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Global Jihad Monitor

November 23-29, 2005

The Big Picture

- The U.N. Security Council, for the first time ever, condemned Hezbollah for cross-border attacks against Israel. [[Full Story](#)]
- More than 370 clan members and relatives of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi publicly disowned the terrorist leader, prompting an angry response from al-Qaeda in Iraq. [[Full Story](#)]
- At least ten civilians in two cities were killed in the first ever suicide bombings in Bangladesh. [[Full Story](#)]

Regional Briefs

U.N.

U.S. Pressures U.N. to Condemn Hezbollah ([Jerusalem Post](#)) - Following intense U.S. pressure, the United Nations Security Council on Wednesday (11/23) issued an unprecedented condemnation of Monday's Hezbollah attacks on northern Israel. This condemnation - slamming Hezbollah by name for "acts of hatred" - marked the first time the Security Council has ever reprimanded Hezbollah for cross-border attacks on Israel.

North America

U.S. Lacks Plan to Curb Terror Funds, Agency Says ([New York Times](#)) - The government's efforts to help foreign nations cut off the supply of money to terrorists, a critical goal for the Bush administration, have been stymied by infighting among American agencies, leadership problems and insufficient financing, a new Congressional report says.

Ohio Cleric to Be Deported for Terror Ties ([AP](#)) - Federal authorities arrested an Islamic religious leader Friday (11/25) as they began the process of deporting him for lying about ties to terrorist groups. Imam Fawaz Damra, the spiritual leader of Ohio's largest mosque, was convicted in June 2004 of concealing ties to three groups that the U.S. government classifies as terrorist organizations when he applied for U.S. citizenship in 1994.

Supreme Court Passes Up PLO Case ([AP](#)) - The Supreme Court refused Monday (11/28) to overturn a \$116 million judgment against the Palestine Liberation Organization in the deaths of a Jewish couple near the West Bank. The family's relatives argued that the PLO and Palestinian Authority provided a safe haven and operational base for Hamas, which was responsible for the attack.

Miami Police Take New Tack Against Terror ([AP](#)) - Police are planning "in-your-face" shows of force in public places, saying the random, high-profile security operations will keep terrorists guessing about where officers might be next.

Middle East

Zarqawi Disowned by Extended Family, Clan ([AP](#)) - More than 370 members of the clan of al-Qaeda in Iraq leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi joined his family Tuesday (11/29) in publishing a full-page letter in Jordanian newspapers disowning him. The letter was the family's second attempt in 20 days to convince Jordanians that it has renounced all ties to the militant.

Iraq al-Qaeda Slams Zarqawi Family for Disowning Him ([Reuters](#)) - Iraq's al-Qaeda on Monday (11/28) blasted the Jordanian tribe of its leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi for disowning him after his group claimed triple suicide bombings in Amman which killed 57 people this month.

Jordan King Urges PM to Battle Militants ([AP](#)) - Jordan's King Abdullah II appointed a new prime minister Thursday (11/24) and urged him to launch an all-out war against Islamic militancy in the wake of the deadly triple hotel bombings earlier this month. Abdullah also called for a new anti-terrorism law to replace the current, general one that does not specify punishment for different terrorist acts and their perpetrators.

Yemen Executes Man for Opposition Leader's Murder ([Reuters](#)) - A Yemeni firing squad on Sunday (11/27) executed an Islamic militant who was sentenced to death for the murder of a prominent secular opposition leader in the Arab state. "I die as a martyr and will go to heaven," journalists quoted Ali Jarallah, a member of the Islamist opposition Islah party, as saying before his execution at a prison in the capital Sanaa. "I call on you to continue the jihad against secularists and Christian missionaries."

Top Islamic Jihad Militant Surrenders to Israel ([AP](#)) - A top Islamic Jihad militant, Iyad Abu Rob, surrendered to Israeli soldiers early Thursday (11/24), witnesses said, after a daylong siege during which army bulldozers knocked down the four-story house where he was hiding.

Charity Cash for Palestinian Poor was Siphoned to Suicide Bombers ([Independent UK](#)) - Millions of pounds donated by British and other European charities to help the Palestinian poor were unwittingly diverted to fund terror and support the families of suicide bombers, Israeli prosecutors claimed Sunday (11/27). Ahmed Salatna, 43, a Hamas activist from the West Bank town of Jenin, was remanded in custody by a military court charged with distributing €9m (£6.2m) for such purposes over the past nine years.

