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FROM A TO

Series

different groups use discrete facilities in both

Peshawar NGO at Center of the Network

One Peshawar-based nongovernmental organization (b)(3) (NGO)—the Maktab al-Khidamat (MAK), or Service: (b)(3)

Organization-appears to play a key role in facilitat-

ing the training and travel of Islamic extremists

Each of these networks overlaps

countries.

the others at various points

Sketch of a South	a Asia-Based
Terrorist Trainin	
Logistic Network	

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Afghanistan and Pakistan remain key training and logistic centers for Sunni Islamic militants involved in terrorist incidents worldwide. Various Sunni Islamic extremist groups use well-established systems of interrelated-and sometimes overlapping-safehouses and training facilities in these two countries.

highlights the worldwide reach of Sunni Islamic extremist groups and their growing ability to target US interests as well as their own governments.

How the Network Operates

the extensive use by Islamic militants of safehouses and training facilities in Afghanistan and Pakistan. In some cases, the individuals concerned depart Afghanistan only shortly before their involvement in a terrorist incident:

> (b)(3)World Trade Center and Manila-Based Plots. Many of the individuals convicted of bombing the World Trade Center in New York in 1993 were recruited through the al-Kifah center in Brooklyn-a branch of the MAK-according to press reports. The alleged mastermind of the plot, Ramzi Yousef, left Peshawar (b)(1) for New York six months before the bombing. Another member of the group, Mahmud Abuhalima, was (b)(1)

> > 2700001

DI TR 95-012 December 1995

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(b)(1) (b)(3)



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SCOR



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Score

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## Implications

Information we have about this Afghanistan-Pakistancentered network highlights the growing capabilities and worldwide reach of Sunni Islamic extremist groups. The groups involved in this network can target opponents virtually anywhere in the world. In addition, experts from various organizations in the network can be brought together to attack targets of mutual interest on an ad hoc basis—increasing the danger to Western interests. For example, the bombing of the World Trade Center and the Manila-based plots against US interests involved individuals from several countries—including Egypt, Sudan, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, the Philippines—and from different Islamic extremist groups This greater degree of cooperation between Islamic militant groups enhances their abilities against their home governments and their resiliency in the face of crackdowns by improving their access to money, arms, expertise, and safehavens. A group forced out of one location can move to any one of a dozen others.

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