



Communiqué from "Army of al-Mustafa" April 15, 2008

"Army of al-Mustafa: A Letter from Abu Muslim al-Mosuli, Field Commander in Nineweh Province." Dated April 15, 2008



[This document is the translation of an official Arabic-language communiqué obtained by NEFA investigators and translated into English on behalf of NEFA's TerrorWatch subscription service. This translation is provided for educational and informational purposes only. For more information on Abu Omar al-Baghdadi and Al-Qaida's "Islamic State of Iraq", see "State of the Sunni Insurgency in Iraq: August 2007" (<http://www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/iraqreport0807.pdf>).]

"In the name of Allah, Most Merciful, Most Compassionate... we thank Allah and offers prayers for his prophet Mohammed, family, and friends..."

"Everyone knows that after the occupation forces entered Iraq, many jihadi factions were formed. Their goal was to defend Islam and to raise the banner of al-Tawheed. Allah has blessed us with [participating in] the jihad and, thus, we established our group. With the blessing of Allah, our group has evolved into a recognized organization in the jihadi field; but, we will not be discussing how our group has developed in this letter."

"Ninewah province is considered our focus of operation; we have a sweeping representation there, and a weaker one in the rest of the provinces. Inside our province, we work side-by-side with our brothers from the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI). After the establishment of the ISI, we pledged our allegiance to them in order to bring victory. We took this step so that we would not be lumped together or associated with the so-called opposition groups [against the ISI]. During that time, the Army of al-Mustafa and the ISI acted as one organization. We consulted one another, shared equipment, and collaborated in our operational zones. We had an open communication channel [with them]."



"However, something has occurred that we never expected would happen: some new leaders from the ISI in Ninewah province have begun to harass our fighters during their operations. The situation escalated to the point of the ISI threatening one of our field commanders with death for no apparent reason. Therefore, in order to prevent any internal battles, we kindly ask our Shaykh Abu Omar al-Baghdadi, the commander Shaykh Abu Hamza al-Muhajir, the mayor of Mosul, and anyone involved in the matter to intervene in order to help resolve it. We see no justification for the acts carried out by the brothers from the ISI—they have blackmailed us, threatened us, and seized the assets of the Army of al-Mustafa."

"We are confident in the wise leadership of the ISI in Ninewah province, and we know that they do not tolerate such actions. We were told that one of their commanders has become extremely upset with current events and he has promised to bring those involved to justice. Yet, that same

group of people who aim to spread internal battles among us have sabotaged our attempts to communicate with the ISI leadership. If it is indeed the case that such sabotage comes at the direct orders of Shaykh Abu Omar al-Baghdadi or his Minister of War Shaykh Abu Hamza al-Muhajir, then we shall withdraw all our fighters from our operational zone in order to prevent the spilling of Muslim blood. Otherwise, we ask our brothers from the ISI to communicate with us. We also ask the mayor of Mosul to directly intervene to resolve this situation. Allah is our witness that the ISI brothers have besieged us on all sides, and they threaten any individual who donates money to us with kidnapping or death. How can the leadership of the ISI be content with such behavior?”

“Currently, in the city of Mosul, we are facing even bigger problems—such as the collaborative efforts of the infidels and apostates in Ninewah province aiming to cleanse the area of terrorism. We decided to post a short letter describing what is happening to us after our brothers stopped providing us financial support and because there has been no investigation of the ISI transgressions against us. We hope by posting such a letter, it will eventually reach some of the decision-makers in the ISI... We thank almighty Allah almighty, and offer prayers for his Prophet Mohammed, family, and friends.”