NASA CI/CT MONTHLY NEWS UPDATE – August 2016

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:**

**INSIDE ISIS: QUIETLY PREPARING FOR THE LOSS OF THE ‘CALIPHATE’**

Even as it launches waves of terrorist attacks around the globe, the Islamic State is quietly preparing its followers for the eventual collapse of the caliphate it proclaimed with great fanfare two years ago.


**IS TERRORISM GETTING WORSE? IT DEPENDS WHERE YOU LOOK.**

Why, 15 years after President Bush vowed to defeat terrorism, does it seem like the world is awash in it? According to a terrorism expert at Georgetown University, one of the key explanations boils down to two words: Civil War.


**THE MYTH OF LONE-WOLF TERRORISM**

The tendency to view lone attackers as unconnected to the broader ISIS organization prevented observers from fully comprehending the magnitude of the network that was behind the complex coordinated attacks in Paris and Brussels.


**Significant Counterintelligence Issues:**

**CHINA’S OLD-SCHOOL SPIES**

Chinese officials and citizens engage all kinds of activities that can be viewed as intelligence work—from stealing intellectual property, to surveilling students to organizing overseas Chinese communities to covert influence to recruiting sources.

RUSSIAN FOREIGN INTEL HQ HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED IN SIZE SINCE 2007

Recent satellite images reveal that the headquarters of the Russian Federation’s external intelligence agency has doubled, and possibly tripled, in size in the past nine years. The Russian Foreign Intelligence Service, known as SVR, is one of the successor agencies of the Soviet-era KGB.

https://intelnews.org/2016/07/14/01-1939/

SELLING SECRETS? A JASON BOURNE FAN ARRESTED IN SPY DRAMA

Gregory Allen Justice had a sick wife, a job at which he felt unappreciated and a fascination with cinematic secret operatives such as Jason Bourne and James Bond. He had a special love for “The Americans,” the FX series about KGB spies in the United States. As an engineer on the night shift at a large defense contractor, Justice had access to sensitive technical data about military and commercial satellites, according to federal authorities. He was arrested on charges that he sold information to a man he believed was an agent of Russian intelligence.


Analyst Notes – Items to Watch:

The ISIS offensive during the 2016 Ramadan season has shown the worldwide impact that the ISIS “message” continues to possess. ISIS sympathizers and followers have continued to attack “soft targets” across the globe. ISIS continues to attract radical Islamic followers, with the acknowledged number of ISIS “allied” groups now at 45. Conventional espionage conducted against the United States continues unabated. Both the Russian and Chinese intelligence services have grown and continue to focus on the U.S. and the West, especially in collecting advanced technology. The NASA CI/CT division continues to monitor these threats and any others that have the potential to harm NASA or its equities.

NASA CI Offices:

Ames Research Center: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Armstrong Flight Research Center: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Glenn Research Center: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Goddard Space Flight Center: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Jet Propulsion Laboratory: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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