



AIRPORT POLICE SERVICES BUREAU

INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT UNIT

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INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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(U//FOUO) OCSD – APSB Monthly Bulletin – December 2020

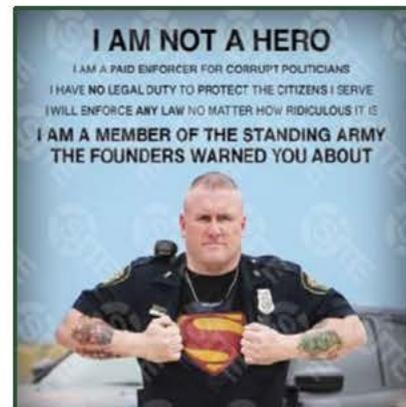
(U) Scope: This monthly bulletin by the Orange County Sheriff’s Department’s Airport Police Services Bureau (OCSD-APSB) provides trend information on various threats pertinent to the security of John Wayne Airport (JWA). This bulletin serves to highlight topics of suspicious activity relative to JWA found through various sources, including open source intelligence, law enforcement reporting, and intelligence partners. This product is intended for airport police services, security personnel, and airport management.

SUSPICIOUS & CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

(U//FOUO) Law Enforcement Remains a Target for Extremist Groups

(U//FOUO) As demonstrations and protests continue in response to social injustice, COVID-19 related restrictions, and election disputes, some violent actors with extremist views seek to capitalize on tensions and hijack otherwise peaceful and first amendment-protected activities by promoting violence against law enforcement officers.

- (U//FOUO) Some users in a prominent far-right internet forum expressed violent anti-police sentiments, referring to them as “the real enemy” and urging the Proud Boys to use force against police officers at protests.¹ Some stated that law enforcement and Antifa are “on the same side,” and “are agents of ZOG,” the Zionist occupied government.
- (U) Anti-lockdown Protesters which, in addition to other groups, included members of the Proud Boys and Patriot Prayer, swarmed the Oregon state capitol during a “Reopen Oregon” rally. Protesters used bear spray canisters against police while entering the building.²
- (U//FOUO) In November, a subscriber posted a graphic illustration to a neo-Nazi social networking platform depicting a police officer being beheaded by a “Moonman”- an extremist meme character. The character was depicted as an ISIS-style executioner.



(U//FOUO) Anti-LEO propaganda; Source: SITE



(U//FOUO) neo-Nazi propaganda aimed at LEO; Source: SITE

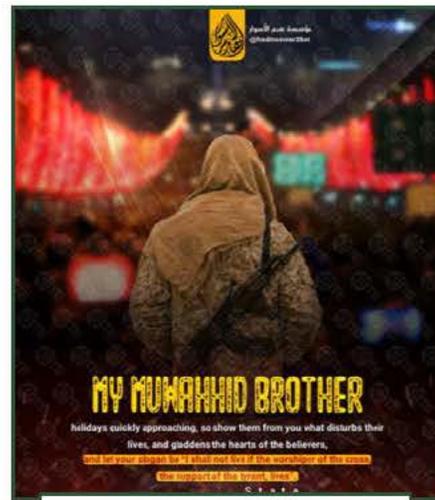
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MONITORED TRENDS

(U//FOUO) Potential for Terrorist Activity Remains despite Coronavirus Pandemic

however due to local government lockdowns the likelihood of a terrorist incident remains low.

- (U//FOUO) A pro-Islamic State (IS) media publication called on lone-wolf jihadists to mount attacks in Western countries during the holiday season.⁵ The published image shows an armed person standing in front of a celebration, with a message encouraging an attack.
- (U//FOUO) A pro-Al-Qaeda media outlet released the first issue of a new magazine titled *Wolves of Manhattan*, which serves to instruct “jihadis who live among the unbelievers” to carry out various forms of attacks.⁶ The issue highlighted that due to the pandemic, masks and gloves may aid in concealing a would-be attacker’s identity and minimize suspicion. They also urge lone wolves to distribute poisoned masks in streets or stations.
- (U//FOUO) A Kenyan National was indicted for conspiring to hijack an aircraft in order to conduct a 9/11-style attack within the United States.⁷ The individual was acting as an operative of the foreign terrorist organization (FTO) al Shabaab, which has sworn alliance to Al-Qaeda and serves as the organization’s principal wing in East Africa.



(U//FOUO) Image of fighter; Source: SITE



(U) Article encourages attack during pandemic; Source: MEMRI

(U) Analyst Note: Al Shabaab has recently embarked on a string of terrorist attacks in response to the United States’ decision to move its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. The group is responsible for the January 2019 attack on a hotel in Nairobi, Kenya, which resulted in the deaths of 21 people, a September 2019 attack on a U.S. military facility in Somalia, and a January 2020 attack on a U.S. facility in Kenya, which killed 3 Americans.

