

Six Somali Émigrés arrested and indicted for Material Support of ISIS in Minneapolis and San Diego



US Attorney for Minnesota Andrew Luger announcing indictments of Somali émigrés

Source: *Minneapolis Star Tribune*

When we [reviewed](#) Erick Stakelbeck's latest book, *ISIS Exposed* we wrote:

Tens of thousands of young Muslims across the ummah from Minneapolis in the US, the UK, France, Germany, Russia and even China have been drawn like bees to the holy beehive of the self-declared Caliphate which espouses Islamic purification through ethnic and religious cleansing.

Stakelbeck addressed an important question about why the large unassimilated Somali émigré community in Minneapolis has become the US hub for Al Qaeda and now ISIS recruitment. The shift of Somali émigré young men from traveling to Somali to join Al Shabaab to join ISIS occurred in the last two years facilitated by the ease of travel to Turkey to enter Syria and the attraction of building a Caliphate based on pure Islam.

Yesterday, six Somali émigré young men in their late teens and early 20's were arrested and indicted by the US Attorney in Minneapolis for material support for the Islamic State or ISIS. According to the [WSJ report](#):

All six charged Monday had been arrested Sunday. Four appeared in federal court in St. Paul, Minn.—Adnan Farah,

Zacharia Yusuf Abdurahman, Hanad Mustafe Musse and Guled Ali Omar—where the court appointed lawyers. Two others appeared in a San Diego court—Mr. Daud and Mohamed Abdihamid Farah—where they were arrested after driving from Minneapolis. They were ordered held pending a detention hearing this week.

A seventh Abdi Nur is being separately charged as a recruiter as he successfully traveled to Syria to join and fight for ISIS. It is believed that email exchanges and calls with the seventh Somali émigré young man from Minneapolis Abdi Nur who successfully traveled last May to Syria may have provided the evidence for the charges in the indictment of material support for terrorism. The FBI was able to connect Nur and two others indicted yesterday, Daud and Yusuf, because of a police report of an accident involving the vehicle driven by Yusuf.

Last week we wrote about Somali émigré Abdirahman Sheik Mohamud from the second largest Somali community in the US, Columbus, Ohio who was [indicted](#) on federal terrorist charges following his return from Al Qaeda training in Syria.. Yesterday's indictments announced by the US Attorney for Minneapolis capped a 10 month investigation. The *Wall Street Journal* [report](#) on this latest development, illustrated the resourcefulness of those indicted. Some used student loans to purchase airline tickets to travel to Turkey to enter Syria and join ISIS. The two detained in San Diego were caught trying to enter Mexico from which they intended to travel to Turkey and hence to Syria. Two had traveled by bus from Minneapolis only to be arrested at New York's JFK Airport.

The WSJ [reported](#) the dynamics in this latest terror indictment involving Somali émigré young men:

“The person radicalizing your son, your brother, your friend may not be a stranger. It may be their best friend right here in town,” Minnesota U.S. Attorney Andrew Luger

said, calling the case an example of “peer to peer” terrorist recruiting.

The men, in their late teens and early 20s, faced barriers thrown up by authorities, their parents and others. They were finally ensnared in a security net that included an informant who turned on his former friends, a suspicious passport specialist and a car accident that helped investigators make a crucial link between the men.

The charges highlight what Mr. Luger called “a terror recruiting problem” in Minnesota. The state’s large Somali population has long been a focus of federal investigators targeting Islamic extremism and would-be foreign fighters in the U.S.

“It’s not a Somali problem, it’s not an immigrant problem. It is our problem. It is a Minnesota problem,” he said.

Three other alleged associates of the men, all of Somali descent, had been charged previously.

[Watch](#) this WSJ video interviewing one of the reporters, Andrew Goodman, discussing the latest Somali émigré ISIS –related indictments involving the Minneapolis community:



Stakelbeck [posted](#) these observations on these latest indictments of Somali émigré young men attempting to join ISIS :

Another day, another American arrested for attempting to join ISIS.

Make that six Americans—all young men of Somali descent in their late teens and early 20’s, and all hailing from

Minneapolis—[posted here](#) about an Ohio man, also a Somali Muslim, who had trained in Syria with Islamic terrorists and then returned to the United States, reportedly with orders to carry out attacks on the homeland. His arrest followed similar recent terror-related busts in [Philadelphia](#), [Kansas](#). Now we have the Minnesota case.

Is anyone else noticing a pattern here? A few quick things to keep in mind:

—The Twin Cities of Minneapolis-St. Paul are now officially Jihad Central in the United States. As I recount in my latest book [“The Terrorist Next Door”](#)).

—I’ve spent a good amount of time on the ground in the Twin Cities’ Somali communities over the past few years reporting for CBN News on the growing jihadi recruitment problem there (watch my most recent reports [here](#)). **My concern is that what we see developing among the Somalis of Minneapolis-St. Paul is similar to what has transpired in Western Europe, where unassimilated, self-segregating Muslim communities have become breeding grounds for Islamic radicalism.**

—Over the past year-and-a-half, the Somali terror group Al-Shabaab has carried out horrific attacks against a shopping mall and a university in Kenya (in both attacks, Christians were [called for attacks](#) against the Mall of America outside Minneapolis—the largest shopping mall in the United States and a stone’s throw from the city’s Somali-Muslim communities).

Here’s a thought. Suppose the six Somali men who were arrested this weekend decided that, rather than travel to Syria, they’d simply stay put and wage jihad on U.S. soil, acting as what ISIS calls [chaos and carnage](#) just ten men caused when they fanned out across Mumbai, India (the second largest city in the world) armed with assault

rifles and bombs in November 2008?

Next Tuesday, April 28th, Stakelbeck will be interviewed by Mike Bates of [1330amWEBY](#) Northwest Florida Talk Radio and this writer on "Your Turn" about his book, *ISIS Exposed* and these latest developments arising from "Jihad Central" in Minneapolis ■