

Canadian Security
Intelligence ServiceService canadien du
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COVID-19

Global Effects and Canadian National Security Interests

RUSSIA

Regime initially reluctant to acknowledge the serious situation. Emphasis is now on containment measures but also actively spreading disinformation blaming the West for the virus.

COVID-19 used as part of broader Russian media/disinformation campaign to discredit the West, promote Russia's soft-power, pressure to end Western sanctions regime, and target GC policies.

CHINA

Regime is focused on a propaganda campaign that protects its own reputation and domestic legitimacy while touting its pandemic aid abroad. Domestic COVID-19 containment efforts continue, although all ongoing government measures (including domestic mobility restrictions) are likely not widely reported. PRC-reported infection and mortality data remain unreliable.

PRC will continue to emphasize international cooperation on COVID-19

IRAN

Infections and deaths among several senior government officials

Increased disinformation campaign seeks to shift blame for domestic shortcomings in handling COVID-19 to foreign actors (especially US sanctions).

EXTREMISM

- Religiously Motivated Violent Extremist propaganda from terrorist movements such as DAESH, Taliban, Al Qaeda and al Shabaab has rapidly incorporated discussion of the COVID-19 pandemic. ISIS encourages followers to become martyrs by getting infected with COVID-19 and going to public places such as nightclubs, restaurants, places of worship and shopping areas.

- A number of Canadian Extremist Travelers (CETs) remain in Syria, many of whom are in detention facilities or IDP camps.



Intelligence Assessment | Évaluation du renseignement

COVID-19

Activities

under the 'New Normal'

The COVID-19 pandemic has generated an unprecedented global health and economic crisis. The fast-evolving situation has altered global geopolitics and deepened fissures between authoritarian states and Western liberal democracies.

Summary

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The landscape

1. The COVID-19 pandemic is the greatest global health crisis in over a century. It has caused unprecedented disruption to daily life around the world, severely restricted global travel, and sparked a massive economic downturn. COVID-19 has generated a new set of national security imperatives focused on containing the pandemic, managing the economic crisis and preserving social cohesion. For countries COVID-19 represents a threat to regime stability. At the same time, adversarial states have used the pandemic as an opportunity to tout themselves as legitimate alternatives to Western liberal democracies, currently straining to deal with the crisis. Global strategic competition increasingly is focusing on a race to find a solution, and to recalibrate supply chains and other vital mechanisms guaranteeing social and economic stability.

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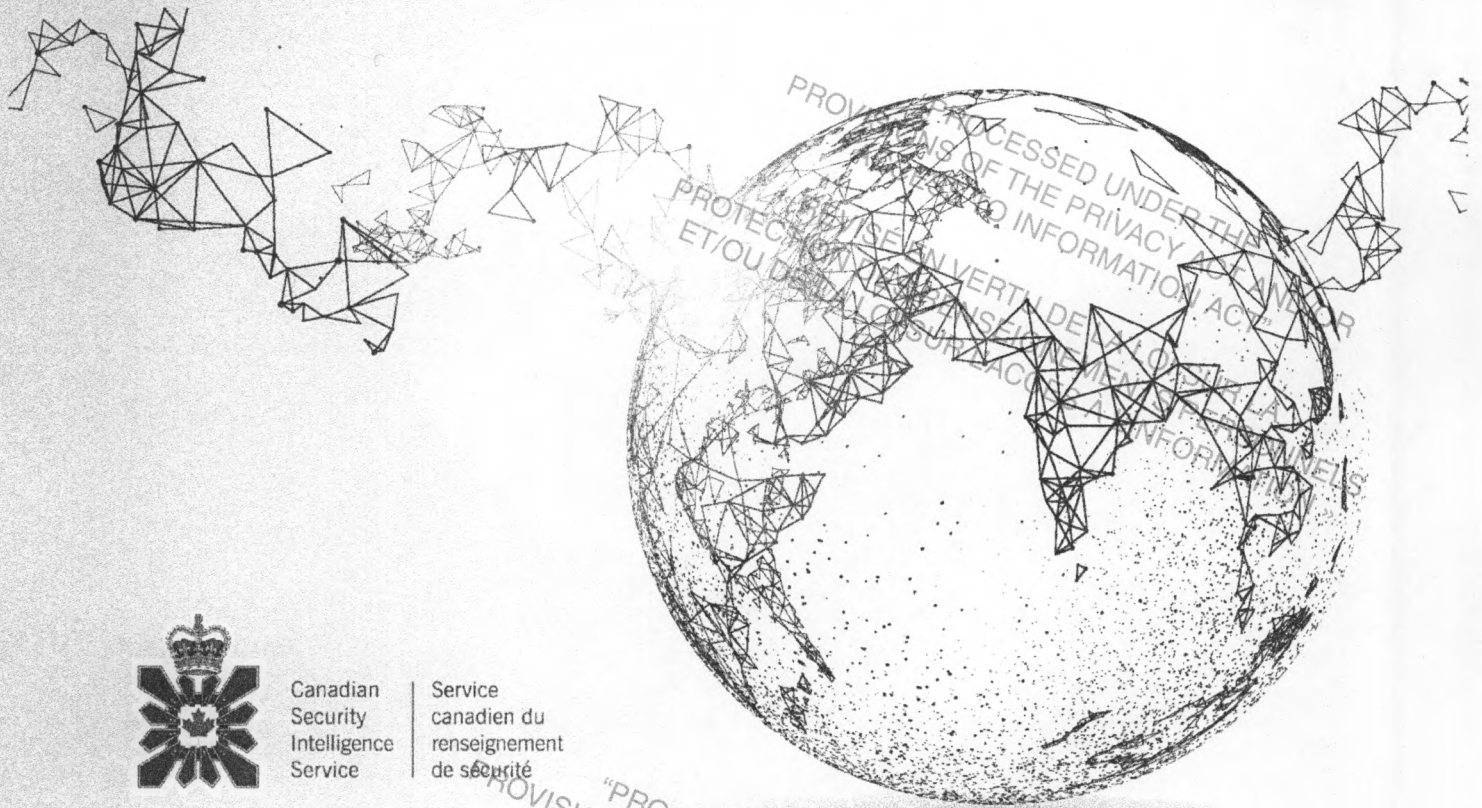
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INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT

Conspiracy Theories, COVID-19 and Threats to 5G Infrastructure: Online Conspiracies and their Real World Impact

Intelligence Assessments Branch
Direction de l'évaluation du renseignement

Canada

INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT

2020 05 01

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Conspiracy Theories, COVID-19 and Threats to 5G Infrastructure: Online Conspiracies and their Real World Impact

Key Assessments

- The COVID-19 pandemic serves as an opportunity for extremists across the ideologically motivated violent (IMV) extremism spectrum to capitalize on and spread conspiracy theories online, including the threats posed by 5G technology
- Recent surveys suggest that a not insignificant minority of Canadians believe that there is a connection between 5G technology and the COVID-19 pandemic. There was one significant attack on a communications tower in Canada during the past month
- Conspiracy theories relating to telecommunications (3G, 4G, 5G) are not new
- The United Kingdom appears to be at the epicenter of arson and sabotage attacks on 5G infrastructure, but attacks have spread across Europe over the past several months.



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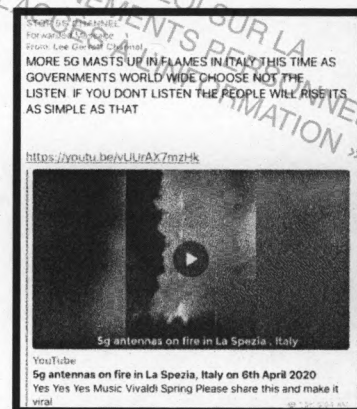
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What is 5G technology?

5G is the fifth generation of wireless communications technologies supporting cellular data networks. It was designed to eventually replace, or at least augment, 4G technology. 5G networks will enable a new breed of digital applications that depend on ultra-fast, low latency, high-throughput communications, including driverless cars, advanced factory automation, and smart cities. The implementation of 5G technology requires the construction of numerous sensors/receivers (often referred to as 5G masts) across the country.

While most academics and scientists assert that 5G technology is safe, a small number argue that there could be associated long-term health risks and argue that further scientific research is required before the technology is fully implemented. Beyond those academics and scientists who oppose 5G, however, a growing and diverse online milieu has adopted and promoted various conspiracy theories surrounding 5G technology and its associated infrastructure. Within this milieu are individuals who engage in, encourage or support attacks on 5G infrastructure, and harass telecom workers. To date, most attacks on 5G masts have occurred in the United Kingdom, as well as in the Netherlands, Belgium, and Italy.



Conspiracies Theories and 5G

Conspiracy theories surrounding emerging technologies, including 5G, are not new,

1 Open information indicates that conspiracy theories surrounding 3G, and then 4G, technology date to the early 2000s.

Origins of the COVID-19/5G Conspiracy Theory?

The precise origins of the first COVID-19/5G conspiracy theory may never be known. Open information points to a January 2020 article from an obscure Belgian newspaper. The newspaper published an interview with a little known general practitioner (GP) medical doctor titled "5G is life-threatening, and no one knows it." The GP produced no scientific research to back up his claims and the newspaper quickly deleted the article from its website. Regardless, the conspiracy theory was ignited and has been repeatedly cited across various online platforms.

1 Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, most 5G conspiracy theories focused on cancer.



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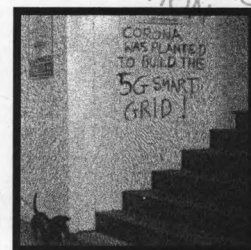
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Individuals and groups often adopt or promote the conspiracies which best suit their personalized worldviews and range of grievances. White supremacists, neo-Nazis, anarchists, those holding anti-government views and others have all adopted varying conspiracy theories related to COVID-19.

Common 5G-related conspiracy theories promoted in the online IMV extremist space include:

- COVID-19 is fake and the current illnesses/fatalities are caused by radiation poisoning from 5G wireless technology;
- COVID-19 is fake and governments are using their lockdowns to construct 5G infrastructure without opposition (see photo at right);
- Governments/law enforcement will “weaponize” 5G technology to move society closer to becoming a police state;
- Bill Gates created the new “coronavirus” in order to sell the vaccine which he also created;
- 5G is designed by governments to depopulate the earth (part of the broader Agenda 21 conspiracy theory that the United Nations (UN) is attempting to subvert national sovereignty in order to establish a new world order (international globalization)).



Online Activity

Conspiracy theories linking COVID-19 and 5G have become extremely popular online and within multiple portions of the IMV extremist landscape. A recent survey conducted in the United Kingdom (UK) by Hope Not Hate² found that 8% of respondents agreed that 5G is contributing to the spread of COVID-19. A survey commissioned by the Office of Communications³ (Ofcom) in the UK concluded that theories linking COVID-19 to 5G technology are the most common examples of online misinformation in the UK. An analysis by the *New York Times* located 487 Facebook communities, 84 Instagram accounts, 52 Twitter accounts and numerous other platforms that linked COVID-19 to 5G technology. According to the *New York Times*, the 10 most popular 5G COVID-19 conspiracy videos posted to YouTube

Online support from celebrities in the UK and the United States only serves to promote these conspiracies and push them into the mainstream.

² Hope Not Hate is an advocacy group based in the UK. It campaigns against racism and fascism, and asserts that it seeks to “combine first class research with community organising and grassroots actions to defeat hate groups at elections and to build community resilience against extremism”.

³ Ofcom is the government approved regulatory and competition authority for the broadcasting, telecommunications and postal industries in the UK.



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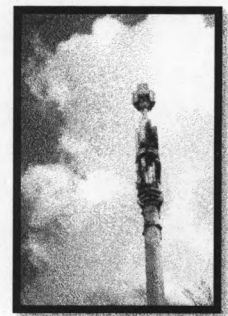
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in March, 2020, have been viewed over 5.8 million times.

In early April 2020, Facebook blocked two anti-5G groups (Stop 5G Save Our Children and Stop 5G Group) after members encouraged the destruction of mobile phone masts. Group members also promoted misinformation linking 5G to the COVID-19 outbreak. The Stop 5G Group had over 60,000 members at the time it was blocked.

Real World Violence

Open information indicates that, in the UK, there have been dozens of acts of vandalism and arson against telecommunication masts over the past several months, with 30 occurring during the first half of April 2020 (see photo of damaged telecommunication tower in Birmingham, England). Several of the attacks did not target 5G infrastructure but older 3G and 4G masts. Most concerning was an attack on a tower supplying voice and data traffic to a Birmingham field hospital treating Covid-19 patients. There have also been more than 80 instances of harassment of telecom workers by 5G opponents.



To date, there have been three arrests. However, no group or entity has claimed responsibility for the attacks.

The total financial cost of the attacks in the UK has not been released.

Racially Motivated Extremists (Neo-Nazis and White Supremacists)

While the neo-Nazi and White supremacist milieu adopt a range of conspiracy theories (often relating to the New World order and the Jewish population), they seemingly did not create most of the primary COVID-19/5G conspiracy theories.



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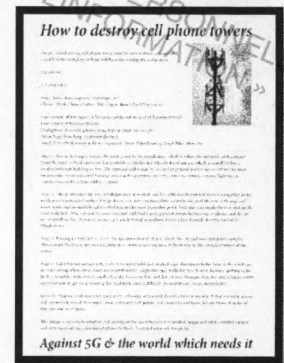
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theories and misinformation, as well as far-right propaganda and symbols, to "amplify the fear" of the public and capitalize on "5G hysteria".

Anarchists

Internationally, anarchists have a long history of vandalism and arson targeting critical infrastructure, including the telecommunications sector. Anarchists are also not shy to claim responsibility for their actions. A review of well-known international and domestic anarchist websites, however, finds no such claims of responsibility relative to the rash of 5G attacks.

One well-known anarchist media website, however, praised the attacks, claiming "If you do not want that [a world of government run techno-prisons to control us as a result of the domination of 5G technology], then you have every reason to see this technology burned to the ground already." The same website posted a document in February 2020 entitled "How to destroy cell phone towers." The document details the tools and equipment required to conduct an attack as well as information on operational security.



Anti-Government/Anti-Vaxxers

Extreme elements of the anti-government milieu regularly adopt conspiracy theories relating to government plots (including a reduction of gun rights, implementation of a police state, or blind adherence to international bodies such as the UN or World Health Organization (WHO) leading to the New World Order). Statements by the government and scientific experts claiming that 5G technology is safe or is unrelated to COVID-19, for example, are met with skepticism if not outright rejection. A similar conspiracy theory adopted by the anti-vaxxer movement claims that 5G is responsible for spreading COVID-19, and citizens will be force-vaccinated as a result.

Other conspiracy theories targeting COVID-19/5G have emerged from various online anti-capitalist, anti-technology, and environmental groups/communities.

Opposition to 5G in Canada

In Canada, physical opposition to 5G infrastructure is significantly less when compared to recent actions in the UK and Europe. However, on April 30, 2020, an act of vandalism



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targeted a telecommunication tower in Laval, Québec causing approximately \$1 million in damages.

There are also a small number of ostensibly Canadian-based online communities dedicated to promoting conspiracy theories in opposition to 5G technology. Most appear fairly small in number, and are limited to members only. As companies begin 5G infrastructure construction in earnest, extremists from across the IMV extremist landscape could engage in acts of arson and vandalism against that infrastructure.

A recent survey conducted by a University of Sherbrooke team on the impact of COVID-19 found that 7.8% of respondents from Québec, and 15.7% from other provinces, believe that a connection exists between 5G technology and COVID-19.

Implications

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May 6, 2020
CSIS WEEKLY

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS & EVOLVING THREATS

CURRENT STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

RUSSIA

• *Media:* Global Research Centre (GR), a Canadian fringe media outlet, continues to publish articles portraying Russia's efforts to deal with COVID-19 in a positive light and describing 'Western conspiracies' against Moscow.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA (KSA)

In mid-April 2020, during a livestream broadcast on Twitter, [redacted] received a message in the live comment section saying that his personal account had been hacked

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May 13, 2020
CSIS WEEKLY

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS & EVOLVING THREATS

CURRENT STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

LEGEND

ZOOM-BOMBING

• *CSIS reporting:* Senior Canadian diplomats in Europe recently participated in a Zoom videoconference hosted by a third party. The call's invitation appeared on social media, prompting probable mischief-makers to hijack the call and end it (often called "Zoom-bombing"). This instance contributes to concerns over the security of Web-based videoconferencing services, which have seen a dramatic spike in use since government and business employees in Canada began working from home during COVID-19.

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COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS & EVOLVING THREATS

May 20, 2020

CSIS WEEKLY

CURRENT STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (PRC)

- **Assessment:** Canada continues to experience a shortage of medical personal protective equipment (PPE) that is critical to the safety of medical professionals and others in essential roles during the pandemic.

EXTREMISM

- **Assessment:** ISIL has been increasing attacks in Iraq, predominately targeting Iraqi Security Forces (ISF), taking advantage of an iterative easing of pressure since January 2020 due to the re-allocation of ISF in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, targeting its enemies using any means available to increase the negative effects of the situation.

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Analytical Brief | Précis analytique

The Impact of COVID-19 on Religiously-Motivated Violent Extremism

This assessment was initially prepared for the Canadian Government on 2020 04 06,

Key Assessments

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Pandemic Measures Diminish the Religiously-Motivated Violent Extremist Threat in the Immediate Term

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Islamic Perspectives on Disease and Mainstream Community Support

Islam references infectious diseases as a phenomenon which is controlled and directed by God. According to Islamic teachings, God introduces disease and spreads it according to divine will. Islam therefore believes that disease furthers purposes which are not fully comprehensible by humanity. To the extent that they can, Muslims are instructed to combat disease through community/personal hygiene practices and through isolating the sick.

To that end, mainstream Muslim scholars have stated that many of the current pandemic measures are in-line with Islamic teachings. In some cases, mainstream Muslim scholars have boasted that Islam has carried out such practices since the earliest generations.

Terrorist propaganda has called for extremists to intentionally spread the COVID-19 virus. While inflammatory and potentially undermining messaging campaigns calling for social distancing,

A potentially more concerning development is the proliferation of conspiracy theories within Arabic-language media which may direct animosity regarding COVID-19 toward the West as well as undermine social-distancing strategies. These conspiracy theories include claims that America developed COVID-19 as a bioweapon against China and Iran in order to weaken its global rivals, or that COVID-19 is an illness derived from new technologies such as 5G telecommunications infrastructure. These conspiracy theories are not specific to Arabic-language media and RMV extremist propaganda, and are similar (and sometimes identical) to the anti-authority messaging of IMV extremists.

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Conclusion

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CAB 2020-21/04
2020 05 08**CAVEAT**

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MISES EN GARDE

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Analytical Brief | Précis analytique

Ideologically Motivated Violent (IMV) Extremists Response to COVID-19

This assessment was initially prepared for the Canadian Government on 2020 03 25, and is now being shared with CSIS' international partners.

Key Assessments

-
-
- Individuals online promoting extreme neo-Nazi, White supremacist and anti-government/law enforcement ideas view COVID-19 as both a threat to their way of life and an opportunity to create and capitalize on conspiracy theories and hateful propaganda. Promotion of concepts such as prepping and accelerationism regularly include references to the need for violence in order to bring about the collapse of society.
-

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CAB 2020-21/05
2020 05 08

IMV extremists, however, have long posted volumes of online conspiracy-laden, racist, bigoted, and misogynist content and propaganda targeting Jews, minority groups, the government, liberals, etc. while aspiring to a future which would fulfil their personalized grievance-driven worldview. Situations of crisis (perceived or real) in society only serve to increase the volume of such material online. According to Eric Ward, executive director of the Western States Center "We are seeing a huge uptick" in such rhetoric "A lot of it is happening on YouTube platforms and videos and others, at a time where much of the country is sheltering in place or practicing social distancing. Ironically, it will serve to give these individuals much more access [to an audience] than they would normally have."

The End of the World as We Know it - Apocalyptic Narratives

Apocalyptic narratives – whether of societal collapse, biblical rapture, or race war – are the primary manner by which neo-Nazis, White supremacists and ethno-nationalists draw in new followers and resources. The COVID-19 pandemic provides the opportunity for many within these milieus to espouse their worldviews, promote extreme actions (including violence), and, in some cases, exploit them for financial gain such as selling bogus cures or preventative "medicines."

Accelerationism is the belief that Western governments are irreparably corrupt and that multiculturalism and democracy will fail. As a result, there will eventually be an outbreak of violence across ethnic and racial lines – often referred to as "the coming race war" (a concept outlined in the book *The Turner Diaries*). Accelerationists often encourage violence to escalate the pace of societal collapse. Accelerationists reject any effort to seize political power through elections, dismissing all attempts to engage in mass politics as pointless.

