

MARITIME HOMELAND THREAT ANALYSIS DIVISION
MARITIME INTELLIGENCE ASSESSEMENT
27 July 2010 – CG-TERR-004-10

(U) **DISCUSSION**

(U) On 11 July 2010 the first version of AQAPs English-language Inspire Magazine became available on multiple extremist Web sites and forums.^A The document is 67 pages long and includes articles on bomb making, what to expect in jihad, as well as a variety of articles and interviews with prominent extremist members including Osama Bin Laden, Ayman al-Zawahiri, and Anwar al-Awlaki. Despite the variety of topics discussed, the inaugural version of the magazine makes only five references to the maritime domain that indicate knowledge of both significant maritime current events as well as the importance of strategic maritime straits in the region to the US economy.

- (U) In an interview of Shaykh Abu Basir, the head of AQAP, he references the strategic importance of the Arabian Peninsula and asks for Allah to continue to grant them “effective operations against the transgressing Americans.” Furthermore, Abu Basir stated, “Because of the greed of the Americans, they have vital interests in the Arabian Peninsula. The passage ways of commerce pass through its waters and oil is stolen from it. So this place is a vein of life for the Americans.”
- (U) A short news flash section mentions the BP oil spill in the Gulf Coast. The news flash specifically cites the financial losses incurred by BP as well as the inability to contain the leak.
- (U) The magazine makes two references to the Israeli response to the Gaza aid flotilla and the violent actions of Israeli forces aboard the vessel.
- (U) The magazine calls for Muslims to “expel the polytheists from the Arabian Peninsula, by killing all of the crusaders working in embassies or otherwise, and to declare war against the crusaders in the land of the Prophet Muhammad-peace be upon him-on the ground, sea, and air.”

(U) Although only a minimal maritime nexus exists, the release of Inspire Magazine could effectively reach a new audience and prompt homegrown extremists to conduct attacks in the United States; such attacks may potentially include maritime targets. The use of well-written English in addition to quality structure and graphic designs will likely resonate with Westerners who previously were not able to access these types of documents. Furthermore, the involvement of Anwar al-Awlaki lends credibility to the magazine as well as features an American citizen to whom new (or potentially new) recruits could relate.

(U//~~FOUO~~) In addition to reaching an expanded audience, several of the magazine’s articles suggest AQAP may “lower the bar” for attacks and increase support for acts similar to the Fort Hood shooting. The magazine urges Western Muslims to strike fear in Americans and make them question the government’s ability to provide protection.

- (U) Abu Basir advises Muslims in the West that there are many forms of attack outside the AQAP modus operandi that can be deemed a success. “A man with his knife, a man with his gun.....by burning down forests and buildings, or by running over them with your cars and trucks.”

^A (U) The magazine was first posted on 30 June 2010 by the Al-Malahim Establishment for Media Production; however, the version posted had been corrupted by a virus and subsequently removed or users were advised not to download the copy. The source of the virus is unknown.



Commandant's Intelligence Highlights

U.S. Coast Guard Intelligence Coordination Center



01 June 2010

(U) ISRAEL – FLOTILLA INCIDENT:

(U) PIR: 3.3 Geo-Strategic Developments. Coast Guard intelligence components monitor threats to US interests from governmental collapse or regional instability including effects of international naval incidents.

(U) Israeli police questioned, on 01 June, hundreds of international activists arrested aboard Turkish-backed aid ships bound for Gaza in a naval operation that left nine people dead and sparked international outcry. The UN Security Council met in an emergency session to discuss Israel's storming of the flotilla, with most members of the 15 nation body calling for a thorough investigation. "This is tantamount to banditry and piracy," Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu told the council. "It is murder conducted by a state." Most of those who died in the incident were Turks, according to a senior Israeli officer. Some 700 activists were being held in and around Israeli's port of Ashod. Israeli Internal Security Minister Yitzhak Aharonovich said most detainees would be free to go once they had undergone a process of checks and interrogations lasting about an hour. Exceptions would be those suspected of involvement in violence. They would face prosecution, the minister said (Source: Reuters, Israeli Faces Questions as it Grills Gaza Activists, 31 May 10).

Non-Responsive

Non-Responsive



(U) This brief was produced by the Intelligence Coordination Center for the Commandant and senior service executives. Questions regarding this product may be addressed to the ICC Commandant's Intelligence Plot Indications and Warning Watch at 202-372-2842 or 202-372-2387.

