



**Excerpt from “Al-Qaida in Yemen” Official Magazine
“Sada al-Malahim”
January 12, 2008**

**“Al-Qaidat al-Jihad Organization in the Arabian Peninsula / Jund al-Yaman Brigades”: “Sada al-Malahim” Magazine #1: “An Interview With One of the Most Wanted Men: Abu Hummam al-Qahtani (Part 1).”
Released: January 12, 2008**



[This document is the translation of an Arabic-language magazine obtained by NEFA investigators and translated into English by ceifIT LTD on behalf of the NEFA TerrorWatch subscription service. On two separate occasions—in March and September 2008—the U.S. Embassy in Sana’a was the target of suicide bombers, killing a total of more than 18 people. On April 8, the U.S. government ordered non-emergency diplomatic employees to leave the country due to concerns about “possible attacks by extremist individuals or groups against U.S. citizens, facilities, businesses, and perceived interests.”]

“Sada al-Malahim is pleased to present an interview with one of the most wanted men sought by the [Saudi] and [Yemeni] governments. This interview will consist of two parts. We are thankful to our brother for responding to us. We ask Allah to grant us success and to lead us on the right path. The brother Abu al-Ala al-Hadrami conducted this interview with him:”

[Abu al-Ala al-Hadrami]: “May peace be upon you, Allah’s mercy and his blessings.”

[Abu Hummam al-Qahtani]: “And you too.”

[Q]: “May you please introduce yourself to the reader?”

[A]: “...I am Nayif bin Mohammed al-Qahtani, the father of one child named Mohammed. My father passed away and my mother is still alive, may Allah grant her a long life by his bidding. I am from Bilad al-Haramain [Saudi Arabia]. I have completed high school. My profession is serving as a mujahid, praise and mercy is due to Allah.”

[Q]: “How and when did you choose the path of jihad?”

[A]: “I have thought about jihad since I was little, because we are a generation that was born during a time of oppression, humiliation, and tragedy for the Muslims. I was born when Palestine was occupied, and Afghanistan was occupied by the Russians in those days. After that came Kashmir, and then the tragedies in Bosnia, Chechnya, and elsewhere in the Muslim world. It is Allah alone whose help can be sought. Particularly, the moment when the first drop of blood was shed from our brother Abu Hajer al-Muqrin [a.k.a. Abdelaziz al-Muqrin] and his brother, may they rest in peace—their blood was a guiding light for us and it is a fire that will burn the enemies of Allah, if Allah wills it.”

[Q]: “Why have you chosen the jihad in the Arabian Peninsula, rather than going to Afghanistan or Iraq, for example?”

[A]: “This choice was made for two reasons. First and foremost, for a religious reason, as the Almighty has said: ‘Fight those disbelievers who are near to you, and let them find harshness in



you', and to obey the order of Allah's messenger, may Allah's peace and prayer be upon him, as he said: 'Drive out the polytheists from the Arabian Peninsula', and... to purify the Peninsula and the cradle of [Islam] from the desecrations of the polytheists and heretics. The second reason is a military rationale: if the enemy's interests in the Arabian Peninsula were devastated, his access to our petroleum interrupted, and the oil refineries put out of order, this would cause the enemy to collapse—and they won't merely be forced to withdraw from Iraq and Afghanistan, but moreover would face a total collapse. If [our enemy] were to be struck hard in various places, then he would scatter, turn around, and flee forlornly from the land of the Muslims, with his tail between his legs..."

[Q]: "What is the secret of your arrival in Yemen? Do you carry any news with you?"

[A]: "First of all, there is one [united] land of the Muslims, and it does not acknowledge the narrow borders drawn by the colonialists with the cooperation of our treacherous rulers. Whether I am in the Hijaz [western Saudi Arabia], in Yemen, al-Shams ["Greater Syria"], or another Muslim country, I am in my land among my people. However, the true secret of my arrival in Yemen is the search for good military preparation... and obeying his messenger, may Allah's peace and prayer be upon him, as he said: 'the power is in the shooting, the power is in the shooting, the power is in the shooting.' Regarding the news [I am carrying]—well, yes, there is a bit of news, which I spreading throughout the land of the Hijaz and al-Najd [central Saudi Arabia], and across the Muslims in the direction of their prayers [Mecca]. The news is, 'Purify my land, O' Muslims, isn't Palestine enough?"

