



## **“Shabaab al-Mujahideen” Announces New Campaign of Terrorism in Somalia**

**April 5, 2008**

### **“Important Announcement from the General Headquarters of the Shabaab al-Mujahideen Movement: Declaration of a New ‘Praiseworthy Terrorism’ Campaign in Response to the Tyrant America.” Dated April 5, 2008**



*[This document is the translation of an Arabic-language communiqué obtained by NEFA investigators and translated into English by ceifIT LTD on behalf of the NEFA TerrorWatch subscription service. On February 29, 2008, the U.S. State Department designated Shabaab al-Mujahideen (a.k.a. the Mujahideen Youth Movement (MYM) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization and as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist. According to the U.S. State Department, the Shabaab movement includes “a number of individuals affiliated with al-Qaida. Many of its senior leaders are believed to have trained and fought with al-Qaida in Afghanistan.”]*

“...Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds; may peace and prayers be upon our prophet, Mohammed, his followers, and friends. O’ Muslims, you are aware of the occupation and destruction that Islamic countries are facing at the hands of the hostile crusaders led by America. They are waging systematic campaigns against anyone who strives to implement the rulings of Allah or help the oppressed, or who calls for the return of stolen rights. The infidels have allied with each other in order to frustrate every Islamic trend, and in order to accomplish this, they have seized control of the material wealth and intellectual potential [of the Muslims] – may we not suffer in the same way as our brothers from the Taliban movement.”

“In response to the announcement of the U.S. State Department regarding the designation of the Shabaab al-Mujahideen Movement as an international terrorist organization, we clarify the following points:”

“1.) This decision should not come as a surprise to anyone, but is merely a confirmation of previous events and the fruit of a legacy of accumulating hostility on the part of the crusaders. America has played a major role in Somalia from the fall of Siad Barre until now. We have not forgotten how they [the Americans] killed thousands of our sons and brothers in cold blood in 1993, after the courageous mujahideen chewed up 18 soldiers from their special forces during the so-called Operation ‘Restore Hope’. But Allah caused them to despair and they ended up empty-handed in broad daylight, dragging their tails behind them in shame. After that, they conducted similar actions through their Ethiopian collaborators and with the help of warlords, who sold their religion for a small portion of this world (rather than the afterlife). They conducted an ugly intelligence war through organizations loyal to them which hid behind false humanitarian slogans—but Allah has enabled us to block many of these conspiracies. Later on, the situation evolved once again into them paying criminal and killer gangs enormous amounts of money in order to conduct a war in the name [of America], and to round up Islamic clerics and



activists in order to send them to secret American prisons. Allah was with his army and helped them against the aggressors, and then America got involved with all their power...”

“2.) We, your brothers from the Shabaab al-Mujahideen Movement, were also not surprised by this decision. Rather, we regard it as a part of the same American foolishness that we have witnessed previously. Not even for one day did we expect America to show justice regarding Islamic affairs. To the contrary, we believe that most of the tragedies that have befallen the Muslims originate from America. As we are a part of the Salafi-Jihadi Islamic trend which opposes the dominance of the crusaders and the aggression led by America, we do not find it unlikely that America would add us to the names of these other honorable men, for whom we are honored to join, at the bottom of their list.”

“3.) We know full well that we are not being targeted because we are Somali, but because we are advocating the concept of jihad in its broadest sense—which does not recognize fanciful boundaries or so-called ‘international legitimacy.’ This is why we emphasize that setbacks and struggles will not dissuade us from continuing in this path, and will not retreat a single inch on our path. For us, the jihad is not a choice driven by the interests of particular individuals or factions—instead, it is doing the work of Allah, like praying and fasting. We swear to Allah that we will not mislead anyone about this divine project, and we will only repeat what our late Shaykh Abu Musab al-Zarqawi once said: ‘we will not compromise on our religion, we will not change the way of jihad, and will not be satisfied with compromises. Between us and the infidels, there is only the sword of Islam, which we will use until Allah judges between us and the infidels...’”

