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CAVEAT

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MEDIA REPORTING SUMMARY

Weekly Summary 3 October – 7 October 2011

This media reporting summary (MRS) covers incidents and threats as reported in electronic and print media. The correctness of the reporting contained in this document has not been verified. Many incidents and threats have not been reported in the media, and this report should not be cited as a complete list of incidents and threats.

KEY POINTS: 3 October 2011

Nil to Report

KEY POINTS: 4 October 2011

- **Indonesia:** Indonesia has arrested Beni Asri, one of its four most wanted terror suspects over two suicide bombings.
- **Yemen:** Anwar al-Aulaqi has been killed along with several other suspected al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula operatives including media coordinator Samir Khan.
- **Kenya/Somalia:** A French woman has been kidnapped by an armed gang on Kenya's northern resort island of Manda and taken to Somalia.

KEY POINTS: 5 October 2011

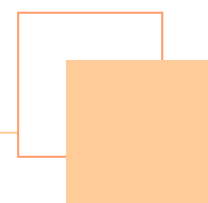
- **Africa:** Islamist militants detonated a truck bomb in front of the education ministry in Mogadishu, killing at least 70 people and wounding dozens.

KEY POINTS: 6 October 2011

- **Subcontinent and Central Asia:** A group of insurgents has been arrested on charges of plotting to assassinate Afghan President Hamid Karzai, according to the Afghan intelligence agency.

KEY POINTS: 7 October 2011

- **Border Security/Immigration:** ABC reports two Melbourne men have been charged with people smuggling as a result of an investigation by the Australian Federal Police's People Smuggling Strike Team.
- **Subcontinent and Central Asia:** Agence France-Presse reports NATO forces say they have killed another senior member of the al-Qa'ida-linked Haqqani network in an air strike near the Pakistani border.



SECURITY THREATS TO AUSTRALIAN INTERESTS

Nil.

AUSTRALIAN SECURITY

Australian agencies policy/perspectives on the security environment

AFGHANISTAN/PAKISTAN • (6 October: *Australian Associated Press*) Defence Minister Stephen Smith said the alleged plot to assassinate Afghan President Hamid Karzai is indicative of a new tactic being used by terrorists. The Minister called on Pakistan to redouble its efforts to combat extremism. The Afghan Interior Ministry says it has arrested six people allegedly involved in a plot to assassinate President Karzai.

Border Security/Immigration

AUSTRALIA • (6 October: *ABC*) Two Melbourne men have been charged with people smuggling as a result of an investigation by the Australian Federal Police's People Smuggling Strike Team. Lamis Hamd Sami Alli-Baighi and another man are alleged to have been part of an international syndicate that helped dozens of people come to Australia illegally. Alli-Baighi's case has been adjourned until February while the other man will appear in court on 7 October.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND TERRORISM

Indonesia

- (30 September: *The Straits Times*) Indonesia plans to have a special prison facility for terrorists after rehabilitation programmes showed up weaknesses in the present system, which has lax supervision of terrorists. They are housed together with the other inmates, some of whom end up being indoctrinated with extremist beliefs. Senior prison official Bambang Sumardiono said yesterday that this and other measures were being considered to reform the prisons system in Indonesia, which has been criticised for not doing enough to stop radicalism from spreading behind bars.
- (2 October: *Agence France-Presse*) Indonesia has arrested Beni Asri, one of its four most wanted terror suspects over two suicide bombings. Asri was listed among the main suspects behind a suicide bombing of a church in Solo on 25 September and a similar attack at a police mosque in Cirebon on 15 April.
- (4 October: *Jakarta Detikcom*) Indonesian National Police (POLRI) Public Relations Division Head Inspector General Anton Bachrul Alam said police were seeking five suspects over their involvement in the 25 September suicide bombing of the Bethel Evangelical Church in Solo. Alam said that one of the suspects is Upik Lawanga alias Taufik Bulaga. In addition to the recent bombings in Solo and Cirebon, he is suspected of being involved in the Poso conflict as well as the Marriott and Ritz Carlton bombings in Jakarta in 2009.

