Abouhalima, Mahmud:
One of the leaders of the first World Trade Center bombing plan in 1993. Abouhalima was interviewed by Mark Jeurgensmeyer while he was doing research for his book, *Terror in the Mind of God*. Abouhalima’s main job in the plot of 1993 was to mix the chemicals that Nidal Ayyad had acquired for the bombs.

www.fbi.gov

Colby Harris

Ali, Ahmed Mohammed Hamed
Ahmed Mohammed Hamed Ali goes by several different alias. He is an Egyptian wanted by the United States government in connection with the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombing in Kenya and Tanzania. He is on the FBI’s 22 most wanted list and is said to be somewhere in Afghanistan. He has formal training in agriculture attacks which makes him especially dangerous.

http://www.fbi.gov/wanted/terrorists/terali.htm

Andrew Stubbs

Ahmed, Sheikh Sharif Sheikh
Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed is the leader of the ICU, or Islamic Court Union. The Islamic Court Union controls Mogadishu. Many countries, including the United States, are worried that with this overtaking of the government, Somalia will then harbor groups like Al-Qaeda. Ahmed disagrees with this statement wholeheartedly by explaining that the only reason he took over Mogadishu was to give citizens of Somalia power. He is currently attempting peace talks with other African countries and Libya.


Corey McKenna

Ansar al-Islam
The group name means “Supporters of Islam.” It was founded in December 2001 with a combination of Kurdish separatists and Islamic fundamentalists. It is the product of a merger between Jund al-Islam and an unnamed group led by Mullah Krekar. It is headquartered in the northern part of Iraq, the traditionally Kurdish region. Its members have traditionally targeted secular Kurds, but since the American invasion, are accused of carrying out at least 30 suicide bombing missions. It is believed that the group has fewer than 500 members. Other than suicide bombings, the group has targeted Shiite Muslims in attacks that have killed over 800 people.

http://www.tkb.org/Group.jsp?groupID=3501
http://www.cfr.org/publication/9237/

Ryon Hamilton

Atta, Mohammed
Atta will forever be known as one of the suicide pilots who brought down the World Trade Center towers on September 11, 2001. Atta is now considered to be the ring leader of the operation. Perhaps the most frightening characteristic of Atta’s terrorist attack is the extent to which he was able to blend into and penetrate our culture. Atta represents a new breed of terrorists connected with people and groups like Osama Bin Laden and al Qaeda. Atta was a well educated and seemingly well functioning part of society. That is what makes the prospect of there being many others like Atta so terrifying.

The `new' terrorists: one of the most frightening things about the new breed of terrorist is their ability to slip in and out of seemingly normal lifestyles, even to the point of becoming "the nice people next door". (Current Affairs).(Statistical Data Included). The Middle East (Dec 2001): p12(2).

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mohammed_Atta
http://www.discoverthenetwork.org/individualProfile.asp?indid=757

Derek Swindall

Atwah, Mushin Musa Matwalli
Muhsein was a long standing member of al-Qaeda who was indicted several times for connections with terrorist attacks on a U.S. embassy and also with attacking U.S. forces in Somalia. He was said to have been a major supplier to foreign terrorists. He has been reported dead as of April 12, 2006.

"Mushin Musa Matwalli Atwah."

Andrew Stubbs

Ba’ath Party
The Ba’ath Party is a secular Arab nationalist party. It is most noted for being Saddam Hussein’s party. It adopted Socialism as its economic philosophy shortly after its creation. The main political philosophy was based on the need to reestablish Arab spirit and nationalism in defiance to foreign oppression. It was founded to counter the cultural and moral deterioration that Western influences had tried to establish. The party was founded on April 7, 1947, in Damascus. Expansion beyond Syria’s borders did not occur until after the war of 1948, when the lack of Arab unity was blamed for the loss of Palestinian lands to Israel. The Ba’ath took this opportunity to expand because of discontent in the Arab world. The Iraqi branch of the party was formed in 1954, after the merger of the Ba'ath with the Arab Socialist Party in 1952. This new party was the Ba'ath Socialist Party. In February of 1963, the Ba'ath came to power in Iraq, and one month later in Syria. In 1968, there was a bloodless coup within the party and Hafez al-Assad ascended to power. Saddam Hussein was in power as the President of Iraq from 1979 until he was deposed in 2003.

http://www.iraqinews.com/party_baath_party.shtml
http://www.damascus-online.com/se/hist/baath_party.htm
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saddam_Hussein

Ryon Hamilton

Badr Organization
Before it became such a large group, the Badr Organization was originally a brigade created by the Iran government to fight Saddam Hussein’s Ba’ath regimes in Iraq. It is the armed branch of the SCIRI (Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq). Through the armed Brigade, Ayatollah Mohammed Baqir Al Hakim, the leader of the SCIRI, fulfilled one of his three main objectives in the fight against Saddam which were to create resistance cells within Iraq, to train Iraqis outside of Iraq, and to establish an armed force to fight Saddam’s army. The Badr Brigade has been suspected of involvement in death squads, trained by Jim Steele who also trained the El Salvador death squads. These suspicions have included the capture and torture of many Sunnis, as well as the assassinations of numerous ranking Baathists.