~~DRV FM: Multiple Sources~~
~~DECL ON: 25X1-Human~~

23 August 2010

Not-Responsive

Not-Responsive

(U) Lebanon: Ship will not Head for Gaza

PIR: 10.1 Worldwide Event Tracking (U)

(U) According to open press reporting, a ship carrying female activists and aid will no longer head to Gaza via Cyprus from Lebanon after Cyprus announced it would not allow the vessel to sail from its ports. Female activists had planned to take aid to Palestinians in Gaza aboard their vessel, the M/V MARIAM, which was due to set sail from Lebanon's northern port of Tripoli for Cyprus on 22 August. Israel has warned Gaza that it will not allow ships to reach Gaza, controlled by the militant Palestinian group Hamas since 2007. Cypriot police stated the arrival and departure of ships to or from Gaza through Cyprus ports was prohibited, prompting the Lebanese transport minister to revoke permission for the ship to sail there. Spokesperson for the MARIAM, Rima Farah, stated the trip was not canceled indefinitely, but that "it was stalled because we face a reality which imposes that." Lebanon does not authorize ships to sail directly to Gaza because it is in a formal state of war with Israel, which controls Gaza waters. Cyprus was used as a launch pad for activists to reach Gaza by sea from 2008 until mid-2009. Authorities issued a ban last year, citing the island's national interests. Under intense international pressure after its lethal seizure of the Turkish MAVI MARMARA ship in May, Israel eased its blockade on Gaza. Israel says it has the right to use "all necessary means" to bar ships from reaching Gaza.

Source Document: Reuters, 21 Aug 10, (U) Lebanon Ship will not Head for Gaza on Sunday: Organizers

Not-Responsive

Not Responsive

(U) Venezuela: Chavez Threatens to Break Relations with Colombia

PIR 3.0: High Interest Persons, Groups or Activities – Geo-Strategic Developments (U)

(U) Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez announced on 16 July that he could break relations with Colombia, immediately, after the recent accusations arriving from the government of Colombia about the alleged presence of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia and National Liberation Army guerrilla leaders in Venezuelan territory. “If they continue with their lunacy I will break relations with Colombia and that would make it harder to reestablish relations with the new government” Chavez stated. Speaking directly of President Uribe, Chavez stated “I make a call to Colombian intelligence. He is a mob leader, full of hate. We are on alert and we will not let that hateful president to fault Venezuelan sovereignty.”

Source Document: Caracas el Universal Online, 16 Jul 10

(U) Israel: Gaza Flotilla Organizer Indicates More Convoys to Gaza Land

PIR 3.0: High Interest Persons, Groups or Activities – Geo-Strategic Developments (U)

