



A defense analyst is warning against overconfidence that joint U.S.-Pakistan efforts against al-Qaida in the Afghan-Pakistan border region have been successful.

"There needs to be caution against over-optimism in relation to President Obama's strategy to disrupt, dismantle and defeat al-Qaida and their allies," Tim Pippard, consultant to IHS Jane's Strategic Advisory Services, said Monday, "especially in light of continued attempts by affiliate groups and individuals to target the U.S. homeland."

"We shouldn't necessarily view al-Qaida only in the context of its ability to organize and execute attacks," Pippard said. "Assessment must also take into account the group's ability to operate as a strategic visionary and agenda-setter for the broader pan-Islamic movement."

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