



TRC TWW Report

Terror Web Watch Report

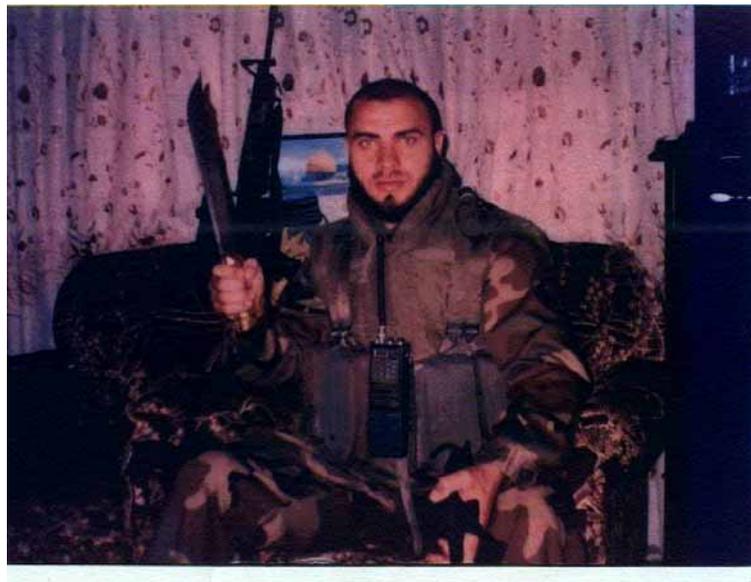


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- Item 1: Abu Musaab al-Zarqawi's speech for a Muslim holiday published on video with English subtitles
- Item 2: Advice and guidance on getting to Iraq (Country Profile) through Syria (Country Profile)
- Item 3: Insurgents, terrorists instructed on how to use invisible ink for secure communications
- Item 4: Video Available: 'All of Religion Will Be For Allah,' from al-Qaeda in the Land of the Two Rivers (Group Profile)
- Item 5: A guide to interrogation for the Mujahideen



Graphics: A Syrian fighter in Iraq, known as 'Abu Sajed,' poses for the camera, a picture of Jerusalem's al-Aqsa mosque in the background. According to the report in Item 2, some Syrian men living in the border villages of the Deir az-Zoor province spend one month fighting in Iraq, one month at home, another month in Iraq, etc



Orientation/Introduction:

Please review the introduction to the Terror Web Watch at [Intel Report](#).

Item 1: Abu Musaab al-Zarqawi's speech for a Muslim holiday published on video with English subtitles

A speech allegedly given by Abu Musaab al-Zarqawi on the occasion of the Muslim holy day Eid al-Adha (January 21, 2005) has been released on the Internet in the form of a sophisticated video with English subtitles. The video opens with a quote from the Palestinian al-Qaeda ([Group Profile](#)) member Abu Qatadah: 'This religion, o brothers, for it to have a state, for it to exist, for it to have authority, it needs blood! It needs limbs! It needs sacrifice!'

The video runs about an hour and 18 minutes, for most of which Zarqawi speaks in Arabic while English subtitles, pictures of himself, and scenes from Iraq appear on the screen. The address is dedicated to Adam al-Mojjati, a 12-year old who was killed with his father Kareem al-Mojjati, an experienced al-Qaeda terrorist, during a shootout with Saudi security forces early this year ([WAR Report](#)).

Most of Zarqawi's speeches contain dual messages, aimed at two audiences. The English subtitles are an indication of the extent to which Zarqawi continues to attempt to communicate with the public in the United States ([Country Profile](#)) or western countries. He clearly considers himself the political representative of the Iraqi insurgency, and, even more grandiose, in this video, he tries to speak as a representative of the international community of Muslims, or Umma.

The video is available from TRC upon request.

Item 2: Advice and guidance on getting to Iraq ([Country Profile](#)) through Syria ([Country Profile](#))

A number of Internet postings and statements have appeared to coach aspiring Mujahideen on the best way to get into Iraq. According to discussions on a variety of message boards, the path through Syria has become difficult, as Syrian authorities have begun to arrest young men suspected of using Syria as a thoroughfare to the fight. Last week, an alleged Syrian Jihadist put out a statement urging people to find an alternate route, as Syrian security, police, and intelligence were cracking down severely on suspected Jihadists (See last week's Terror Web Watch ([Intel Report](#))).