http://www.sciri.btinternet.co.uk/English/About_Us/Badr/badr.html

Jason DeKoster

Bulani, Jawad
The Iraqi Interior Minister. He is a Shi’a and one of the writers of the Iraqi Constitution. Many are calling for his resignation due to the lack of positive changes in Iraq. He recently admitted there is a huge problem of corruption in the Iraqi government. He has vowed to clean up this corruption. He is considered to be independent because he has no ties with any militias.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/5060686.stm (Article)
Casey, General George W.: (b. 1948-)
General Casey became the top allied commander in Iraq in July of 2004. His appointment was well received by both Republicans and Democrats. Casey is the son of a U.S. Army military man. He went to Georgetown University to study International Relations. Upon graduation in 1970 Casey entered the National Guard and hoped to serve in the Vietnam War. Instead he began his career at a post in Germany for the remainder of the Vietnam War. From 1981-2001 Casey held a number of posts on his way up to four star general. In October 2003 Casey became the number two officer as fifth Chief of Staff, and finally received his fourth star as General. Today he continues to serve as Chief of Allied Forces in Iraq, and is expected to remain in that post until 2007.

http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/BioRC

Defenders of Khadamiya
The Defenders of Khadamiya is a “pop-up” Iraqi military force. A “pop-up” or unplanned military force consists of mostly friends or family of Iraqi officials or tribal sheiks. These pop-ups military forces are not to be mistaken with militias because a pop-up military force is state funded whereas a militia is illegal. The Defenders of Khadamiya was formed by Shiite cleric Hussein al Sadr to defend the major Shiite shrine in Khadamiya. The United States Army is growing concerned about the Defenders of Khadamiya due to its current and potential size. It is said there are approximately 120 soldiers currently; however, there are plans for this number to grow to about 800. With numbers like this on the rise, the U.S. military must decide whether or not to support these pop-up military forces, as does the Iraqi government, or to squash them.

Fadhil, Mustafa Mohammed
Mustafa Mohammed Fadhil was allegedly involved in the bombings of the embassies of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Nairobi, Kenya. He was indicted in 1998 for the killings of US Nationals outside of the United States and conspiracy to murder US Nationals outside the United States. The terrorist attacks that he supported killed 224 people and injured over 5000 more. He was listed on the FBI’s original list of Most Wanted Terrorists after
9/11, but has since been removed without public explanation. Details involving his death or location of imprisonment are unknown.

http://www.rewardsforjustice.net/english/index.cfm?page=fadhil
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mustafa_Mohamed_Fadhil

Jason DeKoster

Fatah
Fatah is a major political party of Palestine which is known for its moderate political views. The party is nationalist and is secular. In 2006, during the parliamentary elections in Palestine, Fatah lost majority to their rival group, Hamas, which is known to many as a major player in terrorist activities. Fatah was founded in the late 1950’s as a nationalist movement that would free Palestine. The most notable leader of Fatah is Yassar Arafat. In recent news, Fatah has been suspected of kidnapping a Fox News cameraman and a Fox News reporter.

Schanzer, Jonathan. The Challenge of Hamas to Fatah. Middle East Quarterly; Vol. 10 Issue 2

Andrew Stubbs

Al-Gama'a al-Islamiyya:
This is a militant Egyptian Islamist movement which the United States considers to be a terrorist organization. Omar Abdel-Rahman is the leader of this organization. This group formed after the Muslim Brotherhood renounced violence. It began as militant student groups like the Islamic Jihad. A major event in 1991 caused radicalization in Al-Gama’a al-Islamiyya. The leader at the time, Ala Mohieddin was murdered which caused Al-Gama’a al-Islamiyya to murder Egypt’s speaker of Parliament. To gain Islamic rule in Egypt, this organization uses force against any secular establishments. The group is located in southern Egypt but also has support from Cairo and Alexandria, Egypt. There are also said to be forces in Sudan, the United Kingdom, Austria, and Yemen. The organization issued a ceasefire in 1999 but this was rescinded in 2000 by al-Rahman. The following is a list of attacks that have been traced back to this organization:

June 8, 1992 – Farag Foda assassination.
June 26, 1995 – Assassination attempt on Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.
November 19, 1995 – 16 people killed in a car bomb attack at the Egyptian embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan.
April 28, 1996 – Shooting at Europa Hotel in Cairo. 18 people were killed
November 17, 1997 – Luxor Massacre where 58 foreigners and 4 Egyptians were killed.

http://cns.miis.edu/research/wtc01/algamaa.htm
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Al-Gama'a_al-Islamiyya

Colby Harris
**Ghailani, Ahmed Khalfan**

Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani is a member of al-Qaeda who was indicted for conspiracy in the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombings. In 2001, he was named to the FBI’s 22 Most Wanted Terrorists. Ahmed has over 20 different aliases which he goes by. He was born in Tanzania and spent time as a traveling preacher of Islam. His travels brought him to Pakistan, which is where he is said to have linked up with the al-Qaeda network. He later became an explosives expert. In 2004, Ghailani was captured. In 2004, prior to his capture, Ahmed was one of a few singled out by John Ashcroft as possible threats to the United States. However, Ghailani has been cooperating with Palistinian authorities and has provided “very valuable” information.

"Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani."


