



TRC TWW Report

Terror Web Watch Report



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Graphic: Ayman al-Zawahiri, the right-hand man of Osama Bin Laden, has reappeared in his second video taped speech since the London bombings.



Orientation/Introduction:

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

Item 1: New video by Ayman al-Zawahiri lambastes elections, occupation of Afghanistan ([Country Profile](#)), reaffirms responsibility for the London bombings ([Terrorist Incident](#)).

Clips from a new video from al-Qaeda's ([Group Profile](#)) Number Two man, Ayman al-Zawahiri, was aired on *al-Jazeera* on September 19. In these clips, Ayman al-Zawahiri emphasizes al-Qaeda's responsibility for the "blessed raid" against London, as he refers to the attacks of July 7. The *al-Jazeera* correspondent notes that the tape was produced on the fourth anniversary of the September 11 attacks ([Terrorist Incident](#)), but he does not say how he is aware of that information. *Al-Jazeera* aired only clips of the video, not the complete video. This tape, like the last Zawahiri video, bears the mark of the al-Sahab foundation, sometimes referred to as al-Qaeda's video production company. The clips that were aired are translated below.

[begin translation. Zawahiri speaking:]

What did they achieve in Afghanistan? They drove the government of the Taliban from Kabul, to take up positions in the villages and in the mountains, where the real power in Afghanistan lies. Northern Afghanistan and Kabul became a region of chaos, looting, thievery, rape, and drug trafficking. [These are the things that] flourished under the United States' occupation.

Then they held elections, the biggest farce of all. The outer edges of the country are in the hands of highway robbers and warlords, where international observers, or international false witnesses, cannot, even if they wanted to, cover more than a tenth of the constituencies. where moving the [ballot] boxes takes 15 days under the warlords, the highway robbers, and the occupation forces, where any resistance, or anything resembling resistance or objection is met with bombardment, missiles, the burning of villages, and the murder of hundreds of people.

After this, they obtained false witness from the UN. The UN did not observe anything except at some constituencies that were [put on] like plays in some cities. This is an example of the hypocrisy of the UN, which they claim is a symbol of international legitimacy.

While the UN objected, for example, to elections in Zimbabwe because the time given to vote was not long enough, it remained completely silent in front of the elections in Afghanistan, which were held under the terrorism of the warlords. Ballot boxes were kept by the thieves and the collaborators of America for fifteen days. No one knew anything about [what happened to] these [ballot] boxes until they reappeared at the ballot counting centers.

While the UN mourns those killed and injured in Darfur and sets up an international tribunal for war crimes that occurred there, it remained completely silent in front of the tragedy of one million Iraqi children who died because of the embargo on Iraq, the embargo from which UN employees and the son of Kofi Annan profited. The UN has admitted this. The UN was recently forced to release some reports on the scandal, the odor of which had spread.

[Scene breaks to al-Jazeera's correspondent, who comments on the recording. Returns to Zawahiri]

The blessed raid on London is one of the raids which the Qaeda al-Jihad group had the honor of carrying out against more than one hundred years of British Crusader haughtiness and British crusader aggression against the Islamic Umma, against Britain's historic crime of the establishment of Israel, and against Britain's continuing transgressions against Muslims in Afghanistan and Iraq.

In the wills of the brothers, the heroes, the knights of Tawhid –may God have mercy upon them, take them into paradise, and accept their good deeds – who carried out the London raid, there can be found lessons the Islamic



Umma in general and to the Muslims in Pakistan and the West specifically. These lessons demonstrate the need to disavow the tyrants and expose the deceit by the evil [Islamic] religious leaders who conceal a large part of the Shari'a for the sake of small, earthly benefits.

This blessed raid and others like it have exposed the true, hypocritical face of western civilization, which celebrates human rights and freedom only as long as they are in its interest and it benefits from them.

Since the London raid, the British government has begun to put out a new set of laws which reveal Britain's ugly, colonial face and exposes the true condition of its freedom as a freedom of animosity against Islam. Britain's freedom is tolerant enough to accept Salman Rushdie, who recently wrote an article in The Times urging Muslims to conform to Western civilization. He raised doubts about God and the Quran, and he urges Muslims to accept the values of the West, like homosexuality.

However, [Britain's] freedom has not tolerated to accept Sheikh Abu Qatada, who [Britain] arrested with nine others on the same day, after signing an agreement with Jordan and Pakistan to extradite those they wanted to them. Surely though, those who will be extradited to those [countries] will be subjected to torture, possibly murder.

[Breaks to comments from the al-Jazeera correspondent, returns to Zawahiri]

[There can be] no reform, except by Jihad in the way of God, and every call for reform that is not based on Jihad, sentences itself to death and failure. We have to understand the nature of the battle and the nature of the fight. Our enemies will not recognize our rights without Jihad. May no one be misled by what happened in Georgia, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, and other countries like them. They were transformed to what America wanted, to what [America] urged and paved the way towards.