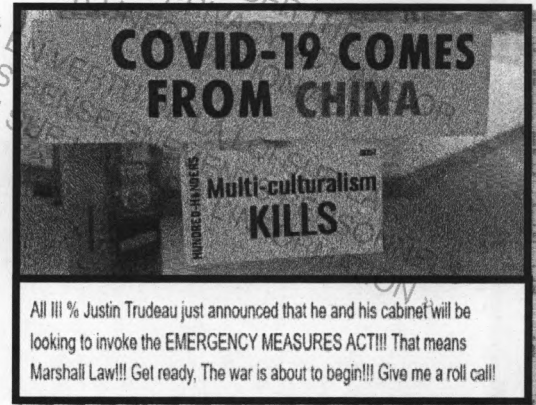
As with accelerationists, "Preppers" also believe in the imminent collapse of society (See text box at right) and COVID-19 is justification that their beliefs are well-founded. Preppers often hold a range of extreme anti-government, racially motivated views and promote a range of hateful commentary online. More recent mainstream media coverage of this milieu has added credibility but overlooks some of their more extreme views.

What is Prepping?

Prepping is the process of preparing oneself to survive without a complex infrastructure, as seen in modern society. The term "prepping" often refers to the act of preparing oneself for life during and after an apocalyptic event (often referred to as living off the land).

CAB 2020-21/05
2020 05 08**Conspiracy Theories**

IMV extremists and others are using the COVID-19 pandemic as an opportunity to promote disinformation and alternative narratives regarding both the cause of the pandemic and potential societal outcomes. Blame for the pandemic focuses primarily on Jews, China (see image at right recently located in Port Credit, Ontario), immigrants, the government and societal elites. A key theme in the United States, and to a lesser degree Canada, is the perception that the government will use the pandemic as an opportunity to enact the Emergency Measures Act (in Canada), or martial law in the United States (including the call-up of the national guard) as a precursor to reducing, if not eliminating, citizens gun rights (See image at right of a recent Canadian post).

**Common conspiracy theories promoted**

in the online IMV extremist space include:

- COVID-19 is a "bioweapon" sent from China in order to destabilize the Trump administration;
- The United Nations (UN) is using COVID-19 to depopulate the earth (part of the broader Agenda 21 conspiracy theory that the UN is attempting to subvert national sovereignty in order to establish a new world order (international globalization));
- COVID-19 is fake and the current fatalities are caused by radiation poisoning from 5G wireless technology;
- QANON (Q Anonymous) assert that COVID-19 is fake and is being used by President Trump to covertly prepare for the coming of martial law in the United States and the mass arrests of members of the "deep state" and their supporters;
- COVID-19 is fake and was created by an international consortium of Jews in order to enhance their long-term profits.

The impact of COVID-19-related conspiracy theories has contributed to at least one Canadian death to date. On March 17, 2020, a Toronto-based activist involved with numerous social justice, environmental and Indigenous issues self-immolated before stabbing himself repeatedly. According to friends, the activist believed that the COVID-19 shutdown was an establishment conspiracy plot, ostensibly to strip Canadians of their rights and freedoms.

Other Calls to Action

Media reporting suggests that "right-wing extremists" are contemplating the use of COVID-19 as a biological weapon.

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2020 05 08

What About Anarchists?

In Germany, however, media reporting indicates that "left-wing" extremists are urging Germans to use COVID-19 as an excuse to riot, loot, and to attack Germany's energy supply infrastructure. According to one anonymous individual: "Should the situation worsen, we will try to make our revolutionary contribution to the outbreaks of anger, protests, looting and riots... However, impatient people might feel a strong desire to make an immediate contribution to the shake-up of the production cycle and want to strike a blow that interrupts their energy supply."

Implications

CSIS continues to monitor this situation.

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TA 20/26-A 2020 04 07

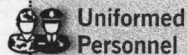


UPDATE

THE NATIONAL TERRORISM THREAT LEVEL FOR CANADA

MEDIUM

MEDIUM



Uniformed Personnel

This graphic threat assessment (TA) updates the National Terrorism Threat Level (NTTL) and the threat to uniformed personnel last published on 4 December 2019 - TA 19/127.

CRITICAL
HIGH
MEDIUM
LOW
VERY LOW

THREATS TO TRANSPORTATION

transportation networks, such as rail, marine and air, continue to be desirable targets for extremist groups.

ITAC has reassessed the threat to rail networks in Canada (see TA 20/23-A).

Extremist propaganda continues to convey the intent to strike transportation modes, and a number of acts of sabotage against domestic rail infrastructure have occurred.

ITAC last assessed the terrorism threat to civil aviation in Canada in March 2019 (refer to TA 19/22-B), while the threat to maritime transportation systems (MTS) (refer to TA 18/120) was reassessed in 2018.

AVIATION



RAIL



MARITIME



CANADIAN EXTREMIST TRAVELLERS AND RETURNEES

Currently, there are CETs believed to be alive and currently abroad, are in Turkey/Syria/Iraq, with the remainder in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region, North and East Africa. These individuals travelled to support and facilitate terrorist-related activities. Individuals, with a nexus to Canada and suspected of having engaged in terrorist activities abroad, have returned. Of that number, returned from Turkey/Syria/Iraq.

The number of CETs returning to Canada as a consequence of the collapse of the physical DAESH caliphate has been relatively few to date. Currently, the majority of CETs in Syria remain in detention.

SECRET//

ITAC assesses the terrorism threat in Canada to be **MEDIUM**: Extremist groups and individuals in Canada and abroad have both the **intent AND the capability** to carry out an act of terrorism in this country. ITAC assesses an attack *could occur*.

ITAC assesses the terrorism threat to uniformed personnel in Canada to be **MEDIUM**: An attack targeting uniformed personnel in Canada *could occur*.

ITAC ASSESSMENT

A terrorist attack in Canada could occur

The greatest terrorism threat to Canada remains domestic extremists who have been inspired or incited online

References to Canada and uniformed personnel continue to be present in extremist propaganda. This has not resulted in attacks or more active planning in Canada.

ASSESSMENT NOTE: this assessment is based on all source information

Canada



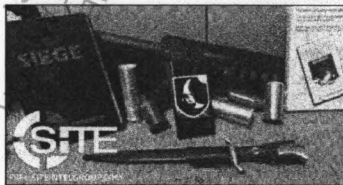
THREAT DEVELOPMENTS

IDEOLOGICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENT EXTREMISM

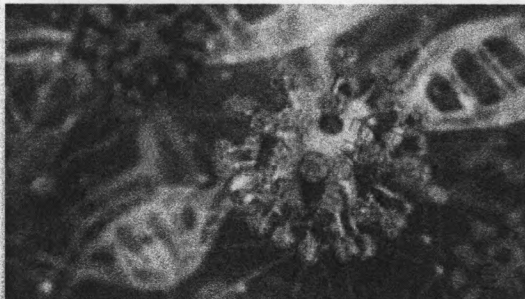
IMV actors continue to express intent to carry out violent acts in the name of their extremist views. On 16 January 2020, United States (US) authorities arrested Patrik Mathews who, after illegally crossing into the US in August 2019, discussed attacking a gun rights rally in Richmond, Virginia, in the hopes of triggering a race war (refer to TH 20/14, TH 20/23, and TH 20/25). Other Canadian IMV extremists under investigation include at least one member of the Canadian military who encouraged fellow extremists to join the military to learn "the methods you need to destroy them".

USE OF PROPAGANDA AND RECRUITMENT MATERIAL

The threat of IMV extremism endures, in part due to the proliferation of extremist propaganda and recruitment material. Primarily shared via social media, recent propaganda and recruitment videos posted online feature a wide range of activities, including military-style weapons training and flag burnings. Some videos depict and promote 'hate camps', while others, including one by The Base, appear to threaten potential targets such as Canadian journalists who focus on extremism. (see TH 19/137 and TH 20/11). Certain IMV extremist networks have criticized "keyboard warriorism" and have encouraged individuals to engage in violent activities.



ITAC ASSESSMENT



EXTREMISTS SUGGEST USE OF COVID-19 AS A WEAPON OR RETRIBUTION

According to SITE Intelligence, on 19 February 2020, a far-right Telegram channel set up to aggregate content regarding the spread of the coronavirus COVID-19, published a list of "accelerationism goals" including the deliberate transmission of COVID-19 to minority groups. Separate MEMRI reporting from 4 March 2020 notes that a jihadist magazine included an article from a group of Islamic clerics based in Syria describing COVID-19 as "one of Allah's soldiers" and "divine vengeance" against criminals.

ITAC ASSESSMENT



TERRORISM RELATED OR OTHER LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Saad
AKHTAR

Charged with first-degree murder, including terrorist activity, for allegedly killing a pedestrian in Scarborough, ON, on the evening of 21 February 2020.

Kingston-based
minor

Charged with terrorism-related offences pursuant to the Criminal Code. After being released on bail, he was arrested on 21 April 2019 after an alleged breach of his bail conditions, and has remained in custody since. The youth is expected to enter a guilty plea on 7 April 2020.

Carlos
LARMOND

Initially arrested in Montréal, QC, in January 2015 while boarding a plane with intentions to fly overseas and join DAESH. He was recently released from prison to a halfway house (with restrictions) under a statutory-release law. His co-conspirator (and twin brother) Ashton Larmond was sentenced to 17 years and remains in prison.

Ikar
MAO

Charged with participating in the activity of a terrorist group and leaving Canada to participate in the activity of a terrorist group. He was denied bail on 12 December 2019, and will remain in custody until trial.

Patrik
MATHEWS

Charged in the US with transporting a firearm and ammunition with intent to commit a felony and of being an alien in possession of a firearm and ammunition. He allegedly videotaped himself advocating killing people, poisoning water supplies and derailing trains. Mathews has been denied bail.

Alek
MINASSIAN

Charged with first-degree murder and 16 counts of attempted murder in connection with the 23 April 2018 Toronto van attack. His trial is scheduled to commence on 6 April 2020. Minassian is not facing terrorism charges.

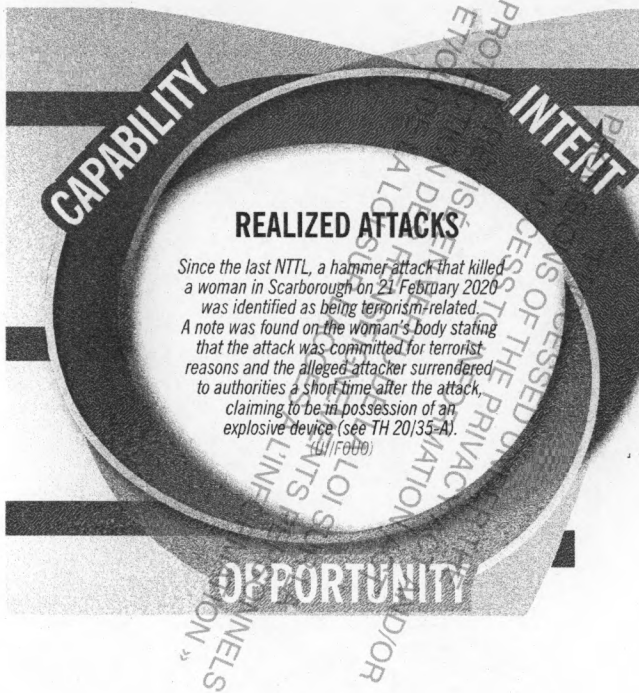
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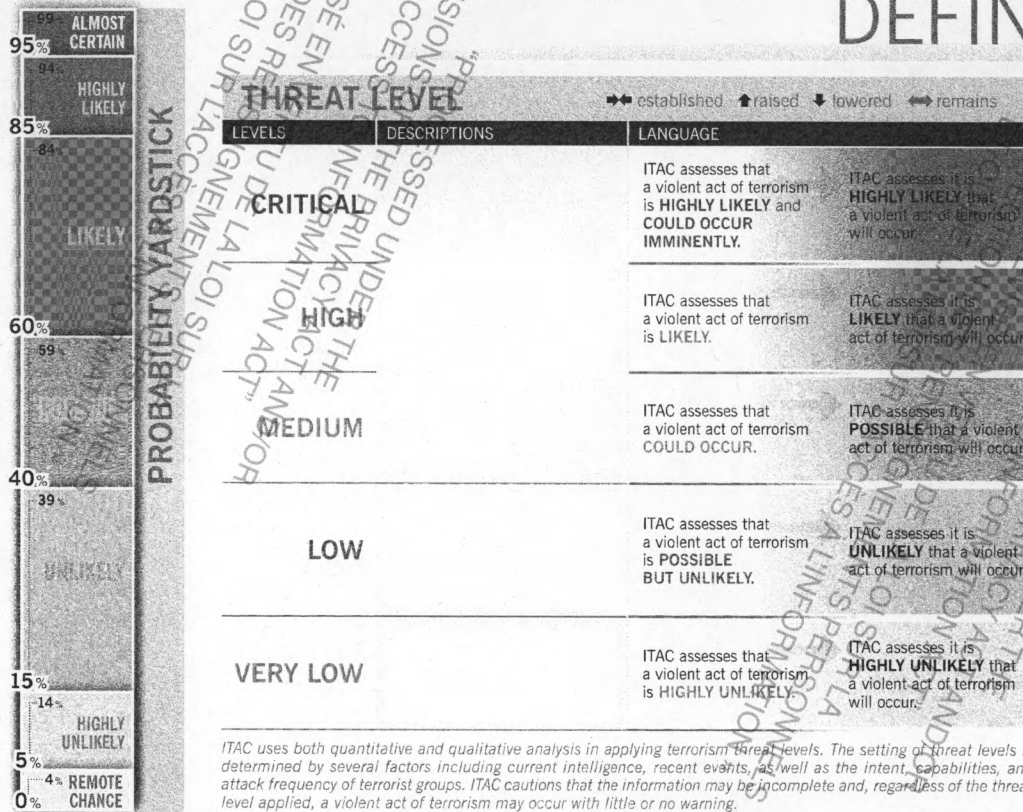
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DEFINITIONS



TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED		Capable of sophisticated attacks, including against hard targets
MODERATE		Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets
GENERAL		Capable of simple attacks

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TA 20/26-E 2020 03 27



UPDATE

THE NATIONAL TERRORISM THREAT LEVEL FOR CANADA

MEDIUM

MEDIUM



Uniformed Personnel

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AVIATION



RAIL



MARITIME



CANADIAN EXTREMIST TRAVELLERS

There is no information to indicate the intent by CETs abroad, returnees or prevented travellers to target Canada. Currently there are approximately 190 CETs with a nexus to Canada who are abroad, including in Syria, Iraq, Turkey, Afghanistan, Pakistan and North and East Africa, and 60 CETs who have returned to Canada. These numbers have been stable over the last four years. These individuals travelled to support and facilitate terrorist-related activities.

Currently, a number of CETs are in detention in Syria. Some of these CETs are expressing a desire to return to Canada and requested assistance in leaving the conflict zone.

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

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ITAC ASSESSMENT

A terrorist attack in Canada could occur

The greatest terrorism threat to Canada remains domestic extremists who have been inspired or incited online by ideologies promoted by groups such as DAESH, al-Qaida (AQ) or the ideologically motivated violent extremist (IMV) milieu.

Extremists in Canada maintain the intent and possess some limited capability to conduct an act of terrorism in Canada.

The transfer of knowledge between extremists continues; social media networks remain key to the transfer of knowledge among extremists and, in Canada, extremists continue to actively participate in online forums, seeking to enhance their capabilities.

Some higher-threat CETs possess battlefield experience and maintain networks of like-minded extremists, and could pose a security threat to Canada. Canada-based extremists who have been prevented from travelling also pose a heightened threat to the national security of Canada, given the possibility they could re-direct efforts towards domestic attack planning.

References to Canada and uniformed personnel continue to be present in extremist propaganda. This has not resulted in attacks or more active planning in Canada.

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THREAT DEVELOPMENTS

IDEOLOGICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENT EXTREMISM

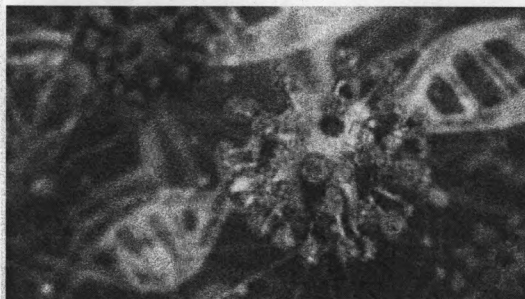
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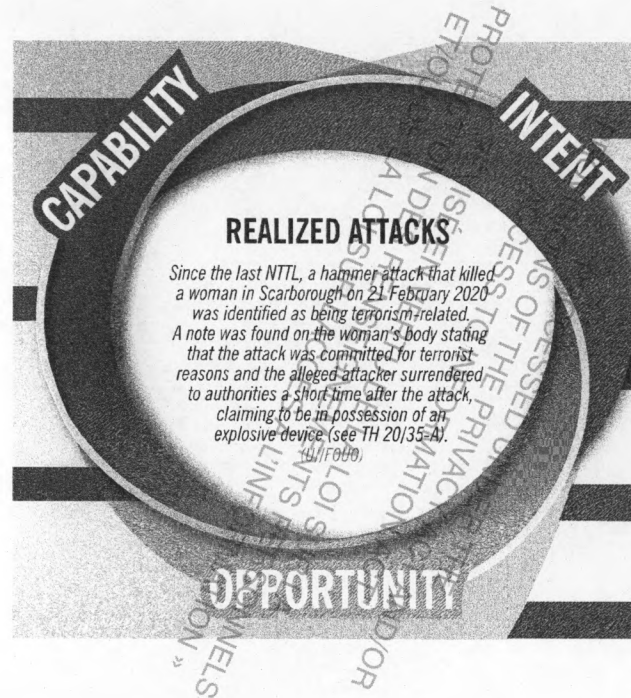
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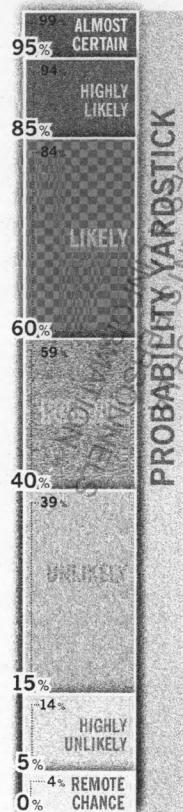


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DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL		
LEVELS	DESCRIPTIONS	LANGUAGE
CRITICAL	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY LIKELY and COULD OCCUR IMMINENTLY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is LIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
HIGH	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism COULD OCCUR .	ITAC assesses it is POSSIBLE that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
MEDIUM	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is POSSIBLE BUT UNLIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is UNLIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY UNLIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY UNLIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
VERY LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is REMOTE CHANCE .	ITAC assesses it is REMOTE CHANCE that a violent act of terrorism will occur.

ITAC uses both quantitative and qualitative analysis in applying terrorism threat levels. The setting of threat levels is determined by several factors including current intelligence, recent events, as well as the intent, capabilities, and attack frequency of terrorist groups. ITAC cautions that the information may be incomplete and, regardless of the threat level applied, a violent act of terrorism may occur with little or no warning.

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TA 20/27-AF 2020 04 15



LE POINT SUR LA COVID-19

EXTRÉMISME ET VIOLENCE POLITIQUE

À L'ÉCHELLE MONDIALE 413 467 18 433

- DAECH appelle les extrémistes à profiter de la pandémie pour commettre de nouveaux attentats « comme ceux qui ont été commis à Paris, à Londres, à Bruxelles et ailleurs », pendant que les forces de sécurité et les gouvernements occidentaux sont concentrés sur la crise de la COVID-19.
- Des adhérents à des idéologies extrémistes violentes (IEV) appellent en ligne à l'établissement d'« objectifs accélérationnistes », dont la transmission délibérée de la COVID-19 à des groupes minoritaires.

AMÉRIQUES 60 434 813

CANADA Les médias constatent que la discrimination à laquelle les communautés asiatiques font face est à la hausse.

52 122 **ÉTATS-UNIS** Des adhérents à des IEV sont tués pendant qu'ils planifiaient un attentat contre un hôpital du Missouri.

EUROPE 220 516 11 986

4 654 Sur le forum Indymedia, des adhérents à des IEV appellent au pillage et à la perpétration d'attentats violents dans un climat de mesures de restrictions imposées pour faire face à la COVID-19.

AFRIQUE 1 664 29

1 057 Des mercenaires venus de zones infectées par la COVID-19 participent aux combats à Benghazi.

PACIFIQUE OCCIDENTAL 97 766 3 518

6 795 Les insurgés de la Nouvelle armée populaire déclarent qu'ils observeront un cessez-le-feu et adoptent une attitude défensive pendant la pandémie.

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Étant donné l'évolution rapide de la situation, la présente évaluation fournit un instantané des faits nouveaux et en examine les répercussions à court terme sur la menace terroriste à l'échelle mondiale.

la présence canadienne à l'étranger et les niveaux de la menace terroriste dans divers pays dans le but de donner des indices et des avertissements sur d'éventuelles menaces de violence pesant sur le Canada et les intérêts canadiens à l'étranger.



