

The Hunt For Red Mercury

The ISIS Bid to Obtain a Doomsday Bomb

“Red mercury”—the two words that have terrified millions of people around the world. Studied by a legendary nuclear scientist who worked on the Manhattan Project, the mysterious substance is said to be the most dangerous explosive in the world. A single bomb containing red mercury can destroy entire cities, if not countries. Did ISIS succeed in laying hands on this terrifying material? The answer will send a chill up your spine... and bring a smile to your face.



Aryeh Cohen

Abu Omar stood there with his head held high. For a young Arab Muslim, it was an unprecedented honor. None other than “the Crocodile” (Timsah in Arabic) had called him in person to arrange a meeting.

The Crocodile is one of the high-ranking commanders of the infamous ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) terror network. Like so many other murderers around the world, the shadowy figure preferred to be known by a frightening pseudonym to add to his persona.

The Crocodile was at the height of his power. Just days before, ISIS fighters had overrun the Syrian town of Tal Abyad near the Turkish border and raised their black flag over the area. The Crocodile was appointed security chief for the area, which in the language of ISIS meant that he was sole dictator of the city.

Now the Crocodile sent a special summons for the young Abu Omar. He had an important task for him. The order came directly from ISIS headquarters in Mosul.

A Syrian youth whose thin, diminutive beard hints at his radical tendencies and his sympathies for ISIS, Abu Omar has wandered since the outbreak of the Syrian Civil War in 2010. More than once he has gone to sleep hungry while bombs exploded around him. The noise from the exchange of fire between the government and rebel forces was his lullaby.

His situation improved drastically when ISIS entered the war, however. As a radical Muslim he danced with joy when ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and his band of terrorists began spreading over vast territories in Iraq and Syria. The newly created caliphate not only boosted his morale—the historic caliphate is supposed to “restore the times of glory of Islam” and rule over the world—it also presented Abu Omar with an opportunity to turn his situation around. The new Islamic State was his chance to fill his pockets by dealing in weapons and illegal materials for ISIS.

After years of living in the streets and witnessing death, Abu Omar faced dangerous tasks with a reckless courage born of desperation. Thanks to his youthful appearance,



Abu Omar quickly developed the reputation as a successful weapons dealer who helped smuggle weapons for ISIS.



Just days before their meeting, ISIS conquered the Syrian town of Tal Abyad and raised its black flag.

he did not arouse suspicion. He glided smoothly across borders and supplied ISIS with the materials it needed, all the while earning himself a nice income. It was during this period that he adopted the name Abu Omar, one of many fake identities he uses to cover his tracks.

Above all, Abu Omar earned the reputation as an outstanding weapons dealer and smuggler. He delivered weapons as well as other vital supplies needed to support normal day-to-day living in the new “country.” These included bulletproof vests, radios, cell phones, medical instruments, satellite antennas, SIM cards and more.

Whenever leaders at ISIS were in urgent need of some equipment available only outside, they turned to Abu Omar. Sometimes the orders he received from ISIS bordered on the bizarre. On one occasion, they asked Abu Omar to obtain 1,500 silver rings. They wanted to etch the emblem of their terror



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