Andrew Stubbs

**Green Zone (Bagdad)**

The Green Zone, which is formally called the International Zone by the Iraqi government, is a four squared mile area in Baghdad that has acted as a headquarters for coalition officials and Western contractors alike in Iraq. It is kept safe by checkpoints, razor wire, reinforced concrete blast walls call T-walls, as well as other measures. One criticism of the International Zone is that its strict safety precautions have hindered the reconstruction process. Both the embassies of the United States and the United Kingdom are housed in the International Zone. Some parts of the zone have already been handed over to the Iraqi government’s control, with the rest to be given over time.


http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_zone

http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/iraq/baghdad-green-zone.htm

Derek Swindall

**Guantanamo Bay:**

This is a detention center, located on the oldest overseas United States Naval Base, while also being the only one that does not maintain “diplomatic relations” with the U.S. It houses Taliban and al-Qaeda “enemy combatants,” as well as other terrorist suspects. This camp has become rather controversial in the United States and around the world because it is said that some of the prisoners are being held without trial and are being brutally tortured. The U.S Supreme Court ruled that the U.S. was going against the Geneva Convention which deals with the treatment of prisoner’s of war. There are three camps in Guantanamo Bay called, Camp Delta, Camp Iguana, and the recently closed Camp X-Ray. Because this base does not have stable “diplomatic relations” it is
considered to be outside U.S. law which is why the U.S. is holding many of the prisoners indefinitely without trial.

http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/facility/guantanamo-bay_x-ray.htm
http://www.nsgtmo.navy.mil/

Colby Harris

Gulf Cooperation Council
The Gulf Cooperation Council is a regional organization created in 1981 by six Arab countries in the region of the Persian Gulf for economic and social purposes. Officially named the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, the GCC includes the nations of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates. The council was founded with a like mind through faith in Islam and a goal for cooperation of these states to decide the future of the Arab nation. The basic objectives of the GCC are to formulate similar regulations for commerce, legislation, and customs, to encourage ties between the countries, and to join together in scientific research. In future plans the GCC would like to eventually create a common currency, among many other ventures.

http://www.gcc-sg.org/index_e.html (official site)

Jason DeKoster

Hamas
Hamas is both a government and a militant Palestinian Islamic group. It was founded in 1987, by Sheikh Ahmad Yasin, and its charter was released in 1988. Hamas stands for the destruction of Israel, and the creation of an Islamic Palestinian state. The group practiced suicide bombings against Israel in an attempt to gain international attention for their cause. Suicide bombings were stopped as a condition of one of the cease fire agreements with Israel. Within the last month though, they have claimed responsibility for one suicide bombing. Hamas won a majority of seats in the Palestinian Legislative Council. Because of the victory, the US and Great Britain cut off aid money to Palestine. There are international charities, including one in the US, that provide funding, and the government of Iran contributes nearly $3 million per year. The new Prime Minister is Ismail Haniya, and he is affiliated with Hamas. He and Mahmoud Abbas, the leader of Fatah, are trying to create a unity government run by technocrats with no affiliations to either group. Haniya has repeatedly stated that he would not recognize Israel, but has recently backed off from that statement in an effort to achieve the goal of an independent Palestinian state.

http://www.answers.com/Hamas
http://www.ict.org.il/organizations/orgdet.cfm?orgid=13
http://www.fas.org/irp/world/para/hamas.htm

Ryon Hamilton
**Haniya, Ismail:**
Born in 1962 in Gaza, he is currently the Prime Minister of the Palestinian National Authority and a leader of Hamas. He attended the Islamic University of Gaza. He is described as always favoring violence over diplomacy. He wants to form a national unity government that allows Hamas and Fatah to come together to have a more effective government. He explains that because of the Hamas wins in the 2005 elections, the majority of Palestine supports terrorism against Israel. He is known for his support in the Israeli Air Force bombing of 2003.

www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org
www.haaretz.com
www.nndb.com

Colby Harris

**Hussein, Saddam**
Hussein was born on April 28, 1937, and grew up in a poor area of Northern Iraq. As a young man, he joined the Baath Party and was part of several attempts to overthrow opposition powers before the Baath Party finally gained a lasting grip on Iraq in 1968. After this final successful coup, Hussein’s cousin Ahmed Hassan al Bakr became the head of the Iraqi state, and Hussein was placed in charge of internal security. With heightened oil revenues in the seventies, Hussein built schools, roads, and improved healthcare. Hussein took many steps in the direction of modernization and unification of Iraq. Saddam was seen as the leading man against Communism and radical Islamism, which made him an asset in the eyes of America. When it appeared that al Bakr was making plans to exclude Hussein from power, Saddam forced al Bakr to resign and made himself president. Soon after, Hussein began eliminating opposition within his own party. Although they wished to remain neutral during the Iran-Iraq War, America supplied Hussein with chemical weapons that he used not only on Iranians, but also separatist Kurds. The Iran-Iraq War ended in 1988, but Iraq was back in war by 1990. In an attempt to both increase his prestige and steal oil revenues, Hussein moved into Kuwait. The United States intervened and defeated Hussein’s forces. Hussein remained in power throughout the nineties. During this time, he tortured his own people, did not cooperate with the United Nations’ weapons inspectors, prompting United States air strikes, and paid the families of Palestinian suicide bombers. Following the events of September 11, the United States government incorrectly announced that Iraq was producing weapons of mass destruction. In March 2003, the United States invaded Iraq and quickly toppled the regime. Saddam was eventually captured in December 2003. Though Saddam Hussein has been found guilty of numerous crimes against humanity, he has not yet received a final death sentence. Also, with the laws and procedures of Iraq, how they are, Saddam will turn 70 before he is executed. This will make him exempt from execution.