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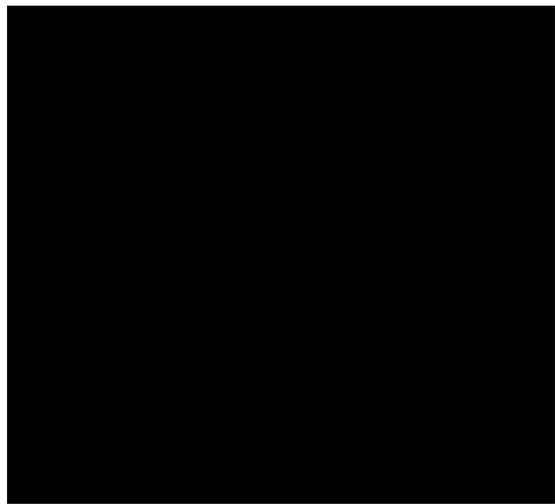
SUSPICIOUS & CRIMINAL ACTIVITY – JWA

(U//FOUO) Potentially Suspicious Calls for Service at John Wayne Airport (JWA)

(U//FOUO) Despite travel restrictions and recommendations in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic, TSA reportedly screened more than two million travelers over the course of a two day period in December.⁸ It was estimated that while travel during the month of December will continue to increase, overall travel will drop by nearly one-third when compared to the year 2019.⁹ Airport Police Services (APS) responded to a total of 153 calls during the month of December.

➤ [REDACTED]

➤ [REDACTED]



(U//FOUO) Hazards Affecting John Wayne Airport (JWA)

- (U//FOUO) APS responded to a call referencing a possible airport rules violation. An un-badged individual was reportedly walking within a restricted space without an escort. The individual’s employer was contacted in order to provide an escort.
- (U//FOUO) In early December a commercial aircraft was struck by a green laser light while on final approach into JWA. The pilot of the plane reported that the laser entered the cockpit and struck their eyes, causing spotted vision for less than a minute. The laser was constant, and intentionally tracking the aircraft.
- (U//FOUO) In early December the pilot of a small aircraft that had recently departed JWA observed a high-altitude UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) pass approximately 200 feet below the aircraft. At the time of the incident the aircraft was flying at an altitude of 3,300 feet, suggesting that the UAV was flying at 3,100 feet. The altitude is much higher than the 400 feet flight restriction for UAV operators. Information is limited and it is unclear if evasive action was needed.

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(U) Contact

(U//FOUO) For questions regarding this bulletin or to submit suggestions for future topics, contact:

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¹ (U//FOUO); SITE Intelligence Group; 15 December 2020; “Far-Right Forum Urges Proud Boys to “Overpower and Rush” Police During D.C. Protests”; Accessed 30 December 2020

² (U); independent.co.uk; 22 December 2020; “Protesters attack police with pepper spray as the try to storm Oregon capitol”; Accessed 23 December 2020; <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/oregon-capitol-police-protesters-pepper-spray-b1777402.html>

³ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] IS Group Calls Jihadi supporters to Mount Attacks During Holiday Season”; Accessed 21 December 2020

⁶ (U); memri.org; 1 December 2020; “Article in New Pro-Al-Qaeda Magazine Urges ‘Lone Wolves’ In The West To Exploit Coronavirus Pandemic By Handing Out Poisoned Masks, Burning Cars of ‘Crusaders’”; Accessed 21 December 2020;

<https://www.memri.org/reports/article-new-pro-al-qaeda-magazine-urges-lone-wolves-west-exploit-coronavirus-pandemic>

⁷ (U); justice.gov; Department of Justice U.S. Attorney’s Office Press Release; 16 December 2020; “Kenyan National Indicted for Conspiring to Hijack Aircraft on Behalf of Al Qaeda-Affiliated Terrorist Organization Al Shabaab”; Accessed 17 December 2020;

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/kenyan-national-indicted-conspiring-hijack-aircraft-behalf-al-qaeda-affiliated>

⁸ (U); travelpulse.com; 20 December 2020; “TSA Screens Over 1 Million Passengers Daily as Holiday Travel Rush Begins”; Accessed 21 December 2020; <https://www.travelpulse.com/news/airlines/tsa-screens-over-1-million-passengers-daily-as-holiday-travel-rush-begins.html>

⁹ (U); apnews.com; 20 December 2020; “US airport traffic rising despite holiday travel warnings”; Accessed 22 December 2020; <https://apnews.com/article/travel-public-health-health-airport-security-thanksgiving-dcac8b444c64360e1f8c283257487e98>

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