MOYEN-ORIENT 29 631 2 008

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2 246 Quelque 100 000 réfugiés vulnérables fuyant le conflit en Syrie et en Irak sont amassés à la frontière grecque.

1 177

ASIE DU SUD-EST 44 72

Des attentats complexes au véhicule piégé sont commis devant les endroits où se réunissent les planificateurs des mesures à prendre pour faire face à la pandémie.

Jakarta et Solo ont décrété l'état d'urgence, mais les répercussions de la pandémie sur de vastes archipels décentralisés seraient sous-évaluées.

Les partisans de DAECH appellent en ligne à la perpétration d'attentats pendant la crise de la COVID-19.

LÉGENDE

NIVEAUX DE LA MENACE (COULEURS)

CRITIQUE ÉLEVÉ MODÉRÉ FAIBLE TRÈS FAIBLE

🇨🇦 NIVEAU DE LA MENACE pour les intérêts canadiens

🇨🇦 Cas confirmés de COVID-19

🇨🇦 Morts liées à la COVID-19

🇨🇦 Registre consulaire des Canadiens dans le pays (RCCE)

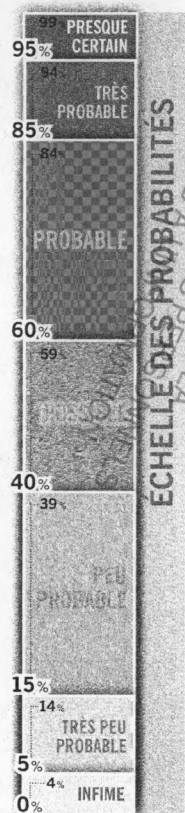
SECRET

ÉVALUATION DE LA MENACE

ÉVALUATION

Canada

DÉFINITIONS



NIVEAUX DE LA MENACE

↔ est établi ↑ est haussé ↓ est baissé ↔ demeure

CRITIQUE

Le CIET estime qu'un acte de violence terroriste est **TRÈS PROBABLE ET POURRAIT ÊTRE IMMINENT.**

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Capacités de commettre des attentats complexes, y compris contre des cibles difficiles.

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Capacités de commettre des attentats très médiatisés contre des cibles faciles.

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TA 20/27-F 2020 04 15



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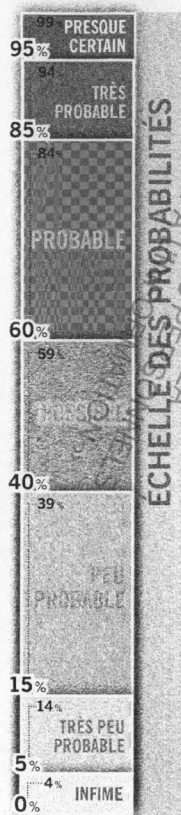
TRÈS SECRET//

ÉVALUATION DE LA MENACE

ÉVALUATION

Canada

DÉFINITIONS



NIVEAUX DE LA MENACE

↔ est établi ↑ est hausse ↓ est baissé ↔ demeure

Niveau	Le CIET estime qu'un acte de violence terroriste est	Le CIET estime qu'un acte de violence terroriste est
CRITIQUE	TRÈS PROBABLE ET POURRAIT ÊTRE IMMINENT.	TRÈS PROBABLE
ÉLEVÉ	PROBABLE.	PROBABLE
MODÈRE	POURRAIT ÊTRE POSÉ.	POSSIBLE
FAIBLE	POSSIBLE MAIS PEU PROBABLE.	PEU PROBABLE
TRÈS FAIBLE	TRÈS PEU PROBABLE.	TRÈS PEU PROBABLE

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THREAT ASSESSMENT

ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

TA 20/29-E // 2020-04-03

TOP SECRET//

CANADIAN EYES ONLY

SYRIA:

SECRET

SYRIAN KURDISH MEASURES AGAINST COVID-19 CRISIS

According to media and open source reporting, on 23 March 2020 the Syrian Kurdish administration announced a two-week curfew over its territory in northeast Syria to prevent the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), restricting residents to their homes and closing public spaces and non-essential businesses. Security checkpoints and patrols have been enforcing the measures, arresting hundreds for non-compliance. According to separate uncorroborated media reporting, as of 24 March 2020, the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) indicated that it would suspend most of its military operations in northeast Syria to deal with COVID-19.

According to media, as of 26 March 2020, limited medical resources were available in Syrian Kurdish territory to care for patients infected with COVID-19, including few intensive care units and ventilators. There were no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Syrian Kurdish territory, but there was little to no testing capability due to limited access to testing kits.

IDP CAMPS AND PRISONS

CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES IN SYRIA

According to open source reporting, as of 2 April 2020, Syria had only disclosed 16 confirmed cases of COVID-19. In contrast, there were over 50,000 confirmed cases in Iran, over 18,000 in Turkey and nearly 800 in Iraq.

ASSESSMENT NOTE

ITAC's assessment is based on

and media and open source reporting.

Prison break

According to media and open source reporting, on 29 March 2020, several DAESH detainees briefly escaped and were subsequently recaptured following a riot at Ghweran prison in northeast Syria. According to uncorroborated open source reporting, detainees rioted due to poor treatment and conditions in the prison.

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Terrorism Threat Levels

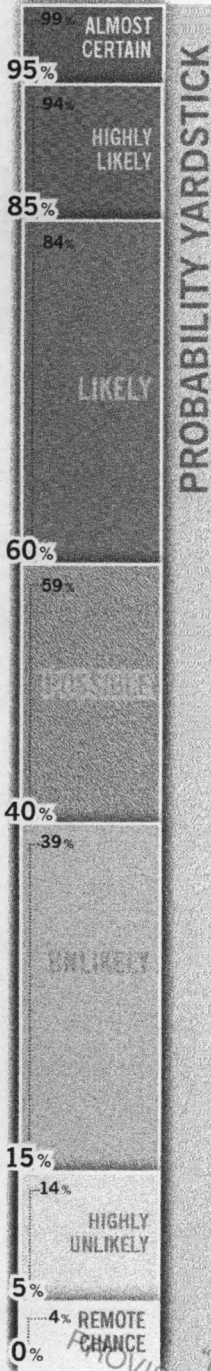
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Threat Levels as of 24 July 2019.

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DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

	PROCESSED UNDER THE "RÉVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA PROTECTION DES RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS ET/OU DE LA LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION"	PROCESSED UNDER THE "RÉVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA PROTECTION DES RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS ET/OU DE LA LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION"
CRITICAL	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY LIKELY and COULD OCCUR IMMINENTLY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
HIGH	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is LIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
MEDIUM	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism COULD OCCUR .	ITAC assesses it is POSSIBLE that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is POSSIBLE BUT UNLIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is UNLIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
VERY LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY UNLIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY UNLIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.

ITAC uses both quantitative and qualitative analysis in applying terrorism threat levels. The setting of threat levels is determined by several factors including current intelligence, recent events, as well as the intent, capabilities, and attack frequency of terrorist groups. ITAC cautions that the information may be incomplete and, regardless of the threat level applied, a violent act of terrorism may occur with little or no warning.

TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED		Capable of sophisticated attacks, including against hard targets
MODERATE		Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets
GENERAL		Capable of simple attacks

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TA 20/30-A 2020 04 15



COVID-19 UPDATE

EXTREMISM & POLITICAL VIOLENCE

GLOBAL

1,353,361 79,235

- Ideologically-motivated violent (IMV) extremists suggest using household chemicals to create a toxic gas that would mimic COVID-19 symptoms and overwhelm medical facilities.
- Al-Qaida leadership issues first statement on COVID-19, urges continued 'jihad' but calls for Westerners to 'utilize their time in quarantine' to turn to Islam.

EUROPE

57,369

- 2,546 PKK extremist killed by Turkish authorities tested positive for COVID-19 suggesting virus had spread to the group across the Iranian border.

AMERICAS

417,416 12,597

- 3,103 Extremists may have used COVID-19 lockdowns as an opportunity to execute local activists.
- 33,005 **UNITED STATES** US issues warnings about IMV extremist aspirations to use COVID-19 as a weapon;

WESTERN PACIFIC

114,667 3,922

- 8,543 DAESH-Philippines propaganda capitalizing on COVID-19 to celebrate the death of Americans and Italians.
- 13,045 Anti-Chinese militants in Hong Kong target police facilities, residences and vehicles with firebombs.

MIDDLE EAST

81,993 4,314

- 367 Taliban campaigns against COVID-19 spread while mass prisoner release delayed.
- 1,149 DAESH detainees recaptured after briefly escaping Ghweran prison.
- 661 France withdraws troops from Iraq due to pandemic.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

10,707 426

- 28,723 DAESH-India propaganda calls for lone actor attacks; calls COVID-19 an opportunity for 'jihad'.
- 2,723 Indonesia considers release of 30,000 inmates to curb virus in prisons; concern Jemaah Anshorut Daulah may seek to conduct attacks during pandemic, possibly targeting Chinese interests.

Given the rapidly changing situation, this assessment updates TA20/27 to provide a snapshot of developments and considers the short-term implications for the global terrorist threat.

the Canadian presence abroad and ITAC country terrorism threat levels to provide an indications and warnings perspective on potential violent threats to Canada and Canadian interests abroad.



LEGEND

THREAT LEVEL COLOURS
CRITICAL HIGH MEDIUM LOW VERY LOW

THREAT LEVEL to Canadian interests

- Confirmed cases of COVID-19
- Deaths related to COVID-19
- Registered Canadians in the country (ROCA)

SECRET

GLOBAL THREAT ASSESSMENT

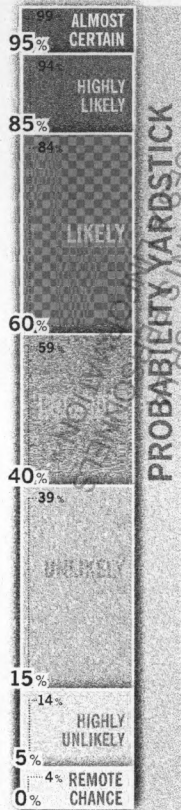
WHAT'S NEW?

Countries around the world have withdrawn, redeployed or locked down thousands of military and security forces to combat COVID-19, including in several fragile states where their presence has deterred terrorist advances.

ENDURING GLOBAL THREAT ASSESSMENTS

Canada

DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

→ established ↑ raised ↓ lowered ↔ remains

LEVELS	DESCRIPTIONS	LANGUAGE
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- Taliban campaigns against COVID-19 spread while mass prisoner release delayed;
- DAESH detainees recaptured after briefly escaping Ghweran prison;

AFRICA

7,547 326

- Combatants infected while conflict escalates in Tripoli;

- Two terrorist attacks seeking to take advantage of pandemic thwarted near US Embassy in Tunis.

- UN mission quarantined and suspends battalion rotations.

LEGEND
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CRITICAL HIGH MEDIUM LOW VERY LOW
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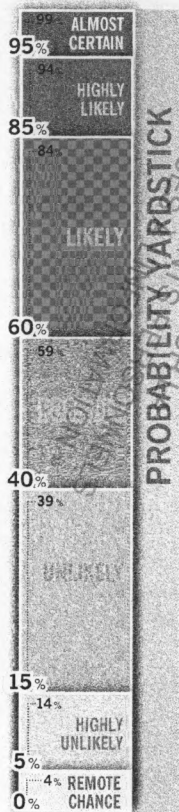
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DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

→ established ↑ raised ↓ lowered ↔ remains

LEVELS	DESCRIPTIONS	LANGUAGE
CRITICAL	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY LIKELY and COULD OCCUR IMMINENTLY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
HIGH	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is LIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
MEDIUM	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism COULD OCCUR .	ITAC assesses it is POSSIBLE that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is POSSIBLE BUT UNLIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is UNLIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
VERY LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY UNLIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY UNLIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.

ITAC uses both quantitative and qualitative analysis in applying terrorism threat levels. The setting of threat levels is determined by several factors including current intelligence, recent events, as well as the intent, capabilities, and attack frequency of terrorist groups. ITAC cautions that the information may be incomplete and, regardless of the threat level applied, a violent act of terrorism may occur with little or no warning.

TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED		Capable of sophisticated attacks, including against hard targets
MODERATE		Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets
GENERAL		Capable of simple attacks

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

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TA 20/32-A 2020 04 29



COVID-19 UPDATE

EXTREMISM & POLITICAL VIOLENCE

GLOBAL

2 804 796 193 710

- Islamist extremist narrative frames pandemic as punishment targeting non-believers.
- Ideologically-motivated violent (IMV) extremists continue to spread COVID-19 conspiracy theories and have encouraged arson attacks targeting telecommunications infrastructure.

EUROPE

11 355 122 218

France-based IMV extremist calls for 'radical cleansing' of British radio Service broadcasting prayers during pandemic. IMV extremists laud series of arson attacks on 5G telecommunication infrastructure.

IMV extremists laud additional arson attacks on 5G telecommunication infrastructure.

AMERICAS

1 094 848 56 063

CANADA Mass shooting in Nova Scotia by individual whose businesses had been closed due to pandemic kills at least 22 people while impersonating a police officer.

UNITED STATES IMV telegram channel targets medical personnel in campaign to sabotage their vehicles; individual arrested in attempted arson attack targeting Jewish assisted living facility in Massachusetts.

WESTERN PACIFIC

142 639 5 943

Improvised explosive device mailed to Hong Kong police headquarters amid pandemic security restrictions.

This assessment continues ITAC's snapshot review of recent developments and considers the short-term implications for the global terrorist threat (see TA20/27, TA20/30).



MIDDLE EAST

160 586 6 887

Extremists at al-Hawl refugee camp celebrate Western COVID-19 deaths.

AFRICA

20 316 839

Two doctors, a nurse and a hospital administrative assistant kidnapped by an armed group in Sirte.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

43 844 1 747

DAESH supporter claims COVID-19 punishment for death of DAESH leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and calls on extremists to target United Nations.

World Health Organization employee carrying COVID-19 test results killed in an attack in Rakhine province while driving UN-marked vehicle.

Two individuals arrested in Kebili in a disrupted plot to infect security forces with COVID-19.

Security forces clash with protesters in Nacala over COVID-19 restrictive measures.

LEGEND
THREAT LEVEL COLOURS
CRITICAL HIGH MEDIUM LOW VERY LOW
THREAT LEVEL to Canadian interests

Confirmed cases of COVID-19
Deaths related to COVID-19
Registered Canadians in the country (ROCA)

SECRET

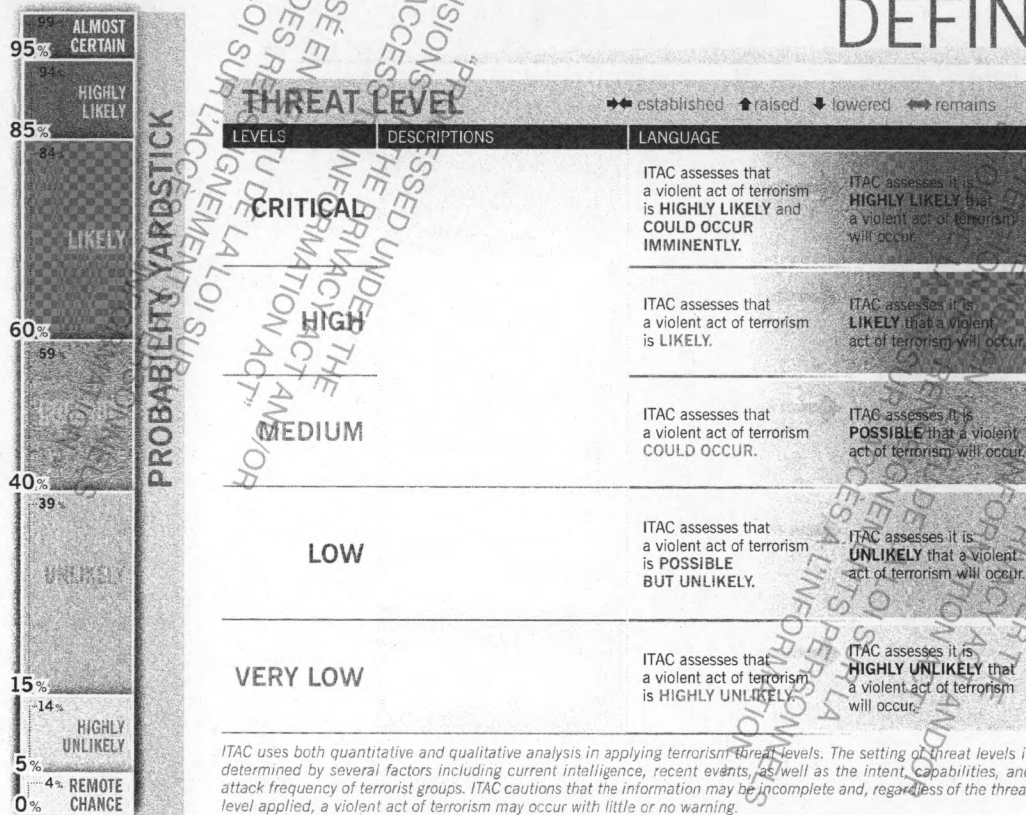
GLOBAL THREAT ASSESSMENT

WHAT'S NEW?

ENDURING GLOBAL THREAT ASSESSMENTS

Canada

DEFINITIONS



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TA 20/32-E 2020 04 28



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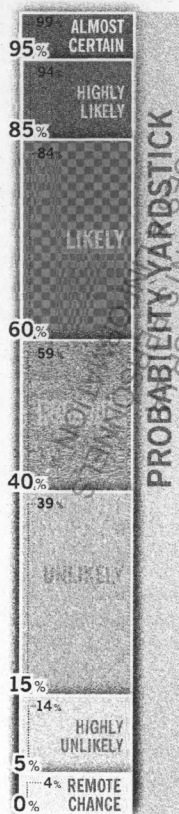
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TA 20/34-A 2020 05 21



COVID-19 UPDATE

EXTREMISM & POLITICAL VIOLENCE

This assessment continues ITAC's snapshot review of recent developments and considers the short-term implications for the global terrorist threat (see TA20/32).

GLOBAL

4 088 848 283 153

Open source studies suggest increased online engagement with extremist websites and social media during the pandemic, particularly amongst isolated, unemployed youth more susceptible to radicalization.

EUROPE

11 314

Loyalist Defence League uses pandemic as pretext to conduct fundraising.

AMERICAS

104 549

CANADA Anarchists Worldwide calls for ideologically-motivated violent extremist (IMV) attacks on 'International Sabotage Day' on 30 April 2020; two individuals arrested in Quebec for a series of arson attacks on the same day targeting telecommunication infrastructure.

WESTERN PACIFIC

6 949

DAESH-aligned social media calls for the death of politicians and soldiers implementing ban on attending mosques; DAESH-Philippines kills two soldiers in Maguindanao implementing COVID-19 quarantine restrictions.

12 833

Turkistan Islamic Party claims pandemic is divine retribution for China's treatment of Uighurs and calls for destruction of "atheist Chinese".

MIDDLE EAST

9 138

659 Attacks in Iraq surge during Ramadan as DAESH campaign takes advantage of Iraqi government focus on enforcing pandemic restrictions.

224

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula official urges supporters to increase their attacks during Ramadan amid the spread of the pandemic.

AFRICA

1 449

37. Al-Shabaab spokesman blames non-Muslims and foreign forces for spreading COVID-19, rejects Western medicine and hospitals, and urges action to drive foreigners out of the country as a preventative health measure.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

3 597

5 541 Despite pandemic-related ceasefire, Barisan Revolusi Nasional conducts attack killing two soldiers manning a COVID-19 checkpoint.

