

## PRESS RELEASE for immediate release

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### Toronto Terrorism Arrests: The Montreal Connection

It appears that Toronto is not the only breeding ground of Canadian “home-grown terrorism.” Counter-terrorism experts are now pointing to a Montréal connection.

In September, 2001, the RCMP’s Public Order Program had an extremist group in its sites. The group was mostly made up of young Muslim and Arab men from Concordia and McGill Universities. Anti-terrorism experts called it the “Murphy-Mohamed cell,” named for its dual leadership in the persons of Sarah Murphy (a recent convert to extremist ideals) and Hassan Mohamed, a Syrian-born Canadian.

It was the RCMP’s Corporal Boisvert who first learned of the sleeper-cell’s activities, including a conspiracy to blow up the Canadian head office of an aerospace manufacturer producing military equipment for the US Pentagon.

Court documents show that the corporal learned of the sleeper-cell’s plans through an anonymous informant. The RCMP had already been monitoring the activities of some of the individuals in the cell because of their association with the Concordia and McGill branches of the SPHR (Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights) student club. Although SPHR claims to be a peaceful organization dedicated to Palestinian human rights, the group has long been publicly denounced as terrorist-connected by B’nai Brith and terrorism experts.

The RCMP informant’s information was corroborated by evidence obtained through sophisticated surveillance operations.

Like Toronto’s home-grown terrorist conspiracy, the plans of the Montréal Murphy-Mohamed cell were foiled before the violent agenda could be put into action.

Of course, getting a conviction of the Montréal sleeper cell has proven difficult because all the characters involved, as well as the plot, are pure fiction—more creative than the high-powered spin put on the alleged conspiracy by CSIS and the RCMP in the Toronto arrests. The Montréal case was concocted by Montréal author, David Bernans and published in the novel, *North of 9/11* (Cumulus Press, 2006).

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contact  
David Widginton  
(514) 523-1975  
widge@cumuluspress.com

CumulusPRESS.com

P.O. Box 5205, Station B, Montréal (Québec) Canada H3B 4B5 (514) 523-1975

