

Internet Radicalization to Violence Case Study: [REDACTED] (b) (3), (b) (7)(E)

National Capital Region Countering Violent Extremism
Workshop Office of Intelligence and Analysis Homeland
Counterterrorism Division

July 11, 2012

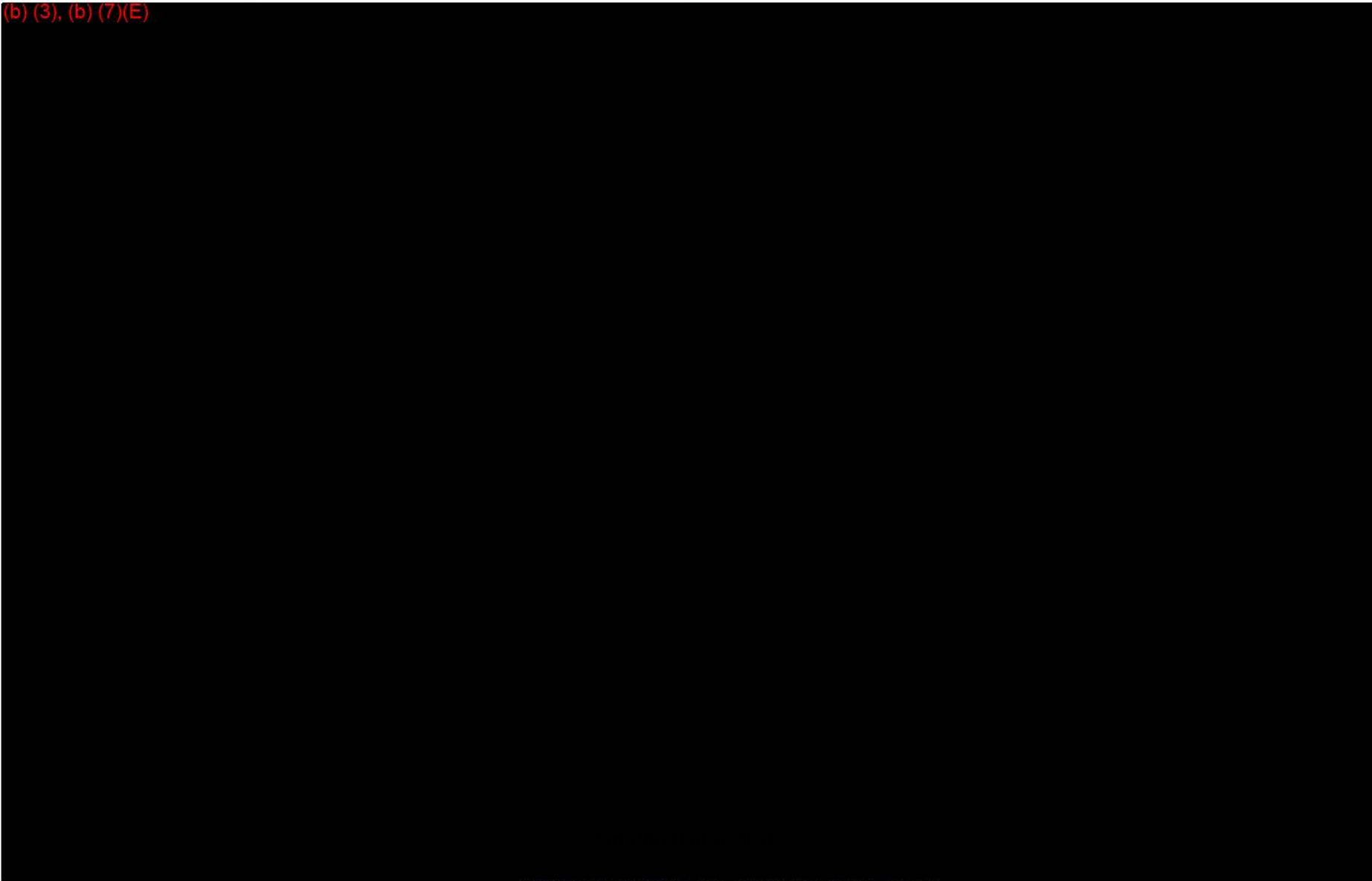


Homeland
Security

2015-IAFO-00150 - 1589

Linking Online and Physical Outreach

(b) (3), (b) (7)(E)





Homeland Security



Syria Foreign Fighters: Motivations and Social Media Use

May 14, 2014

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(b) (6)

Overview of Foreign Fighters

- Syria has emerged as most attractive theater for Western violent extremists
 - Close to **2,000 Europeans** are believed to have fought in Syria
 - FBI Director Comey^{USPER}: “**Dozens**” of **Americans** have traveled to fight in Syria; problem “getting worse”
 - **Seven US persons arrested** on terrorism-related charges for fighting in Syria or attempting to do so; one Syria returnee also arrested

Syria's Unique Appeal

- Ease of Access
- Persistent Media Coverage
- Sectarian Nature of Conflict in Heart of M.E.
- Prospect for Battlefield Experience
- Networking Opportunities

(b) (3), (b) (7)(E)



Motivational Pathways

(b) (3), (b) (7)(E)



Motivational Pathways (Cont.)

(b) (3), (b) (7)(E)



Radicalization to Violence

- US travelers who desire to engage in violence going on their own or, in one case, with one associate.

(b) (7)(E), (b) (3)



Travel Patterns

- US Persons have attempted to travel to Syria to fight by (b) (3), (b) (7)(E)

(b) (3), (b) (7)(E), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

U.S. Fighters' Use of Social Media

(b) (3), (b) (7)(E)