THREAT LEVEL COLOURS

CRITICAL HIGH MEDIUM LOW VERY LOW

THREAT LEVEL to Canadian interests



Confirmed cases of COVID-19



Deaths related to COVID-19



Registered Canadians in the country (ROCA)

LEGEND

GLOBAL THREAT ASSESSMENT

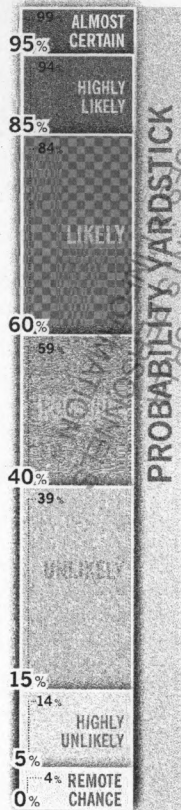
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TA 20/34-E 2020 05 14



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EUROPE

1 557 500 157 880

MIDDLE EAST

274 027 9 138

AFRICA

46 829 1 449

AMERICAS

1 743 717 104 549

CANADA

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WESTERN PACIFIC

161 872 6 527

6 949

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CRITICAL HIGH MEDIUM LOW VERY LOW

THREAT LEVEL to Canadian interests

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Deaths related to COVID-19

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TOP SECRET//

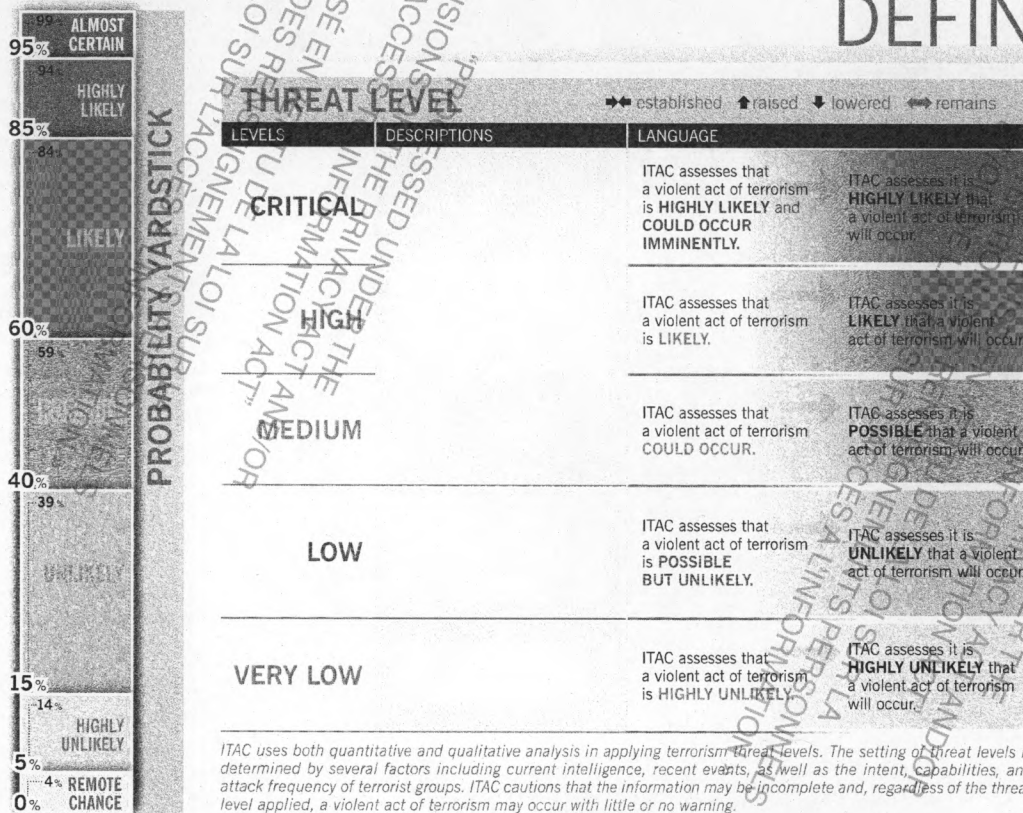
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APERÇU DE LA MENACE

CIET

ITAC

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

INCIDENT CRITIQUE

TH 20/48-F // 2020-03-23

SECRET//

CITOYENS CANADIENS SEULEMENT

Thaïlande : Un véhicule piégé explose à l'extérieur d'un lieu de rencontre sur la COVID-19

RÉUNION SUR LA LUTTE CONTRE LA PANDÉMIE DE COVID-19

Le 16 mars 2020, les médias ont rapporté qu'un véhicule piégé avait explosé à l'extérieur du centre administratif des provinces du sud de la Thaïlande situé dans la ville méridionale de Yala, ce qui a fait 25 blessés. Dans le cadre de cet attentat, une personne a garé un véhicule piégé près de l'immeuble gouvernemental. Elle s'est servie d'un premier explosif pour attirer les premiers répondants hors de l'immeuble, après quoi elle s'est enfuie sur une motocyclette conduite par un complice. Dix minutes plus tard, le deuxième explosif, c'est-à-dire le véhicule piégé, a explosé et blessé plusieurs journalistes, policiers, soldats et représentants locaux. Au moment de l'attentat, le secrétaire général du centre tenait une réunion sur la COVID-19 avec des gouverneurs provinciaux et des autorités sanitaires.



Source: CIET EU20 20

NOTA

La présente évaluation repose sur

“PROCESSED UNDER THE
PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT AND/OR
ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT”
« RÉVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA
PROTECTION DES RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS
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Les DÉFINITIONS et la MISE EN GARDE se trouvent à la dernière page.

Canada

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LE BRN ENTAME DES NÉGOCIATIONS DE PAIX AVEC LA THAÏLANDE

Au début de mars 2020, les médias ont rapporté que des représentants de la Thaïlande et le BRN avaient entamé des négociations de paix après avoir tenu des pourparlers secrets à la fin de 2019. Auparavant, les médias ont laissé entendre que l'aile militaire du BRN avait été exclue des négociations qui avaient eu lieu entre des représentants de la Thaïlande et le groupe Mara Pattani. Les 2 et 3 mars 2020, il y a eu une deuxième ronde de négociations à Kuala Lumpur, en Malaisie, lesquelles ont été jugées « constructives ».

INTÉRÊTS CANADIENS

Selon le Registre consulaire des Canadiens à l'étranger du gouvernement du Canada (RCCE), le 13 mars 2020, il y avait 5 930 Canadiens inscrits en Thaïlande. Toutefois, leur nombre est sans doute plus élevé. La Canada a une ambassade à Bangkok.

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SECRET//

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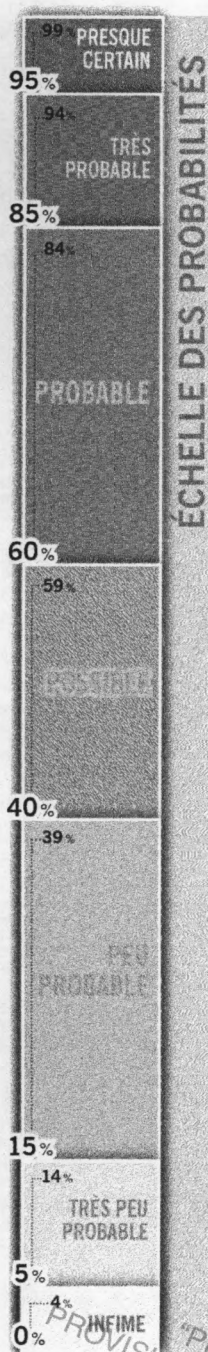
NIVEAUX DE LA MENACE TERRORISTE

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DÉFINITIONS



NIVEAUX DE LA MENACE

	est établi	est haussé	est baissé	demeure
CRITIQUE	Le CIET estime qu'un acte de violence terroriste est TRÈS PROBABLE ET POURRAIT ÊTRE IMMINENT.			
ÉLEVÉ	Le CIET estime qu'un acte de violence terroriste est PROBABLE.			
MODÉRÉ	Le CIET estime qu'un acte de violence terroriste POURRAIT ÊTRE POSÉ.			
FAIBLE	Le CIET estime qu'un acte de violence terroriste est POSSIBLE MAIS PEU PROBABLE.			
TRÈS FAIBLE	Le CIET estime qu'un acte de violence terroriste est TRÈS PEU PROBABLE.			

Le CIET effectue une analyse quantitative et qualitative pour déterminer les niveaux de la menace terroriste. Plusieurs facteurs interviennent dans la détermination du niveau de menace dont les renseignements disponibles, les événements récents ainsi que l'intention des groupes terroristes, leurs capacités et la fréquence des attentats qu'ils commettent. Le CIET prévient cependant que les informations peuvent être incomplètes et que, quel que soit le niveau de menace, un acte de violence terroriste peut être perpétré sans avertissement ou presque.

CAPACITÉS DES GROUPES TERRORISTES

AVANCÉES		Capacités de commettre des attentats complexes, y compris contre des cibles difficiles.
MODÉRÉES		Capacités de commettre des attentats très médiatisés contre des cibles faciles.
GÉNÉRALES		Capacités de commettre des attentats simples

MISE EN GARDE

Le présent document est la propriété du Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme (CIET) et a été préparé par celui-ci. Il s'appuie sur des informations qui proviennent de diverses sources et qui sont valables à la date de publication. **Le présent rapport ne peut être communiqué qu'aux personnes de votre organisme ou ministère ayant suivi les séances d'endoctrinement appropriées ou qu'à celles qui au sein d'organismes ou de ministères canadiens l'ont déjà reçu. Il ne doit faire l'objet d'aucune mesure; il ne faut pas en modifier la cote ni le diffuser dans d'autres ministères ou organismes du gouvernement du Canada ni l'expurger, en tout ou en partie, sans le consentement préalable du CIET.**

Les observations doivent être acheminées par courriel () à l'adresse suivante :

Le présent document peut faire l'objet d'une exception aux termes de la *Loi sur l'accès à l'information* et de la *Loi sur la protection des renseignements personnels*. On pourra également s'opposer à la communication des informations ou des renseignements qu'il contient en vertu de la *Loi sur la preuve au Canada*. Ces informations ou renseignements ne doivent être ni communiqués ni utilisés comme preuve sans consultation préalable du CIET.

THREAT HIGHLIGHT

ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

TH 20/51-E // 2020-03-27

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

United States: Alleged VBIED plan to attack hospital during COVID-19 pandemic

According to media reporting, on 24 March 2020, authorities attempted to arrest Timothy Wilson in Missouri in connection to a long-running domestic terrorism investigation. According to law enforcement officials, Wilson was a potentially violent extremist, motivated by religious, racial and anti-government beliefs. Wilson had been under investigation since September 2019 when he considered attacking multiple targets; including a school with a large number of black students, as well as a mosque and a synagogue. Media reporting indicates that Wilson decided to accelerate his plan, and felt "compelled" to act following a COVID-19 stay-at-home order was issued for residents. Open source reporting indicates he chose a Kansas City-area hospital providing critical care during the current COVID-19 pandemic in an attempt to "cause severe harm and mass casualties". Wilson planned to use a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) and had taken the necessary steps to acquire materials needed to build the device. Authorities indicated that they were prepared to arrest Wilson when he tried to pick up what he thought was the VBIED, but "there was no actual bomb". During the incident, Wilson, who was armed, was injured and transported to a hospital where he later died.

Ideologically motivated violent (IMV) extremism propaganda

According to SITE Intelligence, IMV groups and individuals have been using encrypted platforms such as Telegram and Gab, along with mainstream platforms like Facebook and Twitter, to promote conspiracy theories, disinformation and calls for attacks in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Noting the contagious nature of COVID-19, IMV extremists are devising ways to use the virus as a biological weapon, often targeting the Jewish and Muslim communities. For example, a post from 22 March 2020 encouraged others to "cough on your local synagogues door handle". Another post echoed this and demanded that anyone diagnosed with the virus "travel to more ethnic parts of your town; including mosques and synagogues".

SITE Intelligence further notes that IMV extremists are proposing an array of conspiracy theories, mainly focusing on anti-Semitism or xenophobia against people from China, pondering the role of the Chinese government or the "Jewish global elite" in the pandemic.

Further, extremists have taken the current global instability as an opportunity to spread false information and "fully embrace accelerationism". These extremists have encouraged other like-minded individuals to "prioritize the panic" through fabricated stories of fights over limited resources to creating fake World Health Organization infographics.

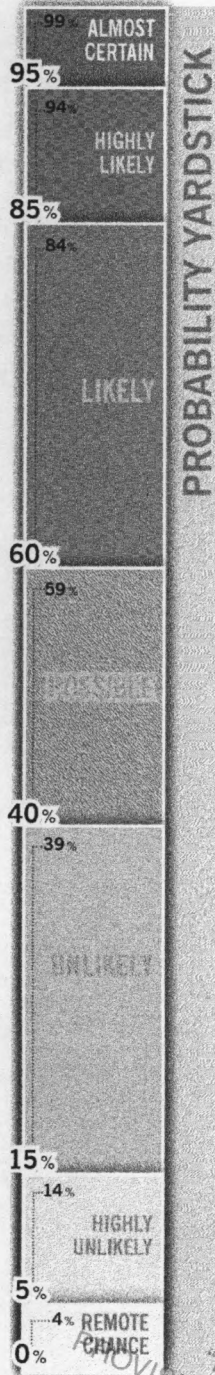
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ASSESSMENT NOTE : This report is based on media, open source and

reporting.

DEFINITIONS and HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS are located at the last page.

DEFINITIONS



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THREAT HIGHLIGHT

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

ITAC

CIET

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

TH 20/55-A // 2020-05-05

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IMV extremists response to COVID-19 pandemic

TERRORISM THREAT LEVELS



CANADA ↔ MEDIUM

↔ MEDIUM



Uniformed Personnel

LEGEND: Established ↔ Raised ↑ Lowered ↓ Remains ↔

According to a body of SITE Intelligence, since mid-March 2020, ideologically motivated violent (IMV) extremists have exploited the COVID-19 pandemic through propaganda and online posts to promote their ideologies, recruit members, spread disinformation and perpetuate conspiracy theories. While IMV extremists are exploiting the pandemic, they have also been forced to change targets and cancel physical meetings due to lockdown measures.

PROMOTE IDEOLOGY AND RECRUIT

Propaganda

IMV extremists continue to promote xenophobic propaganda targeting racial and religious minorities during the pandemic. Noting the contagious nature of COVID-19, IMV extremists are encouraging followers to spread the virus like a biological weapon through coughing, sneezing and close contact with Jewish and Muslim communities. Several online posts from late March 2020, encouraged supporters to "cough on your local synagogues door handles," while another demanded that anyone diagnosed with the virus "travel to more ethnic parts of your town; including mosques and synagogues." Extremists also urged supporters to "exploit" anti-Chinese sentiments associated with pandemic, suggesting the desecration of Chinese flags and reinforcing the "Chinese virus" vocabulary used by some to refer to COVID-19.

Conspiracy theories, disinformation, and accelerationism

IMV extremists are using the pandemic to propose or reaffirm an array of conspiracy theories, primarily focusing on anti-Semitism or xenophobia against people from China. Some theories ponder the role of the Chinese government or the "Jewish global elite" in the pandemic, while others insist that the Chinese deliberately spread the virus to compromise "Western" states. In mid-March 2020, images were posted claiming COVID-19 was a virus developed by "elites" to "tag their property (people)" with radio-frequency identification chips like those used in animals. Finally, a late-April 2020 message to a neo-Nazi Telegram channel claimed the pandemic was a hoax and that "if [white men] actually stood up, a white supremacist order would rise."

While conspiracy theories about COVID-19 are flourishing online, some in the IMV extremist milieu are discouraging supporters from denouncing the COVID-19 pandemic as a hoax or conspiracy. In mid-March 2020, a neo-Nazi media group encouraged subscribers to spread disinformation about social unrest during the pandemic to "promote the panic," thereby furthering instabilities in social order. An early April 2020 post claimed advantage in letting the pandemic escalate public anxieties: "the panic and chaos it creates" will accelerate the demise of the current social order. It further stated that the resulting instability had the potential to bring IMV extremist ideas into the mainstream.

Some of these extremists are taking it even further and encouraging the spreading of false information to "fully embrace accelerationism." These extremists have encouraged others to "prioritize the panic" through fabricated stories of fights over limited resources or creating fake World Health Organization infographics to accelerate the conditions for social change.

Recruitment

In mid-April 2020, a message in a chat group for supporters of the Sweden-based neo-Nazi Nordic Resistance Movement (NRM) encouraged members to circulate the English language version of NRM's website as broadly as possible in response to a perceived increase in the amount of time spent online caused by COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns. NRM's website contains communiques and articles documenting group activities, podcasts hosted by group leaders, and links to a donation page and NRM merchandise store.

CHANGE IN ACTIONS:

Secondary targets

Open source information indicates that some IMV extremists are discussing the possibility of targeting individuals and groups that are not racial and religious minorities or symbols of government. For example, in early April 2020, a neo-Nazi Telegram channel encouraged followers to target medical employees in a campaign to damage and disable their vehicles. This shift is consistent with the recent actions of Timothy Wilson (see text box).

In late March 2020, a French-language poster, which resembled one used by the French government, was uploaded to an anarchist blog. The poster encouraged anarchists to "help" eradicate COVID-19 by engaging in arson attacks, wounding police officers and looting supermarkets. The blog was created in response to the pandemic to "subvert the current social order."

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ALLEGED VBIED PLAN TO ATTACK HOSPITAL

According to media reporting, Timothy Wilson was a potentially violent extremist motivated by religious, racist, and anti-government beliefs who had considered attacking ethnic and religious minorities. In late March 2020, Wilson felt "compelled" to act following a stay-at-home order issued for Missouri residences. He accelerated his plan and targeted a hospital providing critical care during the COVID-19 pandemic. See TH 20/51.

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In late March 2020, two neo-Nazi groups announced the cancellation of upcoming in-person events. In an article published on the NRM website, the group's leader Simon Lindberg announced that a demonstration scheduled for 1 May 2020 in Uppsala, Sweden, would be postponed. Lindberg stressed that the NRM leadership arrived at this decision strictly out of concern for its supporters' health, not as a result of any government mandate. The National Socialism Movement (NSM) posted a statement on their Telegram channel announcing that their national meetings were postponed until July, "blaming the ZOG (Zionist Occupied Government). The rally was originally scheduled to take place in mid-April 2020 in honour of Adolf Hitler's birthday.

ASSESSMENT

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Terrorism Threat Levels

Canada



MEDIUM



MEDIUM

Threat levels as of 4 April 2020.

An act of terrorism **COULD OCCUR**.There is intent *and* capability from both domestic and international extremist actors to commit an act of terrorism in Canada.An act of terrorism affecting **uniformed personnel** in Canada **COULD OCCUR**.

- an individual or group **within Canada** or abroad has the intent *and* capability to commit an act of terrorism in Canada.

ITAC assesses

that an act of terrorism could occur in Canada

- Propaganda identifying **uniformed personnel** as potential targets continues to be published online.

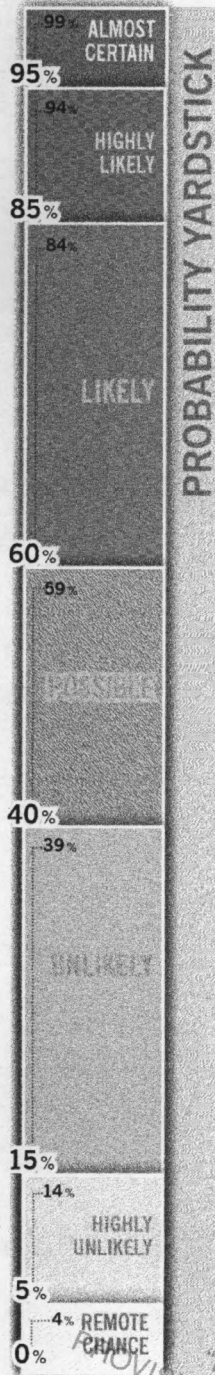
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DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

		PROCESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT AND/OR ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT "RÉVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA PROTECTION DES RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS ET/OU DE LA LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION"
CRITICAL	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY LIKELY and COULD OCCUR IMMINENTLY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
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THREAT HIGHLIGHT

ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

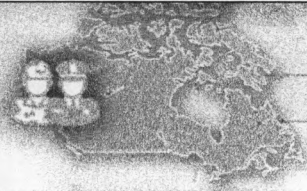
Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

TH 20/55-E // 2020-05-05

SECRET//CANADIAN EYES ONLY

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ASSESSMENT NOTE : This report is based on reporting.

DEFINITIONS and HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS are located at the last page.

Canada

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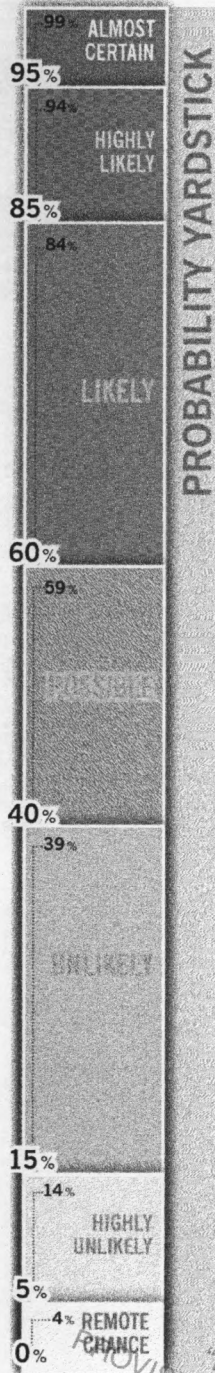
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DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL		
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CSIS National Security Brief

Rapport du SCRS enjeux de sécurité nationale

TOP SECRET//CEO

CNSB 49/19
MARCH 20, 2020

This document is for the information of the Deputy Ministers' Operations Committee members. The information and intelligence contained herein must not be disclosed, used as part of an investigation or used as evidence without prior consultation with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.