Iraqi High Tribunal
The Iraqi High Tribunal, or Iraqi Special Tribunal, is the committee that was established after the American invasion in 2003. Its job is to have “jurisdiction over any Iraqi national or resident of Iraq accused of the crimes listed in Articles 11 to 14 below, committed since July 17, 1968 and up until and including May 1, 2003, in the territory of the Republic of Iraq or elsewhere, including crimes committed in connection with Iraq’s wars against the Islamic Republic of Iran and the State of Kuwait.” The main crimes the Iraqi High Tribunal is focused on are crimes against humanity and war crimes. Some of the more notable people the Iraqi High Tribunal has tried are Saddam Hussein, Ali Hassan al-Majid (a.k.a. “Chemical Ali”), and other members of the Ba’ath party (Saddam Hussein’s political party). The Iraqi High Tribunal has been plagued with many problems since its inception. Such problems include resignations due to too much government interference (the Iraqi High Tribunal is supposed to be a completely separate entity from the Iraqi government), judges being removed from office due to their involvement with the Ba’ath party, and assassinations.

Islamic Dawa Party
Established in the late fifties through the leadership of Muhammad Baqr al Sadr, the Dawa Party initially sought to counter communism and secularism in Iraq. The group is primarily Shia, but has traditionally had some Sunni followers in its midst. Over the years it has repeatedly challenged the authority of the Bath Party (party of Saddam Hussein). During the seventies, Dawa Party members led many movements in opposition to the government. Also, they were often imprisoned and/or murdered. Starting in the eighties, the Dawa Party was based in Tehran. The Dawa Party made several failed attempts on the life of Saddam Hussein as well as the lives of his officials. Also during this time, the Iran-Iraq war was taking place. During wartime, the Dawa Party attacked both Saddam Hussein’s army and other Sunni targets. Except for participating in some post war peace talks in 1991 and the attempted assassination of Uday Hussein in 1996, the Dawa Party was not very visible until the United States invaded in 2003. Since the invasion, the Dawa Party has played a large role in the structuring of the Iraqi government. Currently, deputy party leader Jawad al Maliki is the Prime Minister of Iraq.
“Jaafari's replacement aims to beat the insurgents: Jawad al-Maliki is confident that he can form a cabinet soon.” *MEED Middle East Economic Digest* 50.17 (April 28, 2006): p.2(1).

Derek Swindall

**Islamic Jihad:**

Islamic Jihad originated from the Egyptian Islamic organization the Muslim Brotherhood. Since its inception the organization has split into two groups, the Egyptian Islamic Jihad, and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

1. **Egyptian Islamic Jihad:** Founded in 1979, the group was inspired by the ideals of the Iranian revolution. Its founders included Fathi Shqaqi, Abd al-Aziz Odah, and Bashir Musa. The Egyptian branch of Islamic Jihad was at this time more focused on combating the westernized, secular government of Nasser within Egypt itself. The more localized ideology of the EIJ stayed true until the 1990’s when its leader Ayman al-Zawahiri chose to merge the EIJ with al-Qaeda. Zawahiri is considered the theoretical mastermind within al-Qaeda, and today the EIJ is practically obsolete.

2. **Palestinian Islamic Jihad:** Also founded in 1979, the PIJ’s main mission was the call for an armed struggle against “The Zionist Jewish Entity.” Their ideas differed from that of the now extinct EIJ in that their enemy was the greater forces of the western world that support the Jewish nation of Israel. The PIJ was active in Gaza for most of the 1980’s but was expelled to Lebanon after violent attacks against Israel. Because of the ongoing peace talks between Israel and Palestine, the Palestinian Authority has tried to suppress the violent actions of the PIJ. Today the PIJ is led by Sheik Abdullah Ramadan and is one of several militant Islamic groups working against the Israeli presence in Palestine.

Catherine Jones

**Al Jazeera:**

“The Island” which was founded in 1996, is an Arabic and English language TV channel. Al Jazeera has an international viewership that rivals BBC with 50 million viewers. The stations are headquartered in Doha, Qatar. The station provides many kinds of entertainment, but is most well known for its willingness to air dissenting political views, that are often very radical. In the wake of 9/11 Al Jazeera’s name became even more recognized because it aired speeches by Bin Laden about the attacks. Most recently, in November 2006 Al Jazeera announced an English Channel launch in the UK. The new network has journalists who are Muslim, American, and European.
Jihad:
Jihad is an Islamic term which means to struggle for God. It can mean one of the following things: Jihad of the heart which is a struggle to believe in what is good and to banish the evil. Jihad of the tongue which is the struggle to speak only what is good and to silence what is evil. Jihad of knowledge which is the struggle against evil by learning Islam. Jihad of the hand is the struggle against evil by doing good acts, such as giving to the poor. The final category of Jihad is by the sword which is the struggle against evil by using force. Since the main emphasis of this class is on terrorism, I will further discuss the Jihad by the Sword due to its violent and aggressive nature.

Jihad by the Sword stems from when a prophet of Islam named Idris explained to Muslims that it was acceptable to fight against non-Muslim aggressors. However, he did forbid them from fighting against non-Muslims who were not aggressors by saying: "God does not forbid you, regarding those (non-Muslims) who did not fight you because of your religion, and who did not drive you out of your land, that you be good to them and treat them justly. Allah only forbids you regarding those who fought you because of your religion and drove you out of your homes, and came to the help of those who drove you out, that you should befriend them. Any of you who befriend them (and be their allies) are transgressors. [60:8-9]" This sparks much debate especially after recent terrorism attacks such as September 11th due to the questions of whether or not the many victims of the attacks were actually aggressors against the terrorists.

