《双语:本拉登也是学霸!《纽约时报》曝光拉登书单》



To join Al Qaeda in Osama bin Laden's day, prospective recruits had to take an arduousand risky journey to the network's haven in the mountains of northwestern Pakistan, the heartland of global Islamist militancy.

Then they had to fill in an application.

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The three pages of questions show how Al Qaeda, in its vision of itself as a disciplinednetwork of committed militants, blended the mundanely bureaucratic with the frighteningly absurd.

The application, which was among nearly 80 documents and other materials, including books and press clippings, seized from Bin Laden's compound during the raid by Navy SEAL members in May 2011.

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The material offers the deepest look yet into Bin Laden's final years, much of which he appears to have spent sending missives to his subordinates, seeking to direct a terror network that appeared to have grown far beyond his control, and working his way through a pile of books that ranged from sober works of history and current affairs to wild conspiracy theories spun by anti-Semites.

It was the list of books found in Bin Laden's compound that garnered the most interest Wednesday. The Office of the Director of National Intelligence, which managed the release, seized on Bin Laden's reading list to promote it, titling the web page listing all the now-public material "Bin Laden's Bookshelf."

Some of the books would be familiar to anyone interested in global affairs, such as "Obama's Wars," by Bob Woodward; "The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers," by Paul Kennedy; and "Imperial Hubris," by Michael Scheuer, the former official who once ran the Central Intelligence Agency's Bin Laden desk.

Other titles hinted at a paranoid worldview fostered by conspiracy theory classics such as "Bloodlines of the Illuminati," by Fritz Springmeier, and "The Secrets of the Federal Reserve," by Eustace Mullins, a Holocaust denier.

He also kept scanned copies of Arabic newspapers. His English-language media diet seems to have leaned toward international news — six copies of Foreign Policy magazine were found in the compound — and articles about Al Qaeda, such as one from The Los Angeles Times in 2005, "Is Al Qaeda Just Bush's Boogeyman?"

Bin Laden was either fascinated or frustrated by computers, or both, with more than two dozen instructional manuals for programs such as Adobe Photoshop and hardware like Intel circuit boards.

And he was apparently engrossed by France: He had 19 stories, essays and books about the country.

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The review, which began in May 2014, is expected to continue through the summer and into the fall, said Jeffrey S. Anchukaitis, a spokesman for the intelligence office. But the White House asked that office and the C.I.A. to begin releasing material immediatelybecause of "the increasing public demand to review those documents,"he said.

Much of what came out of the compound remains classified, and the latest release brings to 103 the total number of documents from the raid that are now publicly available.

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