



Federal Bureau of Investigation

Title of Instruction:	Understanding Somalia and Terrorism in Somalia
Time of Instruction:	Varied
Target Group:	Varied – content tailored to audience
Instructor:	Varied
Methods of Instruction:	Lecture with Q & A throughout the course of discussion
Additional Information:	N/A
Date:	Habitual

Statement of Goals and Objectives

Instructional Goal:

This block of instruction examines the relationship of the Horn of Africa to the current global jihadist landscape.

Instructional Objectives:

After this block of instruction, the learner will be able to:

- Discuss historical, political, economic and social conditions in the Horn of Africa as relevant to the jihadist landscape
- Discuss the al-Shabaab movement and its relationship to al-Oa'ida
- Identify the relationship between [redacted] n the United States

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List of Items and Materials

Equipment / Aids Required for Instructor:

- Overhead Proxima projector
- Computer
- Pointer
- PowerPoint

Equipment / Aids Required for Students:

- CTC West Point handbook with note-taking space provided
- Pencil/pen

Power Point Slides or Outline:

Outline:

A Horn of Africa/Somali block of instruction can be tailored to the needs of a particular audience. The basic framework includes an overview of historical, political, economic and social conditions in the Horn of Africa; a discussion of [redacted] and the relationship of the [redacted] [redacted]

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Handouts:

- Provided by CTC West Point

Outline of Activities

Content	Instructor Notes
Grabber: <i>Please see attached presentation</i> Introduction: Instructors introduce themselves and their credentials. Thesis Statement: The current threat landscape is influenced by the histories of and the factors within certain countries and regions. With roots in Afghanistan and Pakistan, al-Qa'ida now benefits from a network of affiliated and associated organizations and ideologically inspired adherents. Located in Somalia, al-Shabaab is one of these organizations. Needs Statement: Understanding the significance of the Horn of Africa and Somalia as they relate to the landscape of global jihad is essential to the successful investigation of contemporary threats. Objective #1: Describe al-Qa'ida's evolution from a centralized organization into a global movement. Al-Qai'da has evolved significantly since the decade of its founding. It has become a resilient, networked movement that includes associated organizations such as al-Shabaab. Understanding this evolution and the relationship of various components is essential to effective counter-measures. Objective #2: Provide an overview of conditions within the Horn of Africa and Somalia. The Horn of Africa is an extremely underdeveloped region that is challenged by failed states, population issues and its vulnerability to natural disasters. It is also a region that continues to experience arm conflict and criminal activity, problems that are exacerbated by porous national borders enabling the flow of arms and people. Further, sectarian and ethnic divisions are worsening in the region. Objective#3: Describe al-Qa'ida's relationship to the region and al-Shabaab. Al-Qa'ida been active in the Horn of Africa since (at least)	

the early 1990s, but catastrophes in Somalia facilitated the rise of an associated organization, al-Shabaab, that combines nationalist rhetoric with a radical Islamist narrative. Shabaab threatens the region and beyond, and it became of increasing concern to the United States after several waves of Somali-American youth left the U.S. to join the organization in 2007/2008.

Objective #3: Discuss the dynamics of global jihad and plots on the U.S. homeland that have originated abroad or been pursued by individuals living within our national borders.

The dynamics of global jihad are complicated and fluid. Individuals who have traveled to the countries and regions outlined above with intentions to join or support particular, regionally-oriented organizations may find their efforts redirected toward global targets. Thus, the United States does not face a singular threat in core al-Qa'ida. Organizations such as al-Shabaab can redirect their efforts and adopt a more global focus. This type of shift is of particular concern in the case of al-Shabaab due to American citizens who have joined its ranks.

Summary/Conclusion:

The global jihad is a multi-faceted and dynamic phenomenon rooted in the Soviet-Afghan war and drawing from various historical, theological and political contexts. Al-Qa'ida is only one central player in a movement from which many threats now emanate. The overlap of local, regional and global organizations provides multiple avenues for participation in jihad – some closely tied to particular countries and regions and others resulting from a narrative that has successfully inspired action. Understanding the landscape of global jihad is key to successful counterterrorism efforts.

Bibliography

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