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New Zealand
Security Intelligence
Service
Te Pā Whakamarumaru

Security Intelligence Report | SIR

Report Date: 3 September 2021

Report No: DMS6-15-1197

Ahamed Aathill Mohamed Samsudeen conducts likely domestic act of ideologically motivated violence

Summary

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1. (S) On Friday, 3 September 2021 at approximately 1430hrs Ahamed Aathill Mohamed Samsudeen attacked members of the public with a knife at a local supermarket in Auckland, New Zealand. NZSIS currently assesses this attack was highly likely a faith-motivated act of ideological violence.
2. (S) Initial reporting indicates Mohamed Samsudeen acquired a knife at the supermarket and stabbed six members of the public. He was shot by New Zealand Police and was later pronounced dead at the scene.
3. (S) NZSIS assesses Mohamed Samsudeen highly likely acted alone.

Report Detail

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Background

4. (S) Ahamed Aathill Mohamed Samsudeen (DPOB: 16 April 1989, Sri Lanka) has been the subject of an ongoing NZSIS Counter Terrorism investigation since late 2015 due to his adherence to a faith-motivated violent extremist (FMVE) ideology, in particular his support for the designated terrorist organisation, Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).
5. (S) Mohamed Samsudeen has twice been assessed as mobilising towards violence, resulting in the disruption of his activities by the New Zealand Police, his arrest and incarceration. In 2017, Mohamed Samsudeen was arrested before highly likely attempting to travel to Syria to engage in militant jihad alongside ISIL with the goal of attaining martyrdom. s6(a)

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6. (S) We assessed it remained a realistic possibility that Mohamed Samsudeen would mobilise towards an unsophisticated act of ideologically motivated violence without prior warning.

Domestic act of ideologically motivated violence

7. (S) Initial reporting indicates that Mohamed Samsudeen visited a local supermarket alone on the afternoon of Friday, 3 September 2021. While at the supermarket he acquired a chef knife from the shelves and proceeded to attack members of the public, seemingly at random.
8. (S) Mohamed Samsudeen was under active surveillance by the New Zealand Police who intervened to neutralise the threat. He was reported dead at the scene.

NZSIS Comment

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9. (S) NZSIS currently assesses that Mohamed Samsudeen highly likely acted alone.
10. (S) Given Mohamed Samsudeen's previously assessed faith-motivated violent extremist ideology and history of mobilisation, NZSIS assesses it is highly likely Mohamed Samsudeen's attack was ideologically motivated.
11. (S) NZSIS will continue to provide updated intelligence and assessments as they become available. Should your organisation have any intelligence which may alter our currently assessment please contact us as soon as possible.

ENDS

NZSIS Contact: Intelligence Reporting Manager s6(a)

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International

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