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Canadian Conspiracy Publication Used to Promote Alternative COVID-19 Narrative

According to recent media reporting, a Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) official has attempted to justify his previous statements that suggested the COVID-19 virus originated in the United States by citing information from the Global Research (<https://www.globalresearch.ca>), a website managed by a Canadian academic. This academic is the founder of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG).

Chinese Actors Cite Canadian Publication to Support Narrative that COVID-19 Originated in the United States

On March 13, 2020, Zhao Lijian, a spokesperson for China's MFA, sought to substantiate his previous statements on Twitter that the US military may have been responsible for bringing the COVID-19 virus to Wuhan, China by tweeting an article from the Centre for Research on Globalization's Global Research website. The article, authored by Research Associate Peter Koenig, promotes several conspiracy theories suggesting that the virus originated in a US biological warfare lab and that the pandemic is not real and is actually a cover operation by the "One World Order" to implement a long-planned initiative, called Agenda ID 2020, to use

generalized vaccination as a platform for population reduction and the creation of a digital control system incorporating biometric information.

In an article reporting Zhao's tweets, a Globe and Mail reporter noted that the NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence had advised the media outlet in 2017 that Global Research was under investigation for promoting the online spread of narratives backed by the Kremlin and the Syrian regime.

In addition to Zhao's tweets, a Facebook group is also amplifying the US-origin narrative. The same Global Research article tweeted by Zhao has been posted to the group on numerous occasions since its publication, including one post shared by the Canadian administrator.

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Alternative COVID-19 Narratives Gaining Traction

also indicates that Chinese officials in Tokyo have been directed to refer to it as the "Japanese coronavirus."

In addition to Chinese efforts, media reporting, citing an unknown document produced by the European Union's External Action Service, suggests that Russian state media and pro-Kremlin outlets have engaged in a significant disinformation campaign to advance contradictory, confusing and malicious information – including the US-origin narrative – likely with the intent to make it harder for EU members to communicate effectively with their populations on their public health responses.

the article recently published by Global Research is being exploited as part of a growing alternative narrative that seeks to create doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic originated in China.

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MISES EN GARDE

LES PRÉSENTES INFORMATIONS SONT COMMUNIQUÉES UNIQUEMENT À DES FINS DE RENSEIGNEMENT ET NE PEUVENT ÊTRE UTILISÉES DANS LE CADRE D'INSTANCES JUDICIAIRES. IL NE FAUT PAS MODIFIER LA COTE DU PRÉSENT DOCUMENT NI LE COMMUNIQUER, EN TOUT OU EN PARTIE, SANS LE CONSENTEMENT ÉCRIT DU SERVICE CANADIEN DU RENSEIGNEMENT DE SÉCURITÉ (SCRS). IL PEUT FAIRE L'OBJET D'UNE EXCEPTION PRÉVUE PAR LA LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION, LA LOI SUR LA PROTECTION DES RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS OU TOUTE LOI PROVINCIALE OU TERRITORIALE APPLICABLE. SI VOUS RECEVEZ UNE DEMANDE D'ACCÈS PRÉSENTÉE SOUS LE RÉGIME DE CES LOIS, VEUILLÉZ CONSULTER LE SCRS RELATIVEMENT À L'APPLICATION DES EXCEPTIONS PRÉVUES. EN OUTRE, LE SCRS PRENDRA TOUTES LES MESURES NÉCESSAIRES PRESCRITES PAR L'ARTICLE 38 DE LA LOI SUR LA PREUVE AU CANADA OU PAR TOUTE AUTRE MESURE LÉGISLATIVE POUR PROTÉGER LES PRÉSENTES INFORMATIONS. SI VOUS APPRENEZ QUE CES INFORMATIONS ONT ÉTÉ OU POURRAIENT ÊTRE COMMUNIQUÉES OU QUE LES PRÉSENTES MISES EN GARDE N'ONT PAS ÉTÉ RESPECTÉES, OU SI VOUS NE POUVEZ PAS VOUS Y CONFORMER, VEUILLÉZ EN INFORMER LE SCRS IMMÉDIATEMENT.

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CSIS National Security Brief

Rapport du SCRS enjeux de sécurité nationale

● CNSB 50/19
● MARCH 25, 2020

SECRET//CEO

This document is for the information of the Deputy Ministers' Operations Committee members, Clerk of the Privy Council, Deputy Clerk of the Privy Council, Deputy Minister of Canadian Heritage, Deputy Minister of Health Canada, and Deputy Minister of the Public Health Agency of Canada. The information and intelligence contained herein must not be disclosed, used as part of an investigation or used as evidence without prior consultation with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.

Le présent document est transmis à titre indicatif aux membres du Comité des sous-ministres chargés de la coordination des opérations, Greffier du Conseil privé, Sous-greffier du Conseil privé, Sous-ministre de Santé Canada, Sous-ministre du Patrimoine Canadien, Sous-ministre de l'Agence de la santé publique du Canada. Les informations et renseignements qu'il contient ne doivent être ni communiqués ni utilisés dans le cadre d'une enquête ou comme élément de preuve sans consultation préalable du Service canadien du renseignement de sécurité.

Key Assessments

-
-
- Individuals online promoting extreme neo-Nazi, White supremacist and anti-government/law enforcement ideas view

COVID-19 as both a threat to their way of life and an opportunity to create and capitalize on conspiracy theories and hateful propaganda. Promotion of concepts such as prepping and accelerationism regularly include references to the need for violence in order to bring about the collapse of society.

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IMV extremists, however, have long posted volumes of online conspiracy-laden, racist, bigoted, and misogynist content and propaganda targeting Jews, minority groups, the government, liberals, etc. while aspiring to a future which would fulfil their personalized, grievance-driven worldview. Situations of crisis (perceived or real) in society only serve to increase the volume of such material online. According to Eric Ward, executive director of the Western States Center “We are seeing a huge uptick” in such rhetoric “A lot of it is happening on YouTube platforms and videos and others, at a time where much of the country is sheltering in place or practicing social distancing. Ironically, it will serve to give these individuals much more access [to an audience] than they would normally have.”

The End of the World as We Know it - Apocalyptic Narratives

Apocalyptic narratives – whether of societal collapse, biblical rapture, or race war – are the primary manner by which neo-Nazis, White supremacists and ethno-nationalists draw in new followers and resources. The COVID-19 pandemic provides the opportunity for many within these milieus to espouse their worldviews, promote extreme actions (including violence), and, in some cases, exploit them for financial gain such as selling bogus cures or preventative “medicines.”

Accelerationism is the belief that Western governments are irreparably corrupt and that multiculturalism and democracy will fail. As a result, there will eventually be an outbreak of violence across ethnic and racial lines - often referred to as “the coming race war” (a concept outlined in the book *The Turner Diaries*). Accelerationists often encourage violence to escalate the pace of societal collapse. Accelerationists reject any effort to seize political power through elections, dismissing all attempts to engage in mass politics as pointless.

As with accelerationists, “Preppers” also believe in the imminent collapse of society (See text box at right) and COVID-19 is justification that their beliefs are well-founded. Preppers often hold a range of extreme anti-government, racially motivated views and promote a range of hateful commentary online. More recent mainstream media coverage of this milieu has added credibility but overlooks some of their more extreme views.

What is Prepping?

Prepping is the process of preparing oneself to survive without a complex infrastructure, as seen in modern society. The term “prepping” often refers to the act of preparing oneself for life during and after an apocalyptic event (often referred to as living off the land).

Conspiracy Theories

IMV extremists and others are using the COVID-19 pandemic as an opportunity to promote disinformation and alternative narratives regarding both the cause of the pandemic and potential societal outcomes. Blame for the pandemic focuses primarily on Jews, China (see image at right recently located in Port Credit, Ontario), immigrants, the government and societal elites. A key theme in the United States, and to a lesser degree Canada, is the perception that the government will use the pandemic as an opportunity to enact the Emergency Measures Act (in Canada), or martial law in the United States (including the call-up of the national guard) as a precursor to reducing, if not eliminating, citizens gun rights (See image at right of a recent Canadian post)

COVID-19 COMES FROM CHINA

Multi-culturalism KILLS

All !!! % Justin Trudeau just announced that he and his cabinet will be looking to invoke the EMERGENCY MEASURES ACT!!! That means Marshall Law!!! Get ready, The war is about to begin!!! Give me a roll call!

Common conspiracy theories promoted in the online IMV extremist space include:

- COVID-19 is a “bioweapon” sent from China in order to destabilize the Trump administration;
- The United Nations (UN) is using COVID-19 to depopulate the earth (part of the broader Agenda 21 conspiracy theory that the UN is attempting to subvert national sovereignty in order to establish a new world order (international globalization));
- COVID-19 is fake and the current fatalities are caused by radiation poisoning from 5G wireless technology;
- QANON (Q Anonymous) assert that COVID-19 is fake and is being used by President Trump to covertly prepare for the coming of martial law in the United States and the mass arrests of members of the “deep state” and their supporters;
- COVID-19 is fake and was created by an international consortium of Jews in order to enhance their long-term profits.

The impact of COVID-19-related conspiracy theories has contributed to at least one Canadian death to date. On March 17, 2020, a Toronto-based activist involved with numerous social justice, environmental and Indigenous issues self-immolated before stabbing himself repeatedly. According to friends, the activist believed that the COVID-19 shutdown was an establishment conspiracy plot, ostensibly to strip Canadians of their rights and freedoms.

Other Calls to Action

Media reporting suggests that “right-wing extremists” are contemplating the use of COVID-19 as a biological weapon.

What About Anarchists?

In Germany, however, media reporting indicates that "left-wing" extremists are urging Germans to use COVID-19 as an excuse to riot, loot, and to attack Germany's energy supply infrastructure. According to one anonymous individual: "Should the situation worsen, we will try to make our revolutionary contribution to the outbreaks of anger, protests, looting and riots. However, impatient people might feel a strong desire to make an immediate contribution to the shake-up of the production cycle and want to strike a blow that interrupts their energy supply."

Implications

CSIS continues to monitor this situation.

CAVEAT

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MISES EN GARDE

LES PRÉSENTES INFORMATIONS SONT COMMUNIQUÉES UNIQUEMENT À DES FINS DE RENSEIGNEMENT ET NE PEUVENT ÊTRE UTILISÉES DANS LE CADRE D'INSTANCES JUDICIAIRES. IL NE FAUT PAS MODIFIER LA COTE DU PRÉSENT DOCUMENT NI LE COMMUNIQUER, EN TOUT OU EN PARTIE, SANS LE CONSENTEMENT ÉCRIT DU SERVICE CANADIEN DU RENSEIGNEMENT DE SÉCURITÉ (SCRS). IL PEUT FAIRE L'OBJET D'UNE EXCEPTION PRÉVUE PAR LA LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION, LA LOI SUR LA PROTECTION DES RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS OU TOUTE LOI PROVINCIALE OU TERRITORIALE APPLICABLE. SI VOUS RECEVEZ UNE DEMANDE D'ACCÈS PRÉSENTÉE SOUS LE RÉGIME DE CES LOIS, VEUILLEZ CONSULTER LE SCRS RELATIVEMENT À L'APPLICATION DES EXCEPTIONS PRÉVUES. EN OUTRE, LE SCRS PRENDRA TOUTES LES MESURES NÉCESSAIRES PRESCRITES PAR L'ARTICLE 38 DE LA LOI SUR LA PREUVE AU CANADA OU PAR TOUTE AUTRE MESURE LÉGISLATIVE POUR PROTÉGER LES PRÉSENTES INFORMATIONS. SI VOUS APPRENEZ QUE CES INFORMATIONS ONT ÉTÉ OU POURRAIENT ÊTRE COMMUNIQUÉES OU QUE LES PRÉSENTES MISES EN GARDE N'ONT PAS ÉTÉ RESPECTÉES, OU SI VOUS NE POUVEZ PAS VOUS Y CONFORMER, VEUILLEZ EN INFORMER LE SCRS IMMÉDIATEMENT.

Strategic Briefing – COVID-19

TS//CSIS EYES ONLY – 2020 05 05
File no. 100-33-23



IN THIS ISSUE:

- The New Normal: A New Fabric Woven From Old Thread

Big Picture:

- Terrorism (particularly religious extremism) won't go away, but freedom of maneuver presently greatly limited:
- Geo-politics: The early signs of settling into a new long-term normal: "Co-operative Globalization" giving way to more strident "Global Competition"

Outlook: Back to 1947? Or is it back to 1937?

- 1947 - US energizing a broken world through engagement, with a strong economy backed by military strength, largely through cheque-book influence contesting an authoritarian power on all open ground.
- 1937 – A weak America, giving ground to authoritarian regimes, and leaving the world to sort out its own problems.

Canadian Strategic Position

- Strong social fundamentals and adequate medical capacity evident (flattening the curve, mortality); safe but costly economic restart required,

Strategic Briefing – COVID-19

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Relevant New Intelligence, Information and Events

- US "Economic Prosperity Network" announced in last 24 hours, seeking to pull supply chains from China, toward Australia, Japan, Vietnam as "like-minded" nations.

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Strategic Briefing – COVID-19

TS// [REDACTED] CSIS EYES ONLY – 2020 03 27



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Statistics: Canada is nowhere near flattening the curve right now; but we appear to be in slightly better shape than the US (so far).
-
-
-
-
-
- Metrics: The US example – how and why predictions of infection rates and mortality rates vary so wildly.
- End note: In 2005, IAB drafted a global pandemic scenario as part of the IAB study, *The World Towards 2015*. The scenario eerily mirrors what is happening now.

CANADA-SPECIFIC:

Flattening-the-curve update:

Global (as of 2020 03 27 0800h):

Total confirmed cases - 549,381

Total deaths - 24,872

Canada:

Total confirmed cases - 4043

Total deaths - 39

- Canada's COVID-19 trajectory continues rapidly upward, although apparently not quite at the same rate as that experienced in the US and some other countries (for now).
 - Most experts agree that the number of positive cases is vastly higher than those officially documented.
 - Daily deaths are spiking but they are nowhere near the numbers (proportionate to population) as seen in Italy, Spain and (now) the US – at least not yet (Preliminarily) positive indicators can be found in the graphs documenting newly infected vs. newly recovered and resolved case (recoveries vs. deaths); this is critical to near-term healthcare system overloads which are almost certainly on the horizon
 - However, NO ONE expects the infections/deaths to peak for at least another 3-4 weeks at minimum
- See separately attached graphs on above figures

Strategic Briefing – COVID-19

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METRICS:

- **Infectious Disease Experts Don't Know How Bad The Coronavirus Is Going To Get, Either**
(<https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/infectious-disease-experts-dont-know-how-bad-the-coronavirus-is-going-to-get-either/> Mar 20, 2020)

Strategic Briefing – COVID-19

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One of the most pernicious parts of the COVID-19 crisis is how uncertain everything is. Researchers and officials cite statistical models that estimate infection rates, death counts and when things will go back to normal, but those estimates are changing rapidly. And as the forecasts bounce around, so do the rest of us living through the crisis. How can one feel settled when the future feels so volatile?

The top-line numbers are sobering. The most recent survey, taken on March 16 and 17, found that, as a group, the experts think that as of March 15, only 12 percent of infections in the U.S. had been reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. They think there's a 73 percent chance of a second wave of hospitalizations this fall. And they expect approximately 200,000 deaths in the U.S. by the end of the year.

Here's what the researchers collectively had to say in the March 16-17 survey. How many total COVID-19 cases in the U.S. will the CDC report on March 29?

Experts think we'll soon have tens of thousands more cases

Experts' estimates of the total number of U.S. COVID-19 cases that the CDC will have reported by Sunday, March 29



Responses are from a survey of experts conducted March 16-17.

FiveThirtyEight

SOURCE: UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

At the time the survey was in the field, about 3,500 cases had been reported. But the experts estimated that by Sunday, March 29 — a little under two weeks after they took the survey — the

Strategic Briefing – COVID-19

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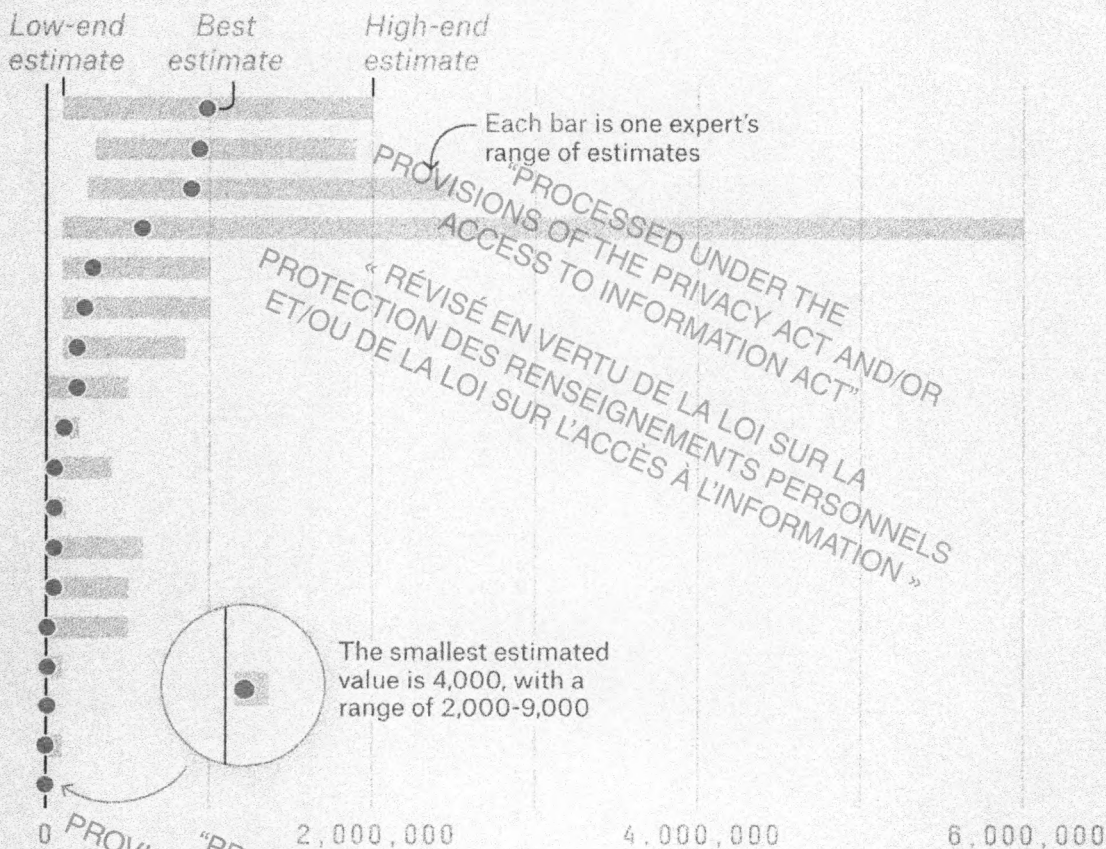


country would have seen anywhere from 10,000 to 75,000 cases. (The current count is 15,219.) The experts' confidence in those estimates, however, varied greatly:

How many people will die in the U.S. due to COVID-19 this year?

Estimated death tolls cover a huge range

Experts' estimates of number of COVID-19 deaths in the U.S. in 2020



Responses are from a survey of experts conducted March 16-17.

SOURCE: UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

Experts' estimates of the number of COVID-19 deaths in the U.S. in 2020 ranged from 4,000 all the way to 1 million, a huge range that highlights how much we still don't know about this disease.

The expert consensus is to expect about 200,000 deaths in the U.S. from COVID-19 this year, but the uncertainty around that number is also huge: There's an 80 percent chance the final number will be between 19,000 and 1.2 million, according to these estimates.

