me and my family's life," says Edmonds, when she decided not to go along with the plan. "She said, 'Why would you want to place your life and your family's life in danger by translating these tapes?'"

Edmonds says that when she reviewed Dickerson's translations of those tapes, she found that Dickerson had left out information crucial to the FBI's investigation - information that Edmonds says would have revealed that the Turkish intelligence officer had spies working for him inside the U.S. State Department and at the Pentagon.

"We came across at least 17, 18 translations, communications that were extremely important for the ongoing investigations of these individuals," says Edmonds. "She had marked it as 'not important to be translated.'"

What kind of information did she leave out of her translation?

"Activities to obtain the United States military and intelligence secrets," says Edmonds.

She says she complained repeatedly to her bosses about what she'd found on the wiretaps and about Dickerson's conduct, but that nobody at the FBI wanted to hear about it, not even the assistant special agent in charge.

"He said 'Do you realize what you are saying here in your allegations? Are you telling me that our security people are not doing their jobs? Is that what you're telling me? If you insist on this investigation, I'll make sure in no time it will turn around and become an investigation about you,'" says Edmonds.

Sibel Edmonds was fired. The FBI offered no explanation, saying in the letter only that her contract was terminated completely for the government's convenience.

But three months later, the FBI conceded that on at least two occasions, Dickerson had, in fact, left out significant information from her translations. They say it was due to a lack of experience and was not malicious.

Dickerson quit the FBI and now lives in Belgium. She declined to be interviewed, but she told The Chicago Tribune that the allegations against her are preposterous and ludicrous. Grassley says he's disturbed by what the Dickerson incident says about internal security at the FBI.

"You shouldn't have somebody in your organization that's compromising our national security by not doing the job right, whether it's lack of skills or whether it's intentional," says Grassley.

Does the Sibel Edmonds case fall into any pattern of behavior, pattern of conduct, on the part of the FBI?

"The usual pattern," says Grassley. "Let me tell you, first of all, the embarrassing information comes out, the FBI reaction is to sweep it under the rug, and then eventually they shoot the messenger."

Special agent John Roberts, recently retired as a chief of the FBI's Internal Affairs Department, agrees. And while he is not permitted to discuss the Edmonds case, for the last 10 years, he has been investigating misconduct by FBI employees. He says he is outraged by how little is ever done about it.

"I don't know of another person in the FBI who has done the internal investigations that I have and has seen what I have, and that knows what has occurred and what has been glossed over and what has, frankly, just disappeared, just vaporized, and no one disciplined for it," says Roberts.

Despite a pledge from FBI Director Robert Mueller to overhaul the culture of the FBI in light of 9/11, and encourage bureau employees to come forward to report wrongdoing, Roberts says that in the rare instances when employees are disciplined, it's usually low-level employees like Edmonds who get punished and not their bosses.

"I think the double standard of discipline will continue no matter who comes in, no matter who tries to change," says Roberts. "You, you have a certain, certain group that, that will continue to protect itself. That's just how it is."

Has he found cases since Sept. 11 where people were involved in misconduct and were not, let alone reprimanded, but were even promoted? Roberts says yes.

"That's astonishing," Bradley told Roberts. "You would think that after 9/11, that's a big slap in the face. 'This is a wake-up call here.'"

"Depends on who you are," says Roberts. "If you're in the senior executive level, it may not hurt you. You will be promoted."

Last month, the FBI took the highly unusual step of retroactively classifying information it gave to Congress two years ago about the Sibel Edmonds case.

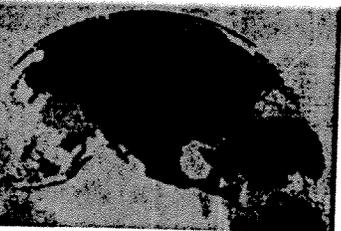
As for the FBI's language division, the bureau says it has dramatically beefed up its translation capabilities.

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# the Investigative Project on Terrorism



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## For the Record: Seriously, What is the FBI Doing?

**IPT News**  
April 7, 2008

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In February, we exposed the latest FBI (and CIA) outrage, advertising for recruits in a pro-terrorist, anti-American magazine, the *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs (WRMEA)* - (see: [Looking Under a Rock: FBI and CIA Hit New Low in Recruitment Drive](#)). Both of our top national security agencies had placed online advertisements on the webpage of a magazine that included a hagiography to a terrorist the FBI had worked almost a decade to investigate and prosecute, Palestinian Islamic Jihad operative Sami Al-Arian.

