

A CAIR-CAN press release issued in Washington provides the name of a US-based CAIR leader as contact to comment about a fire at a mosque in Canada

In 2000, a CAIR-CAN press release about a fire at a mosque in Surrey (British Columbia, Canada) was issued in Washington DC. In the communiqué, CAIR-CAN presented Ibrahim Hooper as its contact person. Journalists were asked to call Hooper in Washington DC (202-488-8787) to inquire about a fire that occurred in Canada.

Original address: http://www.caircan.ca/itn_more.php?id=A48_0_2_0_M

Web Archive:

http://wayback.archive.org/web/*/http://www.caircan.ca/itn_more.php?id=A48_0_2_0_M

This is one of many examples demonstrating the nature of the links between CAIR-CAN and its parent organization, Washington-based CAIR.

A page from the Washington-based CAIR's website archived on [Web Archives](#) (July 19, 2011) mentions that "Hooper has been with CAIR since its founding in 1994." He was identified in July 2011 as the Washington-based CAIR's National Communications Director.

In this 2000 CAIR-CAN's press release, CAIR-CAN is described as Washington-based CAIR's "office in Canada":

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), a Washington-based Islamic advocacy group with an office in Canada, is calling on national law enforcement officials to intervene and fully investigate both incidents as possible hate crimes.

A reproduction of CAIR-CAN's original press release follows.

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PRESS RELEASES

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OUR NEWS

BOMB THREAT TARGETS CANADIAN MOSQUE ON EID UL-FITR

Friday, December 29, 2000 12:00 pm

Same mosque burned in "suspicious" fire at beginning of Ramadan

(Washington, DC - 12/29/2000) - A Canadian mosque that burned in a "suspicious" fire just one month ago has now been the target of a bomb threat. According to a press release issued by the British Columbia Muslim Association, an anonymous caller phoned local police threatening to bomb the Surrey Masjid (mosque) in Surrey, British Columbia.

Mosque officials suspect that both incidents could be tied to the recently- completed Muslim fast of Ramadan. The fire occurred just prior to the month- long fast and the bomb threat came as Muslims were celebrating the Eid ul-Fitr holiday (Dec. 27) at the end of Ramadan. Since the November fire, members of the mosque have been worshipping in a house and tent next door to the gutted building.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), a Washington-based Islamic advocacy group with an office in Canada, is calling on national law enforcement officials to intervene and fully investigate both incidents as possible hate crimes.

"We are seeing a disturbing pattern of events targeting Muslims in British Columbia. It is important that local officials seek help from their colleagues at the national level to make sure the perpetrators are apprehended," said Dr. Sheema Khan, director of CAIR's Ottawa, Canada, office (CAIR CAN).

Attacks on mosques and Islamic centers have occurred across America. Just recently, vandals targeted the Islamic Center of Southern California. In June, a gunman attacked a Memphis, Tenn., Islamic center as worshipers gathered for morning prayers. In May of last year, a would-be terrorist was arrested after fleeing from the area of a mosque near Denver, Colo. The suspect's car was found to contain loaded weapons and bomb-making materials.

As early as 1994, a nearly completed mosque in Yuba City, Calif., burned to the ground in what was ruled an arson attack. In 1995, arson destroyed a Springfield, Ill., Islamic center. And in 1996, a suspect was charged for involvement in an arson attack on a Greenville, S.C., mosque. Acts of mosque vandalism have occurred in Michigan, Indiana,

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New Jersey, Colorado, Illinois, and Georgia. Last year, an arson attack severely damaged a Minneapolis, Minn., mosque.

There are an estimated six million Muslims in America, 500,000 in Canada and some 1.2 billion worldwide. Islam is one of the fastest growing religions in North America and around the world.

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CONTACT:

Ibrahim Hooper at 202-488-8787; Email: cair1@ix.netcom.com

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CAIR-CAN - P.O. Box 13219 Ottawa, Ontario K2K 1X4

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