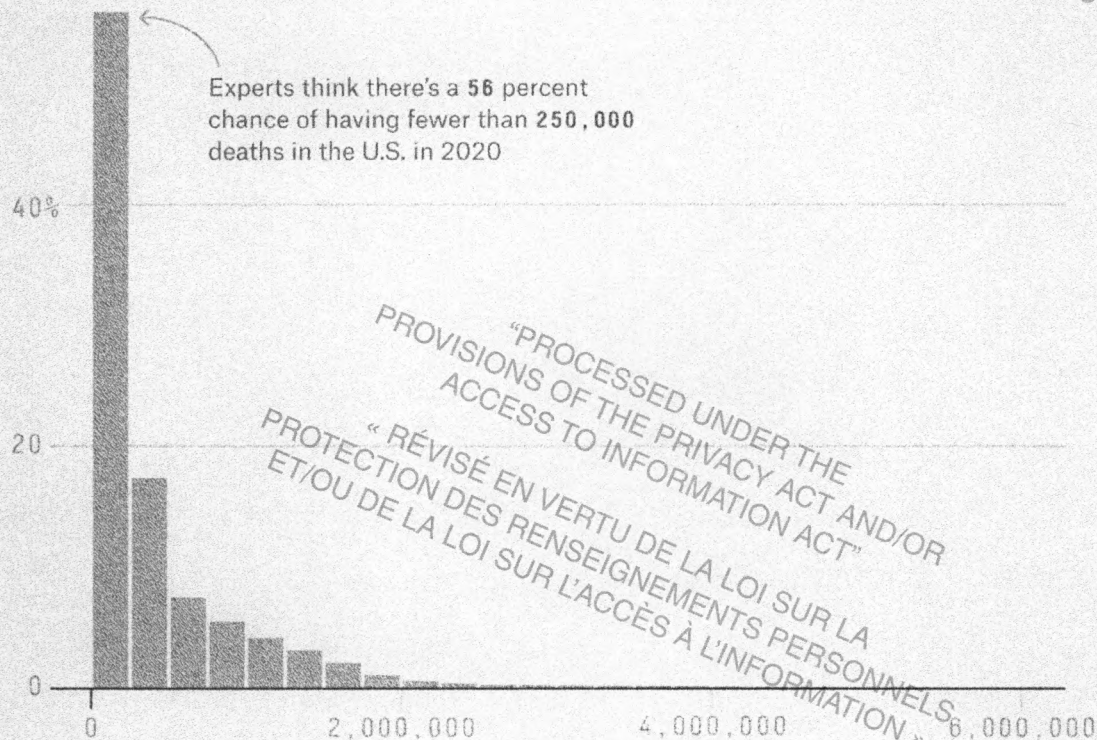
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Around 200,000 U.S. deaths is most likely number

Probability that each number will be the total number of COVID-19 deaths in the U.S. in 2020, according to experts' estimates



Responses are from a survey of experts conducted March 16-17.

FiveThirtyEight

SOURCE: UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

END NOTE

At the request of CSIS Director Judd, IAB strategic analysts drafted a comprehensive study, *The World Towards 2015 – a Preliminary Assessment* (September 2005). The study looked at geopolitics, economics, resources and demography, and the global threat environment, with a separate section on Canada and the impact of above factors on Canadian security and prosperity. In the section on demographics and resources, IAB drafted a scenario related to a major concern at the time – the H1N1 (avian flu) virus:

"A worldwide avian flu pandemic is not an unlikely scenario. This virus, which has become more pathogenic in recent years (surviving several days longer) makes its way from South Asia to other parts of Asia, Europe, and the Americas by air plane, bus, animal cargo, etc. Health officials around the world will have prepared for such an occurrence, but they are unable to contain the virus as it spreads rapidly through host animal and human

Strategic Briefing – COVID-19

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populations. The avian flu arrives in Canada within a few days of the registered outbreak. In Canada and in other countries with developed health care systems, the avian outbreak quickly overwhelms hospital wards and threatens mass casualties among flu patients as well as those admitted for other reasons. Public anxiety reaches a panic level, as it becomes known that a vaccine developed for the strain is working in less than half the cases. The pandemic eventually subsides, but not before having killed more than 10,000 in Canada and over 8 million worldwide, causing tremendous economic disruption and delivering a devastating blow to the airline industry.” (p.84)

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4) STATISTICS:

- World Health Organization (WHO) – global, as at 2020 03 24 17h53

435,382 confirmed cases

19,620 confirmed deaths (4.5% mortality)**

- Canada - PHAC – 2020 03 24 18h00

2,792 confirmed cases

27 confirmed deaths (0.97% mortality)**

- US – Center for Disease Control (CDC) – 2020 03 24 16h00

44,183 confirmed cases

544 confirmed deaths (1.23% mortality)**

** Mortality rates will evolve (likely decline) as more cases are diagnosed

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GLOBAL TERRORISM THREAT ENVIRONMENT

DURING RAMADAN 2020

23 APRIL TO 23 MAY



CALLS FOR ATTACKS

reported that, as of 20 April 2020, DAESH-supporter online media re-published posters in Arabic and in English calling fighters and supporters alike to increase jihadi attacks during Ramadan.



IDEOLOGICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENT EXTREMISTS ATTACKS



CANADIAN NEXUS

SITE

LEGEND
DAESH
AQ-affiliate
OTHER
UNKNOWN

UK

IRAQ

AFGHANISTAN

SOMALIA

UGANDA

KENYA

PHILIPPINES

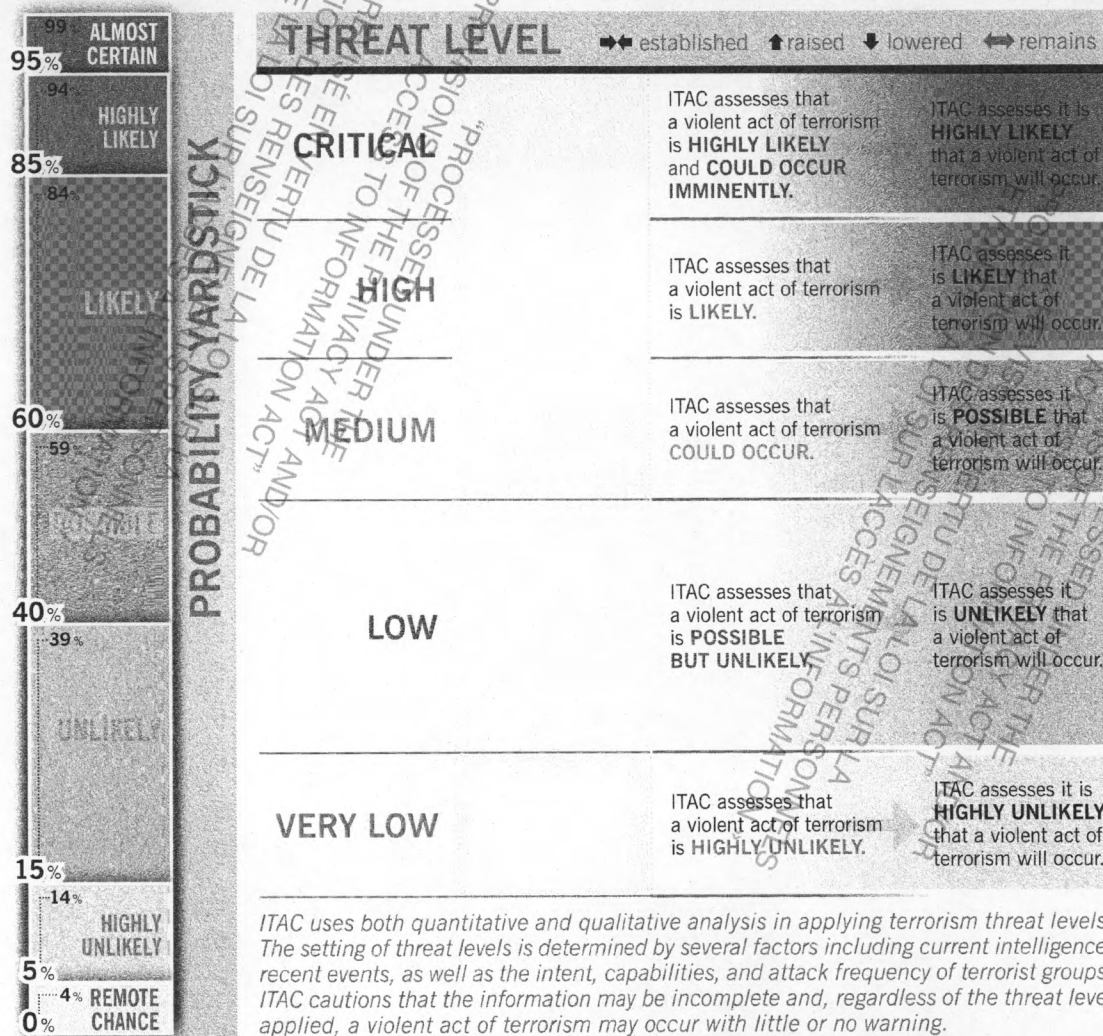
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE 2019 ATTACKS

8 May	Lahore, Pakistan	2 June	Kassel, Germany
11 May	Gwadar, Pakistan	3 June	Tripoli, Lebanon
24 May	Kabul, Afghanistan		
24 May	Lyon, France		
31 May-	61 claimed attacks in 13 countries		
3 June	across Africa and the Middle East		

ASSESSMENTS

ASSESSMENT NOTE: This report is based on [redacted] as well as media reporting collected [redacted]

DEFINITIONS



TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED		Capable of sophisticated attacks, including against hard targets
MODERATE		Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets
GENERAL		

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

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THREAT HIGHLIGHT

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

ITAC

CIET

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

CRITICAL INCIDENT

TH 20/54-E // 2020-04-20

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Canada: Motive unknown in Nova Scotia mass shooting

TERRORISM THREAT LEVELS

CANADA ↔ MEDIUM

↔ MEDIUM

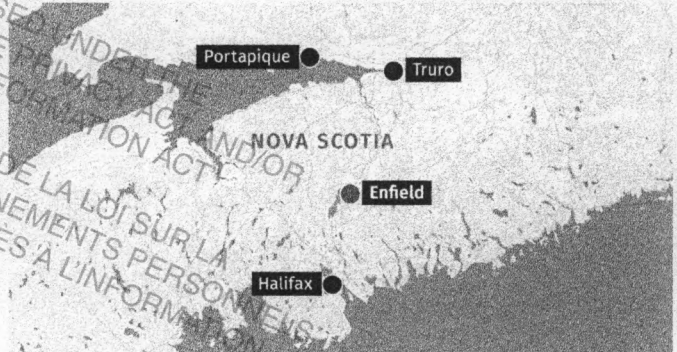
Uniformed Personnel

LEGEND: Established ↔ Raised ↑ Lowered ↓ Remains ↔

This assessment is current as of 13:00 hrs, 20 April 2020. ITAC will update this assessment as new information becomes available.

According to media reporting, from the evening of 18 April 2020 to the morning of 19 April 2020, at least 18 victims were killed, including an RCMP officer, in a mass shooting between the Nova Scotia towns of Portapique and Enfield. The alleged shooter, 51-year-old Gabriel Wortman, was killed after being intercepted by police officers at a gas station in Enfield. Law enforcement authorities believe that Wortman acted alone and that there is no further risk to the public. Authorities also believe he had an initial "motivation" at the beginning that "turned to randomness". He was also not known to police for a history of violence or extremist views.

MASS SHOOTING IN NOVA SCOTIA



CBC NEWS
Source: Media

Timeline of events

According to media reporting, in the late evening of 18 April 2020, Nova Scotia RCMP responded to calls about shots fired in Portapique, a community located approximately 40 kilometres west of Truro. At approximately the same time, local residents reported seeing at least three house fires in the area. Separate media reporting states that neighbours indicated that the alleged shooter had set fire to his home and several buildings on the property, and then shot people as they ran out of their homes. The shooter was apparently dressed in a full police uniform and vest and driving a car disguised as an RCMP vehicle. Upon arrival, police found "several casualties" but no suspect.

Separate media reporting indicates that at some point during the evening, the shooter exchanged gunfire with police. He managed to evade authorities and was at large throughout the night.

On the following morning, 19 April 2020, law enforcement authorities reported an "active shooter" incident and identified Wortman as the suspect. Throughout the rest of the morning, Wortman was seen in several communities driving an apparent RCMP vehicle. Authorities then located Wortman in a grocery store plaza in Shubenacadie, where they attempted to detain him. Eyewitnesses at the scene saw two cars consumed with fire. At some point, he switched from the RCMP car to a silver SUV. Wortman allegedly then drove south to Enfield, where he was intercepted by police officers at a gas station.

ASSESSMENT NOTE

This assessment is based on media reporting.

DEFINITIONS and HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS are located at the last page.

Gabriel Wortman

According to media reporting from 19 April 2020, Wortman was a dentist who owned several clinics. However, the COVID-19 pandemic had shuttered his businesses as Nova Scotia order the closure of dental clinics to all but emergency procedures in mid-March 2020. Records indicate that he owned several large properties on Portapique Beach Road, where the shooting began. Neighbours reported that Wortman was "obsessed" with the police and that his home in Portapique was a "shrine" to the RCMP. He also reportedly bought law enforcement memorabilia and boasted about his hobby of refurbishing old police cruisers.

ASSESSMENT**Terrorism Threat Levels****Canada****MEDIUM****MEDIUM**

Threat levels as of 27 March 2020. (U//FOUO)

An act of terrorism **COULD OCCUR**.There is intent *and* capability from both domestic and international extremist actors to commit an act of terrorism in Canada.An act of terrorism affecting **uniformed personnel** in Canada **COULD OCCUR**.

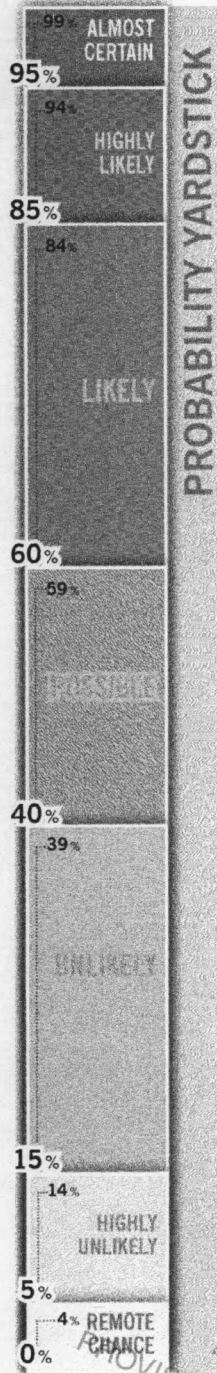
- an individual or group **within Canada** or abroad has the intent *and* capability to commit an act of terrorism in Canada.

ITAC assesses**that an act of terrorism could occur in Canada.**

- Propaganda identifying **uniformed personnel** as potential targets continues to be published online.

ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism affecting uniformed personnel in Canada could occur.

DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

	PROCESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT AND/OR ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT "RÉVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA PROTECTION DES RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS ET/OU DE LA LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION"	
CRITICAL	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY LIKELY and COULD OCCUR IMMEDIATELY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
HIGH	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is LIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
MEDIUM	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism COULD OCCUR .	ITAC assesses it is POSSIBLE that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is POSSIBLE BUT UNLIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is UNLIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
VERY LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY UNLIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY UNLIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.

ITAC uses both quantitative and qualitative analysis in applying terrorism threat levels. The setting of threat levels is determined by several factors including current intelligence, recent events, as well as the intent, capabilities, and attack frequency of terrorist groups. ITAC cautions that the information may be incomplete and, regardless of the threat level applied, a violent act of terrorism may occur with little or no warning.

TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED		Capable of sophisticated attacks, including against hard targets
MODERATE		Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets
GENERAL		Capable of simple attacks

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WEEKLY THREAT REVIEW

ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

WTR 20/11-A // 2020-03-19

SECRET//

Week: 2020 03 12 to 2020 03 18

CONTENTS

CANADA-RELATED NTR

AMERICAS - EUROPE

1. **UNITED STATES:** Atomwaffen Division reportedly disbanding
2. [REDACTED]
3. **EUROPE:** DAESH's measures against COVID-19 will decrease smuggling attempts to Europe

MIDDLE EAST

AFRICA

5. [REDACTED]

EURASIA - PACIFIC

6. **AUSTRALIA:** Suspected neo-Nazi sympathizer charged with planning a terrorist attack

All information and intelligence contained in the WTR is presented in the language in which it was originally transmitted to ITAC. All ITAC comments and analyses contained herein are available in both official languages.

Veuillez noter que les informations et les renseignements figurant dans le présent Examen hebdomadaire de la menace ne sont présentés que dans la langue dans laquelle ils ont été transmis au CIET. Par contre, les remarques et les analyses du CIET sont présentées dans les deux langues officielles.

Canada-related

NTR

Americas - Europe

1. UNITED STATES: Atomwaffen Division reportedly disbanding

Source: Media; open sources

Summary: According to media reporting from 16 March 2020, the chief philosophical influence of Atomwaffen Division (AWD) released an audio recording on 9 March 2020, claiming that the group is disbanding. In the message, James Mason stated that numerous arrests stemming from law enforcement infiltration have severely hindered the group's ability to function. The same reporting indicates that Mason has been a long-time figure within the United States (US) neo-Nazi community, acting as an advisor for AWD, has made appearances in propaganda videos, and authored *Siege*, an anthology of violent neo-Nazi essays that advocates lone-wolf acts of terror and destroying the 'System'.

Recent AWD arrests

According to open source reporting, on 26 February 2020, five alleged members of AWD were arrested in the US. Four members were charged in connection with an effort to deliver threatening messages to journalists' homes and media organizations. The other member was charged for their alleged role in "swatting calls". (see TH 20/41)

Source: open sources

3. EUROPE: DAESH's measures against COVID-19 will decrease smuggling attempts to Europe

Source: SITE Intelligence

Summary: According to SITE Intelligence, as of 14 March 2020, DAESH media released statements and a video directing its members to avoid entering "the land of the epidemic" and that those "infected not leave from it". The statements and video also recommend sanitary and safety measures members should take to avoid contracting diseases.

Middle East

4.

Africa

Eurasia - Pacific

6. AUSTRALIA: Suspected neo-Nazi sympathizer charged with planning a terrorist attack

Source: Media

Summary: According to media reporting, on 14 March 2020, 21-year-old Joshua Lucas from Sanctuary Point, New South Wales, Australia is facing a terrorism charge in connection with his plan to disrupt an electrical substation on the south coast of Australia. Lucas allegedly attempted and planned to acquire military equipment including firearms and items capable of making improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Authorities seized several electronic devices, tactical equipment and paintball guns during a search of Lucas' residence, while four registered firearms were seized from the residence which authorities say is the home of an associate of Lucas. The reporting further stated that Lucas held neo-Nazi, anti-government and anti-Indigenous beliefs. Authorities began to investigate Lucas in February 2020 after becoming aware of several extreme online posts. In a statement, law enforcement authorities indicated that the decision to arrest Lucas was made to mitigate any immediate threat to the community after his behaviour online was of "significant" concern. Authorities continue to investigate Lucas's "online and real-world associates".

Changes to Terrorism Threat Levels

NTR

What follows is a list of other ITAC products published between 12 and 18 March 2020.

Threat Highlights

TH 20/46

TH 20/46-A

TH 20/47

Threat Assessments

NIL

Lasers

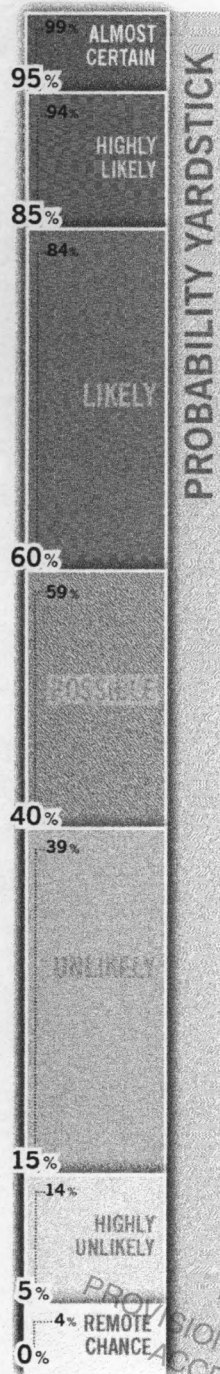
NIL

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DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

	established	raised	lowered	remains
CRITICAL	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY LIKELY and COULD OCCUR IMMINENTLY .			
HIGH	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is LIKELY .			
MEDIUM	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism COULD OCCUR .			
LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is POSSIBLE BUT UNLIKELY .			
VERY LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY UNLIKELY .			

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TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED		Capable of sophisticated attacks, including against hard targets
MODERATE		Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets
GENERAL		Capable of simple attacks

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WEEKLY THREAT REVIEW

ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

WTR 20/11-Corrected // 2020-03-19

TOP SECRET//

Week: 2020 03 12 to 2020 03 18

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2. [REDACTED]
3. **EUROPE:** DAESH's measures against COVID-19 will decrease smuggling attempts to Europe

MIDDLE EAST

AFRICA

EURASIA - PACIFIC

7. **AUSTRALIA:** Suspected neo-Nazi sympathizer charged with planning a terrorist attack

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Canada-related

NTR

Americas - Europe

1. UNITED STATES: Atomwaffen Division reportedly disbanding

Source: Media; open sources

Summary: According to media reporting from 16 March 2020, the chief philosophical influence of Atomwaffen Division (AWD) released an audio recording on 9 March 2020, claiming that the group is disbanding. In the message, James Mason stated that numerous arrests stemming from law enforcement infiltration have severely hindered the group's ability to function. The same reporting indicates that Mason has been a long-time figure within the United States (US) neo-Nazi community, acting as an advisor for AWD, has made appearances in propaganda videos, and authored *Siege*, an anthology of violent neo-Nazi essays that advocates lone-wolf acts of terror and destroying the 'System'.

