

Stunning discovery: A Terror Training Camp in the Catskill Mountains

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Deep in the Catskill Mountains, near Hancock, NY, a terror training camp called Islamberg has set down roots. The camp is headed by a radical Islamic militant group that is alleged to have played a role in the assassination of Jewish American journalist Daniel Perl in Pakistan.

Talk of mountains used by militant Islamists to train the next generation of terrorists usually brings to mind the no-man's-land mountainous regions in Pakistan or the Tora Bora Mountains in Afghanistan where Osama Bin Laden and his followers are believed to be hiding. Somehow, "mountains" in this context never elicits the image of rolling green hills dotted with wildflowers located virtually in our very own backyard in New York.

However, some very shocking information has come to light, wreaking havoc with those preconceptions. There is clear evidence that on an isolated hill deep within the Catskill Mountains, home to tens of thousands of *frum* Jewish families throughout the summer months, a militant group has set up camp, replete with living quarters and training fields, where Muslim men train to

wage jihad against America. The mountain is patrolled by armed guards 24/7 and there is no way strangers can gain entry to the camp. Federal and state agencies have, until recently, retained a policy of keeping a safe distance, neither seeing nor hearing what goes on inside.

Welcome to Islamberg, so named by its Muslim owners, an area in the Catskill Mountains located right next to Hancock, NY.

Muslims of the Americas

The mountain is owned by a radical Pakistani group by the name of "Jamaat ul-Fuqra," meaning "The Association of the Poor." According to experts, the group

is responsible for a significant number of attacks that have been perpetrated over many years on American soil, and has, according to some reports, played a role in the brutal murder of Jewish-American journalist Daniel Perl, who had been in the midst of an investigation into "Jamaat ul-Fuqra's" possible ties to terrorism.

However, what is nearly as jarring as the camp's location is the fact that it is being financed by American taxpayers. The group leaders of the terrorist infrastructure have filed documents with the government classifying the camp as a "humanitarian and religious non-profit organization" and are consequently exempt from tens of thousands of dollars in taxes.

Islamberg is situated on 70 acres of land in the western corners of the Catskill Mountains, approximately 40 miles southeast of

Binghamton, NY. At one of the entrances to the camp, a sign identifies the area as "Islamberg." At the other side of the hill, another sign reads "International Quranic University," and "Muslims of the Americas."

Neighbors Live in Fear

Ever since the founding of the camp, residents in the neighboring vicinity of Islamberg live in fear of the activities going on so uncomfortably close to their homes. They deeply resent the fact that the federal authorities have not done all they should to investigate the identities of Islamberg's leaders and to halt the activities being conducted on the premises.

Local residents who spoke to reporters

visiting the area feel so intimidated that they requested not to be identified by name. For the same reason, many of them were hesitant to turn to the authorities with their concerns. Some of the neighbors said that if the camp's residents ever suspect any of them of snooping around the premises – for example if a car drives across the road near the camp too slowly – they treat the "spies" to a hail of shouts and threats.

One neighbor says, "We see children, little children, running around the camp at times when they should be in school. We constantly hear shots being fired and there is no question that military training sessions are being conducted there. These people are armed and dangerous."

Another resident says that people in the area are frightened to pass anywhere near the camp. "These people own the hill and they know it. There is nothing we can do short of moving away. The problem is that we can't even do that, because no one wants to live near the camp and we are unable to sell our houses."

"These people need to be investigated," says one neighbor emphatically. "They are training for war, either for war here in the US or against our troops in foreign countries. Who is allowing such activities to occur in our backyard, and why?"

Islamberg has been growing and thriving for over 20 years, and none of its activities have, until recently, raised any questions by anyone in the government. With the exception of the neighbors who suffered in silence, no one has said anything about the fact that an Islamist group is overseeing a training camp here in the United States. Even the September 11 attacks were not enough to bring Islamberg under scrutiny. The only reason the camp has recently begun garnering the attention it deserves is that the government has, in the last few years, uncovered and preempted several planned terrorist attacks that were to be executed by "homegrown terrorists" i.e. American citizens. The list includes the planned attack at JFK airport that, had it been successful, would've brought

unimaginable destruction in its wake, and more recently, the thwarted attack in Times Square in Manhattan.

Though none of the planned attacks were successful, they nevertheless caused a wave of worry and fear to sweep across the country. Many speculated that Islamist terror groups have come up with a new method of achieving their diabolical goals – recruiting terrorists from within America itself. As a result, private organizations and investigators began keeping an eye on Muslim centers in the country, including Islamberg. Eventually, pressure began mounting on the government to investigate the goings-on inside these camps.

After being presented with clear evidence that there was more to Islamberg than meets the eye, the FBI and other federal and state agencies finally realized that an investigation was called for.

The Terror Group Heading Islamberg

The Jamaat ul-Fuqra group was established by the radical Pakistani religious leader Mubarak Ali Gilani in New York in 1980. As soon as he arrived in the United States, he began delivering inflammatory sermons in a Brooklyn mosque. Gilani, who



Radical Pakistani cleric Mubarak Ali Gilani who founded "Jamaat ul-Fuqra" in Islamberg.