

INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING, 9:10 A.M. EST

Al-Jihad Al-Jadid

- Al-Jihad Al-Jadid (The New Jihad) is a radical al Qaeda splinter group that is small, well-funded, fanatical, and well-educated. Western intelligence agencies have been tracking this group for the past eight months.
- Two months ago, three suspected members were killed in a raid at a small laboratory in Islamabad, Pakistan. More than 50 liters of growth medium were discovered in this facility. No dangerous biological pathogens were found.
- The group has made contacts with former Soviet bioweaponers.
- Ahmed Alnami is one of the senior leaders of this group. Alnami has a Ph.D. in microbiology, and he is deemed to be fully capable of weaponizing and mass producing the variola virus that causes smallpox. He dropped out of sight of intelligence six months ago.
- This group is willing to suffer collateral casualties in Muslim populations in pursuit of Jihad.

Intelligence Cooperation

- This information is being corroborated by U.S., UK, French, and German intelligence. Cooperation among these organizations is good.
- Intelligence and law enforcement agencies from all of the countries seated at this table, working in very close cooperation, are responding to what we are convinced is a deliberate release of the smallpox virus in several European countries.