In 1998, Osama bin Laden declared a religious edict named World Islamic Front for Jihad Against Jews and Crusaders. He declared this Jihad to liberate the al-Aqsa Mosque (Jerusalem) and all lands of Islam occupied by foreign occupants (i.e. Americans). Shortly after this declaration the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania were bombed. These bombings were directly correlated with bin Laden’s Jihad issuance. In 2000, the U.S.S. Cole was bombed. Again, this bombing was directly correlated with the Jihad issuance by bin Laden. The attacks on September 11th also were carried out by Al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden’s terror network. These attacks will continue until the Jihad is lifted. It will be supposedly lifted when: America leaves the Arabian Peninsula and stops “plundering its riches, dictating to its rulers, humiliating its people, terrorizing its neighbors, and turning its bases in the Peninsula into a spearhead through which to fight the neighboring Muslim peoples.” America must also stop “repeating horrifying massacres” and also end its ties with the “Zionist alliance.”

http://www.al-islam.org/short/jihad/ (Quran passages)
http://www.britannica.com/ebc/article-9368558?tocId=9368558 (Encyclopedia Britannica: Jihad)
**Khan, Abdul Qadeer**: (b. 1935)
Abdul Qadeer Khan is considered the father of the Pakistani nuclear project. He served as the Science Advisor to the President of Pakistan until he was forced to resign after it was discovered that he was also the mastermind behind a black market of nuclear parts to developing countries. In January of 2004 Khan confessed to having created a network of nuclear proliferation to Libya, Iran and North Korea. He cited his reasons for involvement as, to anger western countries, providing nuclear power for Muslims, and for personal economic reasons. In February 2004 President Musharraf of Pakistan pardoned Dr. Khan for his actions. He will live out the rest of his days under house arrest in his home in Islamabad.


+Powell, Bill. “The Man who sold the Bomb: How Pakistan’s A.Q. Khan outwitted Western Intelligence to build a global nuclear smuggling ring that made the world a more dangerous place.” Cover Story, Time Magazine, February 2004


**Khomeini, Ruhollah**
Ayatollah Khomeini was a Shi’a Muslim cleric who was the first supreme leader of Iran. Khomeini was the political leader who headed the 1979 Islamic Revolution of Iran. He was the major political figure in Iran during the Iraq-Iran war. Ayatollah is highly regarded and respected in Iran, considered a national hero. He was known as a father to Iran and when he passed away, the new leadership was only the “first among equals.” Since his passing many things have changed for the worse in Iran, showing us the importance of Khomeini and his leadership and policies. He is also known as the Imam and the Grand Ayatollah. In 1979, Ayatollah was named Time’s Man of the Year. Khomeini was a highly regarded theorist on Islamic politics.

"Ruhollah Khomeini."

+Mozaffari, Mehdi. Changes in the Iranian political system after Khomeini's death. Political Studies; Vol. 41 Issue 4

Andrew Stubbs
Kim Jong Il
Kim is the leader of North Korea, and is responsible for developing that country’s nuclear weapons program. He has been the leader since 1994. Much information about Il is incorrect or unable to be verified because it is released through the North Korean press, which is tightly controlled by the government. Soviet records show that he was born in 1941 in Siberia during his father’s exile. The Korean government reported that he was born in a log cabin on a mountain in northern Korea in 1942. He took control of the armed forces in 1991, despite his lack of military experience. The appointment set him up to succeed his father. Kim’s father died in 1994, and Kim ran the country after that. He was named General Secretary of the Worker’s Party of Korea and the National Defense Commission in 1997, giving him the highest post in the country. He did not succeed his father as President, and his father remains President. He is resting in a mausoleum in central Pyongyang, and in fact the active position of President has been abolished by Kim in deference to his father. He has been in the news recently for his refusal to stop his country’s nuclear program. In October, North Korea held a successful nuclear test, detonating a bomb in an underground lab that was verified by China and South Korea and air samples taken by the US. The bomb yielded less than 1 kiloton. President Bush has been reluctant to enter into unilateral talks with North Korea, instead trying to enter into multilateral talks with Japan, South Korea, and China. Bush is also trying to avoid economic sanctions because of the effect that they would have on North Korea. The debate over North Korea’s nuclear capabilities and China’s statement that they will veto a UN resolution containing sanctions, have made for a tense situation in the Far East.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kim_Jong-il
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/783967.stm
http://www.answers.com/topic/kim-jong-il

Ryon Hamilton

al Liby, Anas
Liby is a terrorist who is on the “Most Wanted” list. He is wanted in connection with the 1998 bombings of the United States embassies in Tanzania and Kenya. In 2005, another al Qaeda operative named al Libbi was captured, identities were mistaken, and President Bush wound up telling the world that the United States had captured al Liby. The actual Anas al Liby is still at large.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anas_Al-Liby
http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,2089-1602568,00.html

Derek Swindall

Lieberman, Avigdor
Avigdor Lieberman is the head of his own political party called Yisrael Beytenu. He is also the newly elected Deputy Prime Minister of Israel, as of November 2006. Yisrael Beytenu is a powerful group of former people of the Soviet Union who now have immigrated into Israel. Lieberman himself was born in Moldova. He has fostered the Lieberman Plan, which proposes that the Arab people of the “Triangle Area” of Wadi ‘Ara should be given over to the Palestinian Authority in exchange for some Jewish settlements in the West Bank. This so-called “Population Exchange Plan” would help create two separate national bodies, one Israeli and one Palestinian. It is possible that Lieberman could eventually become the next Israeli Prime Minister due to his popularity.

http://www.thefirstpost.co.uk/index.php?menuID=2&subID=1061&p=2
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avigdor_Lieberman

