

Global Jihad Online

Terrorist networks are more wired than ever.

Jihadi terrorists and their followers have taken to the Internet like freshmen to Facebook. But the authorities haven't noticed that the front line is now online. "Al Qaeda is wired – we are not," says Brian Jenkins, a terrorism expert at the research firm RAND. Not that it's easy to monitor the world's 42 million Web sites for the activities of a few evildoers. "Sure, we have the technology to listen to every signal," Jenkins says. "But do we have the analytical capacity to make sense of it? Much less so." At the University of Arizona's AI Lab, the Dark Web Portal – the world's largest archive of terrorist-related online content – aims to separate some signal from all the noise. Recent research found hundreds of hidden jihadist sites containing everything from beheading videos to games in which players try to assassinate President Bush. Take a peek inside the shadowy world of Jihad.com. – **Frank Bures**

DESPITE EFFORTS TO SUPPRESS THEM, COVERT TERRORIST WEB SITES ARE FLOURISHING

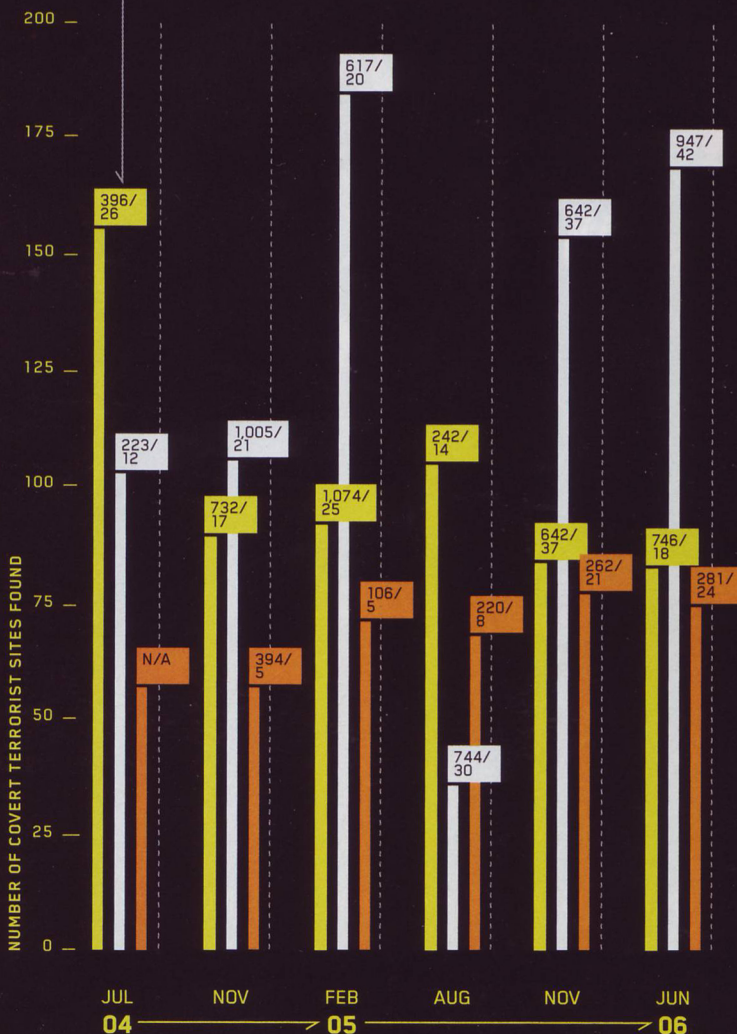
NUMBER OF COVERT TERRORIST SITES FOUND, BY LANGUAGE

ENGLISH

ARABIC

SPANISH

TOTAL NUMBER OF FILES (IN THOUSANDS)/COMBINED FILE SIZE (GIGABYTES)



706 TOTAL NUMBER OF VIDEOS ON COVERT TERRORIST SITES

291 documentary

143 propaganda

126 message

70 beheading

26 hostage-taking

22 suicide attack

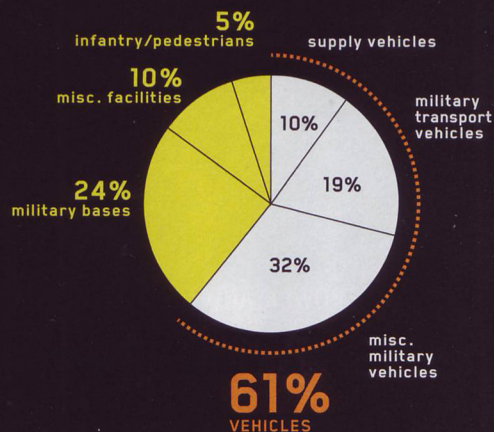
13 tribute

9 training

5 newsletter

1 instruction

TERRORIST TARGETS IDENTIFIED IN VIDEOS



Source: Artificial Intelligence Lab, University of Arizona