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Office of Intelligence and Analysis
**Homeland
Security**

Homeland Security Assessment

(U//FOUO) Black Separatism—A Volatile Movement and Node of Domestic Radicalization

13 June 2006

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(U) Scope

(U//FOUO) This Homeland Security Assessment provides background information on selected groups within the black separatist/nationalist movement. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) lacks specific information at this time to suggest the movement is involved in planning attacks against the Homeland. These groups' radical ideologies and demonstrated violence, however, indicate that the movement could pose a potential threat to the Homeland.

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(U) Key Findings

(U//FOUO) Elements of the black separatist movement fuse a separatist/nationalist ideology with a radical religious ideology. Most black separatists are anti-government, anti-Semitic, and racist.

- (U//FOUO) Some groups within the black separatist movement support transnational Islamic extremist causes due to their shared animosity towards Jews and perceived oppression by Western governments.
- (U//FOUO) Black separatist groups recruit potential members, radicalize individuals with violent predispositions, and incite violent behavior to achieve the groups' ideological goals. Some black separatist movements have demonstrated a propensity for violence toward law enforcement and government officials.
- (U//FOUO) DHS has yet to detect substantial interaction between black separatists and foreign-directed Islamic extremist groups. The common goals each has in wanting to attack symbols of government authority and economic power suggests the potential for them to work together to threaten the Homeland.

(U) The Black Separatist Ideology

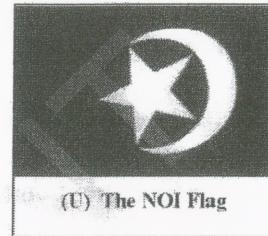
(U//FOUO) Black separatist/nationalist ideology advocates a separate nation or state for the black race. The groups are extremely anti-government and claim the only solution from white oppression is to separate from mainstream America and create a segregated black society. They believe that whites and - in many cases - Jews control the government and implement federal laws targeting African Americans, and that African Americans imprisoned for violating U.S. laws are "political prisoners." The groups conduct prison outreach programs that encourage African American prison inmates to embrace the black separatist cause.

(U//FOUO) Key Black Separatist Organizations and Extremist Links

(U//FOUO) Groups such as the Nation of Islam (NOI),^{USPER} New Black Panther Party (NBPP),^{USPER} New Black Panther Nation (NBPN),^{USPER} and the Five Percenters^{USPER} attract individuals with violent predispositions whom they indoctrinate into their radical ideology. Some black separatist groups incorporate what they claim to be Islamic religious ideologies, promoting a sense of higher purpose that functions as a powerful recruitment and radicalization tool. Some influential leaders and members within these groups are sympathetic to Islamic extremists and have links to or publicly support transnational terrorist organizations, including al-Qa'ida.

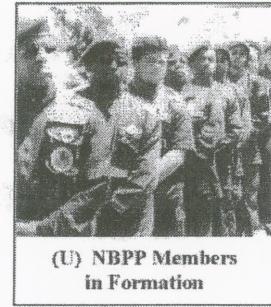
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(U//FOUO) **Nation of Islam:** Led by Louis Farrakhan,^{USPER} and headquartered in Chicago, the NOI has a nationwide presence. Founded in 1930 by Elijah Muhammad (deceased), the group is the ideological precursor to many black separatist movements. It claims to be an Islamic movement but embraces a radical viewpoint of Islam that does not adhere to core Islamic tenets. Its members believe in the “truth of the Bible,” the NOI considers the Bible “tampered with” to the point where it must be “reinterpreted” to remove “falsehoods” added to it. The group is virulently anti-Semitic, and in 1991 published *The Secret Relationship Between Blacks and Jews*, a book that asserts that Jews created and funded the African American slave trade, which it calls the “Black African Holocaust.” The book is frequently referenced in black separatist speeches and writings.



(U) The NOI Flag

(U//FOUO) **New Black Panther Party:** This group, headquartered in Washington, D.C., has approximately 32 chapters in large metropolitan areas throughout the United States. Heavily influenced by the NOI, NBPP leaders are, for the most part, ex-NOI members. The group is highly bigoted and publicly outspoken regarding its racist and anti-Semitic views. The NBPP publicly supports Usama Bin Ladin.

