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Global Jihad Monitor

October 26-November 1, 2005

The Big Picture

- At least 61 people were killed in bomb attacks in New Delhi. [\[Full Story\]](#)
- Palestinian Islamic Jihad bombed an open-air market in the coastal Israeli city of Hadera, killing five. Israel responded with airstrikes and arrests. [\[Full Story\]](#)
- A German magazine reported that Iran is allowing 25 high-ranking members of al-Qaeda to roam freely around Tehran. [\[Full Story\]](#)

Regional Briefs

North America

Padilla Asks High Court to Intervene ([AP](#)) - "Dirty bomb" suspect Jose Padilla has asked the Supreme Court to limit the government's power to hold him and other U.S. terror suspects indefinitely and without charges. Justices refused on a 5-4 vote last year to resolve Padilla's rights, ruling that he contested his detention in the wrong court.

Fired Professor Presents No Defense in Terrorism-Support Trial ([AP](#)) - After hearing from government witnesses for nearly five months, an attorney for a fired college professor charged with aiding Palestinian terrorists rested his case Thursday (10/27) without calling a single witness. After summoning more than 70 witnesses, federal prosecutors rested their case earlier Thursday morning against Sami Al-Arian and three other defendants accused of raising money and supporting the murderous mission of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

Trial Begins for al-Qaeda Suspect in Bush Plot ([Reuters](#)) - Federal prosecutors told a jury on Monday (10/31) that a U.S. man plotted with al-Qaeda to kill President George W. Bush but his lawyer said he confessed to such a plot only because he was tortured in a Saudi jail. The lawyers were making their case in opening statements in the trial of Ahmed Abu Ali, 24, who has pleaded not guilty to a nine-count indictment charging him with conspiring to kill Bush and with providing support and resources to al-Qaeda.

Middle East

Bombing at Israeli Food Stand Kills Five ([AP](#)) - 20-year-old Palestinian blacksmith blew himself up at a falafel stand in an open-air market Wednesday (10/26), killing five Israelis and wounding more than 30 in the deadliest attack in the country in more than three months. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attack.

Israel Arrests Local Islamic Jihad Leader in West Bank ([Reuters](#)) - Israel arrested a top leader of Islamic Jihad in Jenin during a raid in the West Bank town on Thursday (10/27), Palestinian security sources said.

Israel Kills 7 in Strike on Gaza Militants ([Reuters](#)) - Israel killed seven Palestinians, most of them militants, in a Gaza Strip air strike on Thursday (10/27), hours after Prime Minister Ariel Sharon ordered a broad offensive in response to a suicide bombing. A missile blew apart a car carrying Islamic Jihad field commander Shadi Mhanna and three comrades in Jabalya refugee camp, witnesses said.

Israel Arrests 23 More Suspected Palestinian Militants ([CNN](#)) - Israeli security forces rounded up nearly two dozen suspected Palestinian militants in West Bank raids overnight, a military source said Tuesday (11/1). Among the 23 people arrested were 13 members of Islamic Jihad and eight from Hamas. The affiliations of two others were not immediately known.

Israeli Airstrike Kills 2 Top Gaza Militants ([Reuters](#)) - Israel killed two Palestinian militant commanders in a missile strike on Tuesday (11/1) as it pressed a deadly air campaign in Gaza following a suicide bombing and rocket fire in the Jewish state. Fawzi Abu al-Qarea, leader of Hamas' armed wing in the the Jabalya refugee camp, and Hassan al-Madhoun, a top al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades commander, were killed in the blast, witnesses said. The two men were traveling in a car with a red Palestinian Authority security license plate, the witnesses said.

Iran Lets Senior al-Qaeda Suspects Roam Free ([Reuters](#)) - Iran is permitting around 25 high-ranking al-Qaeda members to roam free in the country's capital, including three sons of Osama bin Laden, a German monthly magazine reported on Wednesday (10/26). They are living in houses belonging to Iran's Revolutionary Guards, the report said.

Report on Lebanese Militias Adds Pressure on Syria ([AP](#)) - Lebanon has yet to achieve "tangible results" in meeting U.N. demands to disarm Palestinian and Lebanese militias - a reference to the Hezbollah guerrilla group, a top envoy said in a report Wednesday (10/26). The envoy, Terje Roed-Larsen, said Lebanon's inability to exert control over some areas or rein in the militias was stalling its progress toward achieving full sovereignty after emerging from nearly three decades of dominance by Syria.