Southeast Asia

THE PHILIPPINES

- (30 September: *The Manila Times*) The group of Ameril Umbra Kato, former commander of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) who has splintered from the group, is planning to carry out widescale terror attacks not only in Mindanao but also in Metro Manila. According to a MILF insider, Kato's Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters are in close contact with Jemaah Islamiyah leader Abdul Basit Usman, a high-profile bomber. The source said that Usman had been training young recruits on making bombs. Some of the 'graduates' had been sent on several missions to blow up targets such as vital government installations in Mindanao and Luzon. Economic hubs in Manila were said to be the priority target of the terror group.



- (2 October: *The Philippine Star*) According to a senior military official, an undetermined number of JI militants continue to enter and leave the country virtually undetected. Despite the implementation of the radar-based monitoring system Coast Watch South, jointly established by the Philippines, Australia and the US, JI militants are taking advantage of the porous border in southern Mindanao.
- (2 October: *ABS-CBN News*) An improvised explosive device (IED) was recovered by authorities inside the Office of the Regional Governor Compound in Shariff Kabunsuan. The IED was composed of two 81-millimeter mortar cartridges, a 12-volt battery used in a motorcycle, a 9-volt battery, detonating cord, an electronic circuit diagram relay and a Samsung cellular phone. Members of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team said this is the first time they have recovered a bomb that used a 12-volt battery for motorcycles.
- (3 October: *Makati City Enquirer*) Local police have confirmed the release of American Gerfa Yeatts Lunsman who was abducted in Tictabon Island in July.

THAILAND

- (2 October: *Bangkok Post*) A southern security intelligence agency has released a report warning of intensified attacks by Islamic militants in cities in the lower South. Security officers in the predominantly Muslim provinces of Narathiwat, Pattani and Yala were told to stay on high alert. According to the report, follow-up attacks to the 16 September car bombings in Narathiwat would target residential areas, markets, Buddhist communities, entertainment spots and government buildings, using motorcycles and car bombs.

THAILAND/GERMANY

- (4 October: *Hat Yai Samakhom Nangsuephim Phak Tai Haeng Prathet Thai*) Yasae Patah, the leader of the Pattani United Liberation Organisation (PULO) is reportedly dismantling the group and will close its offices in Germany. Patah has returned to Yala Province in Thailand. He said that prior to his return there had been negotiations with the Democrat-led government through the assistant of Phanu Uthairat and Suthep Thuangsuban, a former deputy prime minister in charge of security affairs.

BURMA

- (5 October: *Chiang Mai the Irrawaddy*) A bomb prematurely exploded in Kachin State on 3 October, killing the man trying to plant the explosive.

THE PHILIPPINES/AUSTRALIA/JAPAN

- (6 October: *Associated Press*) Australian and Japanese officials have expressed concern over an attack by more than 200 communist guerrillas on three mining compounds that destroyed trucks, equipment, barges and offices in the southern Philippines. The New People's Army rebels disarmed guards, briefly held company staff, and burnt company offices and heavy equipment during the attacks on 3 October on three mines run by Nickel Asia Corp and Platinum Group Metals Corp in Claver town in Surigao del Norte province.

North Asia

CHINA

- (5 October: *Want China Times*) A man caused panic among passengers on the Guangzhou Metro when he claimed to have brought a bomb into a station. The suspect, reportedly drunk at the time of the incident, was arrested for disturbing public order after police discovered that he was not carrying any explosives.

Subcontinent and Central Asia

AFGHANISTAN

- (1 October: *ABC News*) International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) has announced the capture of senior commander of the Taliban-allied Haqqani network in Afghanistan Haji Mali Khan. 'Security

forces detained Haji Mali Khan, uncle of Siraj and Badruddin Haqqani and the senior Haqqani commander in Afghanistan,' the ISAF said in a statement, adding that Khan was captured close to Afghanistan's border with Pakistan in Paktiya province.

- (5 October: *Kabul Tolonews*) A group of insurgents has been arrested on charges of plotting to assassinate President Hamid Karzai, according to the Afghan intelligence agency. A spokesman for the National Directorate of Security told a press conference that those arrested included an employee of the presidential palace, three college students and a university professor. The group was recruited by two Arab nationals based in Pakistan and were also trained there. The group had ties to al-Qa'ida, the Haqqani network and the Pakistani Inter-Services Intelligence Agency.

AFGHANISTAN/UNITED STATES

- (30 September: *Agence France Presse*) The US Treasury has imposed sanctions against a key commander in the Haqqani network (HQN). Abdul Aziz Abbasin, an Afghan native, was appointed by the Pakistan-based Haqqani group as 'the Taliban shadow governor' in Orgun district of Afghanistan, aiding the fight against NATO coalition forces in the country. US officials linked the HQN to a recent attack on the US embassy in Kabul, a truck bombing on a NATO outpost and a June attack on Kabul's InterContinental hotel. Washington is weighing designating the network as a foreign terrorist organisation.

PAKISTAN

- (30 September: *The News*) Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) warned it would carry out more attacks on law enforcers in Karachi like the one it carried out on Chaudhry Aslam, head of the anti-terrorism unit in the Crime Investigation Department. In a communique issued by the information and communication wing, the TTP accepted that fighters associated with it carried out the 19 September suicide attack on the residence of Aslam.

- (4 October: *Islamabad the News*) At least 14 people were killed and seven seriously injured after unknown gunmen on motorcycles fired automatic weapons at a vehicle in the Akhtarabad area of Quetta. The 22 people on board the passenger bus came under fire on their way to Hazar Ganji from Quetta.

INDIA

- (30 September: *Hindustan Times*) The railway police in Haridwar received a letter purportedly sent by Pakistan-based terror group Lashkar-e-Tayyiba threatening to attack top government functionaries and vital installations in Uttarakhand during the festival season. The letter was received by the office of the Haridwar Railway superintendent, which has previously received similar letters.

Middle East

YEMEN

- (30 September: *AAP*) The Yemeni government released an official statement confirming that Anwar al-Aulaqi has been killed along with several other suspected al-Qa'ida operatives. The government announced that al-Aulaqi had been targeted and killed eight kilometres from the town of Khashef in the province of al-Jawf. US President Obama confirmed al-Aulaqi's death from a US airstrike. Separately, *Yemen TV* carried the Yemeni authorities' claim that US national, Samir Khan, was killed alongside al-Aulaqi. According to media reports, Al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula's bomb maker Ibrahim al-Asiri was also killed in the same drone attack; however that claim has been disputed by Yemeni authorities.

SYRIA

- (2 October: *Damascus Sana*) Five law-enforcement members were killed and eight were wounded after they were shot by an armed group in Kafar Nabboudeh Town in al-Ghab area.

- (2 October: *Damascus Sana*) A wanted criminal was killed by his own bomb while he was carrying it on a motorbike to its target location in Daraa. Ahmad Khaled al-Oqab had already planted two bombs in the village before he was killed.

Europe and Russia

GERMANY

- (2 October: *AFP*) On 1 October German authorities arrested four alleged Islamists in Cologne on suspicion of illegally obtaining weapons two days ahead of a ceremony in Bonn to mark Germany's reunification. Police said no weapons or other dangerous objects were found and one of the suspects was released. A spokesman for the Federal Prosecutions Office said there was no evidence that the accused had links to terrorist groups or that there were concrete preparations for an attack. The four were later released from custody.

UNITED KINGDOM

- (1 October: *News24*) On 30 September, an explosive device was discovered in a heavily populated area of Belfast. Army bomb disposal experts carried out a controlled explosion.

IRELAND

- (3 October: *Raidio Teilifis Eireann*) A team from the Army Bomb Disposal Unit dismantled a viable explosive device discovered outside a house in Tallaght in Dublin. The device was moved to a military location for further analysis with the remains then being handed over to police for their investigations.

The Americas

UNITED STATES

- (29 September: *WTVR*) Police bomb squad destroyed a suspicious package outside Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) field office in Richmond, Virginia. The FBI was investigating the package's contents and it said it was a credible threat.

Africa (sub-Saharan)

KENYA/SOMALIA/FRANCE

- (1 October: *BBC*) A French woman has been kidnapped by an armed gang on Kenya's northern resort island of Manda and taken to Somalia. The disabled woman, 66, was attacked at her bungalow at Ras Kitau. Kenya's government said it believed the abductors were al-Shabaab militants. A Kenyan statement said some abductors were injured in a shootout with two Kenyan ships trying to stop them.

SOMALIA

- (4 October: *AP*) Islamist militants detonated a truck bomb in front of the education ministry in Mogadishu, killing at least 70 people and wounding dozens including students and parents awaiting the results of scholarships. The bomb blew up after the truck came to a halt at a security checkpoint.

Security/terrorism-related trials and investigations

UNITED KINGDOM

- (30 September: *AFP*) A seventh man has been charged with terror offences following an operation in Birmingham. Mujahid Hussain will appear in court in London charged with entering into a funding arrangement for the purposes of terrorism, and having information about terrorism between July and September.

UNITED STATES

- (3 October: *Associated Press*) A Massachusetts man, Rezwon Ferdaus has pleaded not guilty to plotting to fly explosives-packed remote-controlled model planes into the Pentagon and US Capitol.

Ferdaus was arrested after undercover federal agents delivered materials he allegedly requested. They allege those include grenades, machine guns and what he believed was 11 kilograms of explosives.

UNITED KINGDOM/IRAQ

- (4 October: *London Times*) Iraqi citizen Alaa' Nassif Jassim Al-Bazzouni has won a High Court victory in London that will prohibit the involvement of UK personnel in the hooding of terrorist suspects. Whilst British troops and intelligence officers are already banned from hooding prisoners, they have been allowed to question prisoners hooded by other states' intelligence services for security reasons.

Espionage and other security matters

UNITED KINGDOM/RUSSIA

- (29 September: *The Guardian*) A former head of MI5, Sir Stephen Lander, will hear secret court proceedings to decide whether Katia Zatuliveter, a Russian alleged to have been recruited as a spy, should be deported. MI5 alleges that Zatuliveter, arrested at the end of 2010 when she was working for Mike Hancock, Liberal Democrat MP for Portsmouth South and a member of the Commons defence committee, was recruited by agents of the Russian intelligence service in Britain.

CHINA/RUSSIA

- (5 October: *Moscow Ekho*) A Chinese man, Tung Shenyun (phonetic), detained in Russia in October 2010, accused of attempted spying for the Chinese Ministry of State Security will be tried in Moscow. Investigators maintain that Tung used the job of interpreter for official delegations as a cover and tried to purchase secret technology and repair documentation relating the S-300 surface-to-air missile system from Russian citizens.

SOUTH KOREA

- (6 October: *AFP*) A North Korean agent has been charged with trying to assassinate an outspoken anti-Pyongyang activist in Seoul with a poison-tipped needle, South Korean prosecutors said.

Cyber security

AUSTRIA

- (3 October: *BBC*) AnonAustria, an Austrian computer hacking group, has published the names and addresses of nearly 25 000 police officials, raising fears for officers' personal security. AnonAustria said it was protesting a draft law which would require telecommunications companies to store details of all telephone and internet traffic for six months and make them available to the police.

INDONESIA

- (4 October: OSC) The Indonesian Government appears to be taking steps to counter the spread of online radical Islamic propaganda following the 25 September bombing of a church in Solo, Central Java. On 29 September, the news portal *VIVAnews* carried an announcement by Minister of Communications and Information that 300 radical Islamic sites have been blocked for violations of 2008 Information and Electronic Transactions Law including inciting hatred on the basis of religious differences. At least three Islamic websites known to carry radical propaganda – arrahmah.com, muslimdaily.net, and voa-islam.com – remain accessible.

Islamic extremist statements

YEMEN

- (29 September: *Nigerian Compass*) After rejecting a peace package from the Federal Government, Boko Haram, is intensifying its bombing campaign. It has offered to give the families of volunteer suicide bombers N10 million if the bombing is successful.