Just over a month later, it is clear that the FBI has learned nothing. The agency is advertising for recruits in the *Arab American News*, another publication with a long history of support for terrorism, terrorists and terrorist organizations. The current edition has an editorial titled, "Let our people go!" under an ad banner recruiting for the FBI (which also appears on the home page of the website), about accused Iraqi spy Muthanna al-Hanooti, which states:

Arab American political activist Muthanna al-Hanooti was arrested and jailed this week by federal officials upon arrival at Detroit Metropolitan Airport returning from a trip to the Middle East. The following day he was charged with two counts of conspiracy and three counts of lying to the FBI about working for agents with the Iraqi Intelligence Service under Saddam Hussein. (emphasis added)



The editorial goes on to state:

We see a man who worked tirelessly trying to prevent a catastrophe for his homeland and for his new country. We see a guy who, rather than pick up a gun and kill somebody to reach his political goals, chose to participate in the American political system because he believed in it. He believed justice would be served if only more people knew the real story of what was going on in Iraq.

So there you have it. The FBI is advertising for recruits in a publication which proclaims the innocence of an alleged Iraqi spy accused of lying .... to the FBI, and claims that being a paid intelligence asset of Saddam Hussein's Baathist regime is participating "in the American political system."

Understanding the FBI's need for Arabic translators and Arabic speaking agents and analysts is one thing. Seeing the agency advertise for recruits in pro-terrorist publications - including one that discounts making false statements to the FBI! - is quite another. As we stated in February when it became known that the FBI and CIA were advertising in WRMEA, Congress needs to immediately investigate these agencies' recruiting techniques.

### Related Items

- [Other items from IPT News](#)

# Looking Under a Rock: FBI and CIA Hit New Low in Recruitment Drive

by Steven Emerson  
IPT News  
February 8, 2008

In a frightening and bizarre turn, the two chief agencies tapped with safeguarding America's national security have started advertising in a publication that can only be described as objectively pro-terrorism.

The online edition of the *Washington Report for Middle East Affairs* (WRMEA), a publication linked to former Congressman Paul Findley, who once described himself as "Yasir Arafat's best friend in Congress," features recruiting advertisements seeking new agents for both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intelligence Agency.

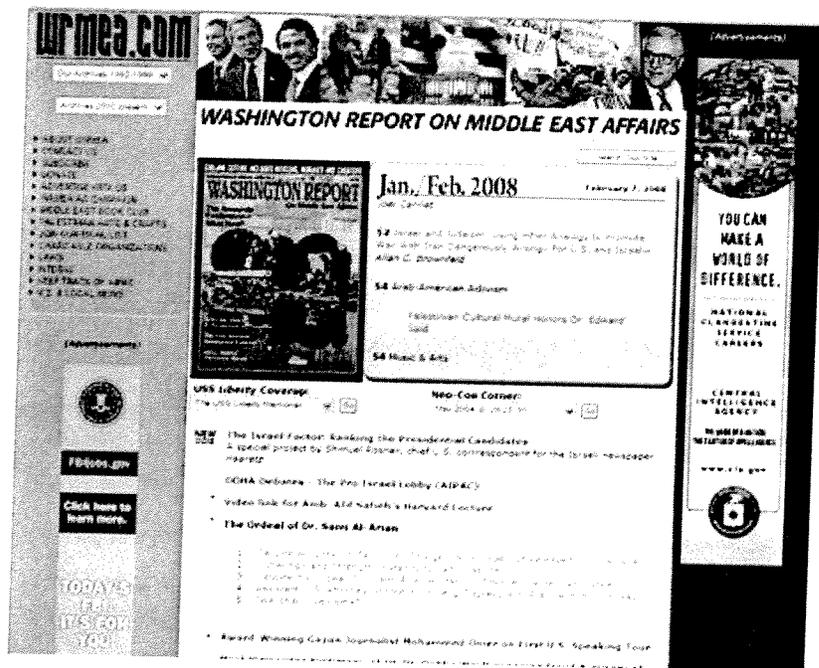
WRMEA's history of support for Hamas, other terrorist groups and individual terrorists is well known. Currently on the front page of its website, right in the center, is an homage, constituting of a collection of articles and hagiographies, to convicted Palestinian Islamic Jihad operative Sami Al-Arian. (see the ad at right)

Al-Arian was investigated by the FBI for a decade and finally brought to trial in 2005, prosecuted by the Department of Justice in Tampa. In April 2006, Al-Arian pled guilty to one count of "Conspiracy to make or receive contributions of funds, goods or services to or for the benefit of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), a Specially Designated Terrorist."