“4.) This designation shows us how righteous the path is which we have chosen for ourselves, because—in its true sense—jihad is meant to cause the crusaders to lose sleep and forms a stumbling block frustrating their colonial plans and their projects of extermination. We are ordered [by Allah] to terrorize those conquerors who have profaned our honor and desecrated our dignity... We knew that this path was not a bed of roses, and that it would be exhausting, long, and strenuous. We will continue to follow [this path], Allah willing, no matter how grim matters may become nor how difficult the hardships will be. As long as our jihad continues to strike terror in the hearts of our enemies and causes them anguish, we will look upon this as a good sign...”

“5.) This American behavior shows the close alliance between the crusaders everywhere—and that they will spare no effort to extinguish the fire of Allah. As the Messenger, peace and prayers be upon him, has told us, they are of one party, and here they are now—rushing to eliminate our nation, wipe out our enterprises, and to undermine our position. We fight the Ethiopian crusaders on the territory of Somalia as American spy planes patrol above in the Somali skies and their warships bombard our villages without any moral inhibitions. This is yet only more evidence of the intimate connection between them and the Ethiopians...”

“6.) We stretch out our hands to our mujahideen brothers in Somalia, who refuse to accept ‘half solutions’ nor the separation of our religion [from the state]. We call upon them to assemble, gather, and unite under the slogan of al-Tawheed and obey the word of Allah, exalted be he... Uniting together today is only logical and is of immediate necessity. Here there are—all the infidel nations, which are fighting us and plotting to deceive the world in order to destroy our nation and our culture. They wish upon us only destruction and disasters. We will not be able to overcome them while divided into factions and groups, but only with unity and by helping out one another... We need to join forces in our jihad and to brace ourselves to confront the enemies of our religion...”

“7.) We reassure our Somali people and tell them that the era of surrender and disgrace is coming to an end and we need only be patient a little while longer. We fight to bring back the glory of our ancestors and our eternal strength. We will build a land for Islam and a country for the Quran...”

“We would also like to send three messages to our beloved Islamic nation outside of Somalia:”

“1.) To the other mujahideen included in the American terrorist list: O’ mujahideen brothers! By Allah, you are in a condition which is to be envied. May you be successful in your jihad and may you frustrate the enemies. May Allah help you... Please know, our beloved ones, that we are going through a crucial stage, in which the oppressors have crossed the line. That is why we call upon you to round up and join forces under one leadership and a uniform flag in order to frustrate the enemies of Allah and execute his command... As a result, our jihad will be stronger and more harmful to our enemies. Struggle with all your power in order to accomplish this divine and noble duty. The hopes of the Islamic nation are pinned... on you—feel the weight of this responsibility and do as your Islamic nation expects of you...”

“2.) To the mujahideen whose political leaders are asking them to soften the jihad—leaders who wish to compromise between jihad and pleasing America: O’ mujahideen brothers! You spend your blood to please Allah and not to please [individual people]. These crusaders will not call you to fight in jihad nor to seek the judgments of Allah. Any attempt by your political leaders seeking to please those infidels, or to obtain recognition from them, is jumping from the frying pan into the fire. The thing that we fear the most is to be [divided from our comrades]... Make the enemy miss this opportunity and unite with your brothers—and say it loud, so that it will ring out, that your highest ambition and that all you seek is the pleasure of Allah; and, that you will remove the oppression from your nation, regardless of the consequences...”

“3.) To our Islamic nation all across the world: here are your sons and loyal soldiers who write the most wonderful stories of self-sacrifice—abandoning every precious thing they have in order to shake you from your state of desperation and degradation, attacking the enemies of the religion, and battling with the slaves of the cross. As for those of us in Somalia—despite the trials and tribulations which we have suffered—you will only witness from us the sword smiting the necks of our enemies and fountain of fresh cold water for our Muhajireen and Ansar brothers [i.e. foreign fighters]. The hour of victory is approaching, the countdown had begun, and good news has appeared on the horizon across the major cities...”

“In conclusion, we say to the patron and protector of the cross, America: the wager that you made on the Ethiopians, Ugandans, and Burundians in Somalia was a failure, and history has proven it. Allah willing, we will attack them, roam [through their ranks], cut off every path they will take, chase away those who follow them, and fight them as insects and wolves. [We] will give them a taste of the heat of flame, and throw them into hell. In response to your arrogance and pride, we announce the beginning of the ‘Our Terrorism is Praiseworthy’ campaign, which will last for two months starting from the release of this message. We will not discuss any of the details, but you will see its impact in the skulls of your haunting dogs before you will hear of it...”