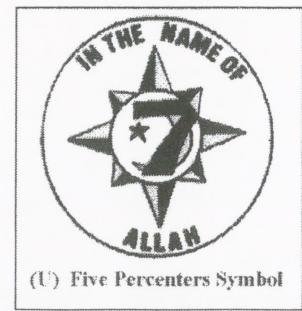


(U) NBPP Members in Formation

- (U//FOUO) On 18 July 2002, NBPP National Chairman **Malik Zulu Shabazz**^{USPER} publicly announced his interest in aiding in the defense of Zacarias Moussaoui. Shabazz also blamed the 11 September attacks on America and Israel.

(U//FOUO) **New Black Panther Nation:** Headquartered in Detroit and with a few known chapters scattered throughout the United States, the NBPN is an offshoot of the NBPP and influenced by former members of the NOI. The group refers to the United States as the “United Snakes of a Murderer.” The NBPN’s “20 Point Program” of national goals states that African Americans should resist joining the military because the United States is the enemy. In addition, the group opposes fighting the insurgents in Iraq and Afghanistan because it views them as oppressed people.

(U//FOUO) **Five Percenter or Nation of Gods and Earths:**^{USPER} An offshoot of the NOI headquartered in the Harlem neighborhood of New York City, the group has a nationwide following. It embraces a black supremacist rather than a separatist ideology, and adheres to a radical brand of Islam that claims black men, as a whole, represent Allah. The Five Percenters believe that the general population is ignorant and hopeless. Five Percenters claim that they are “God” and are not accountable to anyone; they refer to African Americans collectively as “Allah,” but believe that only five percent of the black race has reached supreme divinity. The members are considered heretics by mainstream orthodox Islamic adherents.



(U) Five Percenter Symbol

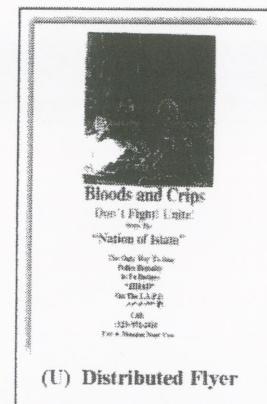
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(U//FOUO) Violent Tendencies Threaten Law Enforcement and the Community

(U//FOUO) Some black separatist members are extremely violent and have engaged in shooting sprees and violent intimidation tactics, including firebombing of businesses that operate contrary to Islam and kidnapping of individuals who violate black separatist ideology. They recruit members from black streets gangs to serve as their force multipliers. Group members often appear at rallies on controversial issues and are known to carry high-powered weapons under the guise of self-defense, which poses a threat to law enforcement and the community.

- (U//FOUO) John Allen Muhammad, convicted in the 2002 Washington, D.C., sniper attacks and a former member of the NOI, may have embraced the Five Percenter ideology. Prior to the sniper attacks, Muhammad had indoctrinated convicted sniper Lee Boyd Malvo into a radical brand of Islam and convinced him that the U.S. Government was the enemy of black people.
- (U//LES) NBPP members in 2003 were directed by one of the group's leaders to purchase an assortment of high-powered assault rifles and hand guns. In separate reporting, NBPP members had planned to travel to Washington, D.C., in 2005 to receive weapons training from a NBPP leader, which would have coincided with the October "Million More Movement" rally.
- (U//FOUO) According to FBI reporting, as of October 2005, the Houston chapter of the NBPN planned to relocate its headquarters to a part of Houston notorious for gang activity in order to recruit gang members as "soldiers" for the "NBPN Army." Reportedly, 30 members of the Houston Bloods street gang have agreed to join the NBPN and begin training. According to FBI reporting, upon opening its new headquarters, the NBPN intended to conduct concealed handgun classes.
- (U//FOUO) In September 2005, a flyer was distributed throughout Los Angeles calling for the Crips^{USPER} and Bloods^{USPER} street gangs to unite with the NOI to declare jihad against the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). The NOI denied it produced the flyer that was distributed the day that NOI spokesperson Tony Muhammad^{USPER} (previously involved in an altercation with LAPD officers) was released from jail in Los Angeles.

