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ENVELOPE

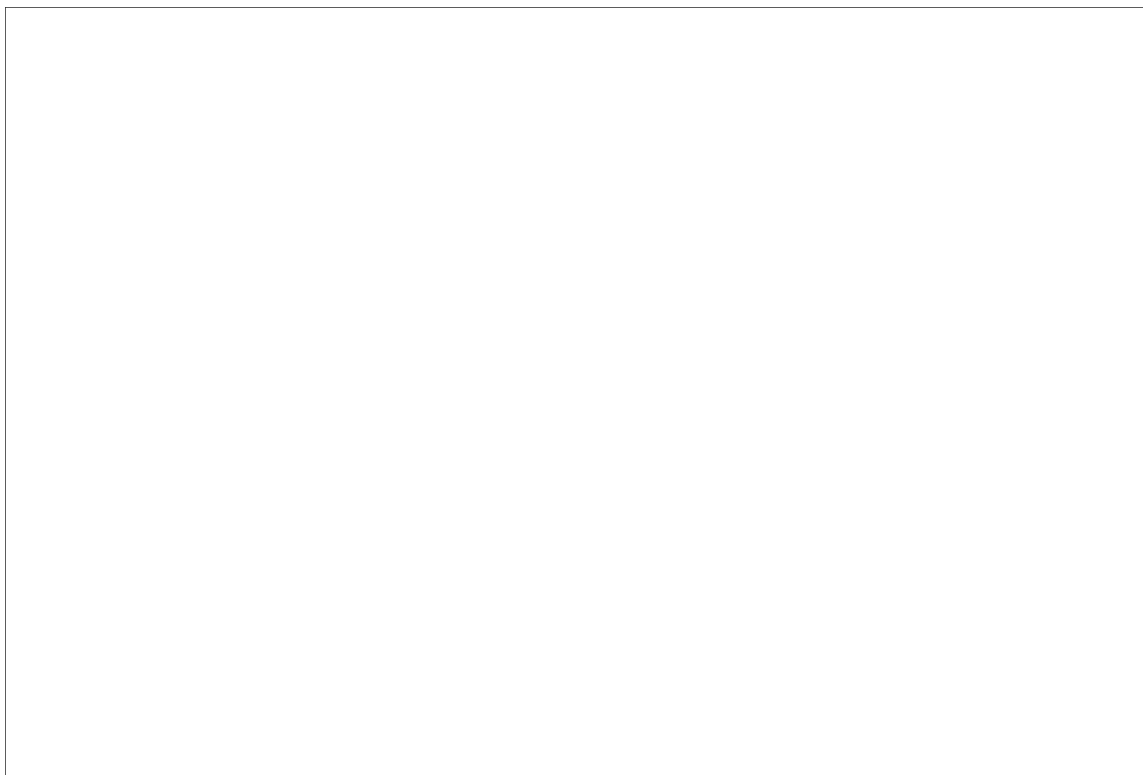
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WARNING: TOPIC: URGENT, HUMAN RIGHTS, LEADER, TERRORISM
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COUNTRY: IRAQ, SYRIA, UNITED STATES

SUBJ: (~~U//FOUO~~) HIGHLIGHTS: ONLINE JIHADISTS OFFER LIMITED REACTIONS to Reports of ISIL Leader's Abuse of US Hostage

SOURCE: OSC Summary 14 Aug 15 18 Aug 15 (~~U//FOUO~~)
TEXT:

[OSC Summary]

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From 14-18 August, Arabic-speaking online jihadists offered limited reactions to news reports that ISIL leader Abu-Bakr al-Baghdadi had repeatedly raped American hostage Kayla Mueller before her death. Some Al-Qa'ida supporters asked how the "Commander of the Faithful" could act in such a way, while ISIL supporters dismissed the news as being fabricated by "American intelligence" in order to "malign" the leader. Below is a summary of selected postings.

Twitter in English -- Website providing a social networking and microblogging service that enables users to send and read messages known as "tweets"; URL: <http://twitter.com>

"Mujahid al-Ukaydi" (@M_Aqidi) tweeted:

"I like this hashtag: #Al-Baghdadi_Raped_Kayla_Mueller. Is it absurd?! No, not if he considered her his captive."

"God is with you, O mistreated State [ISIL]. But we ask the donkeys of the State [ISIL] not to drone on about protecting honor when their leader Al-Baghdadi is delinquent with female infidels."

"Al-Muhajibah" (@almuhajba) replied: "I am not defending Al-Baghdadi, but I also do not believe America."

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"Muhajid al-Ukaydi" replied to @almuhajba: "Ok, you don't believe it, but for their [ISIL] followers, the matter has become law and brings them closer to God."

Arin al-Mujahideen Network in Arabic -- A pro-Al-Qa'ida open-access web forum with a focus on the jihadists fighting in Syria; hosts discussions and statements supportive of Al-Nusrah Front in Syria; launched in April 2014; URL: www.al-aren.com/vb

In a message titled "These Are the Actions of the Commander of the Faithful Al-Baghdadi," forum participant "Al-Muhajir," user number 210, thread 33638, wrote: "There are reports that Al-Baghdadi raped the aid worker Kayla Mueller before she was killed by DA'ISH [Arabic acronym for ISIL]. What kind of Islamic caliphate is DA'ISH talking about if their amir does these things? And what about the rest of them? Some people will come out and say that this news is fabricated and not true. This news was carried by many different news outlets."

This message generated three responses, including:

"Gharibah al-Diyar," user number 1428: "There is no smoke without fire. If the news was not true it would not have been spread. I think he made it permissible for himself and found a sharia loophole and fatwa allowing him to enjoy the captives and to appoint himself to manage the affairs of the State."

Ana al-Muslim Network in Arabic -- Largest, most doctrinally diverse jihadist website in online jihadist environment; features vocal minority of participants who occasionally argue against Al-Qa'ida and terrorism in general; online in its current format since at least 1996 and possesses a more moderate tone than other sites of comparable importance; URL: www.muslm.org/vb

In a message titled "Al-Baghdadi's Scandal: He Raped Aid Worker Kayla Mueller Before Her Death. This is the Commander of the Faithful!!?" forum participant "Turki al-Najidi," user number 67496, thread 548332, posted a news report about the alleged rape and abuse of Mueller by Al-Baghdadi. The message generated at least 13 comments

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before it was removed. Comments still visible from the cached version included:

"Akhu Man Khaf Allah," user number 74647: "You are spreading reports from American intelligence in order to malign a Muslim. You are lying and you know that they are lying. And you know we know they are lying." In a later response, the same forum participant wrote: "The West, despite all its civilization and advancement, is based on sex and promoting sex. It wants to fling its garbage at us. We also told you the difference between spreading malicious news from the intelligence versus spreading military information."

To view the vernacular in .pdf format, click .

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