This is the same Al-Arian who once told an audience of Muslims, "**Let us damn America.** Let us damn Israel. Let us damn their allies until death. Why do we stop?" (emphasis added)

And yet, the same FBI that sought to convict him as a terrorist is now advertising for recruits on a pro-Al-Arian (and pro-terrorist in general) website. The pro Al-Arian orientation is part of a long and documented history of pro-Islamic terrorist features published by WRMEA during the past 15 years. Reviewing just about any issue of this Saudi-financed magazine would clearly determine its pro terrorist bias.

It is the same lack of judgment that led the Department of Justice to set up a recruitment booth and serve as a co-host for the annual Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) convention in September. Four months earlier, the same Justice Department designated ISNA as an unindicted co-conspirator in Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development (HLF) case as part of the Hamas-Muslim Brotherhood conspiracy in the United States. U.S. Reps. Peter Hoekstra, R-Mich., and Sue Myrick, R-NC, protested



the Justice Department's recruitment effort with ISNA in a letter to then-Attorney General Alberto Gonzales asserting that ISNA is a Jihadi organization.

The Justice Department blithely dismissed the concerns, saying other organizations did it, too. That was true. That willful blindness was evident in the fact that, in 2006, the Department of Defense dispatched Deputy Secretary Gordon England to an ISNA conference and sent another representative to the annual conference in 2007. The Department of Homeland Security was there, too, with its recruitment booth adjacent to the Hizb ut-Tahrir, a radical movement which endorses the use of violence and is devoted to establishing a global Islamic state governed by Shariah law.

After that embarrassment, the FBI placed a full-page recruiting ad in the November 2007 issue of ISNA's magazine *Islamic Horizons*. "Help us light the way to a new era of understanding," the ad reads.

Just what types of recruits are the FBI and CIA looking for? Apparently, these agencies do not learn from experience, even recent experiences. Just last November, former FBI and CIA agent Nadia Nadim Prouty was arrested and pled guilty to fraudulently obtaining American citizenship through a sham marriage, and using her illegally acquired status to attain employment with both the FBI and CIA. Prouty is the sister of Elfat Al Aouar, who is the wife of Talal Chahine – the Detroit-based restaurateur linked to Hizballah.

While it is too soon to determine where the breakdown occurred in allowing a Hizballah operative to infiltrate the FBI and the CIA, it is clear that these ads fall into the disturbing pattern where background checks of Islamic militants are not being pursued properly.

Prouty used her security clearance, in violation of the law and her job responsibilities (for which she also pled guilty), to do background searches into the FBI investigation of her sister and brother-in-law. But that hasn't stopped the FBI – or the CIA for that matter – from reaching out to a pro-terrorist crowd for its next batch of recruits. And it is Americans who will likely pay dearly for the fact that the FBI and CIA have failed to learn the obvious lesson from the Prouty case. And Prouty aside, the fact that the CIA and FBI are advertising for employment on a site that lionizes an Islamic Jihad kingpin and other terrorist groups should frighten everyone.

Congress should immediately investigate.

Original item available at: <http://www.investigativeproject.org/article/603>

**4. Will call for the Internal Revenue Service to investigate the Council on American-Islamic Relations' (CAIR) 501(c)(3) non-profit status which restricts "lobbying on behalf of a foreign government".**

**Background:**

- **CAIR's website claims, and its communications director has claimed in press releases since 9/11, that they receive no foreign government support, but CAIR's headquarters near the US Capitol were until 2005 owned by the ruler of Dubai, who put up nearly \$1 million, and the ruler's foundation recently pledged \$50 million to CAIR.**
- **CAIR also has received \$500,000 from Saudi Prince Al-Waleed bin Talal, and \$250,000 from the Saudi-based Islamic Development Bank. Records show that financial support has also been provided by the Bank of Kuwait.**

## May Liberty Prevail Worldwide

# Center for Vigilant Freedom

## CAIR-NY 501c3 and IRS - Pushing the Legal Limits on Lobbying

June 25, 2007 by Christine | [910 Group](#) | 05:48:15 | |

On June 21, [CAIR-NY](#) sent out an action alert urging members to lobby the state legislature to make EID-al-Adha and Eid-al-Fitr public holidays within the NY public school system (text below from the alert).