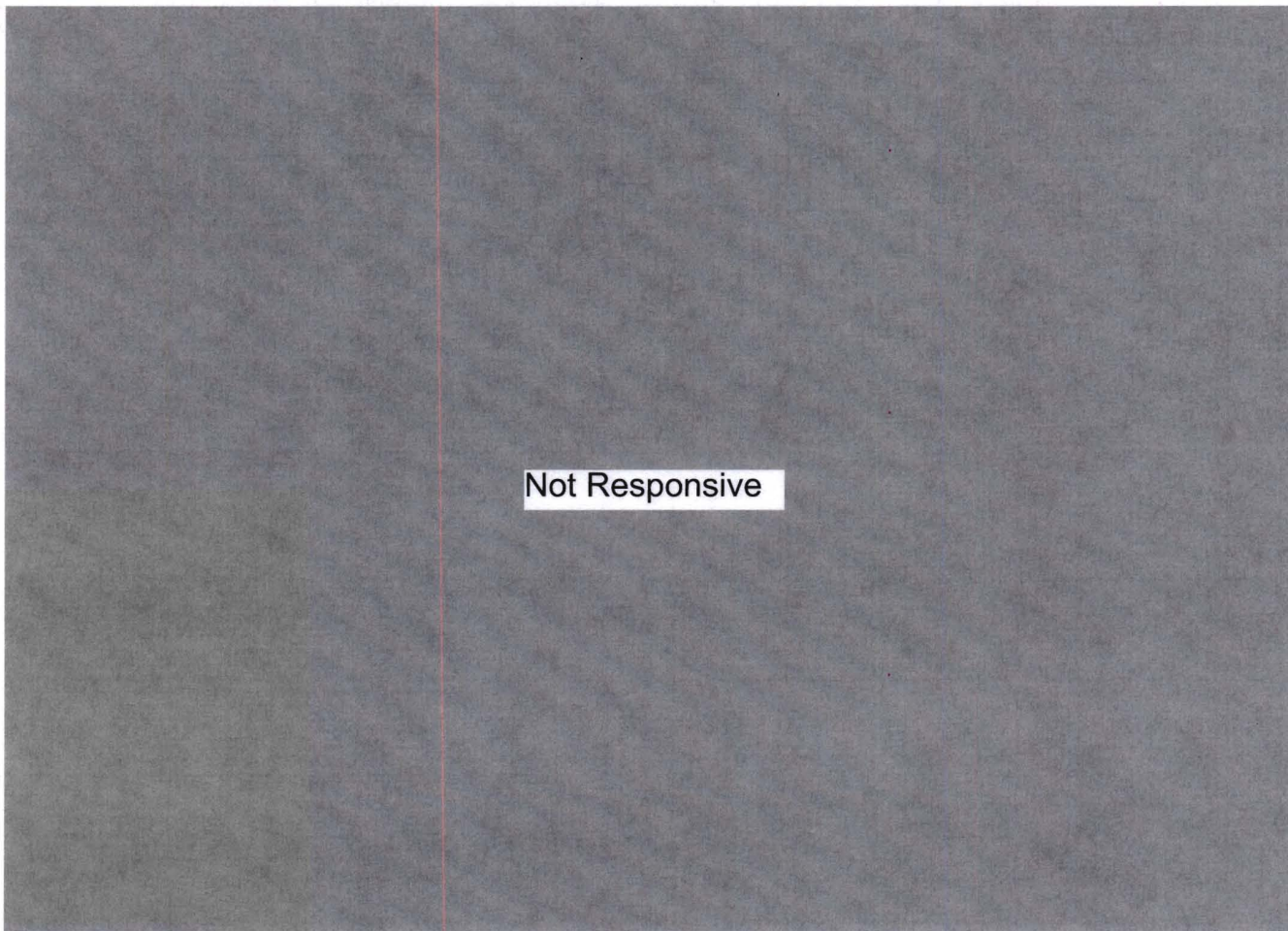
(U) The Turkish activist organization the Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH) that organized the flotilla of aid ships bound for Gaza in May 2010 announced on 16 July, that the group will continue efforts to bring supplies to Gaza, not only by sea, but “land convoys will head for Gaza” as well. IHH leader Bulent Yildirim, speaking at an Istanbul conference attended by Muslim activists and litigators, said that “more flotillas will head to Gaza in the coming months, and additional convoys by land. This, together with many more surprises that we will reveal soon.” Following the deadly raid on the Turkish ship MAVI MARMARA, Israel decided to ease the conditions off a three-year blockade on Gaza. Israel imposed the siege in 2007 after Hamas took control over the Gaza Strip. Though some restrictions have been lifted, Israel decided to maintain the naval blockade on the territory.

Source Document: Beirut al-Manar TV Online, 17 Jul 10

Not Responsive

 **UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**
INTELLIGENCE HIGHLIGHTS
INTELLIGENCE COORDINATION CENTER 23 September 2011

(U) The US Coast Guard Intelligence Highlights informs the Commandant and his staff of global events, activities, and issues. To create it, the Commandant's Intel Plot screens recent Coast Guard, other agency, and open source reports and analysis against the Commandant's Priority Intelligence Requirements (PIRs). Additionally, Coast Guard intelligence components use this feed to develop products, review other agency dissemination, and initiate requests for information. Analysis and conclusions in this product do not necessarily reflect official positions of the Coast Guard or the Department of Homeland Security. Questions concerning the content should be addressed to the appropriate supporting intelligence staff.

