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**Current Terrorist  
Threat Condition**

**No Active Alerts**

## NASA CI/CT MONTHLY NEWS UPDATE – October 2015

*This monthly newsletter is published to increase NASA personnel awareness of significant current issues related to counterintelligence, counterterrorism, and counterintelligence cyber matters. To learn more about CI/CT awareness, or to schedule a CI/CT presentation, please contact the CI POC located on the last page.*

### Significant Counterterrorism (CT) Issues:

#### **DESPITE ATTENTION TO ISLAMIC STATE, AQ MAY BE BIGGER THREAT**

Recently, the Sunni jihadi group calling itself Islamic State has gained the lion's share of attention given to violent Islamic extremist groups by the military and the media. But a new report suggests that Al-Qaida (AQ) may very well remain the bigger long-term threat.

<http://www.tbo.com/list/military-news/altman/despite-attention-to-islamic-state-al-qaida-may-be-bigger-treat-report-says-20150920/>



#### **THE ISLAMIC STATE'S SUSPECTED INROADS INTO AMERICA**



Over the past two years, U.S. authorities have charged 64 men and women around the United States with alleged Islamic State activities. This trend has accelerated over the past twelve months and shows no sign of slowing.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/isis-suspects/>

### Significant Counterintelligence Issues:

#### **ACCUSED RUSSIAN AGENT PLEADS GUILTY IN U.S. OVER TECH SMUGGLING**

A Texas man, whom U.S. authorities said was a Russian agent and a central figure in a scheme to illegally export microelectronic components for use by Russia's military and spy agencies; pled guilty on 9 September 2015 to all of the charges against him.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2015/09/09/usa-russia-fishenko-idINKCN0R92DR20150909>



#### **EXCLUSIVE: MURDER, MONEY, AND SPIES**



The Epoch Times has been investigating the shadowy organizations behind the Chinese regime's cyber-attacks. It has exposed the structure of China's spy organizations and how they developed a system to steal innovation from the West.

<http://www.theepochtimes.com/n3/murder-money-and-spies/>



**Significant Cyber Issues:**

**RUSSIA: 7-YEAR CYBER WAR AGAINST NATO, EU & US BY KREMLIN SPONSORED HACKERS “THE DUKES” EXPOSED**

Cybersecurity researchers have uncovered a state-sponsored Russian hacking group named "The Dukes" that has allegedly carried out attacks against foreign governments and organizations over a seven year period. A new report, details how cyber-attacks were launched to support Russian intelligence gathering.



<http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/russia-7-year-cyberwar-against-nato-eu-us-by-kremlin-sponsored-hackers-dukes-exposed-1520065>

**U.S.: CHINA CYBER ESPIONAGE PUTS ‘ENORMOUS STRAIN’ ON TIES**



Cyber espionage for economic gain by China is putting "enormous strain" on U.S.-China relations and needs to stop, the President’s national security adviser said on 21 September 2015. China was urged to join the U.S. in promoting responsible forms of state behavior in cyberspace.

<http://www.militarytimes.com/story/military/pentagon/2015/09/21/us-china-cyber-espionage-puts-enormous-strain-on-ties/72580452/>

**Analyst Notes – Items to Watch:**

ISIS as an organization has shown tremendous resilience in the face of U.S. and allied bombing attacks, as well as Iraqi and Syrian Army actions. Its success has bred a steady stream of new reinforcements, including an increasing number of U.S. and Western recruits. ISIS plots in the United States have shown no sign of declining and the FBI believes that more “lone wolf” type attacks will be forthcoming. Although cyber espionage is on the rise from nation states competing with the U.S., conventional espionage and illegal technology transfer continues through “old fashioned” espionage efforts. It also appears that the cyber espionage onslaught the United States faces has been going on long before U.S. experts first detected it. The NASA CI/CT division will continue to monitor these threats and any others that emerge in the future that have the potential to harm NASA or its equities.

**NASA CI Offices:**

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- Armstrong Flight Research Center: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- Glenn Research Center: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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- Kennedy Space Center: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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- NASA Headquarters: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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