

SAUDI ARABIA IN FOCUS

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TERRORISM

Saudi ambassador calls for international cooperation to combat terror

In remarks to the Middle East Institute's 59th annual conference in Washington November 8, Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to the US Prince Turki Al-Faisal characterized terrorism as the biggest single threat to international peace and stability today, and called for greater international cooperation to combat it. He advocated a multi-pronged international approach, including cutting off financial and physical support for terrorists and international cooperation, such as the establishment of an International Counterterrorism Center.

Prince Turki pointed out that Saudi Arabia is fighting terrorism on every level. It is tracking down terrorists; has introduced some of the most stringent laws in the world to cut off financial support for terrorists; and is actively working to educate people about the dangers of terrorism and extremism through public awareness campaigns and updating educational curriculums to remove any material that could be viewed as advocating intolerance.

The ambassador also warned that combating terrorism requires resolving important political conflicts that are fostering anger in the Muslim world and improving Al-Qaeda's ability to recruit followers. Al-Qaeda is exploiting turmoil in Israel-Palestine, Iraq and Afghanistan and using the perceived injustices there to recruit foot soldiers in its global war on humanity, he said.

Saudi on most-wanted list extradited to the Kingdom

A Saudi on the Kingdom's most-wanted list of terrorist suspects has been extradited to Saudi Arabia from abroad, according to an official source at the Ministry of Interior. Adnan Abdullah Faris Alamri Alshareef was No. 23 on the on the list of 36 most-wanted terrorists issued on June 28, 2005.

FOREIGN AID

Saudi airlift continues to provide relief to Pakistan

More Saudi relief planes have arrived in Pakistan, in line with a directive by King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz to provide aid to victims of the October 8 earthquake. The

latest plane arrived in Pakistan November 4 carrying 70 tons of relief items, including tents.

High-level Saudi delegation visits Pakistan

A high-level Saudi delegation led by Deputy Interior Minister Prince Ahmed bin Abdulaziz arrived in Pakistan November 7. The delegation visited the areas affected by the earthquake and inspected the massive Saudi relief operations there. Prince Ahmed also met with Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, who thanked the Kingdom for its relief efforts.

Saudi relief plane leaves for Niger

A Saudi relief plane left Riyadh for Niger November 8, in line with a directive by King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz to provide relief assistance to victims of drought in Niger. The plane carried 70 tons of food materials.

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