

A-2015-483



15/07-E
2015 01 16

TOP SECRET

The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean: Secretary General of La Francophonie

1) On 2015 01 05, the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, former Governor General of Canada, became the new Secretary General of La Francophonie.

Assessment:

France

4) As a result of recent attacks in France, the regions of Ile-de-France (including Paris) and Picardie had their terrorist threat level elevated to that of ALERTE ATTENTAT, indicating that there was an imminent threat of a terrorist act

AQAP has publically claimed responsibility for the 2015 01 07 attack by two gunmen on the Paris office of the satirical magazine, *Charlie Hebdo*, which killed 12 persons including two police officers and injured several others.

5) The assailant who killed a police officer in Paris on 2015 01 08 in a separate attack, and later took hostages at a kosher grocery store, four of whom died, claimed allegiance with ISIL, and said that he had jointly planned the attacks with the Kouachi brothers.

6) Prior to the events described above, four attacks occurred in France between 2014 12 20 and 2015 01 02, in which the assailants shouted "Allahu Akbar" (Arabic for "God is great"). Two attacks against police occurred in Joué-lès-Tours and Metz, the first involving the use of a knife, and the second involving an attempt to strangle an officer. Two vehicle attacks in Dijon and Nantes targeting crowds of people each injured at least 10 people.

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11) France also experiences rioting and violence related to right-wing extremism.

Canada

14)

In the 2014 10 22 attack, Michael Zehaf Bibeau targeted soldiers guarding the National War Memorial in downtown Ottawa, and mounted an attack on the Parliament Buildings. Bibeau killed one soldier and wounded a Parliament Hill security guard, before being killed himself.

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Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre

Centre intégré d'évaluation du terrorisme

THREAT ASSESSMENT

15/41-E
2015 04 27

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Update: Canada's Evolving Threat Environment

Objective

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Assessment Note: This assessment is based on open information

The threat environment in Canada

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7. Threat from AQ and its affiliates:

8. Al Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) claimed responsibility for the 2015 01 07 attack against the French satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo*.

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Recent AQ-related court cases in Canada

On 2013 04 22, the RCMP arrested Chiheb Esseghaier and Raed Jaser, in Montreal and Toronto respectively, and charged them with conspiring to carry out a terrorist attack against a passenger train traveling from New York to Toronto. FBI wiretaps revealed a link between Esseghaier and AQ, and the RCMP said the plot had received direction and guidance from AQ elements in Iran. On 2015 03 20, Esseghaier and Jaser were each convicted on multiple charges, including conspiring to murder persons unknown for the benefit of a terrorist group, conspiring to interfere with transportation facilities for the benefit of a terrorist group, and participating in the activities of a terrorist group.

On 2013 07 01, the RCMP arrested two Canadian Muslim converts, John Nuttall and Amanda Korody, after they planted three (non-functional) pressure cooker explosive devices at the BC legislature in Victoria where crowds were anticipated for Canada Day festivities. The trial for the pair, who self-identified as "al-Qaida," began on 2015 02 03.

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Recent extremist attacks in the West

2015 02 14-15: A gunman identified as Omar Abdel Hamid El-Hussein killed two civilians—a synagogue guard and a film-maker—and injured five police officers in two separate attacks in Copenhagen. He was shot and killed by police. Prior to the attacks, in a posting to his Facebook El-Hussein swore allegiance to Abu Bakr (al-Baghdadi), suggesting that he was dedicating his actions to ISIL.

2015 02 03: A man identified as Moussa Coulibaly used a long knife to stab three French policemen on patrol outside a Jewish community center in Nice, France. He was arrested shortly after. Coulibaly had recently flown to Turkey, but was stopped by Turkish officials and returned to France.

Recent cyber-attacks

2015 04 12: Unidentified hackers directed cyber-attacks against the Belgian media group, Rossel, blocking access to its newspapers' websites, including the Belgian daily *Le Soir* and the French regional newspaper *La Voix du Nord*.

2015 04 09: Pro-ISIL *Rabitat al-Ansar* posted the names and contact information of citizens of 13 countries, including Canada.

2015 04 08: The Cyber Caliphate led synchronized attacks against the online accounts of the French TV station TV5 Monde, forcing the network's 11 channels off the air, and threatening attacks against French soldiers and their families with links provided to purported French identity cards, passports, and resumes of the relatives of French soldiers.

2015 03 20: The "Islamic State Hacking Division" (ISHD) released information on 100 American military personnel, and called upon "lone wolves" in the US to kill them.

11. In recent months, extremists have staged attacks in Nice, France and Copenhagen, Denmark.

12. Threat to Canadian military:

The CAF conducted its first airstrike in Syria against an ISIL garrison near Ar-Raqqa on 2015 04 08.

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13. **Threat from extremist travellers:** Individuals possessing Canadian status are seeking to travel abroad to participate in extremist activities.

include: Extremist travellers returning to Canada may pose multiple threats, to radicalizing others,

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Looking ahead

16. **Special Events:** Canada will host the FIFA Women's World Cup in various cities across Canada from 2015 06 06 to 2015 07 05, as well as the Pan American (Pan Am) Games in Toronto, Ontario, from 2015 07 07 to 2015 07 26, and the Parapan Am Games from 2015 08 07 to 2015 08 15.

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