



“Saad Bin Abu Waqas Brigades” Criticize Abu Hamza al-Muhajir November 6, 2008

The Saad Bin Abu Waqas Brigades in Iraq: “Offering a Word of Truth.” Released: November 6, 2008



[This document is the edited transcript of an Arabic-language audio recording 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 Abu Hamza al-Muhajir and the “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 the Compassionate and Merciful. Praised be Allah, Master of the Worlds, and prayer and peace be upon our lord Mohammed, Imam of the mujahideen, and upon his family and companions and whoever he has called to Judgment Day...”

“We have examined the content of an interview ascribed to Shaykh Abu Hamza al-Muhajir, chief of the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI), concerning the Mujahideen Army and their commander in an interview that was published on 25 Shawwal 1429 [October 24, 2008] over several jihadi Internet forums. He stated therein that the commander of the Mujahideen Army has agreed to an alliance with the Awakening movements, and that some of those loyal to the [Mujahideen] Army have joined them [the Awakening Councils] and have taken part in fighting against the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI). Shaykh Abu Hamza further described all of the [Iraqi insurgent] factions as being corrupt entities, and that there are no exceptions. Furthermore, we have heard the reply of the Mujahideen Army to Shaykh Abu Hamza al-Muhajir, following the hadith of the Prophet, may Allah bless him and grant him salvation: ‘He who defends the honor of his (Muslim) brother, Allah will secure his face against the Fire on the Day of Resurrection.’ We consider it to be our solemn duty to explain and clarify [these events] and to offer helpful advice and honest guidance—because wisdom and justice demand that we not remain silent, amid fear of rebuke and reproach before Allah.”

“Thus we say: the brothers from the Islamic State of Iraq have, more than once, accused the mujahideen at large of being infidels, hypocrites, and apostates. This issue is dangerous and serves only the interests of the enemies of the Islamic nation. It weakens the mujahideen, igniting discord and conflicts amongst them, and it inspires treacherous decisions concerning the permissibility of [spilling] blood and [seizing] money, and other such matters which derive from apostasy. It spreads anarchy within the mujahideen, causing them to carry arms and fight amongst themselves—especially when coming from the commanders of the jihad and their leadership. It is not a legitimate policy and not even remotely related to the proper jurisprudence of jihad. The mujahideen have become the enemies of the Islamic State of Iraq before Allah, so just imagine how much worse it is for the rest of the Muslim community.”

“As brothers, we advise them to abandon their habit of looking down upon others and to abandon the principle of ‘whoever is not with me is against me.’ Allah knows that the only reason that we wrote this message is for the satisfaction of Allah, and to give sincere counsel to our brothers out of regards for the jihad and the mujahideen, and so that we will join with our brothers from the other jihadi factions together in the same trench. From an angle of justice and fairness, we speak these words of truth:”

“1.) We know that the commander of the Mujahideen Army has stated as a legal opinion that whoever fights Al-Qaida is an apostate seeking the aid of the Christians. He does not permit his men to fight [Al-Qaida] even if they have not sought aid [from the Christians]. We are present on the battlefield, we are close to both sides, our territories are interlocked, and nothing can set them apart from one another. What we know about [the Mujahideen Army] is that they have been patient for a long time, and they have maintained the unity of ranks. They have not sought to create discord, and they called upon others to abandon internal disputes and devote their total efforts to expelling the occupiers.”

“2.) The position of the Mujahideen Army towards the Awakening movements is known to anyone who is concerned with the issue of jihad in Iraq. They have published books about it, and also pamphlets like ‘Who Washes Away Disgrace From the Tribe?’ and ‘The Sufficient Answer’, which established a legitimate and clear position—namely, that the Awakenings are an American project and have become apostates to their religion. The mujahideen in Iraq have benefited much from studying these issues, and these matters played a part in strengthening them...”

“3.) This is all in regards to their official, declared position. Yet, equally in real terms, it would be the greatest injustice to say that most of them belong to the Awakening movements. We can testify that their practical position on the battlefield is in accordance with their official platform, which was considered by the Awakenings as a declaration of war against them. Thus, the Awakening movements have declared war against the Mujahideen Army by targeting its symbols, betraying them to the occupiers, killing some of them, and revealing their arms caches to the Christians. They are still a target of the Awakening movements and they did not compromise in their religion—we ask Allah to strengthen us and them.”

“4.) Describing all of the [insurgent] groups as corrupt factions without exception is an accusation and crime against the mujahideen. By Allah, many of them are righteous, pious men who fought so that the word of Allah shall be supreme. They have sacrificed their blood on behalf of Allah and they are still walking on the path of the martyrs.”

“Therefore, we express our astonishment and surprise at the repeated targeting of the mujahideen and the doubts raised about them without any proof—at a time when we should love them, pray for them, help them, forgive their lapses, steady them when they stumble, and think well of them. They are the dearest men to Allah, and the most honored in his eyes. We call upon the brothers from the Islamic State of Iraq to refrain from abandoning the mujahideen, targeting them, and placing them in the circle of the infidels, apostates, and hypocrites without any evidence or proof. We believe that this action will only support the interests of the enemies of Islam and jihad. We hope that everyone will avoid misinterpreting the actions of others to have more import than what they actually carry. Let us think well of the intentions of those who present righteous signs. We pray to Allah for guidance and success for everyone, and may it be the concern of all of us to raise high the word of Allah...”