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Source: SITE Intelligence

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Middle East

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Africa

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Eurasia - Pacific

7. AUSTRALIA: Suspected neo-Nazi sympathizer charged with planning a terrorist attack

Source: Media

Summary: According to media reporting, on 14 March 2020, 21-year-old Joshua Lucas from Sanctuary Point, New South Wales, Australia is facing a terrorism charge in connection with his plan to disrupt an electrical substation on the south coast of Australia. Lucas allegedly attempted and planned to acquire military equipment including firearms and items capable of making improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Authorities seized several electronic devices, tactical equipment and paintball guns during a search of Lucas' residence, while four registered firearms were seized from the residence which authorities say is the home of an associate of Lucas. The reporting further stated that Lucas held neo-Nazi, anti-government and anti-Indigenous beliefs. Authorities began to investigate Lucas in February 2020 after becoming aware of several extreme online posts. In a statement, law enforcement authorities indicated that the decision to arrest Lucas was made to mitigate any immediate threat to the community after his behaviour online was of "significant" concern. Authorities continue to investigate Lucas's "online and real-world associates".

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Changes to Terrorism Threat Levels

NTR

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Threat Highlights

TH 20/45

TH 20/46

TH 20/46-A

TH 20/47

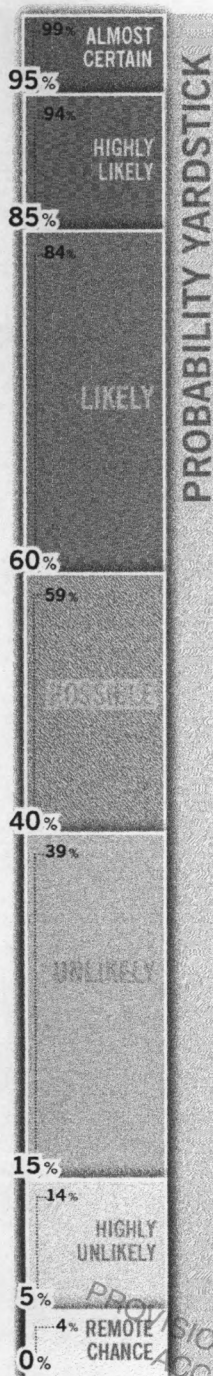
Threat Assessments

TA 20/25

Lasers

NIL

DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

	established	raised	lowered	remains
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WEEKLY THREAT REVIEW

ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

WTR 20/12-E // 2020-03-26

SECRET//

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9. **CHAD:** Nearly 100 Chadian soldiers killed in an ambush in the Lake Chad area

EURASIA - PACIFIC

10. **AUSTRALIA:** Update: Two additional arrests in connection with alleged terrorist attack plan
11. **NEW ZEALAND:** Christchurch attacker pleads guilty
12. **INDONESIA:** Wijayanto trial commences

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Canada-related

NTR

Americas - Europe

1. GERMANY: German police raid neo-Nazi Reichsbürger movement nationwide

Source: Media

Summary: According to media reporting of 19 March 2020, German authorities conducted raids nationwide against recently banned factions of Reichsbürger (Citizens of the Reich), a far-right movement. Operations against the "United German Peoples and Tribes" and "Osnabrücker Landmark" factions included simultaneous raids against 21 properties in 10 states; an unidentified number of group members were also arrested. According to German authorities, the raids uncovered guns, baseball bats, propaganda materials and small amounts of narcotics.

Reichsbürger

The Reichsbürger movement rejects the modern state, arguing that Germany is not a country but a company. They refuse to recognize German laws, evade taxes and fines and have their own currency. In October 2017, a Reichsbürger member was sentenced to life imprisonment in Bavaria for killing a police officer during a raid on his home in 2016. The Reichsbürger movement is estimated to have 19,000 members in Germany.

2. GERMANY: German branch of Atomwaffen Division announces it will remain active

Source: SITE Intelligence

Summary: According to SITE Intelligence of 17 March 2020, on 15 March 2020 an alleged member of Atomwaffen Division's German cell (aka AWD Deutschland) published an audio message to Vorherrschaft Division (VD), a Telegram group chat for members and affiliates of the United States (US)-based neo-Nazi organization. The audio message indicated that despite the dissolution of the founding AWD branch in the US (see WTR 20/11), the German branch "remain[s] practically untouched" and will continue operations.

According to SITE Intelligence of 19 March 2020, AWD Deutschland created a new Telegram channel to serve as the group's official media content dissemination and recruitment tool. The channel's biography read, "America has fallen. We, however, stay steadfast. Follow the Atomwaffen Division!" and included an encrypted email for recruitment contact.

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4. EUROPE: DAESH propaganda to exploit COVID-19 pandemic

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According to SITE Intelligence, on 19 March 2020, DAESH published a statement praising the outbreak of COVID-19 as divine punishment to the West, heralding more disaster and chaos to come. DAESH called on "soldiers of the Caliphate for new strikes..., similar to those of Paris [sic], London and Brussels".

Middle East

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Africa

7. MOZAMBIQUE: DAESH affiliate seizes key town in Cabo Delgado in efforts to expand territory

Source: Media

Summary: According to media reporting, in late March 2020 DAESH-affiliated insurgents staged an overnight attack and seized the town of Mocimboa de Praia, taking a military base and raising their flag. The town is located in northern Mozambique, close to a natural gas project operated by foreign companies. The army and police have since launched a counter-offensive.

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8. MALI:*Source: Media; SITE Intelligence*

Summary: According to media reporting of late March 2020, Malian officials announced that 29 Malian soldiers were killed and five were wounded in a 19 March 2020 attack against a military base in the town of Tarkint in the Gao region of northern Mali. According to SITE intelligence reporting from late March 2020, JNIM claimed the attack and reiterated its demand for "occupation forces"

According to SITE intelligence of late March 2020, JNIM claimed another attack against a MINUSMA vehicle in the Mopti region on 23 March 2020.

9. CHAD: Nearly 100 Chadian soldiers killed in an ambush in the Lake Chad area*Source: Media*

Summary: According to media reporting from late March 2020, at least 98 Chadian soldiers were killed and dozens more wounded during an ambush on 23 March 2020 in the island village of Boma in western Chad. Chad's President stated on 24 March that the death toll was the largest ever in the history of the country. The assailants burnt at least 24 military vehicles and stole weapons before departing the attack zone. According to uncorroborated media reporting, the attack was conducted by DAESH-West Africa fighters.

Eurasia - Pacific

10. AUSTRALIA: Update: Two additional arrests in connection with alleged terrorist attack plan*Source: Media*

Summary: According to media reporting, on 20 March 2020, 23-year-old Benjamin Lucas is facing terrorism and weapons-related charges. Benjamin Lucas allegedly planned to attack an electrical substation on the south coast of Australia, with his younger brother, 21-year-old Joshua Lucas, who was charged on 14 March 2020 (see WTR 20/11). Authorities discovered hunting knives, survival equipment, ideologically motivated violent (IMV) extremist material and a replica firearm after searching Benjamin's car and residence. According to the same reporting, Benjamin admitted to having bomb-making experience and gaining access to materials to make "a crude bomb." On 21 March 2020, an unnamed 19-year-old man from Falls Creek, New South Wales, Australia was arrested for possession of an unauthorized firearm, in connection with the same plot.

11. NEW ZEALAND: Christchurch attacker pleads guilty*Source: media*

Summary: According to media reporting from 26 March 2020, Brenton Tarrant has pleaded to 51 charges of murder, 40 charges of attempted murder, and one terrorism charge for his role in the March 2019 Christchurch mosque attacks. Tarrant was remanded into custody until 1 May 2020 when a sentencing date on the 92 charges will be set. Tarrant had previously denied the charges and was due to go on trial in June 2020.

12. INDONESIA: Wijayanto trial commences*Source: Media*

Summary: On 18 March 2020, media reporting indicated that the trial of Para Wijayanto, the leader of Jemaah Islamiyah (JI), had been adjourned until 1 April 2020. Wijayanto is on trial for his involvement in the 2002 Bali bombings that killed over 200 people.

Changes to Terrorism Threat Levels

NTR

What follows is a list of other ITAC products published between 19 and 25 March 2020.

Threat Highlights

TH 20/49

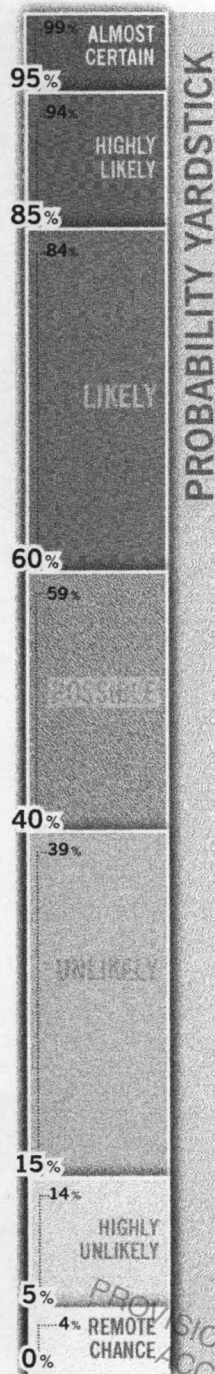
Threat Assessments

NIL

Lasers

NIL

DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

CRITICAL

HIGH

MEDIUM

LOW

VERY LOW

PROCESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT AND/OR ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT

ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is **HIGHLY LIKELY** and **COULD OCCUR IMMINENTLY**.ITAC assesses it is **HIGHLY LIKELY** that a violent act of terrorism will occur.ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is **LIKELY**.ITAC assesses it is **LIKELY** that a violent act of terrorism will occur.ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism **COULD OCCUR**.ITAC assesses it is **POSSIBLE** that a violent act of terrorism will occur.ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is **POSSIBLE BUT UNLIKELY**.ITAC assesses it is **UNLIKELY** that a violent act of terrorism will occur.ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is **HIGHLY UNLIKELY**.ITAC assesses it is **HIGHLY UNLIKELY** that a violent act of terrorism will occur.

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TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED



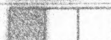
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MODERATE



Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets

GENERAL



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WTR 20/13-A // 2020-04-03

SECRET//

Week: 2020 03 26 to 2020 04 01

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CANADA-RELATED NTR

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MIDDLE EAST NTR

AFRICA

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- 3.

EURASIA - PACIFIC

4. **INDONESIA:** New Zealander killed by gunmen near Freeport Mine in Papua
5. **PHILIPPINES:** Canadian killed in plane explosion in Manila;

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Canada-related

NTR

Americas - Europe

NTR

Middle East

NTR

Africa

1. TUNISIA: Two terrorist attacks thwarted near the US Embassy in Tunis*Source: Media*

Summary: According to media reporting from late March 2020, two terrorist plots were thwarted and four terrorists arrested near the United States (US) Embassy in Tunis. The recent suicide bombing attack at the Berges du Lac on 6 March 2020 near the US Embassy triggered a series of arrests. Terrorist elements had planned to carry out other attacks to capitalize on the exceptional circumstances in Tunisia brought about by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

2.

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Eurasia - Pacific

4. INDONESIA: New Zealander killed by gunmen near Freeport Mine in Papua

Source: Media

Summary: Media reporting from 30 March 2020 indicates that eight gunmen killed a New Zealand miner and wounded six other individuals near the PT Freeport Indonesia Mine. The mine is partly owned by a named US-based company and has been previously targeted by attacks. The West Papua Liberation Army, the militant wing of the Free Papua Organization, claimed responsibility for the attack. Additionally, media reported that similar clashes between Indonesian authorities and the West Papua Liberation Army had killed two other security personnel since February 2020.

5. PHILIPPINES: Canadian killed in plane explosion in Manila;

Source: Media

Summary: Media reporting from 29 March 2020 indicates that an airplane carrying medical supplies bound for Japan caught fire during takeoff from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila. Eight people were killed including an American and a Canadian. According to media sources, Philippines authorities had deemed the plane airworthy, but the airport was operating with minimal staff due to the COVID-19 lockdown measures implemented by the authorities. Local officials indicated that the plane encountered an unspecified problem resulting in a fire that destroyed the aircraft.

Changes to Terrorism Threat Levels

NTR

What follows is a list of other ITAC products published between 26 March and 1 April 2020.

Threat Highlights

TH 20/51 **United States: Alleged VBIED plan to attack hospital during COVID-19 Pandemic**
(UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

Threat Assessments

TA 20/27-A **COVID-19 UPDATE: Extremism & Political Violence**
(SECRET)

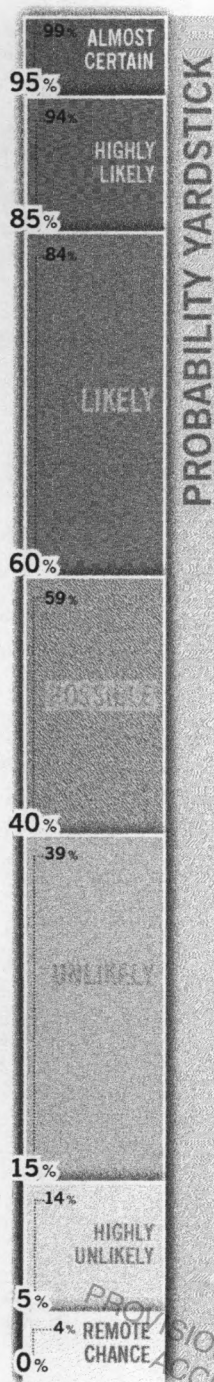
Lasers

NIL

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TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED		Capable of sophisticated attacks, including against hard targets
MODERATE		Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets
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WEEKLY THREAT REVIEW

ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

WTR 20/13-E // 2020-04-02

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Week: 2020 03 26 to 2020 04 01

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AMERICAS - EUROPE

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MIDDLE EAST

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AFRICA

1. **TUNISIA:** Two terrorist attacks thwarted near the US Embassy in Tunis

2.

3.

EURASIA - PACIFIC

4.

5.

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Canada-related

NTR

Americas - Europe

NTR

Middle East

NTR

Africa

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Summary: According to media reporting from late March 2020, two terrorist plots were thwarted and four terrorists arrested near the United States (US) Embassy in Tunis. The recent suicide bombing attack at the Berges du Lac on 6 March 2020 near the US Embassy triggered a series of arrests. Terrorist elements had planned to carry out other attacks to capitalize on the exceptional circumstances in Tunisia brought about by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

« RÉVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA
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Eurasia - Pacific

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Summary: Media reporting from 30 March 2020 indicates that eight gunmen killed a New Zealand miner and wounded six other individuals near the PT Freeport Indonesia Mine. The mine is partly owned by a named US-based company and has been previously targeted by attacks. The West Papua Liberation Army, the militant wing of the Free Papua Organization, claimed responsibility for the attack. Additionally, media reported that similar clashes between Indonesian authorities and the West Papua Liberation Army had killed two other security personnel since February 2020.

7. PHILIPPINES: Canadian killed in plane explosion in Manila;*Source: Media*

Summary: Media reporting from 29 March 2020 indicates that an airplane carrying medical supplies bound for Japan caught fire during takeoff from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila. Eight people were killed including an American and a Canadian. According to media sources, Philippines authorities had deemed the plane airworthy, but the airport was operating with minimal staff due to the COVID-19 lockdown measures implemented by the authorities. Local officials indicated that the plane encountered an unspecified problem resulting in a fire that destroyed the aircraft.

Changes to Terrorism Threat Levels

NTR

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Threat Highlights

TH 20/51 United States: Alleged VBIED plan to attack hospital during COVID-19 Pandemic
(UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

Threat Assessments

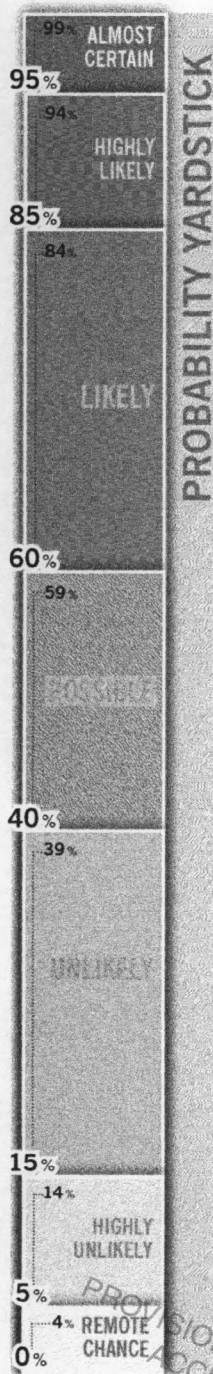
TA 20/27 COVID-19 UPDATE: Extremism & Political Violence
(TOP SECRET//)

TA 20/27-A COVID-19 UPDATE: Extremism & Political Violence
(SECRET)

Lasers

NIL

DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

	established	raised	lowered	remains
CRITICAL	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY LIKELY and COULD OCCUR IMMINENTLY .			
HIGH	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is LIKELY .			
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Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

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Canada-related

NTR

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Eurasia - Pacific

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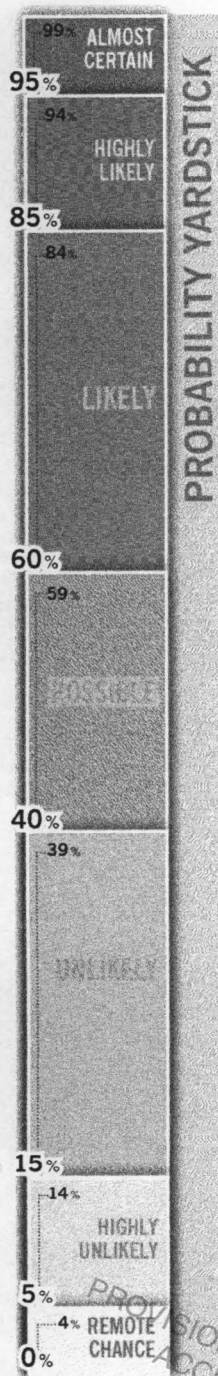
TA 20/27 **COVID-19 UPDATE: Extremism & Political Violence**
(TOP SECRET//)

TA 20/27-A **COVID-19 UPDATE: Extremism & Political Violence**
(SECRET)

Lasers

NIL

DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

	established	raised	lowered	remains
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TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED



Capable of sophisticated attacks, including against hard targets

MODERATE



Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets

GENERAL



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WEEKLY THREAT REVIEW

ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

WTR 20/14-A // 2020-04-09

SECRET//

Week: 2020 04 02 to 2020 04 08

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1. **FRANCE:** Three individuals arrested for knife attack that kills two
2. [REDACTED]

MIDDLE EAST

3. [REDACTED]

AFRICA

4. [REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED]

EURASIA - PACIFIC

6. "PROCESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT AND/OR ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT"
7. [REDACTED]
8. **THAILAND:** BRN declares ceasefire in south amid COVID-19
9. **RUSSIA/UKRAINE:** US designates Russian Imperial Movement as a terrorist group

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Canada-related

NTR

Americas - Europe

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Summary: According to media reporting, on 4 April 2020 a Sudanese asylum seeker identified as Abdallah A.O attacked pedestrians at random with a knife in the southern French town of Romans-sur-Isere, killing two and injuring five. French counterterrorism authorities cited in the media indicated that the attacker was arrested on terrorism-related charges minutes following the attack after he was found "on his knees on the pavement praying in Arabic". During a subsequent search of the attacker's home, authorities found handwritten documents that included arguments about religion and a complaint about living in a "country of infidels". Two others were also detained in connection with the attack, including an acquaintance and an individual living at the same residence as the attacker.

Middle East

SECRET//

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Africa

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Eurasia - Pacific

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8. THAILAND: BRN declares ceasefire in south amid COVID-19

Source: Media

Summary: Media reporting from early April 2020 indicates that the Barisan Revolusi Nasional (BRN) has declared a ceasefire on humanitarian grounds, citing concerns about the COVID-19 outbreak. BRN claimed they were halting all activities unless they were attacked by the Thai military. The ceasefire follows a suspected BRN attack in March 2020 against a government office in Yala province where a COVID-19 response meeting was being held.

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9. RUSSIA/UKRAINE: US designates Russian Imperial Movement as a terrorist group

Source: Media

Summary: On 7 April 2020, the United States designated the Russian Imperial Movement (RIM) and three of its leaders as Specially Designated Global Terrorists (see text box). RIM is cited as providing paramilitary training and incitement to violence to other far right and neo-Nazi groups around the world, and in particular in Ukraine. According to media reporting from 2017, two Swedish nationals received training from RIM in August 2016 and were later involved in two bomb attacks and an attempted bomb attack that targeted refugees and political opponents in Gothenburg, Sweden, leaving one person seriously injured (see TA19/63).

What is RIM?

According to media and open source reporting, the Russian Imperial Movement (RIM), founded in 2002, attracts and trains groups motivated by white supremacy and neo-Nazi beliefs. RIM has two training facilities in St. Petersburg that offer woodland and urban assault, tactical weapons, and hand-to-hand combat training.

Source: Media

ITAC Assessment: This is the first time the United States has formally designated a white supremacist group as terrorists.