(U) Outlook



(U) Distributed Flyer

(U//FOUO) The black separatist movement represents anti-government and radical religious ideologies, violent behavior, and subversive activities that have the potential to rise above common criminal action and become a threat to homeland security. The

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fusion of separatist, racist, and religious ideologies could serve as a breeding ground for domestic radicalization. DHS has yet to detect clear links between black separatists and foreign-directed Islamic extremist groups. The common goals each has in wanting to attack symbols of government authority and economic power suggests the potential for them to work together to threaten the Homeland.

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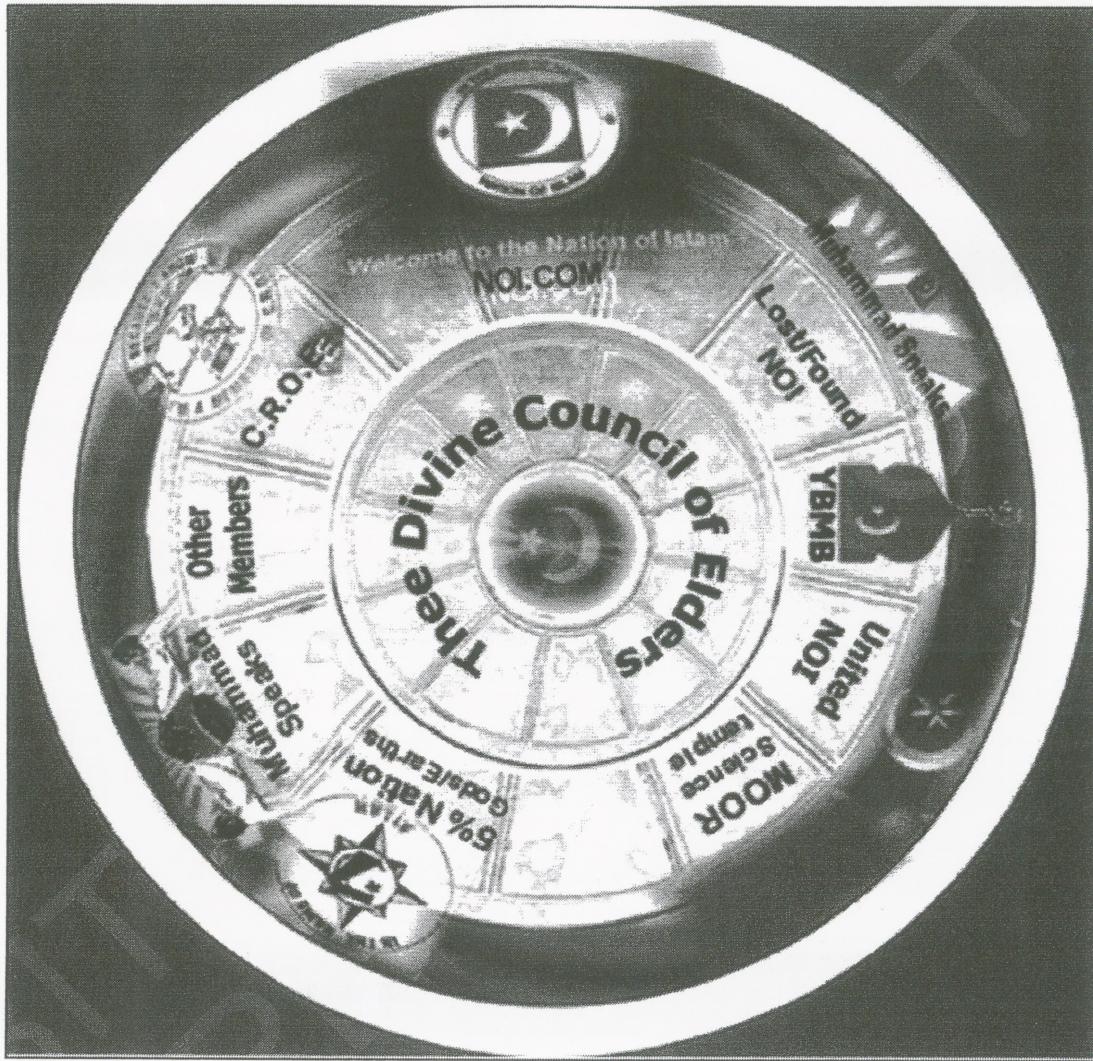
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(U) Appendix

(U//FOUO) The graphic below, taken from an NOI-related Web site, depicts the affiliation of NOI with various black separatist movements in the United States.



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