Iraq

Two al-Qaeda Members Killed in Iraq ([Reuters](#)) - Two al-Qaeda members, one a cell leader accused of taking part in at least three videotaped beheadings, have been killed in Iraq, the U.S. military said on Wednesday (10/26).

Three U.S. GIs Killed in Iraq ([AP](#)) - Insurgents using roadside bombs and small arms fire killed three U.S. soldiers and wounded four, while five Iraqis died in other attacks, authorities said Thursday (10/27). U.S. aircraft, meanwhile, destroyed more militant safe houses near the Syrian border, and apparently killed a senior al-Qaeda in Iraq

figure who was using religious courts to try Iraqis who supported coalition forces, the military said.

Suicide Bomb and Shootings Raise Iraqi Death Toll ([Reuters](#)) - Two Iraqi government officials were shot in Baghdad on Sunday (10/30), one day after a suicide bombing killed 30 people after luring them to a truck bomb disguised as a date vendor's van.

Six GIs Killed in Iraq ([AP](#)) - Six American soldiers were killed Monday (10/31) by roadside bombs in two separate attacks in Iraq, while U.S. jets bombed two insurgent safe houses near the Syrian border in an attack aimed at al-Qaeda in Iraq, the U.S. command said. Coalition forces also swept through several areas of Baghdad, taking nearly 100 suspected militants into custody, the command said.

Basra Car Bomb Kills at Least 20 ([AP](#)) - A car bomb exploded Monday (10/31) night in a commercial district of Iraq's second-largest city of Basra, killing at least 20 people and wounding about 40, a police official said.

Iraqi al-Qaeda to Put Kidnapped Moroccans on Trial ([Reuters](#)) - Al-Qaeda's wing in Iraq said on Tuesday (11/1) it would put two Moroccan embassy employees it kidnapped last month on trial, according to an Internet statement. The statement could not be authenticated, but it was signed by al-Qaeda's spokesman in Iraq.

Moroccan Suspect Named in 60 Shiite Deaths ([AP](#)) - The Iraqi government accused a Moroccan of being involved in a triple car bombing in September that killed 60 people in a Shiite town in central Iraq and offered a reward for his arrest. The government identified the Moroccan suspect as Muhsen Khayber, also known as Abdul Rahim, and said he was also allegedly involved in coordinated suicide bombings in Casablanca on May 16, 2003, that killed 32 people.

Afghanistan and Pakistan

Quake Aid Helicopter Apparently Fired At ([AP](#)) - A rocket-propelled grenade apparently was fired at a U.S. military helicopter ferrying relief supplies to quake victims in Pakistan's portion of disputed Kashmir on Tuesday (11/1), but the aircraft was not hit and nobody was injured, a spokesman said. The U.S. Army and the Pakistani government are investigating the incident.

Pakistani Newspaper Claims bin Laden is Dead ([AKI \(Italy\)](#)) - A Pakistani newspaper claimed this week that Osama bin Laden died in June in a village near the former Taliban stronghold of Kandahar in the south of Afghanistan. The *Awsaf* newspaper reported that the Saudi terror leader fell ill and his protectors then took him back to the Kandahar region, where he died and was buried in a graveyard in the shadow of a mountain.

Afghanistan Welcomes Taliban Extradition ([AP](#)) - Afghan officials Thursday (10/27) welcomed the extradition of 14 suspected Taliban members from neighboring Pakistan,

saying they hoped the move would mark a new era of cooperation. A spokesman for President Hamid Karzai said the men would be prosecuted.

Suspected Afghan Militants Killed ([BBC](#)) – U.S.-led coalition forces and Afghan troops killed 14 suspected militants in Afghanistan, the U.S. military said Saturday (10/29). One Afghan soldier is also said to have been killed in the clashes.

Soldier, Widow Win Judgment Over Afghan Battle ([AP](#)) - A soldier wounded in a firefight in Afghanistan and the widow of his slain comrade won a default judgment against the estate of a suspected al-Qaeda financier. U.S. District Judge Paul Cassell asked the plaintiffs to submit evidence within 20 days to establish the amount of damages they expect.

Pentagon Official: Top al-Qaeda Operative Escaped ([AP](#)) - Omar al-Farouq, one of Osama bin Laden's top lieutenants in Southeast Asia until Indonesian authorities captured him in the summer of 2002, escaped from a U.S.-run detention facility in Afghanistan and cannot testify against the soldier who allegedly mistreated him, a defense lawyer involved in a prison abuse case said Tuesday (11/1).