Jason DeKoster

**Mahdi Brigade**
The Mahdi Brigade or Mahdi Army, is the Shiite militia under the control of the radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr. Most of the members are young Shiite men without jobs, and most are from Shiite strongholds like Sadr City and southern Iraqi towns like Najaf. They led two uprisings in 2004 against the US occupation and signed a cease-fire agreement in October 2004. Currently in Iraq, they are accused of running Shiite death squads, specializing in harassing and intimidating Sunni Muslims. Some police officials in parts of Baghdad openly display the insignia of the Mahdi on their cars. Sadr supporters claim that there are 10,000 men in the Brigade, but some reports place its membership as low as 1,500 men. It is reportedly less organized than other militias in Iraq, but most of the members have Iraqi Army training.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/7637/
http://www.cfr.org/publication/11824/iraqs_militia_groups.html#4
http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Mehdi_Army

Ryon Hamilton

**al-Maliki, Nuri:**
Also known as Jawad al-Maliki, he is a Shi’a Muslim and the current Prime Minister of Iraq. His 37 member cabinet was sworn in on May 20, 2006. He says that he wants to see a pluralist Iraq where each group considers others as equals. The major issues that he faces are stopping the Sunni insurgency and pulling the country out of economic crisis. He was sentenced to death in 1980 by Saddam Hussein. He lived in exile until Saddam’s fall. He was elected to the National Assembly in 2005.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/4932468.stm

Colby Harris
al-Masri, Abu Ayyub
Abu Ayyub al-Masri is a member of al-Qaeda in Iraq. He was an aid to the famous al-Qaeda leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who was killed recently during a U.S. airstrike. Following the death of al-Zarqawi, al-Masri is assumed to have taken control of al-Qaeda operations in Iraq, appointed by Osama Bin Laden. He has been extensively trained in Afghanistan and is an expert on explosives. He is a native Egyptian who is approximately forty years old. He could also go by the name of Abu Hamza al-Muhajer.


Darwish, Adel. After Zarqawi. Middle East, Jul2006, Issue 369

Andrew Stubbs

al Masri, Abu Hafs
Known more commonly as Mohammed Atef, Abu Hafs al Masri was the supposed military chief of al Qaeda. Before joining al Qaeda, he was a member of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad. Abu Hafs’ name ‘al Masri’ is actually a nickname given to him, meaning ‘the Egyptian’. Al Masri became a close confidant of Osama bin Laden while putting together al Qaeda. One of his daughters married one of bin Laden’s sons, making the ties deeper. After 9/11, al Masri became one of the US’s most wanted convicts because of his alleged role in the attacks, as well as the bombings of the Kenya and Tanzania embassies. Ten months prior to his death, al Masri was named by Osama bin Laden as his successor, rather than bin Laden’s own first son. Al Masri was killed in November 2001 during a US air raid bombing of his house near Kabul.


Jason DeKoster

Muhammed, Fazul Abdullah
This man is wanted by the federal government for connection with the attacks on the embassies in Tanzania and Kenya in 1998. Some now believe he is currently heading a terrorist cell in Kenya.

[http://www.fbi.gov/wanted/terrorists/termohammed.htm](http://www.fbi.gov/wanted/terrorists/termohammed.htm)
[http://www.cooperativeresearch.org/entity.jsp?entity=fazul_abdullah_mohammed](http://www.cooperativeresearch.org/entity.jsp?entity=fazul_abdullah_mohammed)

Derek Swindall

Mujahideen Shura Council
Originally a group of six Sunni insurgent groups, al-Qaeda, Jaish al-Taifa al-Mansoura, al-Ahwal Brigades, Islamic Jihad Brigades, al-Ghuraba Brigades, and Saraya Ansar al-Tawhid, it has since expanded. The Council was first mentioned in spring of 2005 in connection with the kidnapping of an Australian citizen in Iraq. Nothing else was mentioned until the six groups announced through a Jihadist website that they were forming the council. The council was formed with the purpose of “Managing the struggle in the battle of confrontation to ward off the invading infidels and their apostate stooges…Uniting the word of the mujahideen and closing their ranks…(and) Determining a clear position toward developments and incidents so that people can see things clearly and the truth will not be confused with falsehood.” A seventh group, Army of al-Sunnah Wal Jama’ā, asked publicly to join, and urged other insurgent groups to do the same.

http://www.tkb.org/Group.jsp?groupID=4575
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mujahideen_Shura_Council

Ryon Hamilton

Musharraf, Pervez
General Pervez Musharraf is the self appointed President of Pakistan. He seized power in 1999, after a bloodless coup. He was actually born in Delhi, India, and his family moved to Pakistan, during the partition of India. He rose through the ranks of the Pakistani Army quickly, especially given that he is not a member of the Punjabi officer class of the army. He ascended to the top post in the army when his predecessor resigned because of frustration over the political climate. He was one of the first international leaders to support the United States in the War on Terror, and it has made him a target for the jihadists in Pakistan. He has already survived multiple assassination attempts.

http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1187204,00.html
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/472997.stm

Ryon Hamilton

Muslim Brotherhood
The Muslim Brotherhood is a worldwide movement of Islamists who seek to institute a just empire of Islam. The Muslim Brotherhood is one of the oldest fundamentalist organizations in the Arab world. The Brotherhood is the movement from which the members of al-Qaeda descend. Following the September 11th attacks on the U.S., the Muslim Brotherhood pronounced that the terrorist attacks were justified and necessary. Many experts say that the Muslim Brotherhood is the source of all current Islamist jihadi movements. The movement originated in the late 1920’s in Egypt. The Muslim Brotherhood exists world-wide with its dominance coming in Egypt and other Arab countries. Members of the movement fund the organization by allocating portions of their personal income. The Brotherhood currently seeks to gain support for its social and political programs in Egypt.
Palestinian Authority (or the Palestinian National Authority):
The Palestinian Authority was created in the wake of the Oslo Peace Accords of 1994. It was to be an interim government that would have authority for five years in all of Gaza and most of the West Bank. The Palestinian Authority does not have complete control of these areas but is responsible for providing social services and many amenities to its mostly impoverished people. Up until the victory of the Hamas party in Palestine the Authority received aid near the sum of 1 billion dollars a year from the European Union and the United States. The Palestinian Authority also retains a small “police force” of about 40,000 recruits.

