



# Local Threat – Local Response

The Terrorist Threat to NYC Since 2009



DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS REBECCA ULAM WEINER | DECEMBER 2013





# NYPD SHIELD

COUNTERING TERRORISM *through* INFORMATION SHARING



## The Threat to New York City

- Introduction
- Homegrown Extremism
- Beyond the Homegrown Threat
- Looking Ahead



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## Threat to NYC: Introduction

- Terrorist threat **persistent** and increasingly **diverse**:
  - New York City remains most desirable target
  - Broad range of capabilities, tactics, targets, and motivations
  - Proliferation of theaters overseas
  - Rise of “DIY” plotting

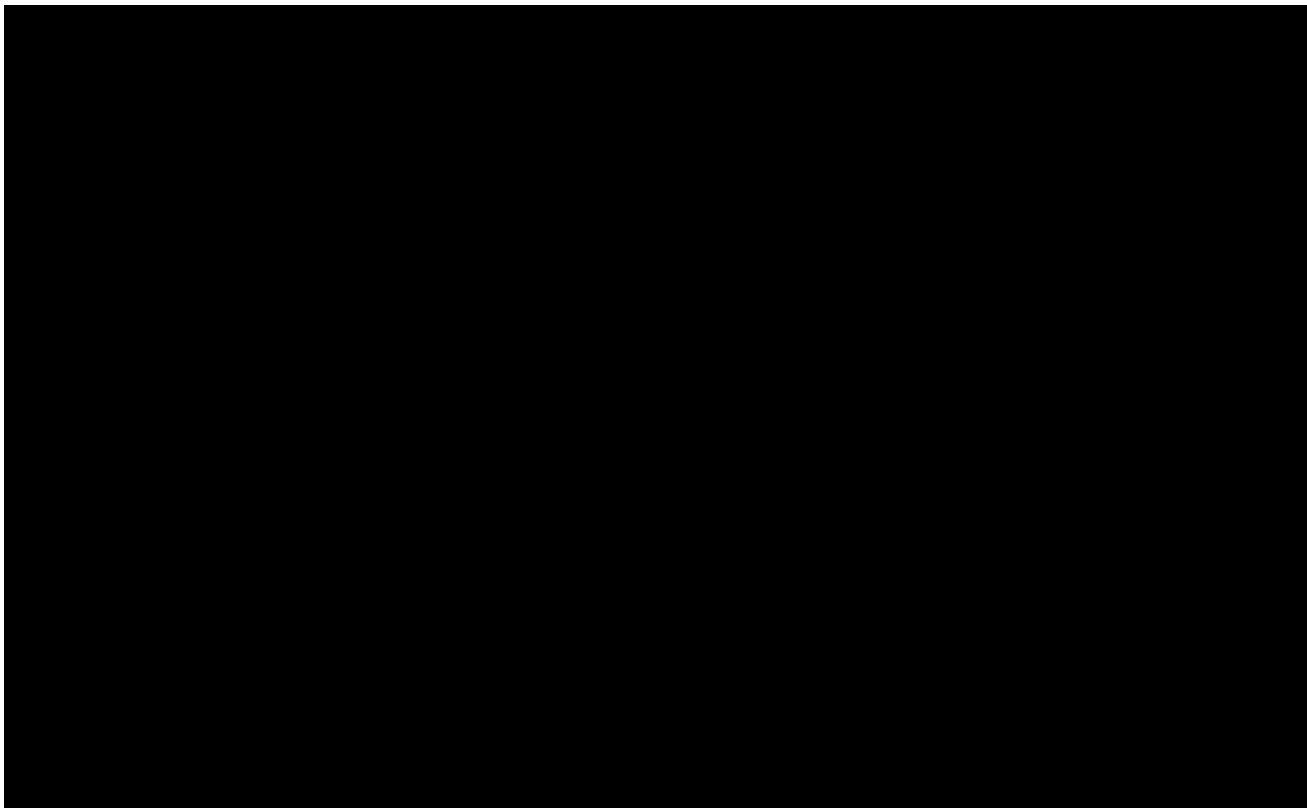


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## Threat to NYC: Introduction





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## Threat to NYC: Introduction

Sixteen plots against NYC since 9/11 – six since 9/2009



Brooklyn Bridge | Subway Cyanide | Parachas | NYSE and Citigroup | Herald Square  
PATH Commuter Train & WTC | JFK Airport | Transatlantic Flights  
Long Island Railroad | Bronx Synagogues | NYC Subway | Times Square  
Manhattan Synagogue | Military Personnel | Federal Reserve | Wall Street & NYC Theaters



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## The Threat to New York City

HOMEGROWN EXTREMISM

Local | Overseas | Online | Finance





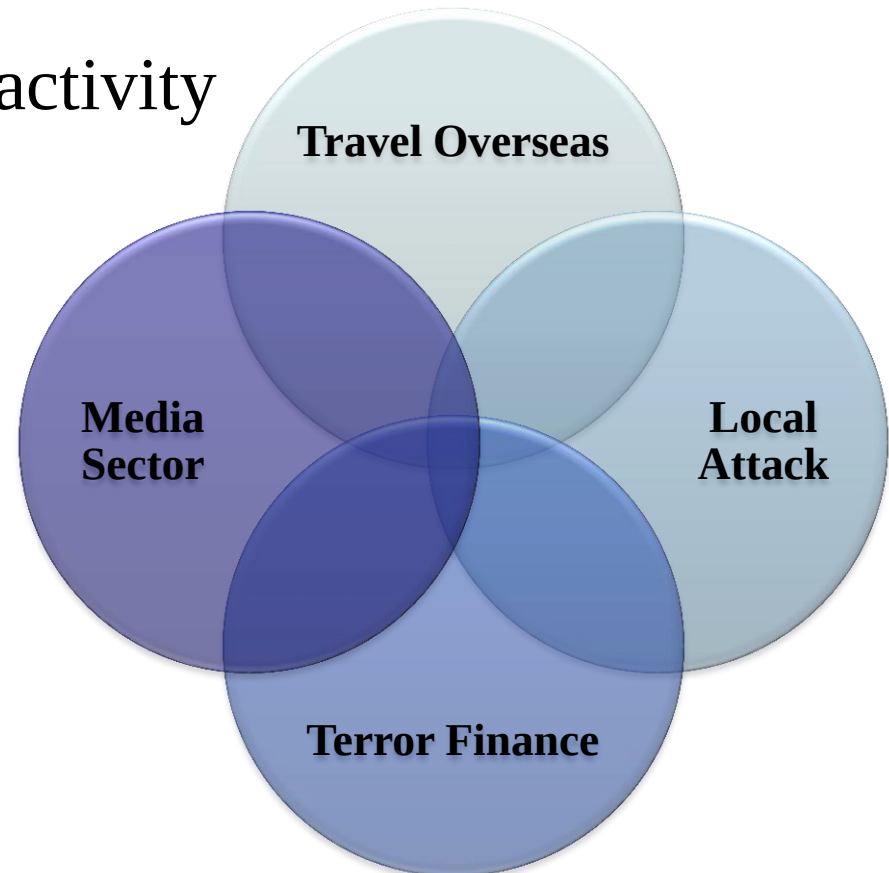
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## Threat to NYC: Homegrown extremism

➤ Four main categories of activity



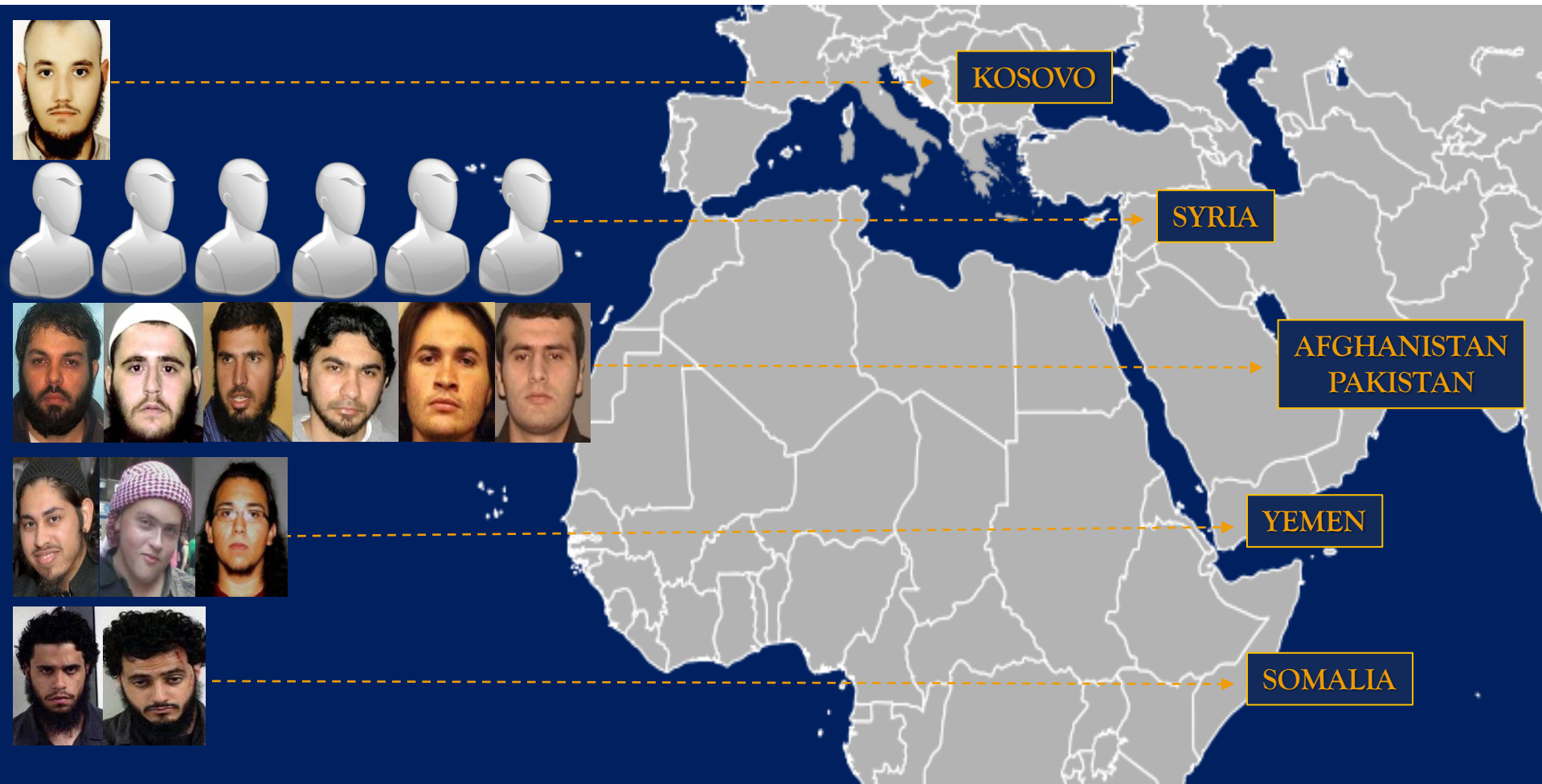


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## Threat to NYC: Homegrown extremism





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## Threat to NYC: Homegrown extremism

Local “Do It Yourself” plotting increasing





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## Threat to NYC: Homegrown extremism

Capability varies widely



From AQ-inspired autonomous actors  
with rudimentary skills...



...to sophisticated AQ-trained and  
directed plotters

➤ Minimal tactical skill can achieve significant strategic success



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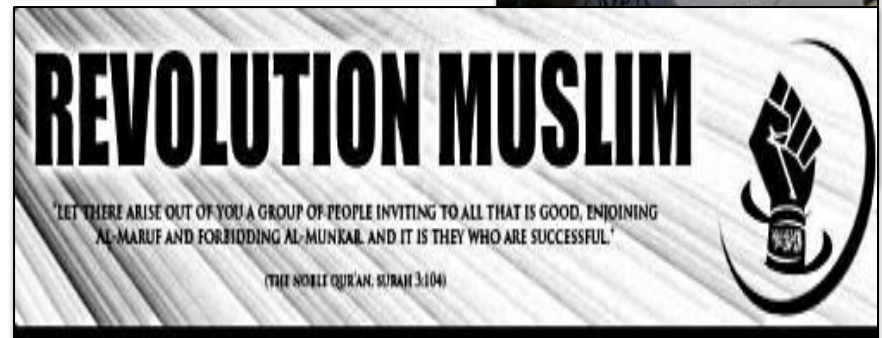
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## Threat to NYC: Homegrown extremism