Israel Hands Over Hezbollah Guerrillas' Bodies ([AP](#)) - Israel turned over to Lebanon the remains of three Hezbollah guerrillas on Friday (11/25) in an effort to defuse tensions after the heaviest border clashes in years. International Red Cross vehicles

brought the bodies to southern Lebanon's Naqoura border crossing where they were transferred to Lebanese ambulances as U.N. peacekeepers monitored the process and Hezbollah guerrillas in black uniforms saluted the caskets.

Israeli Planes Drop Leaflets Over Beirut Denouncing Hezbollah After Clashes ([AP](#))

- Clashes between Hezbollah and Israeli soldiers erupted on the Lebanese-Israeli border Wednesday (11/23), two days after some of the worst fighting in years. Israeli security officials said an Israeli civilian flying a hang glider inadvertently landed in Lebanon and was rescued by Israeli troops under fire. Earlier in the day, Israeli planes dropped thousands of leaflets over Beirut and its suburbs denouncing Hezbollah guerrillas.

Fatah Cancels Primary as Gunmen Disrupt Vote ([AP](#)) - The ruling Fatah party canceled its primary election in Gaza at the end of a full day of voting Monday (11/28) after gunmen disrupted at least a dozen polling places, firing gunshots in the air and stealing ballot boxes. The violence underscored Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas' inability to maintain order in the Gaza Strip, or even in his own party, as Fatah tries to fight off a strong challenge from Hamas in the January 25th parliamentary elections.

Iraq

U.S. Wraps Up Iraq Border Assault ([BBC](#)) - U.S. forces have concluded a major counter-insurgency operation near the Syrian border, the U.S. military said Wednesday (11/23). A spokesman said 139 insurgents and 10 U.S. marines died in the 17-day assault targeting al-Qaeda-linked militants. Operation Steel Curtain marked the first major deployment of the Iraqi army in the restive western province of Anbar.

Iraq Seizes Booby-Trapped Toys ([AFP](#)) - The Iraqi army said on Thursday (11/24) it had seized a number of booby-trapped children's dolls, accusing insurgents of using the explosive-filled toys to target children. "This is the same type of doll as that handed out on several occasions by U.S. soldiers to children," said a government spokesperson.

Al-Qaeda Posts Video of Baghdad Hotel Blasts ([Reuters](#)) - Al-Qaeda in Iraq posted an Internet video on Thursday (11/24) showing three suicide bombers which the group said had carried out attacks last month that killed at least 15 people at a fortified hotel compound in Baghdad. The video showed three men, whose names appeared to be Iraqi, entering vehicles with which they apparently attacked the Palestine and Sheraton hotels.

Two Suicide Car Bombings Kill 10 in Iraq ([AP](#)) - Car bombs killed 10 people Saturday (11/26) in Baghdad and elsewhere in central Iraq, while gunmen opened fire on campaign workers putting up posters in the run-up to next month's parliamentary elections. Also Saturday, the U.S. military said it has received information that a top aide to the leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, was killed last month in Ramadi.

Plot to Kill Judge in Hussein Trial Foiled, Police Say ([Washington Post](#)) - Police said Sunday (11/27) that they had foiled a plot to kill the chief investigating judge in the case against Saddam Hussein. Police in the northern city of Kirkuk said they had arrested 10 men who had prepared car bombs and had written instructions from a former top deputy to Hussein to kill the judge who led the preparation of charges against the former dictator.

Unknown Group Holds 4 Western Peace Activists ([Washington Post](#)) - Four Western peace activists, including a longtime resident of Northern Virginia, have been kidnapped in Iraq by a previously unknown insurgent group, and on Tuesday (11/29) the Arab television network al-Jazeera broadcast a videotape of the men, grim-faced as they sat against a blank wall.

Afghanistan and Pakistan

35 Islamist Rebels Sign Deal with Pakistan Government ([AFP](#)) - Thirty-five tribal militants with alleged links to al-Qaeda signed a peace deal with Pakistani authorities, pledging not to harbor foreign militants, officials said Tuesday (11/29). The agreement, brokered by local religious leaders and tribal elders, came two months after a bloody operation by Pakistani troops in the North Waziristan region on the Afghan border.

Afghans Confront Surge in Violence ([Washington Post](#)) - An onslaught of grisly and sophisticated attacks since parliamentary elections in September has left Afghan and international officials concerned that Taliban guerrillas are obtaining support from abroad to carry out strikes that increasingly mimic insurgent tactics in Iraq.

