



## **AQIM: “Concerning the Martyrdom of the Hero Abu al-Laith al-Liby”**

**February 3, 2008**

### **Al-Qaida’s Committee in the Islamic Maghreb: “A Statement Concerning the Martyrdom of the Hero Shaykh Abu al-Laith al-Liby.” Released on: February 3, 2008**



*[This document is the translation of an official Arabic-language communiqué obtained by NEFA investigators and translated into English by ceifit LTD on behalf of the NEFA TerrorWatch subscription service. This translation is provided for educational and informational purposes only. For more information on Al-Qaida’s Committee in the Islamic Maghreb and its relationship with Shaykh Abu al-Laith al-Liby’s Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG), see the NEFA report “Two Decades of Jihad in Algeria: the GIA, GSPC, and Al-Qaida”: <http://www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/nefagspc0507.pdf>.]*

“...Muslims today are part of a new dawn and a blissful day. The jihad has begun to thrive and prosper, and it has arisen in various regions of our beloved Islamic nation. The malice of the unjust Christian-Jewish attack upon our land and Islamic nation in Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Lebanon, Pakistan, and beyond has intensified the burning fires of jihad in the souls of young Muslims. At the same time, our jihad has become clearer, more focused, and more challenging. Our sacrifices, the depth of our patience, the power of our faith, and our contempt for our enemies have all increased. A new generation has appeared in the Islamic nation that races towards death, and competes to achieve martyrdom in order to exalt the words of Allah and to resist their aggression. [This is] a generation that prefers the hereafter rather than the mortal existence of this world. Allah has granted victory to [this generation], and has enveloped it in his kindness and care.”

“This generation has put forward a select group of extraordinary commanders who have overwhelmed the entire world with their military sophistication, their bravery on the battlefield, and their desire to die as martyrs. Among them was our dear brother, the commander Abu al-Laith al-Liby, may Allah have mercy on him. Abu al-Laith left Libya, escaping with his religion and emigrating to Allah, and his star shone bright in the skies of Afghanistan. He truly became one of the lions of Islam and a hero—so much so that the mere mention of his name causes the Americans to tremble. He loved this religion and vowed to dedicate his life to serve it. He shunned this mortal world and its people, and to Allah he was without fault. He joined [the jihad] while others stayed silent, and he progressed forward while others remained behind. He stayed faithful to the jihad in Afghanistan while others neglected their religion and allowed their support for their brothers to wither. Indeed, he was cut from the same cloth as Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, may Allah have mercy on him. Thus, it is not a surprise for us to learn that there was a great friendship and admiration between these two men—they loved each other for their shared missionary work in the cause of Allah, and their jihad in the cause of Allah. Nor is it a surprise if we see how Allah has honored them both with martyrdom in the same way and at the hands of the same enemy.”

“As we offer our condolences to the nation for the loss of this hero, we joyously announce to you that the signs of victory—whose bricks are forged from the blood of our commanders and the corpses of our martyrs—are growing near. There is no doubt that the death of Abu al-Laith al-Liby has saddened the Muslim faithful and has inspired delight in the hearts of their enemies. But,

nonetheless, defeat and woe be unto the polytheists! Do they not realize that his blood, or the blood of any of our martyrs, is merely added fuel for the convoy of Islam? And that his corpse and the corpse of any of our martyrs is merely added fertilizer for the blooming tree of the caliphate?”

“...And you, martyr of the Islamic nation, we think of you fondly and so does Allah... Allah delayed your moment of death until you were able to participate in the merging of the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group with the Al-Qaida network. This was a wonderful and blessed step, and we ask Allah to vindicate you... on Judgment Day. And we ask Allah to reward you in paradise. You have bid us farewell, just as the battle has nearly ended in an awful defeat for our enemies. The days in the [White House] of the wretched president Bush—who several years ago was attacking us, marauding, threatening us, and deluding his people into hoping that victory over Islam and the Muslims was near—have become numbered, and it has begun to seriously dawn on him that he has led his country to the edge of financial collapse and a total military collapse. Conversely, the Shaykh of the mujahideen, the lion of Islam Usama Bin Laden, is growing stronger every day and his influence is spreading to the east and to the west. We are certain that many infidels and polytheists will realize the hard truth—that whoever tries to defeat the righteous will be vanquished, and whoever tries to fight Allah and his messenger will surely be defeated.... Allah has promised us that he is still supporting his faithful servants, especially the mujahideen...”