The Patriot Act:
The USA Patriot Act, also known as the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001, was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 26, 2001. This act was created because of the terrorist attacks that took place on September 11, 2001. The primary issue that the Patriot Act covers is expanded authority for America to fight terrorism in the United States and overseas. A modified and renewed Patriot Act was signed into law on March 9, 2006 after changes were made because there were sections that were considered unconstitutional. The Act has ten titles in which there are several sections:
I. Enhancing Domestic Security against Terrorism
II. Enhanced Surveillance Procedures
III. International money laundering abatement and anti-terrorist financing act of 2001
IV. Protecting the Border
V. Removing obstacles to investigating terrorism
VI. Providing for victims of terrorism, public safety officers and their families
VII. Increased information sharing for critical infrastructure protection
VIII. Strengthening the criminals laws against terrorism
IX. Improved intelligence
X. Miscellaneous
Related acts are the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) which was passed in 1978 the USA Act which was passed on October 12, 2001, and the Financial Anti-Terrorism Act which was passed on October 17, 2001.
al-Rabii, Mouwafak
Mouwafak al-Rabii is an Iraqi politician in charge of the Iraqi National Security Advisory. He is a Shiite Muslim who studied in London to be a neurologist. Al-Rabii, a member of the Iraqi Governing Council, was one of the main advocates for bringing Saddam Hussein to trial.

Rahman, Omar Abdul
Omar Abdul Rahman is an Egyptian man who is currently serving a lifetime sentence in a maximum security correctional facility in Colorado. He was charged with having a part in the planning of the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center. He is the leader of what is called, “The Islamic Group,” an extremist group which is considered to be a terrorist group both by the United States and Egypt. To this day, Rahman’s group carries out acts of terrorism in hopes that the United States government will release him. He is sometimes called, “The Blind Sheikh” due to the blindness he has suffered from since he was young from diabetes. He occasionally will send out a letter to serve as a rally cry for Islam. In his last letter he closed out by saying, “O Men of Allah! Rise up from your slumber!”

Sadr City (or Saddam City):
Sadr City is the home to many poor Shi’a Muslims in the northeastern sector of Baghdad. The Iraqi Prime Minister Abdul Karim Qassim created the city in 1959 to resolve the intense housing crisis at the time. The city has been a stronghold of the Iraqi Communist Party. Thus when the Baathist regime of Saddam Hussein came to power the district was newly named Saddam City. Since the downfall of Saddam Hussein the district has considered itself a mostly autonomous area, and renamed itself once again in honor of the Shi’a Ayatollah Mohammed Sadeq al-Sadr. Due to the high populations of Shi’a Muslims this area of Baghdad has been a victim of the sectarian violence that has ensued since the American Invasion of Iraq.
al-Sadr, Moqtada

Moqtada al-Sadr is a radical Shiite cleric who has encouraged a national rebellion in Iraq against all foreigners. He is around 30 years old. He is immensely popular among young, poor Shiites, mainly because of his violent rhetoric against the US and its role in the occupation of Iraq. His supporters passed out food in the slum area of Sadr City, a section of Baghdad, formerly named Saddam City. It is now named for Moqtada al Sadr’s father. In June of 2003, he started a militia named the Mahdi Brigade. He has vowed to protect the Shiite clerics in the holy city of Najaf, and his soldiers have fought coalition forces in other Shiite towns such as Basra, Kut, and Karbala.

His father was Grand Ayatollah of Shiite Muslims in Iraq, and his uncle was a powerful Shiite activist who was executed by Saddam in the 1980s. His father and two brothers were killed, reportedly by Saddam’s agents, causing Moqtada to go underground. After his father’s death, Moqtada inherited the schools and charities his father had started. He also inherited the allegiance of many of his father’s compatriots, who have much more religious training than Sadr.

Recently, he signed a peace deal brokered by the senior Shiite cleric, the Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, in which he agreed to cease hostilities in Najaf on the condition that the coalition forces would leave the city. Sadr is normally at odds with other more moderate Shiite clerics because of his violent rhetoric. Passive supporters of Sadr control up to thirty seats in the Iraqi parliament.