The following is the latest article providing advice on the best way to get to Iraq through Syria, posted on the al-Firdaws Web site, which, because it is accessible by user name and password only, tends to contain more frank and detailed discussions than some of the open sites.

The recurrent messages in the postings and articles TWW has seen so far on the subject indicate that Syria is increasingly cracking down on insurgents trying to go to Iraq. It remains possible to get into Iraq over the Syrian border, but success is only likely with the help of human smugglers and guides. According to this posting and others, the Syrian government has recruited mosques and hotels throughout the border region in their struggle to decrease the flow of insurgents. At the same time, the availability of guides and poor border families willing to aid the Mujahideen suggest that a new industry of human smuggling may be burgeoning on the border.

A good number of the men who go to fight in Iraq have some money, especially if they are from the Gulf – they have enough to travel, to leave their families, if they have them, without a regular paycheck. These men likely represent a small fortune to the neglected villagers and urban poor in one of Syria's poorest regions. Even if Syrian efforts to stem the flow of insurgents are better than half-hearted, it is difficult to stop a new industry in a desperate area that has been so long neglected by the Syrian regime. As the Syrian regime continues to crack down, illicit services to help men get across Syria safely, obtain the things they need to fight in Iraq, and cross the border will, theoretically, all become more valuable and, thereby, more profitable.



This particular posting is geared specifically toward Gulf Arabs. In understanding the following translation, a map of Syria and its provinces may be helpful: ([Link](#)).

[begin translation]

The New Way to the Land of the Two Rivers

I know the Syrian-Iraqi border region well, by God, because I stayed there for some time and got to know many of the men of this region, and also because of the relations of some of my relatives to some of the families in these areas. I hope that some of the brothers can benefit from this writing.

In the Name of God,

The Syrian-Iraqi border region is about 500 kilometers long. The northern section is around 230 kilometers. It is divided into two sections, the northern most of which is where the Kurds live on both sides of the border, and in between the countries in this northern part is the Tigris river. This is an area that extends about 100 km, and it is a difficult area to cross. I advise that you do not try it. South of there, for around 130 kilometers of border, there are border guards every 10 kilometers. Arab tribes live there in small settlements; their lifestyles resemble those of Bedouins. From the Syrian side, it is the al-Haskah province, and from the Iraqi side, it is the Mosul province. It is an easy area in which to cross over, but only if you have a trustworthy guide who comes from the Iraqi resistance.

The central area of the border is part of the Deir az-Zoor province on the Syrian side and the al-Anbar province on the Iraqi side. This is where most of the Mujahideen cross, for the following reasons:

- 1) The people of this region have close relations with the people on the Iraqi side. There is a network of tribes that straddles the border in this area.
- 2) The people of this region are sympathetic to the Mujahideen. Some of them have sons who are fighting the Jihad with their money and their souls among the different fighting groups in Iraq. Some of them fight for a month, then return home to their families for a month, then fight again.
- 3) The people of this region have a good understanding of the religion, and hold onto Arab customs and traditions.
- 4) The people hate the ruling *Nusayri* [derogatory term for the Alewites, the Muslim sect of the ruling regime] regime. Many of them declare it infidel.
- 5) The people are connected to the tribes in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait – like the Shamir, al-Bikara, al-Akidat, and al-Bu Kharis tribes which have their origins in these countries. Some of [the people in this region] have even obtained these [Gulf country] nationalities.
- 6) The people of this region feel that the regime in Syria ignores them. About 60 percent of Syrian exports are produced here, including petroleum, wheat, barley, and cotton, but the people of the province do not get anything in return from the state and live in utter poverty.
- 7) The people in the Deir az-Zoor province number about 1.2 million. About 350,000 of them work in Gulf countries. You should try to get to know them in your countries and ask them about the best ways to cross the border, and the people who can help you do it.
- 8) There are some villages on the very line of the border. In fact, the Syrian city of al-Bu Kamal, with a population of 125,000, is not at all far from the Iraqi border. It is about 3 kilometers away, and you can walk the distance in a half hour. On the other side of the border is the heroic Iraqi city al-Qaim, with a population of around 50,000 people. The Iraqi resistance controls the entire city.
- 9) There are a lot of clashes with the American forces on the line of the border. This keeps them busy and allows Mujahideen on both sides to cross over.
- 10) The border villages fall on both sides: some of the villages are divided into an Iraqi half and a Syrian half.
- 11) The men of this area speak an Iraqi dialect that is very close to the dialects of the Gulf.

