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Defense Intelligence Agency

Defense Analysis Report - Terrorism



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Former Guantanamo Detainee Terrorism Trends

Of the 531 Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) detainees transferred from Department of Defense custody, 18 are confirmed and 43 are suspected of subsequently reengaging in terrorist activities as of 24 December 2008. Since March 2008, seven detainees have been confirmed to have reengaged in terrorist activity, two of whom were previously suspected of reengaging. In addition, 20 have been added to the suspected list, with 23 previously suspected remaining in that category.

Between September 2004 and March 2008, the combined rate of confirmed and suspected reengagement varied between roughly 4 and 8 percent. However, a comprehensive review of available information indicates the overall known terrorist reengagement rate has significantly increased to 11 percent.

DIA tracking shows an average of 18 months between a detainee's transfer from GTMO and reporting on reengagement. In March 2008, DIA estimated that adjusting only for this reporting lag suggested a likely true reengagement rate at that time of about 10 percent. **Based upon the same method of analysis, DIA now estimates that adjusting for the standard reporting lag time suggests the actual reengagement rate is likely about 14 percent,** although this may be skewed by various factors.

Definition of "Confirmed" — A preponderance of evidence—fingerprints, conclusive photographic match, or reliable, verified, or well-corroborated intelligence reporting—identifies a specific former Department of Defense detainee as directly involved in terrorist activities. For the purposes of this definition, engagement in propaganda does not qualify as terrorist activity.

Definition of "Suspected" — Significant reporting indicates a former Department of Defense detainee is involved in terrorist activities. Analysis indicates the detainee most likely is associated with a specific former detainee *or* unverified or single-source, but plausible, reporting indicates a specific former detainee is involved in terrorist activities. For the purposes of this definition, engagement in propaganda does not qualify as terrorist activity.

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