The Americans will not permit any Islamic government to take power in the heart of the Islamic world unless it is a conspirator with them, as is the situation in Iraq currently. Is it not the United States which is sending the detainees from Guantanamo and Baghram to Egypt and Jordan to be tortured by those regimes which the United States asks to respect human rights?

The brother Ibn al-Sheikh al-Libi [Ibn al-Sheikh the Libyan] was carried into a grave. He was taken from Baghram to Cairo, to the state investigation agency, where he was brutally tortured, detained for a year, and then returned to Baghram once again. This is an example, and there are thousands of other cases.

[Breaks to al-Jazeera correspondent, who says that, in parts of the clip not aired, Zawahiri discusses the situation in Iraq further, accusing Bush and Blair of "hiding from their people." The correspondent said that he also discussed Pakistan and the Palestinians.]

[end translation]

Links: Iraq ([Country Profile](#)), Israel ([Country Profile](#)), Pakistan ([Country Profile](#)), Kyrgyzstan ([Country Profile](#)), Georgia ([Country Profile](#)), Ukraine ([Country Profile](#)), United States ([Country Profile](#)), United Kingdom ([Country Profile](#)) Jordan ([Country Profile](#)), Egypt ([Country Profile](#)), Zimbabwe ([Country Profile](#))

Item 2: Abu Musaab al-Zarqawi backs down from "total war" against Iraqi Shia; Muqtada al-Sadr rejects his peace offering

Just days after Zarqawi called upon Sunnis to wage "total war" against the Shia in Iraq, "wherever they are, whatever their situation," the stance was amended by the head of al-Qaeda in the Land of the Two Rivers' ([Group Profile](#)) Sharia council, Abu Hamza al-Baghdadi, to exclude those Shia that are members of three different organizations opposing the occupation. Zarqawi's apparent attempt to incite civil war was, according to Arab news reports, vastly unpopular among Iraq's Sunni clerics whom they interviewed. The near immediate revision to the statement by the Zarqawi's network demonstrates the importance they set on responding to their constituency of Iraqi Sunnis and, possibly, radicalized foreign Arab audiences. It also compromises Zarqawi's



image somewhat, showing that his authority only reaches a certain point among his constituency: not everything he says, goes. The move and the subsequent revision reveal foolhardiness and some weakness.

The Arabic paper *al-Watan* reported that its sources close to armed groups in Iraq said that the retraction came as a result of the tension that Zarqawi's initial announcement of total war against the Shia created between his group and other armed resistance groups in Iraq.

In response to the news that those associated with the al-Sadr movement would be spared this attempt at eradication, the al-Sadr organization did not yield in its criticism. According to *al-Watan*, the spokesman for the group told the paper that this revision is "an attempt to divide the Shia people and sow discord among those of the same religion [Muslims]." Sadr's group told the Arabic paper *al-Hayat* unequivocally that "the Sadr movement considers the al-Qaeda organization and al-Zarqawi its greatest enemy," and "should he [Zarqawi] fall into the hands of the followers of Sadr, he would be ripped apart."

Item 3: Jihadists create their own Internet news broadcast channel

Global Islamic Media Front announces a "special media channel," called "Sout al-Khilafa," or "Voice of the Caliphate." The purpose of the channel, according to the statement, is to provide Islamic world news and analysis, apparently as an alternative to western news channels and the mainstream Arabic news channels like *Al-Jazeera* and *Al-Arabiya*.



A video downloadable from the statement announcing Sout al-Khilafa's inception shows a bizarre news cast. The style of the newscast is modeled on that of other television news casts: an anchor reads headlines aloud and clips of the news he is discussing appear on the screen. But in this case, the anchorman is wearing Jihadi garb, his face covered by a black mask, and he is holding a large rifle as he sits behind the desk, reading the news. The



news of this first broadcast focuses on Zarqawi's announcement of a war against the Shia and the effects of Hurricane Katrina. The announcer says that the Sout al-Khilafa news channel will be putting out a weekly news broadcast in this fashion.

Item 4: The Nets Bad Neighborhoods

According to terrorism researcher Michael Whine, "extremists and terrorist groupings who have entered cyberspace faster and more enthusiastically than others, are the Far Right, that is white supremacists and neo-Nazis, and radical Islamists." Whine penned these words in April 1999, a time when most Americans were just beginning to understand the potential of the Internet and knew even less about the dangerous power of terrorism.

However, recent evidence has made clear the degree to which extremists, particularly radical Islamists, rely on the Internet to disseminate propaganda, wage psychological warfare, recruit potential operatives, raise funds, train members and sympathizers, and exercise command and control. For example, as reported in the July 15, 2005 [Terror Web Watch](#), the CDLR/Al-Tajdeed previously provided its members a link by which supporters could donate money to support the organization, either to an account at a bank in London, or via Paypal.

