



## **Shebaab al-Mujahideen Denies Threatening Pirates in Somalia November 24, 2008**

### **“Shebaab al-Mujahideen Media Wing: An Important Clarification Regarding the False News Broadcast by Al-Jazeera.” Released November 24, 2008**



*[This document is the translation of an Arabic-language video recording obtained by NEFA investigators and transcribed on behalf of the NEFA TerrorWatch subscription service. On February 29, 2008, the U.S. State Department designated Shabaab al-Mujahideen (a.k.a. the Mujahideen Youth Movement (MYM)) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization and as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist. According to the U.S. State Department, the Shabaab movement includes “a number of individuals affiliated with al-Qaida. Many of its senior leaders are believed to have trained and fought with al-Qaida in Afghanistan.”]*

“In the name of Allah, Most Merciful and Most Compassionate... Everyone is aware of the attempts by the crusader Western media to malign the mujahideen and to falsely accuse them of crimes that they did not commit. These media outlets directly aid the occupying crusade forces against Muslim nations. It is unfortunate that some of the media outlets in the Arab world have also followed the path of the crusader media that is fighting against the mujahideen. These outlets used to operate under a banner of equality, professional honor, and transparency when broadcasting their information.”

“Over the past two days, the Al-Jazeera network has published a completely false report, in which it alleged that a spokesman for the Shebaab al-Mujahideen Movement confirmed that the movement has threatened the pirates [in Somalia] and has offered guarantees for the release of the Saudi oil tanker. We question the accuracy of this report and demand that Al-Jazeera identify their unknown source. Did Al-Jazeera even try to confirm such reports with our media office, which is well-known to them?”

“Another awkward issue is the unsolicited involvement of Al-Jazeera in the jihad in Somalia. Al-Jazeera has stood side-by-side with the anti-Islamic media as it has covered the battles against the crusader forces. Everyone is familiar with the detrimental role Al-Jazeera has played by spreading false news about negotiations between those who surrendered from the Somali Hizb-ut-Tahrir and the apostate government. Al-Jazeera conducted a live broadcast covering this staged event, even though it actually had little interest in the real events taking place there. We do confirm that our media wing has indeed provided Al-Jazeera with some video footage and an interview with Sheikh Mukhtar [Robow] Abu Mansuur. However, all this material was simply placed into the archives of Al-Jazeera. Why is Al-Jazeera putting such emphasis on the information that it obtained from an uncredentialed spokesman, and yet totally ignoring an interview done over 2 years ago with our official spokesman? Also, Al-Jazeera has falsely invented communiqués that it claimed were the wills of the martyrdom attackers [i.e. suicide bombers] responsible for the operations in Hargeisa and Busaso—yet, we have never published any statements regarding the afore-mentioned attacks...”

“Finally, we inform you that the official spokesman for the movement is Shaykh Mukhtar [Robow] Abu Mansuur. The movement has an official website ([www.kataaib.net](http://www.kataaib.net)) which carries our official statements. Additionally, we have an official wing that manages all of our audio, video, and

written releases. That wing is known as the ‘Sada al-Jihad Media Center’ and it belongs to the Global Islamic Media Front (GIMF).”

“Thus, we deny responsibility for any statement published by any source other than the ones cited above. We ask all news channels to confirm [the accuracy of] their sources prior to any future broadcasts. We are closely following media coverage of global events in general—and, particularly, the current events taking place in Somalia. We shall never permit [ourselves to be subject to] any false accusations, and we know well how to respond to those responsible for them.”