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B1, 1.5(D)

Case Number: 200103815

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ACTION SA-01

INFO LOG-00 CIAE-00 OASY-00 DODE-00 EUR-01 FBIE-00 TEDE-00
INR-00 ADS-00 NEA-01 NSAE-00 DRL-09 /012W

-----B59D0E 290817Z /25

R 290634Z MAR 95
FM AMCONSUL KARACHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4021
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USIA WASHDC 4565
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR
USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
AMCONSUL LAHORE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: APPEALS REVIEW PANEL
APPEAL ACTION: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELEASED
REASON(S): B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
DATE/CASE ID: 21 MAR 2005 200103815

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E.O. 12356 DECL OADR

LONDON FOR TUELLER

ATTENTION HERE ON HARAKAT UL ANSAR (HUA) ACTIVITIES IN PAKISTAN. THE HUA HAS BEEN PARTICIPATING IN THE MILITANCY IN KASHMIR AT LEAST SINCE 1993 AND GAINED INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION LAST SPRING WHEN IT KIDNAPPED TWO BRITISH CITIZENS IN INDIAN-CONTROLLED KASHMIR (REFS D AND E). HOWEVER,

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
DATE/CASE ID: 04 JUN 2003 200103815

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01617 01 OF 04 PAGE 02 KARACH THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE GROUP HAS RECEIVED MUCH ATTENTION IN PAKISTAN. WHAT INFORMATION WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN SUGGESTS THAT THIS GROUP IS MADE UP OF SOME 2,000 TO 10,000 ACTIVISTS WHOSE STATED GOAL IS "PERMANENT JIHAD" IN COUNTRIES ACCUSED OF PERSECUTING MUSLIMS. ITS MEMBERS, MANY OF WHOM WERE ACTIVE IN THE AFGHAN JIHAD, COME FROM A VARIETY OF COUNTRIES, INCLUDING A HANDFUL FROM THE U.S. THEY CLAIM TO BE ACTIVE CURRENTLY IN KASHMIR, WITH SOME PRESENCE ALSO IN CHECHYNA, BOSNIA, THE PHILIPPINES, AND BURMA.

BACKGROUND

3. THIS CABLE HAS BEEN IN PREPARATION SINCE APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE SHOOTING OF TWO U.S. CONSULATE EMPLOYEES IN KARACHI ON MARCH 8 (IT WAS DELAYED IN PART BY OUR CONTINUING DIFFICULTIES WITH OUR CLASSIFIED INFORMATION HANDLING SYSTEM).

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- 4. THE VIOLENCE IN KARACHI ON FEBRUARY 5, IN WHICH 23 PERSONS WERE KILLED IN A MELEE OF SHOOTINGS AND BOMBINGS (REP A), FOCUSSED ATTENTION FOR THE FIRST TIME HERE ON AN ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS HARAKAT UL ANSAR. AMONG THE SEVERAL VIOLENT INCIDENTS ON THAT DAY WAS A DRIVE-BY SHOOTING OF A LARGE TENTED PAVILION IN CENTRAL LIAQUATABAD, AT WHICH FUNDS WERE BEING COLLECTED FOR THE SUPPORT OF, IN THE WORDS OF THE FUNDS COLLECTORS, "JIHAD IN KASHMIR." PRESS REPORTS OF THIS INCIDENT ON FEBRUARY 6 STATED THAT THIS PAVILION AND THE FUNDRAISING EFFORT HAD BEEN ORGANIZED BY HARAKAT UL ANSAR.
- 5. OUR QUERIES ABOUT THIS GROUP WITH OUR CONTACTS IN THE KARACHI BUSINESS COMMUNITY, THE PRESS, AND IN THE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES HERE REVEALED THAT VERY FEW PEOPLE HERE IN KARACHI HAD EVER HEARD OF HARAKAT ULANSAR. IN OUR SUBSEQUENT QUERIES WITH A RANGE OF CONTACTS, WE HAVE PIECED TOGETHER SOME BASIC INFORMATION ON THE ORIGIN, MEMBERSHIP, AND AIMS OF THIS GROUP IN PAKISTAN.

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THE PERMANENT MUJAHIDEEN

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ACTION SA-01

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R 290634Z MAR 95 FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4022 INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI USIA WASHDC 4566 AMCONSUL BOMBAY AMCONSUL PESHAWAR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL AMCONSUL LAHORE

S-E-C-R-E-T SECTION 02 OF 04 KARACHI 001617

LONDON FOR TUELLER

CENTCOM ALSO FOR POLAD

USIA FOR NEA - K. OBEE

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR TAGS: PGOV, PINR, KISL, PINS, PK, THE HARAKAT UL ANSAR -SUBJECT: THE PAKISTAN DIMENSION

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ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, HARAKAT UL ANSAR IS MADE UP OF FROM 2,000 TO 10,000 HARDCORE ACTIVISTS, AND MANY MORE SUPPORTERS, WHOSE OBJECTIVE IS TO WAGE "PERMANENT JIHAD" AGAINST GOVERNMENTS WHICH THEY ACCUSE OF PERSECUTING MUSLIMS. HARAKAT UL ANSAR ("MOVEMENT OF FRIENDS OR SUPPORTERS OF THE PROPHET") ORGANIZED FIVE SEPARATE TENTED PAVILIONS IN DIVERSE LOCATIONS AROUND KARACHI TO COLLECT FUNDS ON FEBRUARY 5, AND SEVERAL OBSERVERS HAVE TOLD US THAT THESE FUND-RAISING EFFORTS WERE EXTREMELY WELL-ORGANIZED AND HIGHLY EFFECTIVE IN ACCUMULATING SUBSTANTIAL THE OPENLY-STATED PURPOSE AT ALL OF THESE DONATIONS.

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LOCATIONS WAS TO SUPPORT JIHAD IN KASHMIR. THE HARAKAT REPORTEDLY ALSO ATTEMPTED TO ENROLL VOLUNTEERS WHO WERE INTERESTED IN FIGHTING IN KASHMIR, ALTHOUGH THERE IS LITTLE INFORMATION ON THE EXTENT OF THEIR SUCCESS IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

7. MANY OF THE ACTIVISTS OF HARAKAT UL ANSAR ARE REPORTEDLY VETERANS OF THE AFGHAN WAR WHO FOUGHT ALONG WITH MAULANA JALAUDDIN HAQQANI IN PAKTIA PROVINCE. A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE MEMBERSHIP IS NON-PAKISTANI, MADE UP OF AFGHAN WAR VETERANS FROM ALGERIA, TUNISIA, SUDAN, EGYPT, AND OTHER COUNTRIES, ALL OF WHOM HAVE STAYED ON AFTER CONCLUSION OF THE AFGHAN JIHAD. THREE SOURCES HAVE TOLD US THAT THE MEMBERSHIP ALSO INCLUDES A SMALL NUMBER OF AMERICAN MUSLIMS - WE'VE HEARD NUMBERS RANGING FROM SIX TO SIXTEEN - WHO ARE ADHERENTS OF A PAKISTANI PIR. ONE

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PAGE 03 KARACH 01617 02 OF 04 290637Z SOURCE NAMED A PIR WIJAHAD ALI IN RAWALPINDI AS THE PIR WITH AN AMERICAN FOLLOWING.

8. 1
Chaimed to
ISLAMABAD POLOFF THAT THE HUA MEMBERS WHO WERE COLLECTING FUNDS IN THE NAME OF "KASHMIR JIHAD" PROBABLY ARE NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH THE KASHMIR STRUGGLE. HE DOUBTED THAT THE FUNDS THEY COLLECTED WOULD EVER ACTUALLY REACH THE KASHMIRI MILITANTS. AND WOULD INSTEAD BE POCKETED. ACCORDING TO
SPONSORS THE HARAKAT AND USES THE GROUP
PRIMARILY TO GET MORE POLITICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE JUI/F. ACCORDING TO TO "CASH IN" ON THE HARAKAT, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE HUA AND THE JUI/F LACK ANY REAL POLITICAL BASE IN KASHMIR. ALSO INDICATED THAT DESPITE THE HUA'S

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SMALL NUMBERS IN KASHMIR, THEY ARE EXTREMELY WELL-TRAINED AND WELL-ARMED BECAUSE OF THEIR EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING DURING THE AFGHAN JIHAD IN THE 1980S. HOWEVER, BELIEVES THE HARAKAT'S LACK OF SUPPORT AMONG THE KASHMIRI POPULATION WILL LIMIT ITS ABILITY TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY IN INDIAN-CONTROLLED KASHMIR.

UNDERSTOOD THAT

HARAKAT UL ANSAR WAS SPONSORED BY THE JUI, AND ALSO HAD LINKS WITH THE SIPAH-E-SAHABA (SSP). HAD REFERRED TO HARAKAT AS BEING THE "FOREIGN WING" OF THE SSP, WHICH FOCUSSED ENTIRELY ON THE DOMESTIC SCENE. FROM SEVERAL SOURCES THAT HARAKAT WAS WELL-FINANCED AND HAD "SEVERAL HUNDRED" HIGHLY TRAINED OPERATIVES -BOTH PAKISTANI AND FOREIGN - AT ITS DISPOSAL.

TWINING, OPERATIONS ABROAD

 TWINING FOR HARAKAT UL ANSAR ACTIVISTS REPORTEDLY TAKES PLACE AT CAMPS LOCATED WEST OF MIRAN SHAH, NEAR THE AFGHAN BORDER, AND AT NEARBY CAMPS LOCATED JUST OVER THE BORDER IN AFGHANISTAN. ACCORDING TO SEVERAL SOURCES, TWINING IS CONDUCTED

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ACTION SA-01

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-----B5953A 290637Z /38

R 290634Z MAR 95
FM AMCONSUL KARACHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4023
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USIA WASHDC 4567
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR
USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
AMCONSUL LAHORE

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LONDON FOR TUELLER

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USIA FOR NEA - K. OBEE

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: PGOV, PINR, KISL, PINS, PK, IN

SUBJECT: THE HARAKAT UL ANSAR -

THE PAKISTAN DIMENSION

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BY FORMER AFGHAN MUJAHIDEEN, ASSOCIATED WITH MAULANA HAQQANI. TRAINING REPORTEDLY LASTS FROM 40 DAYS TO 6 MONTHS, AND INCLUDES RELIGIOUS TRAINING, PHYSICAL TRAINING, USE OF LIGHT WEAPONS, STRATEGY, AND HOW TO MAKE EXPLOSIVES AND FIREARMS. TWO SOURCES CLAIMED TO US THAT FIREARMS ARE BEING MANUFACTURED IN KASHMIR BY HARAKAT ACTIVISTS.

11.

WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

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KARACH 01617 03 OF 04 HARAKAT UL ANSAR WAS REPORTEDLY FIRST ORGANIZED IN CENTRAL PUNJAB IN THE MID-1980'S AS A MEANS TO OFFER ASSISTANCE TO MUJAHIDEEN IN AFGHANISTAN. SOURCE TOLD US THAT THE ORIGINAL HARAKAT ACTIVISTS CAME FROM A NON-POLITICAL ISLAMIC MISSIONARY ORGANIZATION, THE TABLIGHI JAMAAT (SEE REP H FOR MORE ON THIS ORGANIZATION), AND THAT ACTIVISTS STILL ATTEND THE TABLIGHI ANNUAL MEETING IN RAIWIND. ANOTHER SOURCE REFERRED TO ANNUAL HARAKAT MEETINGS THAT TAKE PLACE "NEAR LAHORE." SEVERAL SOURCES CONFIRMED THAT THE HARAKAT IS AN EXCLUSIVELY DEOBANDI SUNNI ORGANIZATION, AND THE NAME GIVEN BY TWO SOURCES. AS THE LEADER OF HARAKAT IS FAZIL UR-REHMAN KHALIL. (OTHER INFORMATION INDICATES THAT A MAULANA FAROOO KASHMIRI IS THE LEADER OF HUA. SEE REFTELS D AND G). KHALIL, WHO IS EVIDENTLY FROM PUNJAB, REPORTEDLY CAME TO KARACHI IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE FEBRUARY 5 SHOOTINGS TO OFFER CONDOLENCES TO FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS.

WHO IS SUPPORTING THEM?