This is part of the ongoing Islamisation of the NY schools, a systematic push that includes creating the Khalil Gibran madrassa in the city (with the aggressive politically correct support of the New York City educational administration). Check in for updates by community organizers working against that madrassa at [Stop The Madrassa](#) center.

Not a surprise that CAIR-NY is trying to Islamify their state - except **CAIR-NY is a 501c3 organization**, and therefore EXTREMELY limited in how much lobbying it can legally pursue under IRS regulations. Where is the IRS enforcement for possible violations of 501c3 non profit status by the state CAIR organizations and other Islamist groups? And this may be only the tip of the iceberg of violations of IRS regulations forbidding grassroots lobbying by Islamist 501c3s - and even more prevalent, violations because of radical imams encouraging political advocacy and lobbying within mosques across the U.S.A. It is time for Congressional hearings to discover if there are consistent patterns of Islamist organizations flouting U.S. tax laws.

As evidence of CAIR NY 501c3 status (and some interesting info on revenues, expenses and directors) here are the IRS 990 forms for CAIR NY from 2000 - 2005:

[2000](#) [2001](#) [2002](#) [2003](#) [2004](#) [2005](#)

The CAIR Alert from June 21, 2007:

### CAIR-NY ACTION ALERT: SUPPORT EID SCHOOL HOLIDAY BILL

(NEW YORK, N.Y., 6/21/07) - The New York Chapter of the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR-NY) today urged Muslims and other people of conscience in that state to contact their respective state senators in support of the Eid School Bill (S3142).

The bill, introduced to the New York State Senate earlier this year by Senator John D. Sabini, makes Eid-al-Adha and Eid-al-Fitr official holidays in New York City public schools.

SEE: Coalition Calls for NYC Department of Education to Recognize Muslim Holidays <http://www.nycpp.org/en/press.html>

**ACTION REQUESTED:** 1) Contact your state senators.



## **CAIR loses tax status?**

**Author : United American Comm on Feb 18, 2008 - 09:58 PM**

A major victory in the fight against Jihad has apparently occurred. Somewhere in the dead of night, without any known announcement from the organization, the highly controversial Washington DC based group CAIR, the Council on American Islamic Relations has apparently lost the tax status which enabled it to conduct lobbying activities. The organization was registered for many years under the IRS tax code 501c(4) which allowed the organization to conduct lobbying activities, campaign funding, legislation and candidate backing, and many other government and litigation related activities. A 501c(4) tax status is very difficult to maintain, requiring quarterly public filings, and is very regulated under strict lobbying laws, yet is the most powerful tax status for organizations wishing to influence government. CAIR, who was under this status, had numerous members of their leadership indicted on terrorism related charges in the past, and had received large amounts of funding from questionable foreign sources. Many critics of the group often wondered how CAIR was able to hold on to such a highly critiqued tax status such as 501c(4). In contrast there is another tax status which is much weaker, and one that is very easy for most anyone to receive, and that status is 501c(3), a status which U.S. tax laws prohibit such organizations from engaging in large amounts of lobbying and government influence activities, it is a status for educational groups and churches, which is greatly restricted in the ability to influence any kind of legislation. CAIR has recently downgraded the description of their organization on their website to 501c(3). While calls to their office could not confirm the reasons, it appears that CAIR may have lost the status as of the first of this year.

Note, the current organization description on CAIR's website reads:

"CAIR is a not-for-profit organization recognized as tax-exempt under U.S. Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3)."

While [internet archives of the site](#) as of June 2007 read as follows:

"The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) is a nonprofit 501(c)(4), grassroots civil rights and advocacy group."

Chalk one up for the good guys.

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[Israpundit has more details](#)

No word yet on how or why this all happened, but I think the numerous members and leaders who've been convicted of terrorism in the US might have something to do with it.

Posted by Infidelesto under [Islam revealed](#)

## Related Posts

- [CAIR urges Muslims to claim racism before it even happens....](#)
- [Feeding the Enemy Within: CAIR Gets 50 mil From Saudi Prince](#)
- [NY Times investigating CAIR](#)
- [Video: CAIR admits " Hamas not a terrorist organization"](#)



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