He currently leads the Mahdi Brigade in its fight against Sunni Muslims and American occupation forces.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/3131330.stm
http://www.cfr.org/publication/7637/

Ryon Hamilton

Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq

The SCIRI is the result from a failed attempt to assassinate Saddam Hussein by the Dawa Party in 1982. Following that incident, many Dawa Party members split off to SCIRI. It was initially led by Muhammad Baqr al Hakim with support from Iran and in opposition of Saddam Hussein. The reason for the formation of SCIRI was that while the Dawa Party felt that the government should be controlled by the Islamic laity, SCIRI members
thought that the Islamic scholars should lead. SCIRI’s theocratic stance has been throttled back. They now try to encourage democracy and peace when they are in the public eye. However, a group under SCIRI called the Badr Brigade, which was trained in Iran, is a usual suspect in kidnappings and other terrorist activities. Though SCIRI was once the leading party in post-war Iraq, the Dawa Party now holds much strength.

http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/para/sciri.htm
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supreme_Council_for_the_Islamic_Revolution_in_Iraq

“IS DEMOCRACY POSSIBLE? Even post-Saddam, Iraq would be a desperately poor country where power has been wielded by the sword for hundreds of years (difficulties in managing the country after a war).” Business Week 3822 (March 3, 2003): p34.

Derek Swindall

Swedan, Ahmed Salim
This man is wanted by the FBI in connection to the bombings of embassies in Tanzania and Kenya. Though he has been reported to have been captured multiple times, the federal government has still not removed him from their “Most Wanted” list.


Derek Swindall

Takfiri
Takfiri are Sunni Muslim Extremists who believe any different form of religion (including any different type of Islam) is subject to attack. A notable takfiri is Ahmed Osman Rabei who is considered to be a suspect in the Madrid train bombings in 2004. What makes them so difficult to detect, especially during Jihad, is that they don’t necessarily follow the normal Islamic rules (i.e. growing a beard, not eating pork, etc.)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Takfiri

Corey McKenna

Taliban
The Taliban is a movement that effectively ruled the government of Afghanistan from 1996 until overthrown after the terrorists attacks of September 11, 2001. The Taliban is a Sunni Islamist Fundamentalist movement. Mullah Mohammed Omar was the leader of the Taliban. The Taliban was not recognized except by three countries, two of which are Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. The Taliban rose to power following the collapse of Soviet Union control in Afghanistan. The Taliban follow Islamic traditions. Taliban’s ties with Osama Bin Laden originated when Bin Laden forged an alliance between his terrorist
group al-Qaeda and the Taliban. As of 2001, the Taliban was overthrown and is no longer the dominant ruling party in Afghanistan. However, Taliban insurgency still exists today.

"Taliban Movement."

Umnov, A. The Taliban and Terrorists Are Not the Same. Russian Politics & Law; Vol. 41 Issue 2
Hayes, Richard E, Kaminski, Stacey R., Beres, Steven M. Negotiating the Non-Negotiable: Dealing with Absolutist Terrorists. International Negotiation; Vol. 8 Issue 3

Andrew Stubbs

Tenet, George John: (b. 1953-)
George Tenet served as the director of the Central Intelligence Agency from July 1997 to June 2003. His stint as the highest-ranking intelligence official marks the longest in history of the agency. Tenet attended the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University; he then went on to get masters at the School of International Affairs at Columbia University. From 1982-1992 Tenet worked in congress, as a legislative assistant, and later as the designee to the vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. It was during these years he gained valuable background on intelligence issues. During the Clinton administration Tenet served as special assistant to the president and senior director of intelligence programs at the National Security Council. In 1995 he was promoted to the deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and in 1997 he was approved as the new director of the CIA. Tenet resigned from the CIA on June 3rd 2004, citing personal reasons, however many speculate that the real reason for his sudden resignation had to do with the inaccurate intelligence information about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq that was given to President George W. Bush.

http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/BioRC
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Tenet

Catherine Jones

Waziristan:
A north-west province in Pakistan, Waziristan is divided into North Waziristan and South Waziristan. Many believe that this is where Osama bin Laden fled to after the attacks of September 11, 2001. One major event that is currently taking place is the Waziristan Conflict that has been going on since 2004. The local tribesman resisted the armed forces of the U.S. and the Pakistani army as they searched for al-Qaeda leaders. There has since been a peace treaty that was signed between the Pakistan government and the tribes.
Wolf Brigade
Abu Walid, Shiite General and member of the SCIRI, started the Wolf Brigade to fight in Iraq. The Wolf Brigade, made up of around 2000 fighters, is one of the most feared units. They received most of their popularity from their operations in Mosul. The Wolf Brigade has been accused of capturing and torturing many Palestinian refugees, as well as slaying Sunni clerics, making them a controversial group.

Yousef, Ramzi Ahmed
Ramzi Ahmed Yousef was the mastermind behind the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center. He entered the country with another Al Qaeda operative Ahmad Ajaj, who was apprehended and arrested upon arrival in the United States. Ajaj was merely arrested for six months for passport fraud but was able to contact Yousef and others involved in the terrorist attack. Yousef continued with his mission and bombed the WTC. Later, Yousef and Ajaj attempted the Bojinka Operation, a plan to assassinate the Pope through airline bombings. After a failed test run which killed one person, the second attempt was foiled when officials found Yousef’s plans in his burning apartment. Yousef, Ajaj, and another conspirator were found and arrested soon thereafter. Yousef was sentenced to life without parole. In 1997, Ramzi Ahmed Yousef was found guilty of masterminding the 1993 bombing and is currently in a high security prison.

al-Zarqawi, Abu Musab:
He is the leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq. He was responsible for many terrorist actions in Iraq and Jordan. He was born in October, 1966 and was recently killed in June of 2006. Al-Zarqawi is said to have personally beheaded the American businessman Nicholas Berg in May 2004 which was aired over international television. He was identified as being a part of the Salafi movement of Islamists. The FBI does not have any information pertaining to al-Zarqawi. The CIA explained that al-Zarqawi was a threat when they published the “Worldwide Threat in 2003.”