



## Statement from the Taliban April 20, 2009

### Statement from the Taliban “Why Are the Americans Closing Down Jihadi Media?” April 20, 2009



*[This document is the transcript of a statement obtained by NEFA investigators on behalf of the NEFA TerrorWatch subscription service. This transcript is provided for educational and informational purposes only. On April 18, 2009, The Wall Street Journal reported that “the Obama administration is starting a broad effort in Pakistan and Afghanistan to prevent the Taliban from using radio stations and Web sites to intimidate civilians and plan attacks...As part of the classified effort, American military and intelligence personnel are working to jam the unlicensed radio stations in Pakistan’s lawless regions on the Afghanistan border that Taliban fighters use to broadcast threats and decrees. U.S. personnel are also trying to block the Pakistani chat rooms and Web sites that are part of the country’s burgeoning extremist underground.”]*

“The American newspaper, *The Wall Street Journal*, quoting sources in the Pentagon, wrote the day before yesterday that those Internet sites and radio stations that, according to them, belong to or are attributed to the Taliban or are supporting them would be closed down.”

“The Pentagon has reasoned that these Internet sites and media sources not only have no legal licenses, but also make a large number of people side with the Taliban and incite them against America and its allies, and in doing so further weaken the Kabul administration.”

“First of all, it should be made clear that the Americans for the past four to five years have made widespread and continuous efforts to silence and foil these websites and stations that they now wish to close down. This is not a new step or a fresh effort when they say they will disrupt the Taliban media sources or broadcasts.”

“In the past they have spared no effort. The Americans should feel really ashamed that despite their huge material strength and superiority they are [so] afraid of a few local Internet sites and FM radio stations, which cannot operate outside a 20 km radius, that the Pentagon intervenes and regards these limited and few sources as a great threat.”

“This is despite the fact that the Americans alone in Afghanistan or outside it have started hundreds of radio and television stations and thousands of newspapers, publications and magazine to spread poisonous, false, and hateful propaganda against the Taliban and to hide huge casualties and losses inflicted on them every day by the Taliban so that no publication, news agency or website could give the exact number of American losses of life and material on a daily basis in various parts of Afghanistan.”

...

“Those world organizations and institutions, which claim to uphold the freedom of expression, idea and pen, should condemn or foil this inadmissible American effort or at least seriously denounce it if they are really committed to these claims and slogans.”