Europe

Germany Convicts Terror Plotters ([BBC](#)) - Four Arab men accused of planning attacks on Jewish targets in Germany have been sentenced to jail terms of between five and eight years. Three members of the group were convicted of supporting a terrorist organization, al-Tawhid - which is led by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and is said to have links to al-Qaeda.

Blair Suffers Revolt Over New Terrorism Laws ([Reuters](#)) - Prime Minister Tony Blair steered new counter-terrorism laws through their first parliamentary vote on Wednesday (10/26) but faces stiff opposition later to a clause letting police hold suspects for up to 90 days without charge. Blair has insisted that police need the 90-day holding period in some cases -- up from 14 days at present -- because of the difficulty in building a case against terrorism suspects, and says the police have made a "compelling" case.

Danish Terror Suspects Linked to Bosnian Arrests ([AP](#)) - Danish police confirmed Friday (10/28) that the arrest of four young Muslims suspected of belonging to a network planning a suicide attack in Europe was linked to an investigation in Bosnia.

Dutch Teenager Seeks New Acquittal for Attack Plan ([Reuters](#)) - A Dutch-Moroccan man who was acquitted in April of charges he planned attacks on government buildings said on Monday (10/31) he expected an appeal against his acquittal to fail. Samir Azzouz, 19, was sentenced to three months in jail for illegal possession of weapons in April but acquitted of armed robbery and charges he planned to bomb governing buildings. Prosecutors launched an appeal against the acquittal on Monday.

Terror Cell 'Smuggled Missiles into Europe' ([Telegraph \(U.K.\)](#)) - An Islamic terror cell has smuggled two surface-to-air missiles into Europe in a plot to shoot down planes at

one of France's main airports, it was claimed Friday (10/28). French and Algerian extremists with links to al-Qaeda bought the Russian SA-18 Grouse missiles from Chechens in 2002 and smuggled them via Georgia and Turkey, according to French anti-terror sources quoted in *Le Figaro*.

Asia

New Delhi Explosions Kill at Least 61 ([AP](#)) - Near-simultaneous explosions rocked the Indian capital Saturday (10/29) evening, tearing through a bus and two markets crowded with people shopping for gifts for a Hindu festival. At least 61 people were killed and dozens wounded in the blasts, which the government blamed on terrorists.

Militants Deny India Bombing Links ([CNN](#)) - The main militant group suspected of being behind the deadly weekend bomb attacks in New Delhi has denied any responsibility, according to news reports. A spokesman for the Pakistani-based militant group, Lashkar-e-Tayyaba, on Tuesday (11/1) called the accusations "completely baseless and false." A little-known Kashmiri group, Islamic Inquilab Mahaz -- which took credit for the blasts -- has ties to Lashkar, officials said.

Three School Girls Beheaded in Indonesia ([AP](#)) - Unidentified assailants attacked a group of Christian high school girls on Saturday (10/29) in Indonesia's tense province of Central Sulawesi, beheading three and seriously wounding another, police said.

Suspected Militants Caught in Philippines ([AP](#)) - Philippine troops captured seven suspected Muslim militants Wednesday (10/26), including the leader of a group of Islamic converts linked to the kidnappings of foreigners and an alleged plot to bomb the U.S. Embassy, officials said.

Manila Court Sentences Three Militants to Death ([Reuters](#)) - A Philippine court on Friday (10/28) sentenced three Muslim militants, including an Indonesian, to death for the bombing of a bus that killed four people in Manila in February. The bombing on Valentine's Day in the capital's financial district was part of coordinated attacks that also hit two cities on the troubled southern island of Mindanao, killing a dozen people and wounding about 100.

Suspected Insurgents Hit Targets in Thailand ([AP](#)) - Suspected Muslim insurgents mounted a series of attacks Wednesday (10/26) in southern Thailand in which six people were killed, the military said. The insurgents also seized dozens of guns from the houses of village chiefs and defense volunteers during about 30 attacks in provinces along the Malaysian border.

Africa

Algerian Islamic Militants Kill Two People ([Reuters](#)) - Algerian Islamic militants killed two people, including one policeman, and injured three others, stepping up attacks during the holy month of Ramadan despite a government offer of amnesty for hundreds of rebels, newspapers reported on Wednesday (10/26).

Algerian Rebels Kill Another Four People ([Reuters](#)) - Algerian Islamic militants with suspected links to al-Qaeda have killed four people, including one soldier, in the latest attacks during the holy month of Ramadan, newspapers reported on Saturday (10/29).

This report was compiled by Jonathan L. Snow, Manager of Research at the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies.