

Jihadi Internet Communications

OSINT - UNCLAS

This presentation will outline some of the sources and methods used by insurgent groups to communicate with each other and to spread their propaganda.

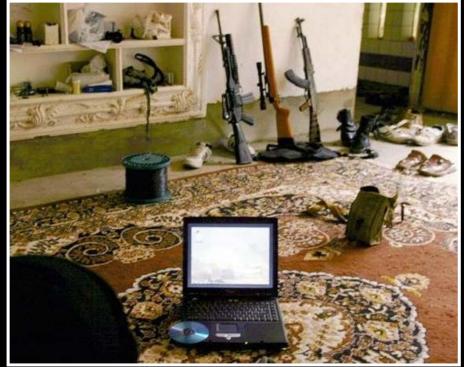


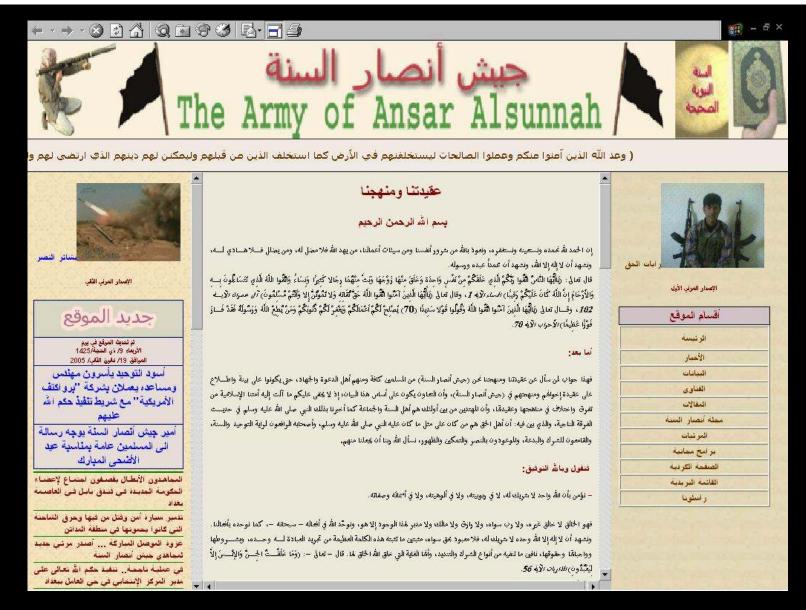
www.arab7.com

All of the graphics contained in this presentation were obtained from insurgent websites or are screen captures from web sites.

Terrorist and insurgent groups use the internet to communicate their ideology and distribute their training materials and propaganda. They utilize a variety of techniques, both legitimate and covert to do so.







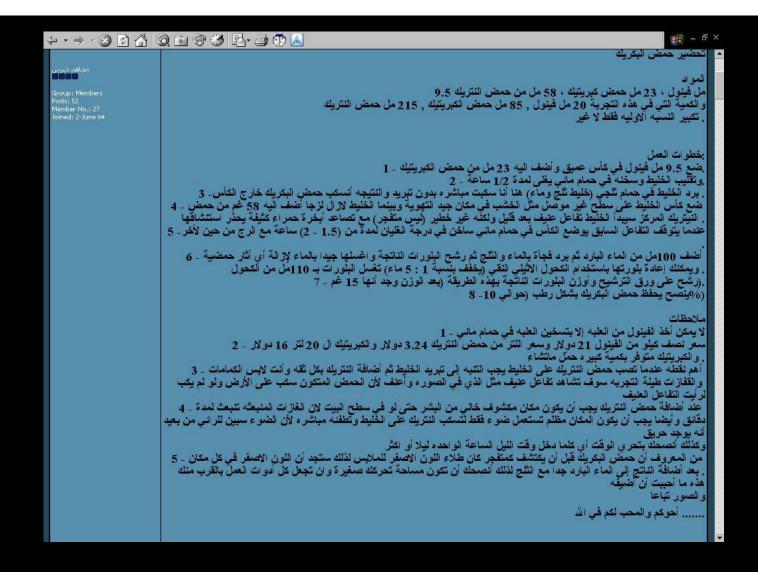
Many insurgent groups openly operate websites. This one is the current site of "Ansar Al Sunnah" the group which claimed responsibility for the Army dining hall bombing in December 2004



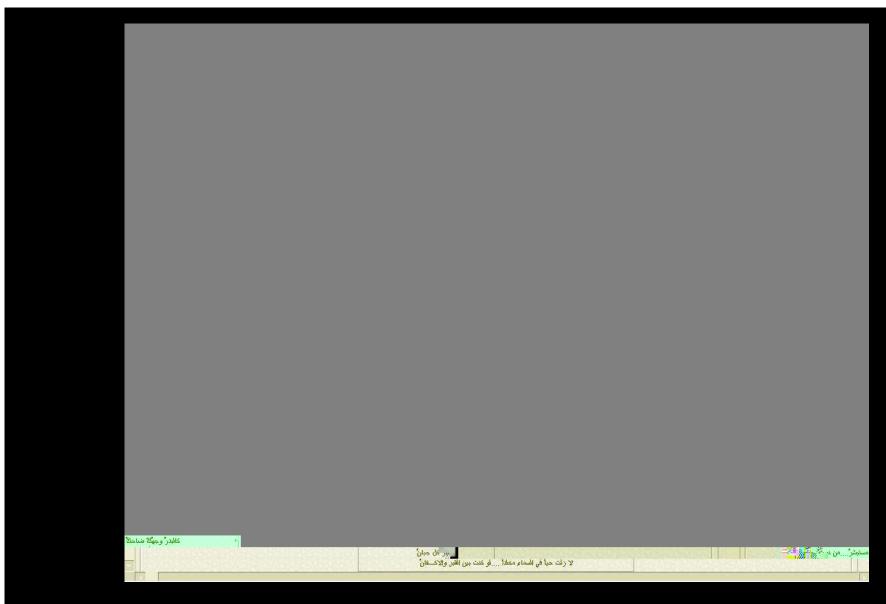
Whether from complaints or for other purposes, these websites often disappear, only to reappear on different servers in short order.



Message boards are used to distribute movies, documents and other files. Like websites they come and go. Most support individual user accounts to track new messages. Sign-up requires creation of a user name and entry of an email account. HOTMAIL or other anonymous email sources work quite well.



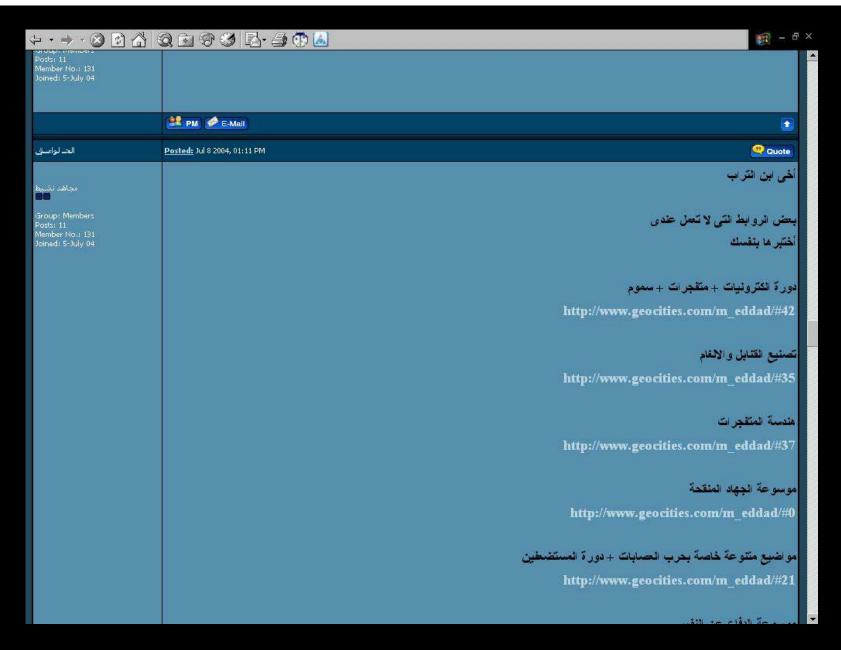
Unless you read Arabic, researching web forums can be hit and miss. Depending on the forum, you can look for inserted graphics or signature images as clues for further assessment.



Example of a forum posting with signature image. Logo is the Jama'at Al-Tawhid and Jihad, the picture is Rakan bin Muhsin al-Sikhan, a Saudi terrorist killed in the summer of 2004



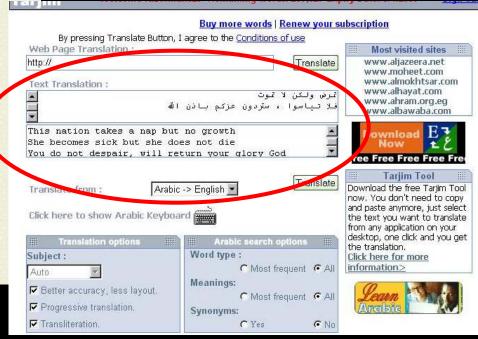
The most popular software, Vbulletin by JelSoft, uses times and counters to provide information on how popular a thread is. Recent message threads with lots of view suggest messages of importance. The paperclip icon means that a file attachment exists. The pin icon keeps a particular topic at the top of the list regardless of recent activity



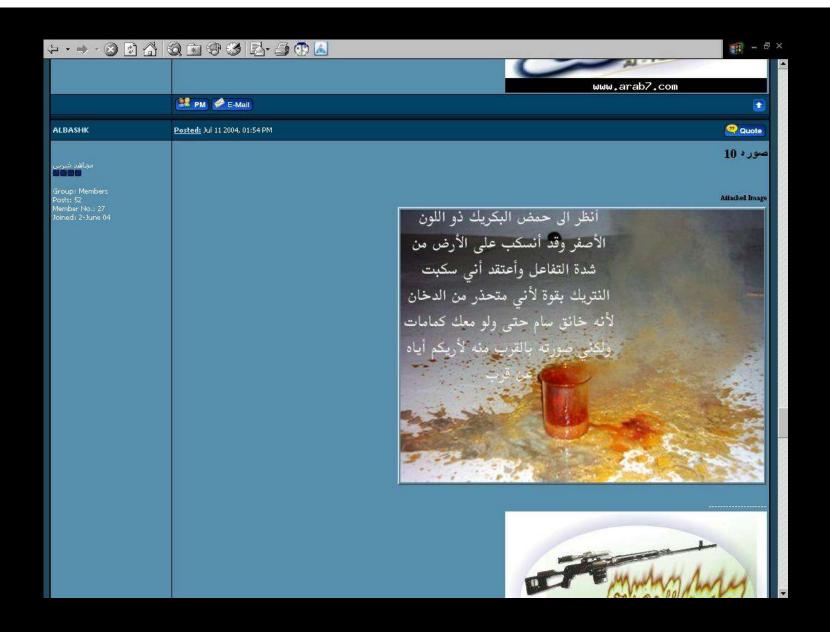
Example of message board posting with links



Pay services, like this one at Ajeeb.com, provide "cut and paste" functionality for translating Arabic into English.

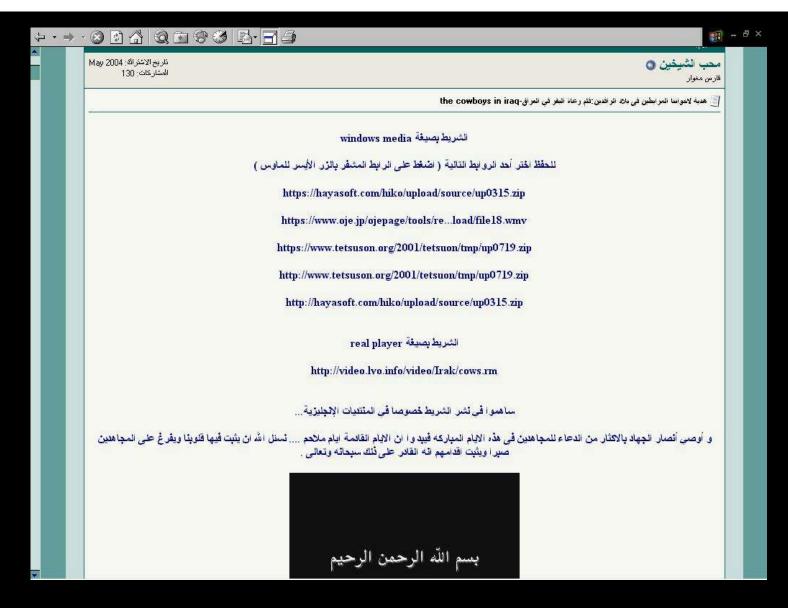


Electronic translation is imperfect, but can provide enough information for make assessments to refer for proper translations

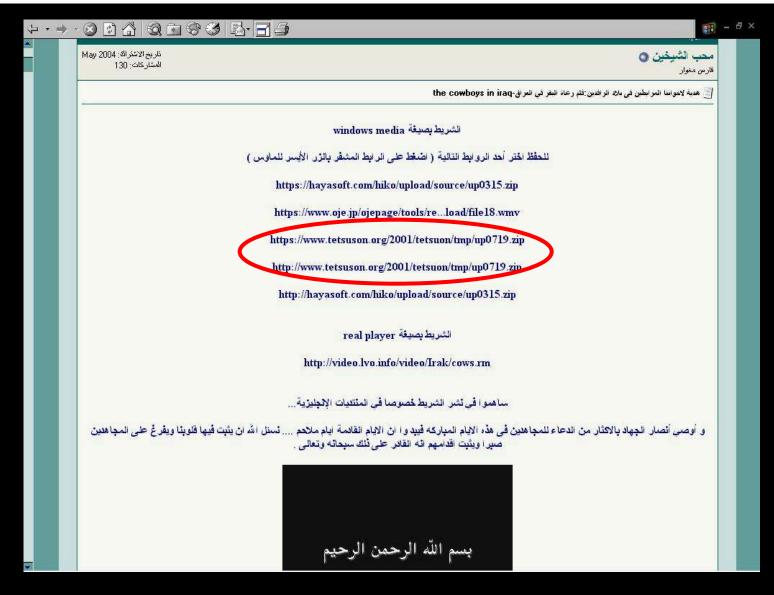


Then some pages don't need a translation

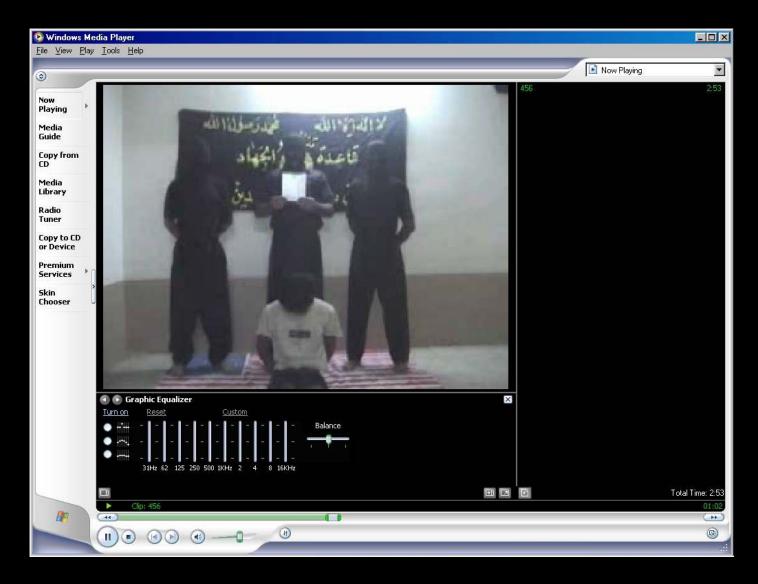
Content



Insurgent media content includes training documents, audio recordings and video files. Some are compressed into ZIP files, others are downloadable as is (WMV, PDF, DOC files etc)



They distribute using free server space or hi-jacking. Tetsuson.org hosts a graphical design conference. It appears to have no focus on political or Jihadi issues. This could be a sympathizer with access to web servers but it is likely an insecure "open" web server used without permission.



While the beheading videos are the most talked about content on the web, the more common films released by the groups are training films or short videos depicting successful Mujahid attacks.





These pictures show the Mujahideen fighters in Mosul and Falluja and were released to insurgent forums while fighting was going on in those cities in November of 2004







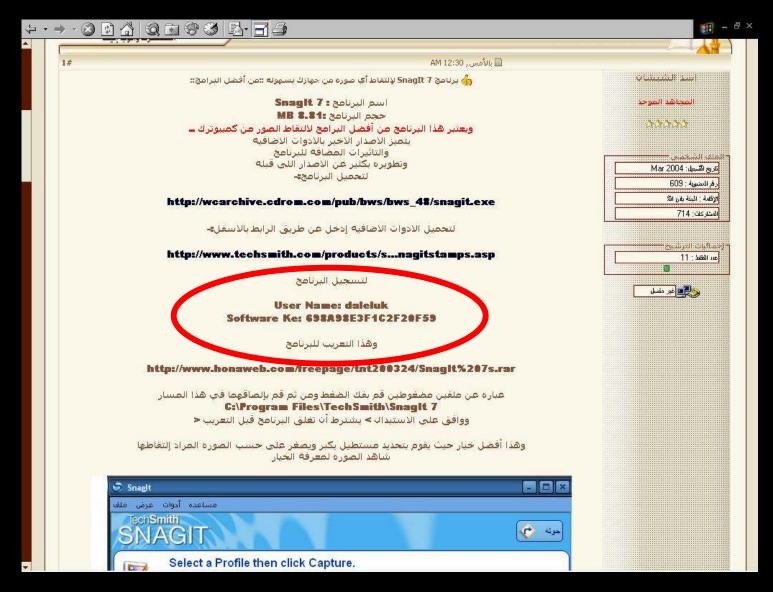
This series of stills, from a movie of an attack on an American fuel convoy, is more typical of the media released by insurgents on a regular basis. It is a practice begun in the Chechnya conflict which has moved to Iraq and Afghanistan.



More Insurgent video captures from fighting in Ramadi Iraq



This set of stills from a REAL MEDIA video titled *Kashmiri* depicts military training in live fire scenarios. Shooting sequences from motorcycles, moving from barricades and from a rope platform which requires the shooter to balance and maintain aim points



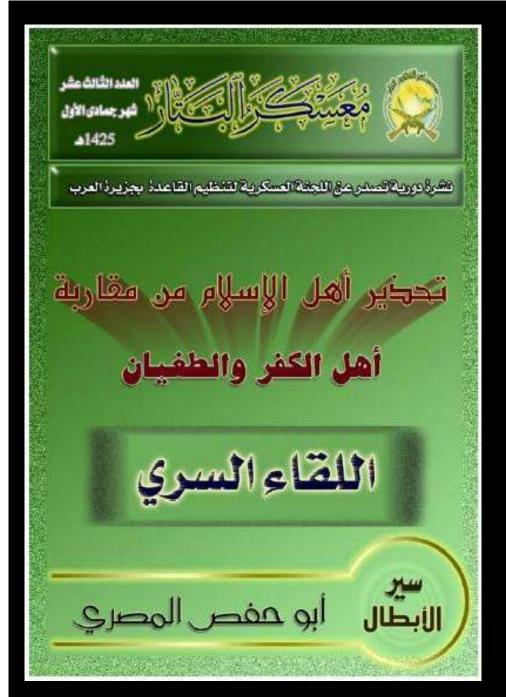
Many of the software programs used to distribute films and documents are pirated where software keys are distributed using the forums and peer to peer networks like KaZaA.



Besides videos, Al Qaeda and affiliated groups distribute training and ideological publications directly to the web.







Al Battar is produced by Al Qaeda of the Arabian Peninsula. A training guide for Mujahideen, Al Battar has provided predictory information on attack tactics. Articles on kidnapping preceded wave kidnappings in Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Issue #10 outlined tactics for school take-overs.

Al Battar published 22 issues. It stopped publishing in November 2004. Reasons not known.

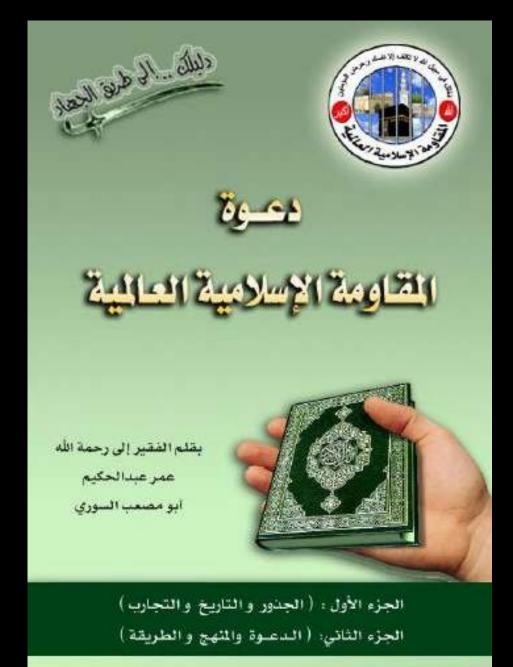
Voice of Jihad

AKA Sout al Jihad, Sawt al Jihad

Ideological publication produced by Al Qaeda of the Arabian Peninsula. Contains commentary on Jihadist/Islamist issues.

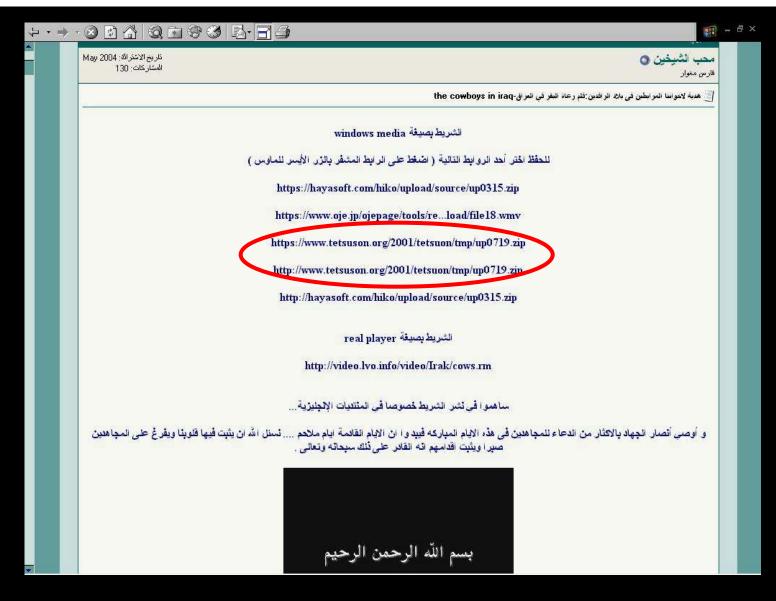
Published 28 issues, none have been released since early November 2004, the same time Al Battar stopped publishing.



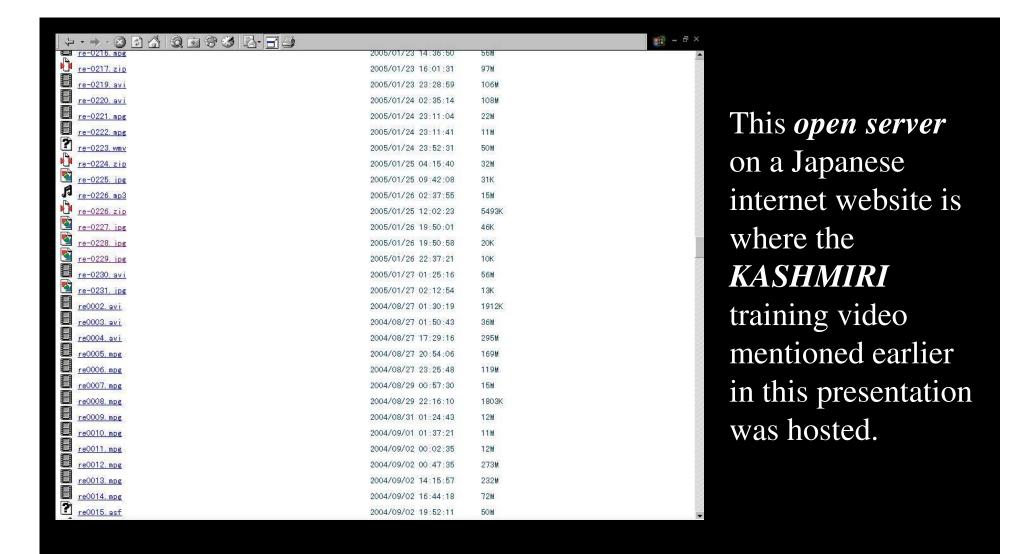


This document, distributed on the web in January 2005 and titled "Call to International Islamic Resistance," is more than 1600 pages long

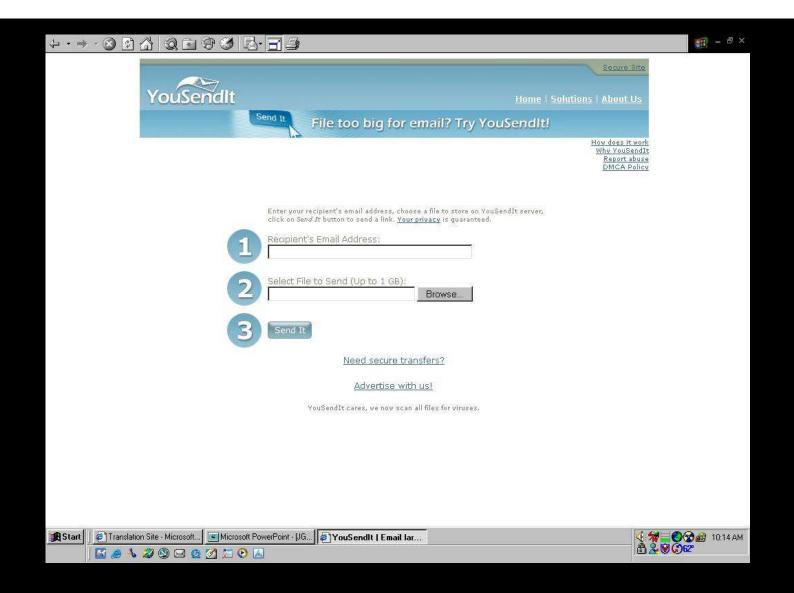
Distribution Techniques



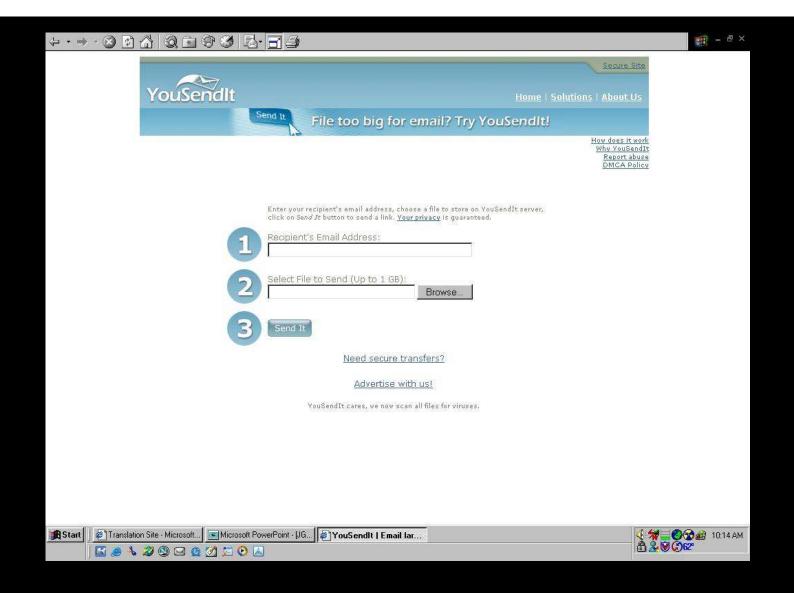
As noted earlier, legitimate web servers are being be hi-jacked or compromised to provide space for the distribution of insurgent media. Recent activity centers in URL's originating in Japan but some are U.S. based commercial providers.



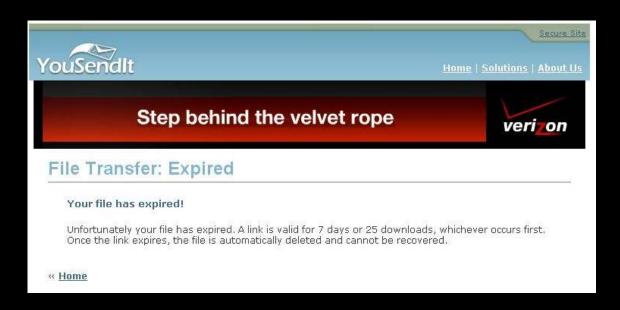
Examination of the photos and other videos present in this directory show images of Japanese school children. There is no evidence that the owner of this site is a terrorist/insurgent supporter.



Services like YOUSENDIT.COM provide *legal* free server space to individuals, providing a web link that can be inserted into forum messages or web sites.



Legitimately, you would use this site to send large files that your email service may be unable or unwilling to send for you



Files remain available for 7 days or 25 downloads at which time the link "expires." and the file is no longer available.



Files can also be removed by the originator or a recipient.

نحن نفول لكل من يعارض فتلهم ٢٣٢٢٢٣؟

لهذا السبب وغيره من الأسباب نحن نقتلهم

منفوليي

رابط النحميل المباشر لرفع المقطع على روابط بديلة....

http://s17.yousendit.com/d.aspx?id=...7I3A4JENVU13KFH http://s25.yousendit.com/d.aspx?id=...E93E7M3UPQFX0DU http://s25.yousendit.com/d.aspx?id=..JR21YSX9OOX2C4Y روابط نابنه باذن الله

https://www.22lajnah22.co.uk/forums...=&postid=122868

http://www.22lajnah22.co.uk/forums/...=&postid=122868



Insurgent groups will enter the same file multiple times to maximize available distribution.



Sorry, this site is temporarily unavailable!

The web site you are trying to access has exceeded its allocated data transfer. Visit our help area for more information.

Access to this site will be restored within an hour. Please try again later. http://www.geocities.com/satoo558/

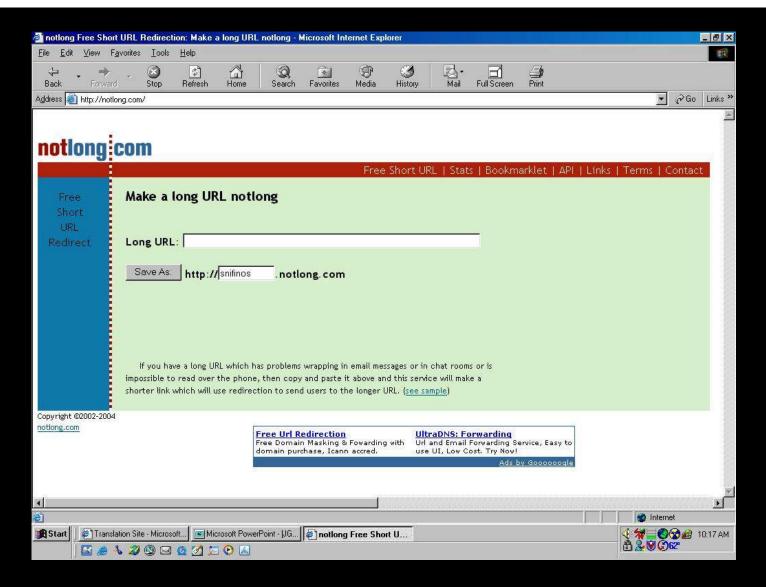
Need extra data transfer? Sign up for GeoCities Pro or Webmaster. Learn more.

Like YOUSENDIT, many of the other free sites restrict bandwidth. Some sites like GEOCITIES will suspend transfers for a period of time before becoming available again.

Often, internet URL's are very long and cannot be easily communicated in internet emails or message forums.

Many times they will be truncated and the browser will not accurately find the server

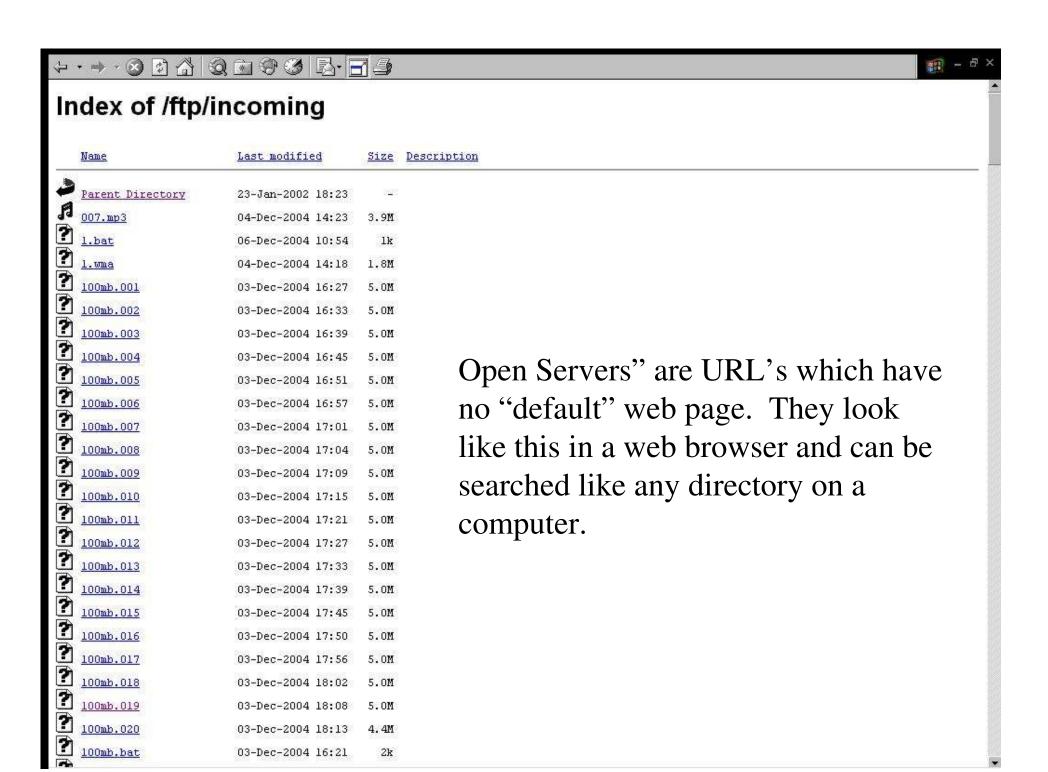




NOTLONG.COM allows participants to create short internet addresses, convenient for email and forum use but usable by insurgent groups to conceal the source materials.



DNSALIAS.NET (resolves to DynDNS.org) allows users to conceal source URL information by redirection. Click on the link and you go somewhere else. Commonly the redirection will go to a "open" web server which is being used to store insurgent media.



Index of /tadrebatfialjihad10

Name	Last modified	Size	Description
Parent Directory	13-Jul-2004 20:56	343	
A.ZIP	12-Jul-2004 06:24	1k	
AK47.zip	13-Jul-2003 03:48	470k	
AR18.zip	13-Ju1-2003 03:48	477k	
BERRETA92.zip	13-Jul-2003 03:48	482k	
BERRETAS12.zip	13-Jul-2003 03:48	457k	
COLT-45.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	201k	
CZ75.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	211k	
FAFAL.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	408k	
G3.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	458k	This open directory was found to
GLOCK.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	170k	contain various image files for
MAKAROFF.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	473k	
MP5.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	410k	firearms, all translated into Arabic.
RUGERsecurity6.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	460k	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
SA80.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	428k	
SHTAYERAUG.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	424k	
SIGP226.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	253k	
SSG69.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	396k	
STIKKIN.zip	13-Jul-2003 04:34	238k	
imc009.zip	02-Sep-2003 20:51	249k	
istra.zip	21-Jul-2003 10:12	920k	
kamin.zip	21-Jul-2003 10:12	19k	
katem00721.zip	02-Sep-2003 20:51	188k	
mii010.zip	17-Jul-2003 09:48	52k	
muaskar.zip	21-Jul-2003 10:12	11k	



Forum posters will delete portions of a URL, inserting "..." or "* **" in place of letters. Sometimes the mouseover will reveal the correct link and connect. Other times it is the same as the posting and will not. Sometimes you can reconstruct the link, or others will repost with correct information.

It is not known if this is done by intent or by error.

Summary

Use of the internet by terrorist/insurgent groups is growing both in content and in sophistication.

Insurgent communicators continue to adapt to changing conditions, moved sites, closed sites etc.

Current techniques include the use of compromised web servers as well as free internet file storing.

Web content is broad and includes training, propaganda and ideological materials. Growing use of post attack videos for recruitment purposes.

Most material is still openly available