As for the southern part of the border, it falls within the province of Homs on the Syrian side and the al-Anbar province on the Iraqi side. It is uninhabited, desert terrain which is filled with military installations and weapons depositaries and some of the undeclared Syrian political prisons. This is a region filled with Syrian military and intelligence, with few people living on either the Syrian side or the Iraqi side. Be warned; it is impossible to cross here.



Advice to the brothers who want to cross the border:

- 1) Do not trust any Imam working in any mosque in Syria. They are all working for the Syrian government which attacks the religion of God. It is impossible for the people to worship in a mosque in Syria that is not aiding Syrian intelligence. They insult God and the Prophet, and present daily reports to the Syrian apparatus of oppression. Many people are thus arrested and accused of trying to cross the border to fight Jihad in Iraq. It is the Imams who report on them or turn them over to Syrian intelligence. For example, there is the story of the famous Mufti of Aleppo Ahmed Hassoun. These are the worst attackers of the Salafi Jihad movement which has begun, thank God, to spread the fire in Syria.
- 2) Shed your Salafi appearance – do not grow your beard or wear your clothing short.
- 3) Take with you things that will mislead – such as tapes of music, cigarettes, etc.
- 4) Your trip should be dedicated to two things: the first is to explore and observe, and the second is to find a way to cross the border, locating the people that can help you, and going to Deir az-Zoor, the city near the border with Iraq. It is recommended that you go [to the city] by car instead of plane, in order to cut down on suspicion. Do not take a lot with you. Your excuse will be that you are going there for tourist purposes and to fish on the Euphrates. Take with you some items for [fishing]. It is best if you have someone else with you. This is a very cheap area – you can stay 15 days in a four star hotel for 300 hundred American dollars. The price of a tank of gasoline is 10 dollars, and food is also very cheap here.
- 5) Limit your dealings with the people in Deir az-Zoor, Miadin, al-Ashara, and al-Bu Kamal as much as possible.
- 6) Stay away from the young Salafi men in the mosques, for they are under surveillance in the mosques. Try to meet them elsewhere.
- 7) When you enter Syria, do not cooperate with the request from the police to register with them. This is their custom, but for a long time now the government has ordered them not to stop or request this from any vehicle from a Gulf country.
- 8) Do not violate or ignore any security rules.

Do not forget, brother Muslim, your brothers the Mujahideen in Iraq need money, so bring some money the second time you go, once you have found the way to cross. Some of the Iraqi Mujahideen brothers have been forced to sell their weapons because of the shortage of money. Do not forget either that you are seeking heaven, the golden base. May God keep you.

[Additional comment, appended by another member of the forum:]

An important point: the Syrian intelligence requires the managers of hotels in Deir az-Zoor and all the border area cities to present a list of names of foreigners staying at the hotels. Therefore, I recommend that you stay away from the hotels, especially the luxury or moderate hotels that are three or four stars. The best thing to do when you get to the city is ask around about offices that rent apartments. There are a lot of them all over. Then, pretend to the office that you are a tourist that wants to stay for a month or a month and a half, and that is why you would rather rent an apartment than stay in a hotel.

[end translation]

Links: Saudi Arabia ([Country Profile](#)), Kuwait ([Country Profile](#))

Item 3: Insurgents, terrorists instructed on how to use invisible ink for secure communications

A document circulating Jihadist Web sites contains recipes in Arabic for creating and using invisible ink as a method for transmitting messages. Zarqawi's group has reportedly begun using such methods to transfer messages, since housing raids and captured insurgents have yielded valuable intelligence. The possible use of invisible ink or disappearing ink has important implications for military and law enforcement officials collecting and analyzing materials collected from homes, vehicles, and the pocket litter of captured insurgents.



