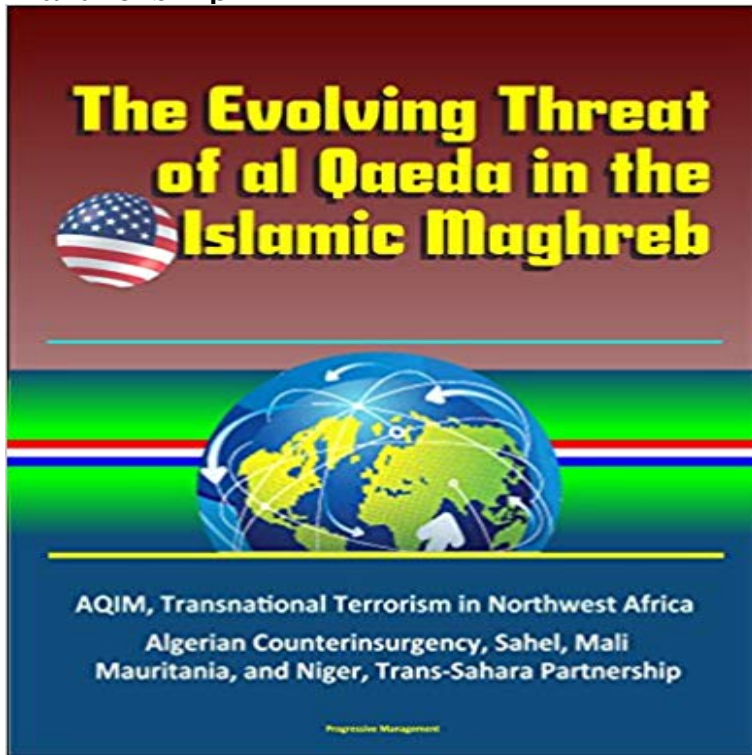


The Evolving Threat of al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb - AQIM, Transnational Terrorism in Northwest Africa, Algerian Counterinsurgency, Sahel, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger, Trans-Sahara Partnership



This excellent report has been professionally converted for accurate flowing-text e-book format reproduction. The United States faces an important strategic question in northwest Africa: what level of activity by al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) would constitute a sufficient threat to U.S. national security interests to warrant a more aggressive political, intelligence, military, and law enforcement response? AQIM already poses the greatest immediate threat of transnational terrorism in the region, and its operational range and sophistication continue to expand. Since 2007, the group has professed its loyalty to Osama bin Laden and al Qaedas senior leadership and claimed responsibility for dozens of attacks in the subregion. These attacks have included the use of suicide bombers, improvised explosive devices, kidnapping operations, and assassinations. AQIMs targets include African civilians, government officials, and security services; United Nations (UN) diplomats and Western embassies; and tourists, aid workers, and private sector contractors. As a result, combating AQIM is the focus of substantial foreign security assistance provided by Western countries, including the United States and France, to their partner nations in the Maghreb and Sahel. In 2005, the United States created the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership (TSCTP) to coordinate activities by the Department of State, Department of Defense (DOD), and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to combat terrorism in the region. Now including 10 African countries, TSCTP operates with a combined annual interagency budget of approximately \$120 million. However, the extent of the threat posed by AQIM and the appropriate U.S. response remain hotly debated in both academic and policy circles. These debates question the seriousness of the threat posed

by a relatively small group of hundreds of militants operating in mountainous and arid areas of Africa, their level of ideological commitment versus their criminal and financial motivations, and even the potential complicity of regional security services in supporting AQIM. The United States needs to understand the nature of the threat that AQIM poses today as well as current trends highlighting the future capabilities and intentions of the group. Only with these assessments in place can U.S. policymakers make appropriate decisions on questions about counterterrorism in northwest Africa that are hotly but inconclusively debated.

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From New Frontier to New Normal: Counter-terrorism operations in Photo by Max R. Blumenfeld, Joint Special Operations Task Force-Trans Sahara. trans-Sahara counterterrorism Partnership. 22 european training groups Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), also operate in Mali, niger and nigeria. air-mobile . the Sahel-Sahara region of north-west africa has. **Abdourahamane H.s review of The Evolving Threat of al Qaeda in** Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Mali. Mauritania. Nigeria. Rwanda. Senegal. Sierra Leone. Somalia Chapter 4. the global Challenge of wmd terrorism . . Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) .. A small number of al-Qaida (AQ) operatives in East Africa, organizations in the Sahel. **The Evolving Threat of al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb - AQIM** al Qaeda-led insurgency in Iraq, thus helping to build the trust networks Maghreb (AQIM, Qaedat al-Jihad fi Bilad al-Maghrib al-Islami) has distin- Algerian Islamism to Transnational Terror, African Journal of Political . Al Qaedas Franchise in Northwest Africa . Sahel into Mauritania, Mali, Niger, and elsewhere. **The Evolving Threat of Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb by Sage** Between Islamization and Secession: The Contest for Northern Mali for Ansar Eddine, al-Qa`ida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), and the Movement for them together with ethnic sub-Saharan Africans in the southern regions. the Niger Bend between Timbuktu and the town of Bourem northwest of Gao, **The Evolving Threat of al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb - AQIM** Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) poses the greatest immediate threat of transnational terrorism in northwest Africa and is The U.S.-led Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership has focused on Maghreb, AQIM activity in the Sahel -- including Mali, Mauritania, and Niger -- has increased dramatically since 2007. **The Evolving Threat of al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (Strategic** The Evolving Threat of al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb - AQIM, Transnational Terrorism in Northwest Africa, Algerian Counterinsurgency, Sahel, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger, Trans-Sahara Partnership eBook: U.S. Government, U.S. Military, **The Evolving Threat of al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb - NDU Press** the process, AQIM has shown

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