Uncovered

Judicial Watch Takes Lead in Uncovering Terrorist Infiltration into the United States

Groundbreaking investigations expose imminent national security threats resulting from America’s unsecured borders.

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In 2010, a veteran federal agent and longtime Judicial Watch source disclosed that the Obama administration was covering up the growing threat posed by Middle-Eastern terrorists entering the country through Mexico. The U.S. Border Patrol classifies them as OTM (Other Than Mexican), and many of them come from terrorist nations such as Yemen, Iran, Sudan, Somalia and Afghanistan.

The Obama administration continues to downplay the bloodshed and the threat of Islamic jihadists’ planning strikes across the southern, U.S.-Mexico border. In 2011, for example, Obama’s first Homeland Security Secretary, Janet Napolitano, proclaimed that the border “is better now than it has ever been,” even as organized criminal syndicates took over portions of the region, smuggling drugs, humans, weapons and money into the United States.

Federal authorities call them SIAs (Special Interest Aliens) but the government doesn’t want Americans to know about them or that ISIS is operating adjacent to a major American city (El Paso, Texas). “ISIS is working with the drug cartels,” confirmed retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Paul E. Vallely, who is regularly briefed by high-level contacts in the region. According to Vallely, two Texas military bases, Ft. Bliss and Ft. Hood, are targets for Islamic terrorists.

Judicial Watch has taken a leading role in educating Americans about the dire terrorism risks resulting from the country’s unsecured border with Mexico.

The following details some of the revelations resulting from Judicial Watch’s investigations:

- On December 8, 2014, Judicial Watch investigators reported that an Al Qaeda terrorist on the FBI’s Most Wanted list for years crossed back and forth into the United States from Mexico to meet fellow militant Islamists in Texas. The same Al Qaeda operative helped plan the 2009 bombing plot against talk-show superstar Oprah Winfrey’s Chicago studios and the iconic Sears Tower (renamed Willis Tower), another exclusive story broken by Judicial Watch. His name is Adnan G. El Shukrijumah (also known as “Javier Robles”), and he was recently killed in Pakistan, according to military officials in that Islamic republic. He was born in Saudi Arabia and moved to the United States with his family as a youngster in the mid-1990s. As a teenager, “Robles” lived in South Florida’s Broward County where he attended the local community college and took computer-science and chemistry classes. But, for his known terrorist connections, he might have qualified for one of President Obama’s unilateral-amnesty programs.

- On November 1, 2014, Judicial Watch investigators confirmed that Islamic terrorists entered the United States through the Mexican border. JW’s homeland security sources told Judicial Watch that four had been apprehended during the previous 36 hours by federal authorities and the Texas Department of Public Safety in the vicinity of McAllen and Pharr.

Judicial Watch confirmed this report after California Congressman Duncan Hunter, a former Marine Corps Major and member of the House Armed Services Committee,

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separately disclosed on national television that at least ten Islamic State of Iraq and Greater Syria (ISIS) fighters had been caught crossing the Mexican border into Texas.

- In late August 2014, Judicial Watch reported that Islamic terrorist groups were operating in the Mexican-border city of Ciudad Juárez and planning to attack the United States with car bombs or other vehicle-borne, improvised explosive devices. High-level federal law enforcement, intelligence and other sources confirmed to JW that a warning bulletin of an imminent terrorist attack on the border had been issued. Agents from the Homeland Security, Justice and Defense departments were placed on alert and instructed to aggressively work all possible leads and sources concerning this imminent terrorist threat.

- Fort Bliss increased security as a result of Judicial Watch's disclosures. Military experts told JW that an increase in security indicated Ft. Bliss was a target. Following news of that report, federal law-enforcement sources in El Paso revealed that U.S. Congressman Beto O’Rourke (D-TX) had telephoned the area offices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) in an effort to identify — and evidently intimidate — sources that may have been used by Judicial Watch to break the ISIS-in-Juarez story.

After furious official denials that Islamic terrorists were operating in the Mexican border city of Ciudad Juárez and planning to attack the United States, a senior Homeland Security official confirmed the fact to Congress. By January 2015, Judicial Watch had filed more than 40 separate Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests seeking more information about these cross-border security issues with a multitude of federal and state government agencies. These information requests, many of which may now be ripe for litigation in federal court, include the following:

- Requests to Department of Defense (DOD) filed September 2, 2014 for: “Any and all records of communication to or from personnel or officials in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, including but not limited to Secretary Chuck Hagel, containing the term ‘southwest border’ and any of the following terms: ‘ISIL,’ ‘ISIS,’ or ‘Islamic State’ from January 1, 2014 to the present; and any and all records of communication to or from personnel or officials in the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, including but not limited to General Martin Dempsey, containing the term ‘southwest border’ and any of the following terms: ‘ISIL,’ ‘ISIS,’ or ‘Islamic State’ from January 1, 2014 to the present.”

- Requests to FBI, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Texas Department of Public Safety (TX DPS) and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) filed September 18, 2014 for: “Any and all advisories, bulletins, threat assessments or similar documents regarding, concerning, or related to the potential threat posed by a member or members of a terrorist organization and/or an individual actor motivated by sympathies for a terrorist organization entering the United States via the southwest border (from July 1, 2014).”

- Requests to DHS, Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE), and the Department of Justice (DOJ) filed September 19, 2014 for: “Any and all records concerning, regarding or related to a directive issued to DHS employees on or after August 29, 2014 not to communicate with the media regarding Islamic extremists crossing the U.S. southwest border and threatening punitive measures against DHS employees who discuss such issues with the media; and any and all records of communication from August 29, 2014 to the present to or from officials or employees in the Office of the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Office of Legislative Affairs, the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, or the Office of Public Affairs containing the terms ‘Judicial Watch’ or ‘Beto O’Rourke.’”

- Requests to TX DPS and FBI filed September 29, 2014 for: “Any and all records concerning, regarding or related to the FBI briefing given in Austin, TX on September 9, 2014 regarding possible terrorist attacks in or near the U.S. border.”

Judicial Watch investigators in several states continue to track leads about the border-terrorist threat. As a result of disclosures and pressure from Judicial Watch’s leadership, inquiries from Congress and other authorities are underway into both the underlying border-security threats and the Obama administration’s continuing cover-up.