Item 4: Video Available: 'All of Religion Will Be For Allah,' from al-Qaeda in the Land of the Two Rivers ([Group Profile](#))

The 46-minute video contains some of the group's better camera work and film effects. It opens with scenes from the "Crusaders" assault on Iraq: bombings, civilian casualties, destruction of mosques. Insurgent attacks follow: car bombings and scenes from the bombing of the UN, which a narrator announces is a vehicle of the Jews'. Excerpts from a speech by Zarqawi and 'Jihad anthems,' make up the soundtrack. As an indication that the group carefully watches the western media, a report from Human Rights' Watch, entitled, 'The New Iraq: Torture and Ill Treatment of Detainees in Iraqi Custody,' is featured in the film, and excerpts are read from it in Arabic. The video is available from TRC upon request.

Item 5: A guide to interrogation for the Mujahideen

Called, 'How to Face an Interrogator,' this 25-page manual, as explained in the translation below, claims that it is a shorter version of a book called, 'A Philosophy of Confrontation for the Captive,' which was written by Palestinians who had been through the experience help their kinsmen prepare for an arrest an interrogation to stave off a confession. This manual was published on the Web site of al-Qaeda's affiliate in Algeria ([Country Profile](#)): the Salafi Group for Preaching and Combat (GSPC) (www.jihad-algerie.com) ([Group Profile](#)).

An excerpt of the manual is translated below. A second excerpt will appear in next week's Terror Web Watch. The guide is a good example of the plethora of different training materials that are now available on the Internet, and also, like Item 2 on crossing through Syria, demonstrates how the Internet is being harnessed by the Jihadist movement to arm disparate groups with years of cumulative knowledge and experience. The phenomenon suggests that individual isolated groups can access a level of expertise and make themselves stronger and savvier than they ever would have been able to do in an un-'wired' world.

[begin translation]

[dedication page:]

'Facing the Interrogator'

My dear brother:

The brothers in the Center for Mujahideen Documentation present to you this book, for whoever may benefit from it.

Remember, an interrogator can move every part of your body except your tongue. No power in the world can force that to move. Do not let your tongue give you away.

Prepared by:

Ali Hatar

A condensed version of the book 'A Philosophy of Confrontation for the Captive.'

The Palestinian Arab people in the occupied lands have long, cumulative experience with the interrogation rooms, the detainment cells, the prisons of the Zionist occupation, and the prisons of the tyrants of Arab and foreign countries. They began to compile their experiences at the beginning of the Arab-Zionist conflict, and they continue to do it today. Also added to this expertise are the experiences of the detainees and hostages of the Lebanese resistance in southern Lebanon.

The Zionist occupation follows a racist, fascist, Talmudic creed in its interrogations of detainees. It uses different means to obtain information from them. The goal is to maintain their condemnation by directing accusations, then using the information that they get in the interrogation to get the detainee to reveal secrets about his companions, so that they can attack others involved in the struggle and conquer the Palestinian people.



In order to document the [experiences] of the resistance, a group of hostages who were experts in interrogation and prisons issued a book a few years ago called *A Philosophy of Confrontation for the Captive*. The group described what they had gleaned and come to understand, and summarized their experiences. They clarified the different interrogation styles that the detainees were exposed to in the prisons of the Zionist enemy, in an attempt to arm others in the struggle with knowledge about interrogation and its different types. This was to help others stay strong and face off against the interrogators, in order to protect the revolution, the resisters, the Mujahideen, and others. They would be helped by the knowledge of what would face them in the interrogation rooms, and an explanation for the best way to deal with the interrogators, so that they would not be surprised by anything that might push them to break down.

There was no distributing this book in the markets, because the occupation authorities collect any number of things that go into the markets. Because the book was 250 pages long, not everyone could read it. So we studied it and condensed it down, so that any insurgent could benefit from it, no matter what his level of education, and for the benefit of people who may not have time to read the entire book. We kept the most important aspects of the book only.

We want to warn the militants and the Mujahideen that the Zionist enemy will resort to means other than what we describe here, considering its regular practice of and creativity in methods of torture and interrogation. But we assure that reading these simple pages will help the detainee understand what will happen around him during an interrogation, and also help him understand what will happen to him as much as possible, so that he may protect himself from breaking down.

It is important to point out that we did not copyright this or exercise any proprietary rights, and neither did the writers of the original book, so that anyone involved in the struggle could copy it and pass it around to others who may benefit from it. This is what we want.

In order to distribute this work, anyone who can photocopy it should do so to facilitate its circulation. We have undertaken this effort as a service to the militants and Mujahideen, to protect them and to protect the Intifada and the revolution, on the first anniversary of the start of our new, brave Intifada.