SEVERAL
SOURCES HAVE CLAIMED TO US THAT HARAKAT IS ABLE TO
RAISE SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL SUPPORT THROUGH PRIVATE
DONATIONS BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF PAKISTAN. THE
FUND-RAISING EFFORT IN KARACHI ON FEBRUARY 5 WAS
HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL ACCORDING TO SEVERAL SOURCES, AND
SIMILAR EFFORTS ELSEWHERE HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN
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PAGE 04 KARACH 01617 03 OF 04 290637Z EQUALLY SUCCESSFUL. DONATIONS IN KARACHI WERE REPORTEDLY NOT LARGE, BUT CAME FROM SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF INDIVIDUALS. DONATIONS FROM OUTSIDE OF PAKISTAN HAVE, ACCORDING TO SEVERAL SOURCES, COME FROM PRIVATE SOURCES IN A VARIETY OF COUNTRIES, INCLUDING EGYPT, ALGERIA, AND SUDAN. ANOTHER REPORTEDLY HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT SOURCE OF SUPPORT IS A GROUP OF INDIAN MUSLIMS, ORIGINALLY FROM GUJARAT BUT NOW BASED IN LONDON.

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FBIE-00

TEDE-00

INR-00

ADS-00 NEA-01

NSAE-00 DRL-09

/012W

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R 290634Z MAR 95

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4024

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USIA WASHDC 4568

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

AMCONSUL LAHORE

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LONDON FOR TUELLER

CENTCOM ALSO FOR POLAD

USIA FOR NEA - K. OBEE

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR TAGS: PGOV, PINR, KISL, PINS, PK, IN

SUBJECT: THE HARAKAT UL ANSAR -

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WHAT ARE THEIR OBJECTIVES?

15. HARAKAT'S STATED OBJECTIVE IS TO WAGE JIHAD IN ANY COUNTRY IN WHICH IT BELIEVES THAT MUSLIMS ARE BEING PERSECUTED. ITS PRIMARY INTEREST AT THIS STAGE IS CLEARLY KASHMIR, AND ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, MOST OF ITS RESOURCES ARE BEING TARGETTED IN THAT DIRECTION. IT HAS REPORTEDLY PLACED ACTIVISTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL, HOWEVER; THE SPECIFIC LOCATIONS WE BEARD ARE BOSNIA, CHECHNYA, THE PHILIPPINES, AND BURMA. NONE OF OUR SOURCES GAVE ANY INDICATION THAT HARAKAT POSES ANY THREAT TO THE U.S. AT THIS STAGE, NOR THAT IT HAS ANY PLANS TO TARGET THE U.S. OR ANY U.S. INTERESTS.

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THE GLARE OF PUBLIC ATTENTION

16. PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 5, HARAKAT UL ANSAR HAD KEPT A RELATIVELY LOW PROFILE IN PAKISTAN.

INDICATED TO ISLAMABAD POLOFF

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LAMABAD POLOFF

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ON MARCH 13 THAT HARAKAT HAS PUBLICLY SOLICITED DONATIONS BEFORE IN DIFFERENT CITIES IN PAKISTAN AND THAT IT IS COMMON PRACTICE FOR ORGANIZATIONS TO COLLECT PRIVATE DONATIONS IN THE NAME OF THE KASHMIR CAUSE. THE FEBRUARY 5 DRIVE-BY SHOOTINGS, HOWEVER, HAVE INCREASED ITS PROFILE IN KARACHI.

COMMENT

17.

THIS

ORGANIZATION IS ABLE TO MOUNT A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN, AND IS PUBLICLY DECLARING ITS OBJECTIVE TO WAGE "JIHAD IN KASHMIR." WHAT IS LESS CLEAR IS HOW MUCH OF THE MONEY RAISED BY THIS GROUP IS ACTUALLY GOING TOWARD THE KASHMIR CAUSE AND WHAT OTHER ACTIVITIES THE HARAKAT MEMBERS IN PAKISTAN MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE FURTHER INFORMATION ON HARKAT UL ANSAR. END COMMENT.

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PAGE 04 KARACH 01617 04 OF 04 290637Z 18. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH EMBASSY ISLAMABAD.

KENNEDY

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