[Q]: "How reliable is what was said in the media, that you are the sponsor of the operations of Safar and Al-Dabbah¹, and did you participate in these two blessed operations?"

[A]: "What was reported in the media, that I am the mastermind behind the Safar and Al-Dabbah operations, is a deceptive lie. I only wish that I could say it was me. However, the success of these operations and the scant intelligence gathered by the government of Yemen has caused it to lie. What I learned afterwards is that this is habitual for them, may Allah denunciate them. Regarding my participation [in the attacks], yes, I played a role—when I cried 'Allahu Akhbar' upon hearing news of them. Allah knows I was very pleased with them. A man can achieve with the intention of his heart what he has been unable to achieve with actions."

[Q]: "Was there ever any meeting between you and the courageous martyr, Ali Dawhah, and what is your opinion of this hero?"

[A]: "Yes, there were meetings between us, on more than one occasion. I discovered a man who was one of a kind; I discovered nobility and a valuable gem; I discovered the most decent characteristics, dignity and bravery, that most people lack. It is Allah alone whose help can be sought. When I met him for the first time, he asked me, 'Are you the brother from the Peninsula?' So, I replied, 'Yes.' He said to me, 'May Allah bless you', and then we chatted. I asked him jokingly, 'Why didn't you go to Iraq?'—and he responded, 'because the jihad is going on right here.' ...After some time passed, and following a discussion, I was stunned to learn that the Shaykhs of the Abida tribes had turned him and his brothers in [to the authorities]. My response was, 'They may be big heroes in the jahilia [era of ignorance] but are cowards in the eyes of Islam.' Then, he was put under tremendous pressure and they asked him to surrender—but he refused. I will never abandon my brothers and surrender the jihad and the desire for martyrdom—he became very noble in my eyes... The Al-Abida Shaykhs sold him and his brothers out for the cheap price of a few coins, and they gave permission to the troops of 'Al-Aswad Al-Ansi' [the Yemeni government] to enter... So, Ali Dawhah and his brothers... fled on the morning of that memorable day, but the forces of betrayal and treachery surprised them in an attack and besieged them—hoping to win victory over them. But how can such people be imprisoned? So [Ali] hastened to his weapons and called to his brothers... He and his brothers fought a heroic battle. They were only four, while their enemy counted more than three hundred fighters. This is a substantial difference in strength; nonetheless, Allah was with them. The battle grew very intense, and they suffered increasing numbers of dead and wounded—despite relying upon the support of three helicopters. Such cowardice and fright, how similar they are to the Jews..."

¹ On November 7, 2006, Al-Qaida's Committee in Yemen issued a statement claiming responsibility for a wave of suicide car bombings that took place on September 15, 2006, targeting the Safar oil refineries in Marib and a Canadian-Yemeni oil storage facility in the port of Al-Dabbah.

[Q]: “How credible are the rumors indicating that brother Saleh bin Hadi al-Waili played a role in the killing of brother Ali Dawhah and his brothers?”

[A]: “May Allah forbid this evil... for he was acquitted of this accusation... Those who spread these rumors have weak hearts and poor insight. The first of these people is [Yemeni President] Ali Abdullah Saleh—this ‘Aswad Al-Ansi’, this sly fox who uses women’s tricks. But even women, in Allah’s name, are much better than that. May Allah put shame upon him, [President Saleh] said to one of the brother’s families, ‘I am not your enemy; your enemy is Saleh al-Waili.’ Our enemies have only spread these rumors for the purpose of dividing our ranks and spreading doubts amongst our brethren. However, his effort has sunk down the drain, mercy and grace is due to Allah. How ugly this lie is, and the one responsible for it. If this man is a liar, and he knows that he is a liar, then what kind of man is he really? What kind of pitiful soul does he carry within him? If this man is not worthy to tend seven sheep, than how [can he have power over] a free Muslim people, proud and armed as well? ...If an apostate collaborator who has betrayed his religion and his country comes bearing news, then know that he is a sinful liar and charlatan!”