No doubt that detainees in other countries will also benefit from the experiences of their brothers the Mujahideen in Palestine: those who are fighting off the stings of Infidels and Apostates in the Arab nations specifically and in the rest of the world generally.

Steps of the Arrest:

They have come suddenly upon your house or place of work, or have arrested you in the street. If they ask you to sign anything, do not do it. Do not validate as yours anything that they take from you or from the place from which they take you.

They will shove you into the car violently, and they may stretch you out under their legs. They will strike you with pistols, and thrash you. They will cover your eyes and tie your hands until they bring you to the place of detainment. Inevitably, they will also curse at you and insult you.

They will turn you over to the side responsible for your interrogation, and they will loose your hands temporarily and uncover your eyes. They will give you new clothes, and confiscate and inspect your things. Immediately after that, or after a little while, they will cut your hair, and then put a board on your chest and take a picture like any ordinary criminal. Then they will take your finger prints.

They will put your fetters back on you, and move you to a cell with beatings and curses. They will make you walk long distances to get to the cell; they will disorient you by taking you in elevators and up and down stairs repeatedly. This is to confuse you. They may even take you around in small circles. You will not be able to tell because you are blindfolded.



They will strike you and insult you before they begin a variety of kinds of interrogations. You will hear the cries of some of the detainees, and they will uncover your eyes so that you can see in some of the rooms the instruments of torture.

They will not begin your interrogation on the first day, nor the second, unless they are in a hurry for something. Time loses all value there. There is only slowness. Do not let it affect you psychologically, maintain the hardness that pushed you to participate in the struggle of your people.

The beginning of the interrogation:

They will lead you out of the cell blindfolded, with your hands tied, accompanied by soldiers or policemen. They will push you savagely. They will purposely take you past areas in which you will hear the sounds of torture and pain and beatings. It is your right to eat, drink, and have an escort, but these rights are not guaranteed and they will deny you of them. They will use them to put pressure on you, to depress you. You must stay strong.

Do not be afraid of your cell; it is, relatively, a safe place. In it you are sequestered away from the world and the news. You will hear what news they want you to hear only. They will want you to believe that you are alone, but you have to remember always that your friends outside have not forgotten you, and that the revolution goes on, and that your family and friends are depending on your strength, and that they are doing the impossible to save you.

Then the interrogation begins. A fighter for a belief, alone, strong, isolated, possessing no weapons except belief that the fate of his people, his family, and his cause are relying on his ability to resist: this is you. You are facing off against an employee, who awaits his paycheck at the end of the month. Most of the time, he has no belief or cause. His power extends only to the walls of his fortress. He is armed with thousands of soldiers who surround him. His power is delineated, and he cannot surpass those limitations: this is the interrogator.

The place: the interrogation room.

The Interrogation and Interrogators:

Do not write down your testimony. This is the beginning of rebellion and facing them down.

All information, no matter how small or trivial it may seem to you, is important to the interrogator.

Remember that the interrogation will end, no matter how long it seems. It will become a memory. It is up to you to make it end without confession or surrender.

In the first meeting, the interrogator will have gathered some information on you. This does not mean that he knows everything, although he will try to make it look like that.

He does not have any information on your psychological state, but he will try to understand that by your behavior and your reactions. He does not know you, but this is one of the goals of the interrogation: to understand your personality. He needs this knowledge to build his plan of attack, to break down your self confidence, and to bring you to a state of submission and cooperation. He does not know if you will remain strong or break down, so give him an idea of your strength and your hardness from the beginning, and do not give him anything that will benefit his plan.

Do not forget that the man interrogating you is only an employee, and he considers your interrogation a routine affair. His power comes from his position, not his character. In comparison, your strength comes from your belief in your cause. You fight for your cause, not for money. Therefore, be stronger than he, for you are, in fact, the stronger.

Be assured that the struggle between you and the interrogator is not settled until the end of the interrogation, and that his decision depends on your not breaking. If the interrogator succeeds, it means that he controls you, your people, and your land.



Always remember that the interrogator cannot ever be trusted, and is not merciful. He is dirty and an enemy, but he can switch appearances and styles...

[end translation. More in next week's edition]

Links: Lebanon ([Country Profile](#)), Israel ([Country Profile](#))

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