### Key role of the media sector

- Internet platforms as enabling mechanisms
- Online solicitation of violence





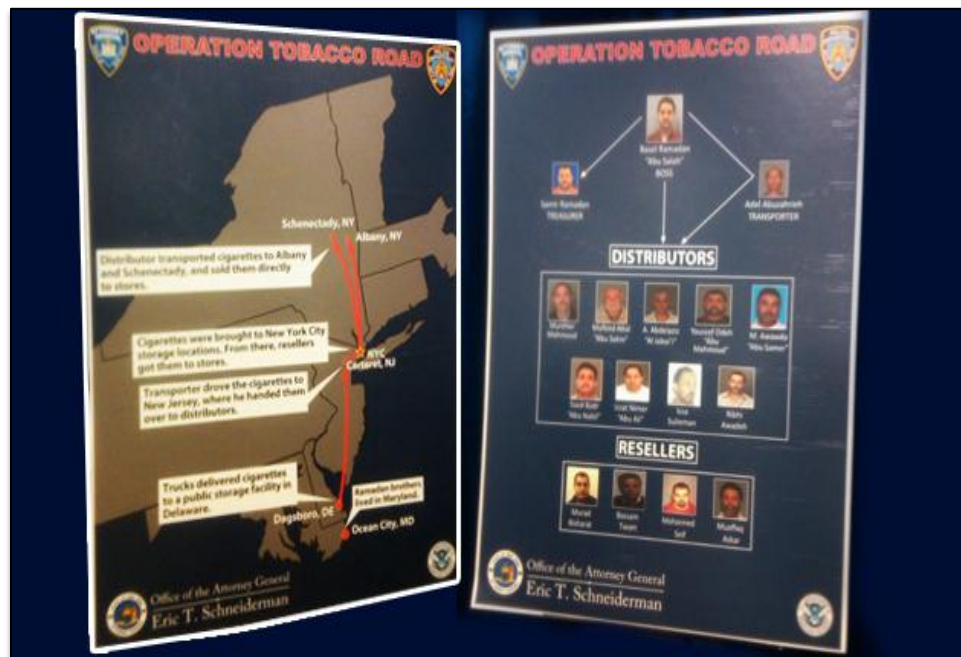
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## Threat to NYC: Homegrown extremism

Criminal enterprises facilitate material support





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## The Threat to New York City

BEYOND THE HOMEGROWN THREAT

Individual “entrepreneurs” | FTO | State-sponsored



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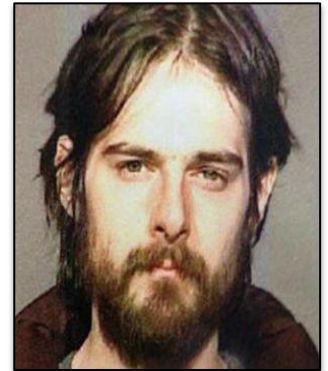
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## Threat to NYC: Beyond homegrown

Extremism across the spectrum:

- Militias/Sovereign Citizen Movement
- White Supremacists
- Anarchists





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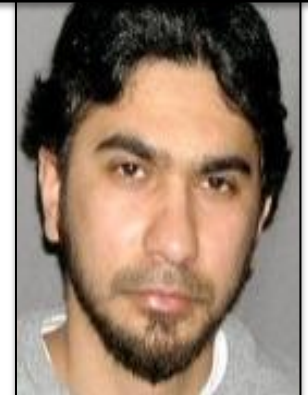
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## Threat to NYC: Beyond homegrown

FTO-linked:

- Opportunistic/Directed





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## Threat to NYC: Beyond homegrown

Individual “entrepreneurs”

