

Jordan has thwarted a terrorist plot by a group linked to Al Qaeda; the plans were for a combined terrorist attack to bomb shopping centers in Amman as well as assassination attempts on Western diplomats.

There is an old saying that "if you really want to know what the weather is don't listen to the weatherman, stick your head out the window". When it comes to predicting the Arab Spring all one has to do is look at what it has accomplished.

What started with the self -immolation of Sidi Bouzid in Tunisia on December 18, 2010 has led

to rulers being forced from power in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Yemen. Uprisings have occurred in Bahrain with major protests in Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Sudan and most recently Lebanon. Minor protests have occurred in Mauritania, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Djibouti and Western Sahara.

In May of last year I wrote,

What we are dealing with is not the "Arab Spring", but rather the "Perfect Storm".

The governments of Syria, Libya, Yemen and Iran, just to name a few, are murdering their own people and where those uprisings have been successful at toppling the governments, the likes of the Muslim Brotherhood or Iran's hands are taking over.

Now we have Jordan. In my <u>article</u> last week I explained the connections between The Muslim Brotherhood and Al-Qaeda,

Muhammad Qutb is an Islamist author and teacher best known as the younger brother of the Egyptian Islamist thinker

Sayyid Qutb . He is a supporter and promoter of his Sayyid's ideas. Sayyid was leading member of the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood in the 1950s and '60s until his execution by the Egyptian government in 1966. He still is the MB ideological influence.

Muhammad Qutb fled to Saudi Arabia and became a well-known and respected teacher; two of his students were Osama bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri. In a 2004 video Osama bin Laden recommends one of Muhammad Qutb's books to Muslims, "Concepts that should be corrected".

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the "Mastermind behind the 9/11 attacks" according to the 9/11 Commission, he joined the Muslim Brotherhood at the age of 16.

On September 25, <u>Debka</u> reported that,

Jordan's Muslim Brotherhood has given King Abdullah II notice that he has until October to bow to their demand to transform the Hashemite Kingdom into a constitutional monarchy or face Arab Spring street pressure for his abdication.

Now on October 21, Jordanians foil what would have been a massive Islamist attack and arrest 11 men. The Daily Mail <u>reported</u> that government spokesman Sameeh Maaytah told an impromptu press conference that the suspects are all Jordanian and are in police custody.

"They were plotting deadly terror attacks on vital institutions, shopping centers and diplomatic missions," he said. "They sought to destabilize Jordan," he said. "They plotted against Jordan's national security."

A statement by Jordanian intelligence said an investigation showed that the group 'adopts the ideology of al-Qaida' and that it nicknamed its terror plot as '9/11 the second' - a reference to the Amman hotel blasts, which happened on Nov. 9, 2005.

According to a statement from the Jordan News Agency Petra,

The terrorist group made comprehensive preparations to carry out their crimes against selected targets. They performed surveillance and casing of these potential targets and laid plans for execution using explosives, booby-trapped cars as well as submachine guns and mortars.

The report explains that weapons and explosives from Syria were to be used,

Their objective was to create a highly destructive explosive that would cause the highest number of casualties and extensive physical damage. They had planned to bring TNT explosives and mortar shells from Syria, exploiting the ongoing crisis there.

This was no small 'home grown cell'; this would have been a well-planned large scale attack in multiple areas,

The early plans of the group were to target diplomats from hotels and public areas followed by the bombing of two major shopping malls in order to draw the attention of the security services away from these selected targets, thus clearing the way for them to target their main objectives in Abdoun, in West Amman.

The plan was for the main attack to be carried out by suicide bombers using explosive belts and devices as well as booby-trapped cars and machine guns.

Subsequently, mortar shells would be fired at the entire neighborhood.