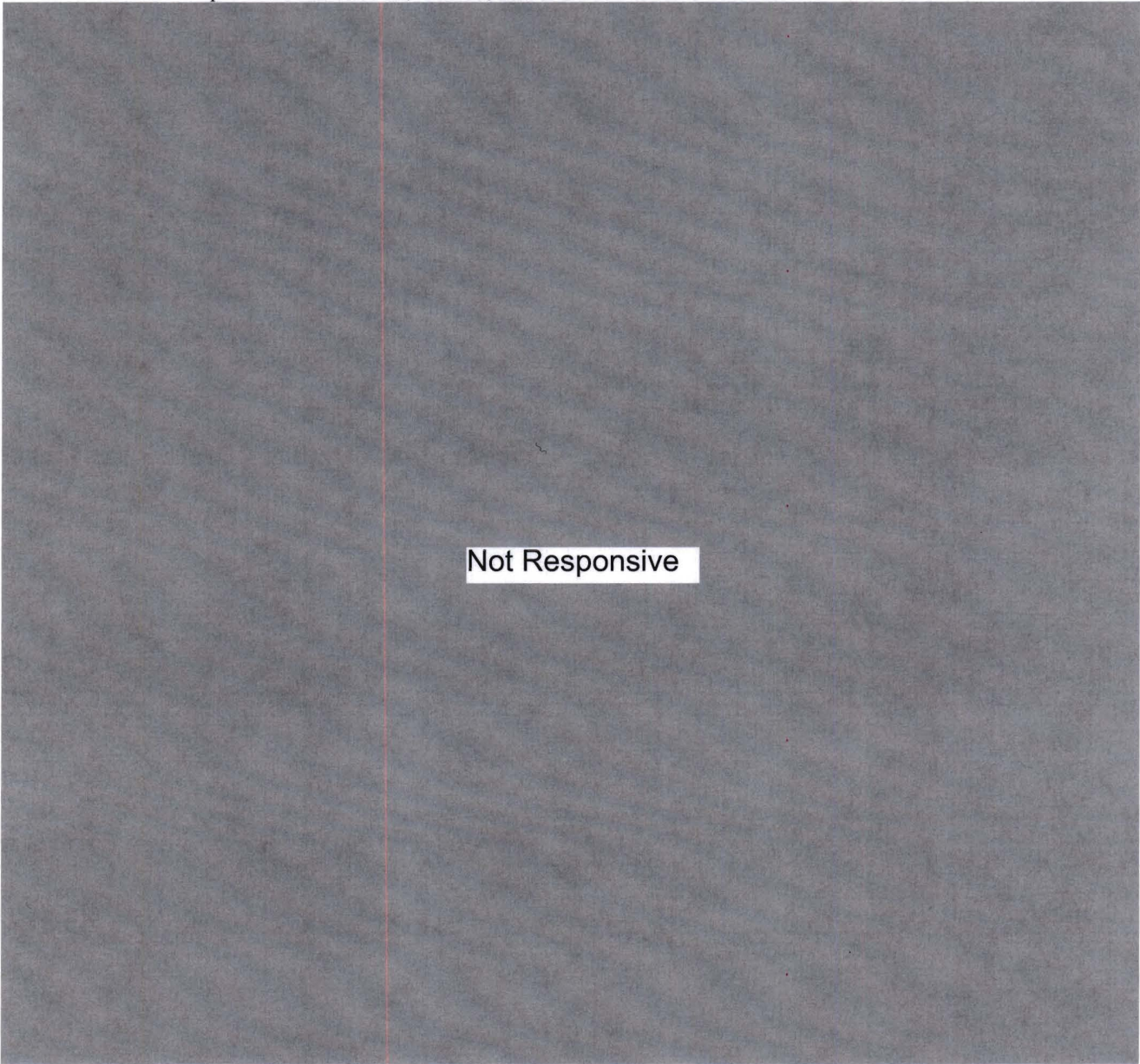


(U) Recent Turkish/Israeli tension stems back to an Israeli Special Forces raid on Gaza Freedom Flotilla participant M/V MAVI MARMARA, the lead vessel in a group six. The ship was part of the Turkish Non-Governmental Organization Humanitarian Aid Foundation (IHH) flotilla attempting to reach Gaza and allegedly deliver humanitarian supplies. The issue gained momentum again in 2011 when a leaked copy of a United Nations (UN) report on the assault was published in open press. A UN panel determined the raid was "excessive and unreasonable" but legal and stated Israeli commandos faced "organized and violent resistance from a group of

23 September 2011

passengers.” After Israel failed to comply with Turkish demands of apologizing for the incident, Turkey imposed sanctions on Israel and is now preparing to deploy three warships to the Eastern Mediterranean to defend ships carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza.

(U) The Turkish Navy’s most capable surface vessels include eight OLIVER PERRY-class frigates, four BARBAROS-class frigates, and six D’ESTIENNE D’ORVES-class corvettes. This complement of vessels combines for a respectable anti-surface, anti-air, and anti-submarine warfare force.



Not Responsive