Europe

Algerian Convicted of Terror Offenses in Belfast ([The Times \(UK\)](#)) - An Algerian suspected of being linked to al-Qaeda was found guilty of terrorist charges Thursday (11/24) at Belfast Crown Court. Although tried and convicted as Abbas Boutrab, 27, he has so many aliases that police admit they have no idea who is really is.

Men Charged with Terrorism in Spain ([Press Association](#)) - A Spanish judge Tuesday (11/29) charged four Algerians with membership of a terror cell that financed and gave logistical support to an Islamic extremist group linked to al-Qaeda, and released seven other men who had been arrested in the case.

EU-Mediterranean Anti-Terror Code Backed ([AP](#)) - The European Union, Israel and its Arab neighbors endorsed an anti-terrorism code of conduct Monday (11/28) after overcoming differences at a fractious two-day summit, diplomats said. In the two-page anti-terrorism code of conduct, the EU, Israel and its Arab neighbors reiterated their "total condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and our determination to eradicate it."

French Approve Anti-Terror Laws ([AP](#)) - France's lower house of parliament overwhelmingly approved a tough new anti-terrorism bill Tuesday (11/29) that includes increasing the use of video surveillance and allowing police more time to question terror

suspects. The National Assembly voted 373-27 in favor of the bill, which still needs to clear a Senate vote in January before becoming law.

Asia

Man Threatens U.K., U.S. Missions in Bangladesh ([Reuters](#)) - Bangladesh tightened security in Dhaka's diplomatic area after the British embassy said it had received a bomb threat against its mission and those of the United States and other European states, police said on Monday (11/28). The threat, made in a fax sent to the British High Commission in Dhaka on Sunday, was signed by a man who said he was a member of al-Qaeda.

10 Killed in Bangladesh Suicide Attacks ([AFP](#)) - Ten people were killed and 21 badly injured Tuesday (11/29) in what police said were Bangladesh's first suicide bombings and the latest in a string of attacks by Islamic extremists. The government and police accused the hard-line Jamayetul Mujahedeen, which wants to introduce strict Islamic law in the Muslim-majority democracy, of staging the attacks targeting the legal system.

Philippine Troops Kill 15 Rebels After Air Strike ([Reuters](#)) - Philippine soldiers killed about 15 suspected Islamic militants with ties to al-Qaeda in a ground assault after a wave of air strikes on the southwestern island of Jolo, an army general said on Friday (11/25). Brigadier-General Nehemias Pajarito, a brigade commander, said troops overran positions of the Abu Sayyaf rebels on Thursday around the perimeter of a well-entrenched hideout in the mountains near Indanan town.

Philippine Troops Kill 4 Militants in the South ([Reuters](#)) - Philippine soldiers killed four suspected members of a Muslim militant group linked with al-Qaeda in an operation to flush out militants from the remote southwestern island of Jolo, an army general said on Monday (11/28). The Abu Sayyaf militants were resting in a wooded area when an army patrol hunting their one-armed, horse-riding local commander ran into them and opened fire.

Jemaah Islamiyah Planned to Bomb Bali Memorial Service: Report ([AFP](#)) - Jemaah Islamiyah planned to bomb a memorial service in Indonesia for those killed in the 2002 Bali attacks but was deterred by high security, a report said Friday (11/25). The Islamic militants instead chose to attack tourist spots on the Indonesian resort island two weeks ahead of the anniversary, carrying out three suicide bombings on restaurants popular with westerners on October 1 and killing 23 people, the *Australian* newspaper said.

Bombers Defend Bali Blasts ([AP](#)) - Two militants on death row for their roles in the 2002 Bali bombings defended the blasts in a Government-backed television documentary Saturday (11/26) aimed at blunting support for extremist Islam in Indonesia. The bombers were given only a few minutes of camera time between them - and their views were then rejected at length by respected Muslim clerics, who argued that terrorism had no place in Islam.

Caribbean

Trinidad Muslim Leader Charged with Terrorism ([Caribbean Net News](#)) - Leader of the Jaamat-al-Muslimeen, Yasin Abu Bakr has been charged with terrorism by Trinidad and Tobago authorities. The additional charge was slapped on Abu Bakr shortly after he appeared at the Port of Spain city magistrate's court to answer charges relating to recent threats he allegedly made at his mosque. The Imam is the first person to be charged under the country's new terrorism law.

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