



FIRE LINE

INTELLIGENCE FOR FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMS



8 February 2017

(U//FOUO) Terrorists Call for Attacks on Hospitals, Healthcare Facilities

(U//FOUO) Recent calls over the past year for attacks on hospitals in the West by media outlets sympathetic to the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) highlight terrorists' perception of hospitals as viable targets for attack. Targeting hospitals and healthcare facilities is consistent with ISIS's tactics in Iraq and Syria, its previous calls for attacks on hospitals in the West, and the group's calls for attacks in the West using "all available means." While we have not seen any specific, credible threat against hospitals and healthcare facilities in the United States, we remain concerned that calls for such attacks may resonate with some violent extremists and lone offenders in the Homeland because of their likely perceived vulnerabilities and value as targets.*

- » (U//FOUO) The pro-ISIS Nashir Media Foundation released a series of messages on 29 December 2016 encouraging lone offenders in the West to conduct attacks on hospitals, cinemas, and malls.² In early June 2016, ISIS called for a "month of calamity," encouraging followers in Europe and the United States to attack schools and hospitals in an audio message released via Twitter.³ Additionally, in its January 2016 issue of *Rumiyah* magazine, ISIS provided tactical guidance and encouraged lone offenders to conduct arson attacks on hospitals.⁴
- » (U) ISIS, through its Amaq news agency in November 2016, took credit for an attack on a hospital in Quetta, Pakistan that resulted in at least 74 deaths and 100 injuries.^{5,6,7} Aid organizations and coalition governments have alleged since early 2015 that ISIS has systematically targeted hospitals, healthcare facilities, patients, and healthcare workers in Iraq and Syria, resulting in hundreds of deaths and injuries and reducing the overall capacity of healthcare delivery infrastructure.⁸⁻¹²



(U) Casualties evacuating Pakistan hospital after an attack claimed by ISIS.¹

(U) Possible Indicators of the Targeting of Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities

(U//FOUO) Some of these activities may be constitutionally protected, and any determination of possible illicit intent should be supported by additional facts justifying reasonable suspicion. These activities are general in nature and any one may be insignificant on its own, but when observed in combination with other suspicious behaviors—particularly advocacy of violence—they may constitute a basis for reporting.

- » (U//FOUO) Consumption and sharing of media glorifying violent extremist acts in attempting to mobilize others to violence;
- » (U//FOUO) Loitering, parking, standing, or unattended vehicles in the same area over multiple days with no reasonable explanation, particularly in concealed locations with optimal visibility of potential targets or in conjunction with multiple visits;
- » (U//FOUO) Photography or videography focused on security features, including cameras, security personnel, gates, and barriers;
- » (U//FOUO) Unusual or prolonged interest in or attempts to gain sensitive information about security measures of personnel, entry points, peak days and hours of operation, and access controls such as alarms or locks;
- » (U//FOUO) Individuals wearing bulky clothing or clothing inconsistent with the weather or season, or wearing official uniforms or being in authorized areas without official credentials;
- » (U//FOUO) Individuals presenting injuries consistent with the use of explosives or explosive material without a reasonable explanation; and
- » (U//FOUO) Unattended packages, bags, and suitcases.

(U) Possible Mitigation Strategies

- » (U//FOUO) Limit access in restricted areas and require employees to wear clearly visible identifications at all times;
- » (U//FOUO) Ensure personnel receive training and briefings on active shooter preparedness, lockdown procedures, improvised explosive device (IED) and vehicle-borne IED awareness and recognition, and suspicious activity reporting procedures; and
- » (U//FOUO) Conduct law enforcement and security officer patrols in loading, waiting, and patient triage areas, and around drop-off and pick-up points where there are large numbers of people concentrated in restricted spaces.

(U) Report Suspicious Activity

(U) To report suspicious activity, law enforcement, Fire-EMS, private security personnel, and emergency managers should follow established protocols; all other personnel should call 911 or contact local law enforcement. Suspicious activity reports (SARs) will be forwarded to the appropriate fusion center and FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force for further action. For more information on the Nationwide SAR Initiative, visit <http://nsi.ncirc.gov/resources.aspx>.

* (U//FOUO) DHS and the FBI define a **lone offender** as an individual motivated by one or more violent extremist ideologies who, operating alone, supports or engages in acts of violence in furtherance of that ideology or ideologies that may involve influence from a larger terrorist organization or a foreign actor.

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(U) Prepared by the Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A), FBI Directorate of Intelligence, and National Counterterrorism Center. Coordinated with NPPD and the Office of Health Affairs. This product is intended to assist federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, and private sector first responders in effectively deterring, preventing, preempting, or responding to terrorist attacks against the United States.

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- ¹ (U); Laura Connor; *The Daily Mirror*; "ISIS claims responsibility for Pakistan hospital bomb attack that killed at least 70 people"; 09 AUG 2016; <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/isis-claims-responsibility-pakistan-hospital-8592185>; accessed on 27 JAN 2017.
- ² (U); Julian Robinson; *Daily Mail Online*; "'We will make New Year mayhem': ISIS supporters call for lone wolf attacks in cinemas, malls and HOSPITALS as they release pictures of a knife-wielding fanatic chasing Santa Claus"; 29 DEC 2016; <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4072998/We-make-New-Year-mayhem-ISIS-supporters-call-lone-wolf-attacks-cinemas-malls-HOSPITALS-release-pictures-knife-wielding-fanatic-chasing-Santa-Claus.html>; accessed on 04 JAN 2017.
- ³ (U); Thomas Burrows; *Daily Mail Online*; "Brussels is facing a wave of terror attacks on schools and hospitals during Ramadan, say security services"; 14 JUN 2016; <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3640607/Brussels-facing-wave-terror-attacks-schools-hospitals-Ramadan-say-security-services.html>; accessed on 04 JAN 2017.
- ⁴ (U); ISIS; *Rumiyah Magazine*, Issue 5; al-Hayyat Media; 06 JAN 2017; pgs. 9-10.
- ⁵ (U); Gul Yousafzai; Reuters; "Suicide bomber kills at least 70 at Pakistan hospital, IS claims responsibility"; 08 AUG 2016; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-pakistan-blast-idUSKCN10J017>; accessed on 29 DEC 2016.
- ⁶ (U); Samuel Osborne; *The Independent*; "Where are the hashtags for the Pakistan hospital attack? Lack of response to bombing criticised on Twitter"; 09 AUG 2016; <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/pakistan-hospital-bomb-attack-isis-taliban-behind-death-toll-a7180151.html>; accessed on 29 DEC 2016.
- ⁷ (U); Salman Masood; *The New York Times*; "Suicide Bomber Kills Dozens at Pakistani Hospital in Quetta"; 08 AUG 2016; http://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/09/world/asia/quetta-pakistan-blast-hospital.html?_r=0; accessed on 04 JAN 2017.
- ⁸ (U); Roy Gutman; PBS; "In Recent Months, ISIS Targeted Hospitals, Doctors, Journalists"; 11 FEB 2014; <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/in-recent-months-isis-targeted-hospitals-doctors-journalists/>; accessed on 29 DEC 2016.
- ⁹ (U); Newsweek (Reuters); "ISIS Attacks Hospital in Dawn Raid on Syrian City"; 14 MAY 2016; <http://www.newsweek.com/isis-attacks-hospital-syrian-city-459961>; accessed on 29 DEC 2016.
- ¹⁰ (U); WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean; "WHO condemns attack on Jableh hospital in Syria"; 23 MAY 2016; <http://www.emro.who.int/media/news/who-condemns-attack-on-jableh-hospital-in-syria.html>; accessed on 30 DEC 2016; (U); World Health Organization website.
- ¹¹ (U); CBC News (Thompson Reuters); "Syria bombings claimed by ISIS kill 148 at hospital, bus station"; 23 MAY 2016; <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/syria-isis-bombings-1.3596282>; accessed on 30 DEC 2016.
- ¹² (U); Sylvia Westall, Kara O'Neill; *Mirror Online*; "ISIS suicide bomber blows himself up in crowd just moments after detonating car bomb near hospital"; 15 DEC 2015; <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/isis-suicide-bomber-blows-himself-7016256>; accessed on 30 DEC 2016.



Product Title:

All survey responses are completely anonymous. No personally identifiable information is captured unless you voluntarily offer personal or contact information in any of the comment fields. Additionally, your responses are combined with those of many others and summarized in a report to further protect your anonymity.

1. Please select partner type: and function:

2. What is the highest level of intelligence information that you receive?

3. Please complete the following sentence: "I focus most of my time on:"

4. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following:

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A
Product's overall usefulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's relevance to your mission	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's timeliness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's responsiveness to your intelligence needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. How do you plan to use this product in support of your mission? (Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drive planning and preparedness efforts, training, and/or emergency response operations | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiate a law enforcement investigation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Observe, identify, and/or disrupt threats | <input type="checkbox"/> Intiate your own regional-specific analysis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Share with partners | <input type="checkbox"/> Intiate your own topic-specific analysis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allocate resources (e.g. equipment and personnel) | <input type="checkbox"/> Develop long-term homeland security strategies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reprioritize organizational focus | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not plan to use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Author or adjust policies and guidelines | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="text"/> |

6. To further understand your response to question #5, please provide specific details about situations in which you might use this product.

7. What did this product not address that you anticipated it would?

8. To what extent do you agree with the following two statements?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
This product will enable me to make better decisions regarding this topic.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
This product provided me with intelligence information I did not find elsewhere.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9. How did you obtain this product?

10. Would you be willing to participate in a follow-up conversation about your feedback?

To help us understand more about your organization so we can better tailor future products, please provide:

Name: <input type="text"/>	Position: <input type="text"/>
Organization: <input type="text"/>	State: <input type="text"/>
Contact Number: <input type="text"/>	Email: <input type="text"/>



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