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(SECRET)

Threat Assessments

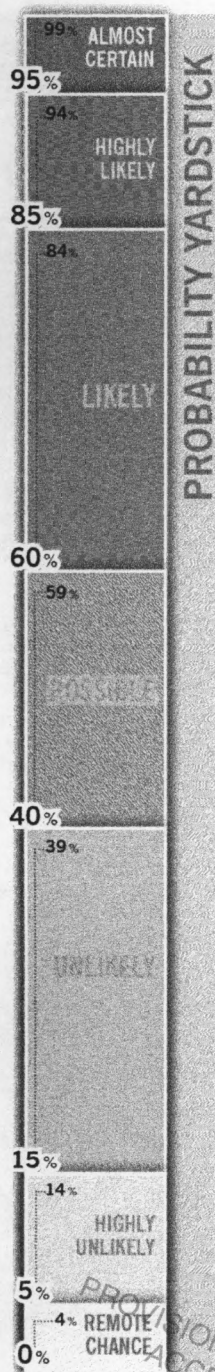
TA 20/26-A **UPDATE: The National Terrorism Threat Level for Canada**
(SECRET//)

TA 20/28

Lasers

NIL

DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL		PROCESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT AND/OR ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT / RÉVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA PROTECTION DES RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS ET/OU DE LA LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION
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EURASIA - PACIFIC

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Canada-related

NTR

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Middle East

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Eurasia - Pacific

7. AFGHANISTAN: Former DAESH-K leader arrested by Afghan authorities

Media

Summary: In early April 2020, Afghan authorities publicly announced the arrest of the leader of DAESH-Khorasan (DAESH-K) along with 19 other fighters.

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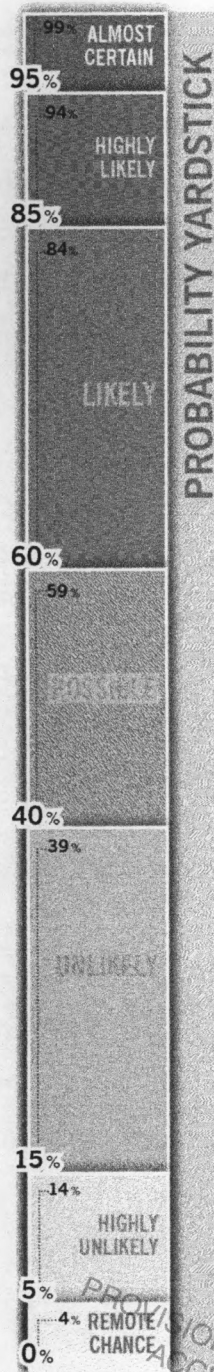
TA 20/26-A **UPDATE: The National Terrorism Threat Level for Canada**
(SECRET//

TA 20/28 **Kenya: Potential reconnaissance incidents at the Canadian High Commission in Nairobi**
(SECRET//

Lasers

NIL

DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

	PROCESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT AND/OR ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT / RÉVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA PROTECTION DES RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS ET/OU DE LA LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION	
CRITICAL	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY LIKELY and COULD OCCUR IMMINENTLY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
HIGH	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is LIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is LIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
MEDIUM	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism COULD OCCUR .	ITAC assesses it is POSSIBLE that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is POSSIBLE BUT UNLIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is UNLIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.
VERY LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY UNLIKELY .	ITAC assesses it is HIGHLY UNLIKELY that a violent act of terrorism will occur.

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TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED		Capable of sophisticated attacks, including against hard targets
MODERATE		Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets
GENERAL		Capable of simple attacks

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WEEKLY THREAT REVIEW

ITAC

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

CIET

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

WTR 20/15-E // 2020-04-16

TOP SECRET//

Week: 2020 04 09 to 2020 04 15

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Canada

« RÈVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA
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ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT"

Middle East

NTR

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Canada-related

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Africa

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4. EGYPT: Police officer killed in raid against terrorist cell in Cairo

Source: Media

Summary: According to media reporting, an Egyptian police officer and seven suspected terrorists were killed on 14 April 2020 when Egyptian security forces raided a suspected militant hideout at a residential building in Cairo's Amiriyah District. The Egyptian Interior Ministry said the security forces seized weapons and ammunition in the raid and that the suspects were planning attacks against Coptic Christians during the Coptic Orthodox Holy Week and Easter Sunday celebrated on 19 April 2020.

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Eurasia - Pacific

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Changes to Terrorism Threat Levels

NTR

What follows is a list of other ITAC products published between 9 and 15 April 2020.

Threat Highlights

TH 20/53 **Mozambique: DAESH affiliate advances capability and plans further attacks**

(TOP SECRET//

Threat Assessments

TA 20/30 **COVID-19 Update Extremism & Political Violence**

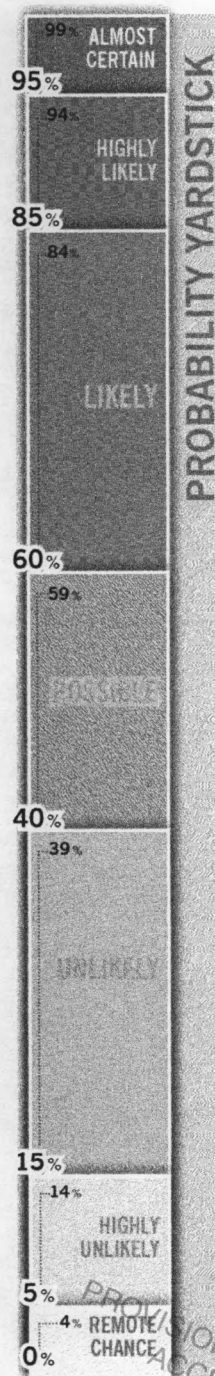
(TOP SECRET//

TA 20/30-A **COVID-19 Update Extremism & Political Violence**

(SECRET)

Lasers

DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

THREAT LEVEL		
	<div> <div></div> <div>established</div> <div></div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>raised</div> <div></div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>lowered</div> <div></div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>remains</div> <div></div> </div>	
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WEEKLY THREAT REVIEW



ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

WTR 20/16-A // 2020-04-24

SECRET

Week: 2020 04 16 to 2020 04 22

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4. **PHILIPPINES:** ASG ambushes Philippine military, killing eleven military members

- 5.

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Canada-related

NTR

Americas - Europe

NTR

Middle East

NTR

Africa

1. TUNISIA: Explosives precursors and drones discovered during raid near Tunis*Source: Media*

Summary: According to media reporting, on 15 April 2020, Tunisian authorities raided a house on the outskirts of Tunis, where several products used for the manufacture of explosives were discovered. Ammonium nitrate, potassium and several electronic components used in the manufacture of drones were also discovered. The operation led to the arrest of one individual.

Eurasia - Pacific

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4. PHILIPPINES: ASG ambushes Philippine military, killing eleven military members

Source: Media;

Summary: According to media reporting, on 17 April 2020 Philippine military forces were ambushed and later engaged in a firefight with Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) militants in Patikul, Sulu province. The ambush left eleven soldiers killed, another 14 wounded and five ASG members killed. Media indicates that some of the soldiers were reportedly beheaded. The attack occurred as Philippine armed forces members were conducting search operations in the area, and came upon 40 armed ASG fighters believed to be led by Hatib Hajan Sawadjaan and Radulan Sahiron. Allegedly, ASG members captured weapons and a radio from soldiers killed.

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Changes to Terrorism Threat Levels

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What follows is a list of other ITAC products published between 16 and 22 April 2020.

Threat Highlights

TH 20/54

Canada: motive unknown in Nova Scotia mass shooting

Threat Assessments

TA 20/30-A

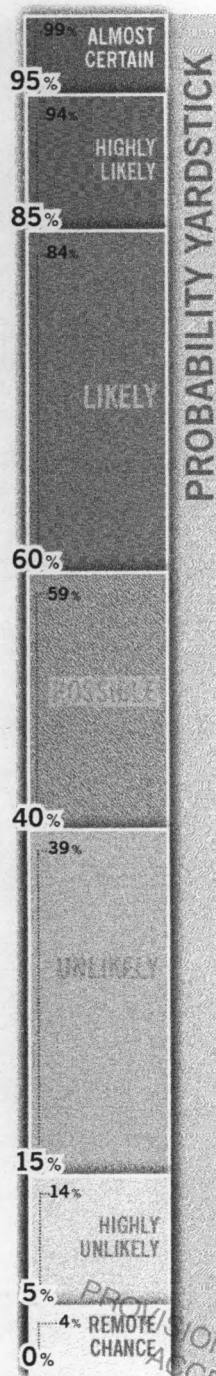
COVID-10 UPDATE: Extremism & Political Violence
(SECRET)

Lasers

NIL

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DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

	PROCESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT AND/OR ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT	PROCESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT AND/OR ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT
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TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

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MODERATE



Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets

GENERAL



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ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

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Week: 2020 04 16 to 2020 04 22

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2. **TUNISIA:** Explosives precursors and drones discovered during raid near Tunis

3.

EURASIA - PACIFIC

4.

5. **PHILIPPINES:** ASG ambushes Philippine military, killing eleven military members

6.

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Canada

Canada-related

NTR

Americas - Europe

NTR

Middle East

Africa

2. TUNISIA: Explosives precursors and drones discovered during raid near Tunis*Source: Media*

Summary: According to media reporting, on 15 April 2020, Tunisian authorities raided a house on the outskirts of Tunis, where several products used for the manufacture of explosives were discovered. Ammonium nitrate, potassium and several electronic components used in the manufacture of drones were also discovered. The operation led to the arrest of one individual.

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Eurasia - Pacific

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5. PHILIPPINES: ASG ambushes Philippine military, killing eleven military members

Source: Media

Summary: According to media reporting, on 17 April 2020 Philippine military forces were ambushed and later engaged in a firefight with Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) militants in Patikul, Sulu province. The ambush left eleven soldiers killed, another 14 wounded, and five ASG members killed. Media indicates that some of the soldiers were reportedly beheaded. The attack occurred as Philippine armed forces members were conducting search operations in the area, and came upon 40 armed ASG fighters believed to be led by Hatib Hajan Sawadjaan and Radulan Sahiron. Allegedly, ASG members captured weapons and a radio from soldiers killed.

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(SECRET)

TA 20/31

Global Terrorism Threat Environment during Ramadan 2020
(TOP SECRET//

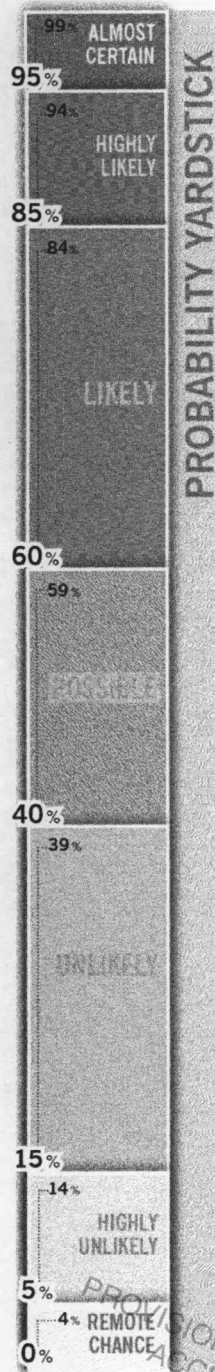
Lasers

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DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

	established	raised	lowered	remains
CRITICAL	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY LIKELY and COULD OCCUR IMMINENTLY			
HIGH	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is LIKELY			
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ITAC

CIET

Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

WTR 20/17-A // 2020-04-30

SECRET//

Week: 2020 04 23 to 2020 04 29

CANADA-RELATED
NTR

AMERICAS - EUROPE

1. **FRANCE:** Car ramming of police by DAESH-inspired extremist

MIDDLE EAST
NTR

AFRICA

2. [REDACTED]
3. **MOZAMBIQUE:** Security forces kill 129 extremists
4. [REDACTED]

EURASIA - PACIFIC

5. [REDACTED]
6. [REDACTED]
7. **INDIA:** DAESH-linked periodical calls again for attacks in India

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Canada-related

NTR

Americas - Europe

1. FRANCE: Car ramming of police by DAESH-inspired extremist (*Source: Media*

Summary: According to media reporting, on 27 April 2020, 29-year-old French national Youssef Tihlah deliberately rammed his car into police while they were verifying the identity of another driver in Colombes, France. Three police officers were injured, one critically. Authorities found a knife and a letter pledging allegiance to DAESH in Tihlah's car. During his arrest, Tihlah indicated that he had watched videos online and conducted the attack in retaliation for the situation in Palestine, and allegedly hoped to die during the attack. Tihlah was known to authorities for previous offences but was not considered a security risk. It was later reported that a 20-year-old male who lived in the same apartment building as Tihlah was arrested during the search of Tihlah's premises for refusing to relinquish his mobile device under suspicion that it contains evidentiary images. (

Middle East

NTR

Africa

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3. Mozambique: Security forces kill 129 extremists;

Source: Media;

Summary: According to media reporting from late April 2020, Mozambican authorities claimed that a total of 129 extremists were killed during three security operations in the month of April in Cabo Delgado Province (CDP), northern Mozambique. Separately,

Eurasia - Pacific

5. INDONESIA: Arrests disrupt activities of DAESH-aligned groups

Source: media

Summary: In April 2020, media reported that Indonesian security forces had arrested several Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD) and Mujahidin Indonesia Timur (MIT) extremists who were reportedly planning attacks. In addition to the arrests, a few extremists were killed, including a senior MIT militant believed to be responsible for the recent beheading of an Indonesian citizen. Indonesian authorities claimed in the media that the extremists sought to conduct an attack while the government was directing its resources to handling the COVID-19 Pandemic.

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7. INDIA: DAESH-linked periodical calls again for attacks in India

Source: Media

Summary: Media reporting indicates that the third iteration of the DAESH-linked Voice of Hind/Sawt al-Hind magazine was published on 22 April 2020 and includes call for attacks against India. This Ramadan-timed issue encouraged lone actors in India to make use of kitchen knives, axes, hammers, ropes and belts, vehicular attacks, petrol bombs and even bare hands to carry out attacks. It calls on Indian Muslims and other existing extremist groups in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka to pledge allegiance to DAESH and undertake violence.

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Changes to Terrorism Threat Levels

NTR

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Threat Highlights

TH 20/53-A

Threat Assessments

TA 20/32

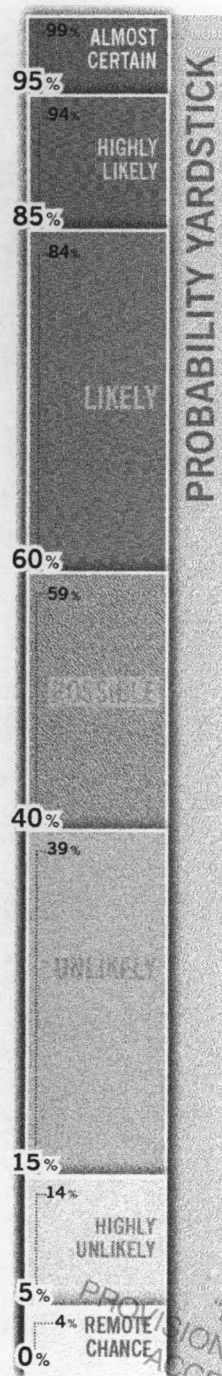
COVID-10 UPDATE: Extremism & Political Violence
(SECRET)

TA 20/32-A

COVID-10 UPDATE: Extremism & Political Violence
(SECRET)

Lasers

DEFINITIONS



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GENERAL		Capable of simple attacks

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

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WEEKLY THREAT REVIEW

ITAC
Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

CIET

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

WTR 20/17-E // 2020-04-30

TOP SECRET//

Week: 2020 04 23 to 2020 04 29

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All information and intelligence contained in the WTR is presented in the language in which it was originally transmitted to ITAC. All ITAC comments and analyses contained herein are available in both official languages.

Veuillez noter que les informations et les renseignements figurant dans le présent Examen hebdomadaire de la menace ne sont présentés que dans la langue dans laquelle ils ont été transmis au CIET. Par contre, les remarques et les analyses du CIET sont présentées dans les deux langues officielles.

Canada-related

NTR

Americas - Europe

1. FRANCE: Car ramming of police by DAESH-inspired extremist*Source: Media*

Summary: According to media reporting, on 27 April 2020, 29-year-old French national Youssef Tihlah deliberately rammed his car into police while they were verifying the identity of another driver in Colombes, France. Three police officers were injured, one critically. Authorities found a knife and a letter pledging allegiance to DAESH in Tihlah's car. During his arrest, Tihlah indicated that he had watched videos online and conducted the attack in retaliation for the situation in Palestine, and allegedly hoped to die during the attack. Tihlah was known to authorities for previous offences but was not considered a security risk. It was later reported that a 20-year-old male who lived in the same apartment building as Tihlah was arrested during the search of Tihlah's premises for refusing to relinquish his mobile device under suspicion that it contains evidentiary images.

Middle East

NTR

Africa

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ET/OU DE LA LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION »

3. Mozambique: Security forces kill 129 extremists;

Source: Media;

Summary: According to media reporting from late April 2020, Mozambican authorities claimed that a total of 129 extremists were killed during three security operations in the month of April in Cabo Delgado Province (CDP), northern Mozambique. Separately,

5. MALI:

Source:

media

Separately, according to media of late April 2020, JNIM had sent materiel reinforcements for its counter DAESH-GS efforts, which included 40 vehicles and nearly 300 motorbikes. JNIM had also initiated a clash with DAESH-GS' fighters in northern Burkina Faso, following a DAESH-GS attack in the same area on 16 April that reportedly killed dozens of JNIM fighters.

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Eurasia - Pacific

6. INDONESIA: Arrests disrupt activities of DAESH-aligned groups

Source: *media*

Summary: In April 2020, media reported that Indonesian security forces had arrested several Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD) and Mujahidin Indonesia Timur (MIT) extremists who were reportedly planning attacks. In addition to the arrests, a few extremists were killed, including a senior MIT militant believed to be responsible for the recent beheading of an Indonesian citizen. Indonesian authorities claimed in the media that the extremists sought to conduct an attack while the government was directing its resources to handling the COVID-19 Pandemic.

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8. INDIA: DAESH-linked periodical calls again for attacks in India

Source: Media

Summary: Media reporting indicates that the third iteration of the DAESH-linked Voice of Hind/Sawt al-Hind magazine was published on 22 April 2020 and includes call for attacks against India. This Ramadan-timed issue encouraged lone actors in India to make use of kitchen knives, axes, hammers, ropes and belts, vehicular attacks, petrol bombs and even bare hands to carry out attacks. It calls on Indian Muslims and other existing extremist groups in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka to pledge allegiance to DAESH and undertake violence.

Changes to Terrorism Threat Levels

NTR

What follows is a list of other ITAC products published between 23 and 29 April 2020.

Threat Highlights

TH 20/53-A

Threat Assessments

TA 20/32

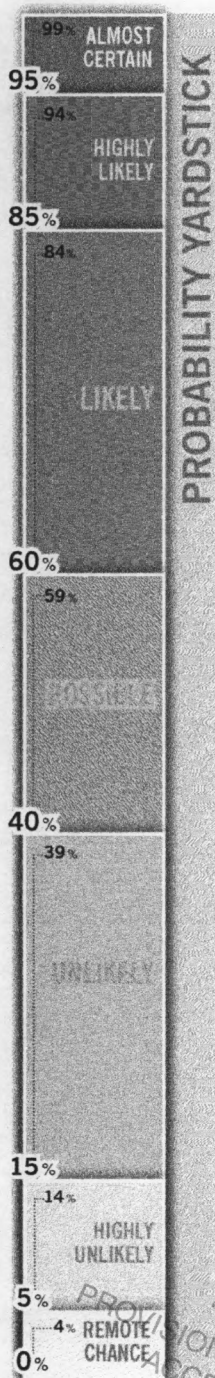
COVID-10 UPDATE: Extremism & Political Violence
(SECRET//

TA 20/32-A

COVID-10 UPDATE: Extremism & Political Violence
(SECRET)

Lasers

DEFINITIONS



THREAT LEVEL

	established	raised	lowered	remains
CRITICAL	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY LIKELY and COULD OCCUR IMMINENTLY .			
HIGH	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is LIKELY .			
MEDIUM	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism COULD OCCUR .			
LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is POSSIBLE BUT UNLIKELY .			
VERY LOW	ITAC assesses that a violent act of terrorism is HIGHLY UNLIKELY .			

ITAC uses both quantitative and qualitative analysis in applying terrorism threat levels. The setting of threat levels is determined by several factors, including current intelligence, recent events, as well as the intent, capabilities, and attack frequency of terrorist groups. ITAC cautions that the information may be incomplete and, regardless of the threat level applied, a violent act of terrorism may occur with little or no warning.

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TERRORIST GROUP CAPABILITIES

ADVANCED		Capable of sophisticated attacks, including against hard targets
MODERATE		Capable of high profile attacks against soft targets
GENERAL		Capable of simple attacks

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