White supremacists also use the Internet to raise funds, albeit through the tactic of fraudulent fundraising. As an example, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina a number of fundraising sites were established. Many of these sites stated that money raised would only be used to aid white victims of the Hurricane. The sites in question -- www.katrina-donations.com, www.katrinafamilies.com, and www.neworleanscharities.com -- were all created on



August 30, 2005 – one day after the Hurricane struck the Gulf Coast. The registration information of all of these sites listed Frank Weltner (see photo) as the administrative contact. Further investigation revealed that the same server, hosted by ThePlanet.com Internet Services Inc., housed www.christiandonations.org and www.donate-katrina.com. These sites were registered through Domains by Proxy, which is a registration service that protects the privacy of the registrant and administrative contact. It is, however, useful to note that the www.christiandonations.org and www.donate-katrina.com were created on the same date as the other fundraising sites that list Frank Weltner as the administrative contact.

The same server also hosts a number of other sites linked to Frank Weltner. In particular, www.jewwatch.com, www.ethnicsurvivalkit.com, www.christian-identity.com, and www.majoritynews.com. Each of these sites has its own flavor of white supremacist rhetoric. Moreover, Don Black, the administrative contact of the noted Storm Front white supremacist web site, was previously listed as the technical contact of Weltner's www.jewwatch.com.

It is instructive to note that ThePlanet.com is also home to suspect Web sites linked to other types of extremist groups. A number of radical Islamists Web sites are hosted at ThePlanet.com facilities. A number of these radical Islamist sites promote al-Qaeda's ([Group Profile](#)) brand of salafi jihadist ideology. For example, during a six month period in 2004, ThePlanet.com was home to the *Al Hesbah* Web forum – a noted outlet for al-Qaeda-inspired propaganda. The presence of these is not a surprise, as a brief study of ThePlanet.com's Acceptable Use Policy reveals that the only content deemed offensive is child pornography. Moreover, it should be noted the ThePlanet.com, like other Internet Service Providers, sells blocks of its IP addresses to third parties. In turn, these third parties act as downstream providers and resell their IP addresses to individuals in need of web hosting solutions. Therefore, in some cases, ThePlanet.com may be at least two levels removed from the actual Web site hosted at their facilities. This explanation is not meant as a justification for ThePlanet.com lax stance on extremist content, rather it is meant to illustrate the problems ISPs have in policing extremist content on the Internet.

It is also useful to examine the types of software utilized by both the white supremacist and radical Islamist. For example, the Storm Front Web forum runs vBulletin from Jelsoft. vBulletin is also a favorite tool of radical Islamists as evidence by its use of notable forums such as Ansar Al Muntada. It is possible that these groups



have common selection criteria such as ease of use, security, price, and portability and have, therefore, chosen the same software.

While there is no evidence that radical Islamists and white supremacists work directly together, it does seem that there is an indirect feedback loop between the two extremist groups. As shown, it appears that there are certain “bad neighborhoods” on the Internet that look the other way at extremist content. It is, therefore, possible that as one extremist group finds a permissive block on the Internet, other groups may take note and migrate their Web sites to the same location. Moreover, it is also possible these extremist groups use the same software because they have observed the other groups success in utilizing on their Web sites.

Item 5: Bagel shop opening in Riyadh raises ire

A bagel shop has allegedly opened in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia ([Country Profile](#)), immediately provoking accusations of Jewish infiltration into the capital of the Wahhabi country. A message carried on a number of Jihadist Web sites related a brief history of bagels and the different stories of their invention by Jews in central Europe (in one story, a Jewish baker makes them as a gift for an Austrian-area nobleman, in another they are invented in Poland to give Jewish women during pregnancy). It discusses how Jewish emigrants from Poland brought the bagel to New York during the nineteenth century. The purpose of this history is to demonstrate one clear point: bagels are Jewish food, and their spread into Saudi Arabia is unacceptable. While this may seem humorous, it is possible that bagel shops may become grouped in with US franchises as symbols in the Middle East of unwanted foreign infiltration. However, although there is a popular bagel shop in Beirut, Lebanon ([Country Profile](#)) on Bliss Street, such establishments are not known to have much of a presence in the Arab world.

Item 6: Video Available: Training at the Salah Addin Al-Ayubbi camp



This video shows scenes from a Jihadist training camp for young boys. It is not apparent where the camp is or if the tape was filmed recently. However, the tape was released this week. Salah Addin al-Ayubbi was the name of the Muslim hero of the defense against the Crusades, Saladin. Salah Addin is considered a symbol of the current resistance in Iraq, and comparisons are made between him and Zarqawi. The graphic shows scenes from the film clip, which is available from TRC upon request.

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