- Autonomous
- Trained and untrained



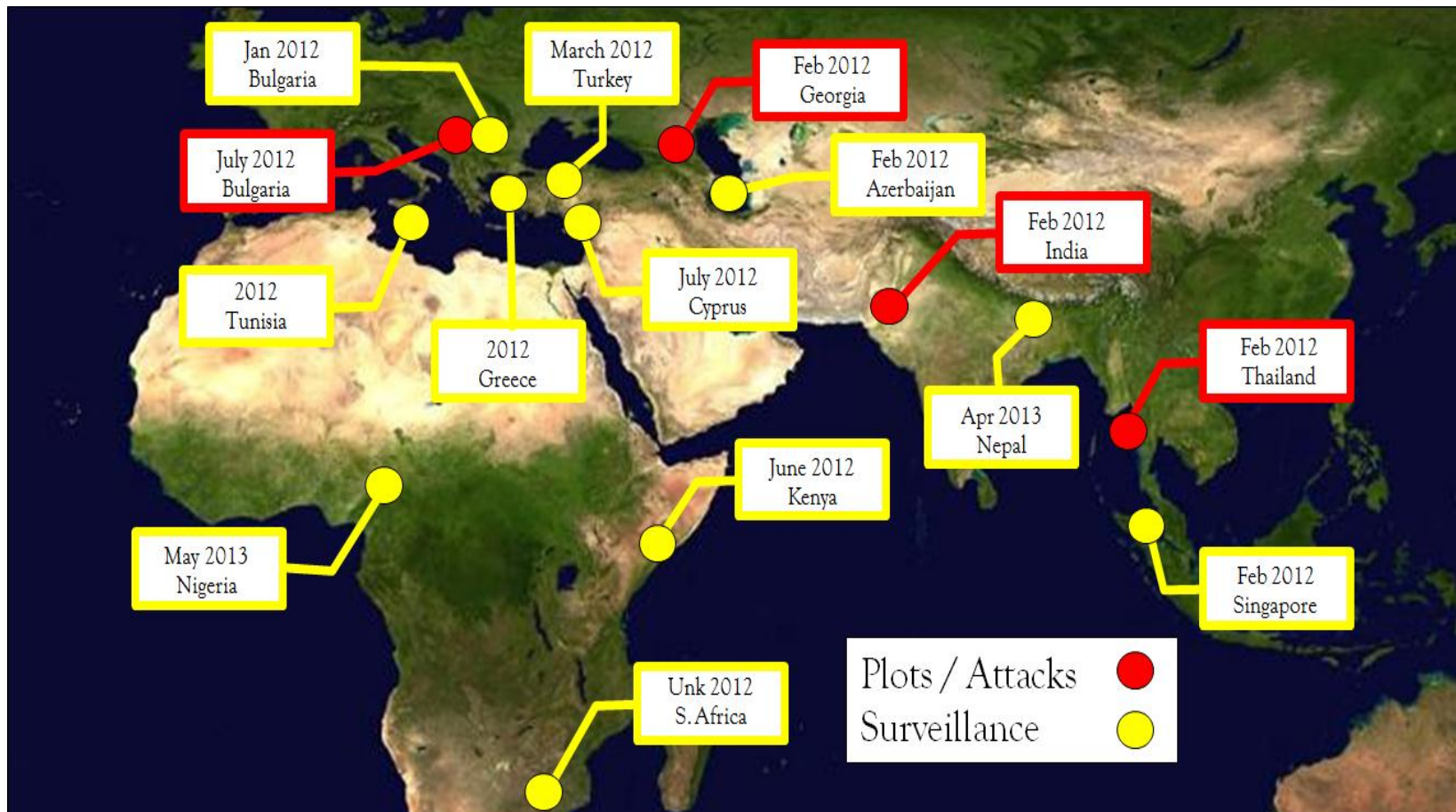


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## Threat to NYC: Beyond homegrown





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## The Threat to New York City

LOOKING AHEAD

At Home | Overseas | Al Qaeda | State-sponsored



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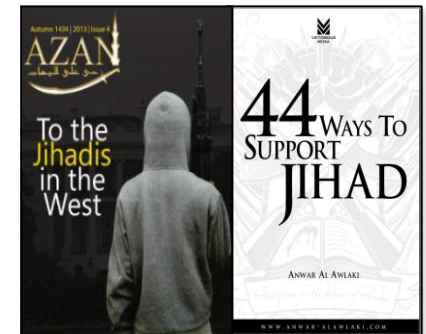
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## Threat to NYC: Looking ahead

### Homegrown:

- More AQ-inspired than AQ-linked
- On-the-ground training increasingly irrelevant





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## Threat to NYC: Looking ahead

Overseas:

- More theaters will draw more fighters
- Syria as destination of choice for foreigners





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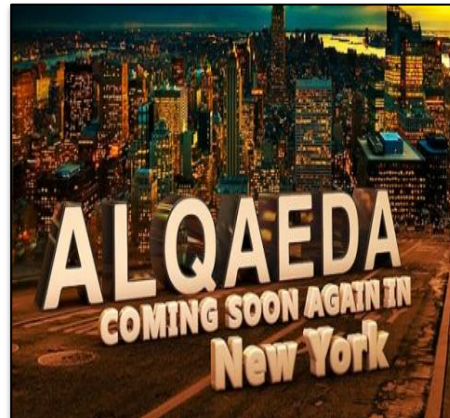
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## Threat to NYC: Looking ahead

Al Qaeda:

- Core: loss of sanctuary not irrevocable
- Affiliates/allies: continued global power projection





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## Threat to NYC: Looking ahead

State-sponsored:

- Capability exists — intent is driver





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