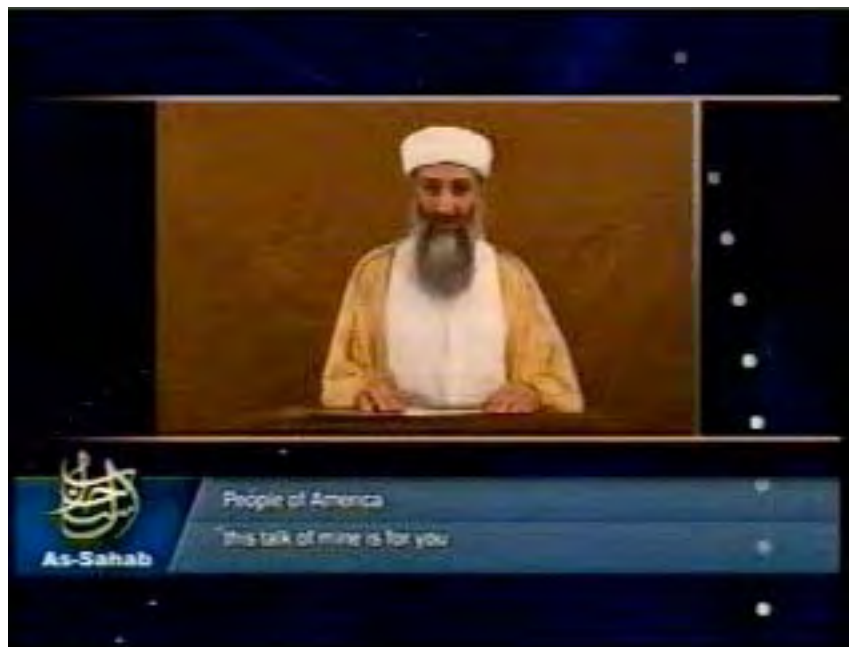


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al-Qaeda Warning Cycle Completion for CONUS (QWCC-CONUS)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“He who warns is excused.”
Ayman al-Zawahiri on 1 Sep. 2005

The 29 Oct. 2004 video Address to Americans from Osama bin Laden may mark the completion of al-Qaeda's warning cycle to the US before it executes a mass casualty attack in CONUS. Taking into consideration al-Qaeda's sense of time and that we are now 13 months past the 29 Oct. address, we are currently in a high threat period for an attack in CONUS based on analysis of al-Qaeda messaging and its correlation to targeting. The heightened threat period began in Oct. 2005, roughly 12 months after the close of the warning cycle, and will continue for the foreseeable future. The completion of the warning cycle opens the door to execution. Operational factors will ultimately decide the execution time of the attack.

ANALYSIS

Warning

On 1 Sep. 2005, Ayman al-Zawahiri said, “He who warns is excused.” This is a common sentiment in al-Qaeda. Frequently a period of warning to both Muslims, in order to protect them, and to the targeted group, in order to present them with an opportunity to change, occurs before an attack is executed.

The practice is widely held among groups connected or affiliated with al-Qaeda as well. It is most recently demonstrated in Jordan with al-Zarqawi and in Afghanistan with the Taliban. Al-Zarqawi gave his warning to Muslims on 18 Nov. 2005 when he said: “We

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do not forget to caution our Muslim brothers in Jordan to stay away from the following places: First, the military bases and airports at which the US and British forces are present, be they inside or outside cities. Second, tourist hotels in Amman, the Dead Sea, Aqaba, Petra, Jarash, and other areas that are frequented by the Jews and Crusaders. Third, all the embassies and consulates of governments that took part in the war on Iraq.” On the same day, Taliban spokesman Mullah Abdolhai Motmaen called the Afghan Islamic Press and said in part: “As the mujahideen of the Taliban's Islamic Movement have gained some defense capability and are becoming stronger, we hope that those countries which are not considered responsible for the occupation and invasion of our country, will prevent all their planes that are not part of international airlines from entering Afghanistan's airspace so that we will not attack them. It is difficult for our defense officials to distinguish between the planes of the enemy and friends.”

These warnings may come as much as a year or more before an operation with little or no mention again of them just prior to the attack as was the case with Osama bin Laden's European Truce Offer and the subsequent London bombings.

29 Oct. 2004 Video Address to Americans

The 29 Oct. 2004 video Address to Americans from Osama bin Laden may mark the completion of al-Qaeda's warning cycle to the US before it executes a mass casualty attack in CONUS.

The release of the video on al-Jazeera marked the first high-profile release of an al-Qaeda statement with English subtitles directly to al-Jazeera. While al-Qaeda produced videos with English subtitles had been around for a number of years they were never first given to al-Jazeera and received far less dissemination than the Arabic editions. The fact that the English subtitled edition was the first to be released and given to al-Jazeera indicates an additional effort by al-Qaeda to make sure its message reached the American people. This was also preceded in the weeks before by al-Qaeda's passing to ABC News of the first al-Qaeda statement by an American, Azzam al-Amriki, in English, further reinforcing al-Qaeda's efforts during Oct. 2004 to deliver a clear message to Americans.

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Bin Laden starts out by saying, “Peace be upon he who follows the guidance: People of America this talk of mine is for you and concerns the ideal way to prevent another Manhattan, and deals with the war and its causes and results.”

In his statement, Osama bin Laden placed responsibility for America’s actions on the American people as opposed to just its political leaders. He said, “In conclusion, I tell you in truth, that your security is not in the hands of Kerry, nor Bush, nor al-Qaeda. No. Your security is in your own hands.” This follows a consistent view from al-Qaeda that the average American is a legitimate target due to the fact that Americans elect their leaders and pay taxes in support of the US military. This is an important point for al-Qaeda because it provides a justification for mass casualty attacks against Americans.

He goes on to speak about his repeated warnings in interviews and statements in the run-up to 9-11 and expresses his amazement that four years after 9-11 there is still confusion about the causes and how the conditions, which brought about 9-11 remain today. He said, “But I am amazed at you. Even though we are in the fourth year after the events of September 11th, Bush is still engaged in distortion, deception and hiding from you the real causes. And thus, the reasons are still there for a repeat of what occurred.

Speaking about his repeated warnings prior to 9-11, he said, “This is the message which I sought to communicate to you in word and deed, repeatedly, for years before September 11th. And you can read this, if you wish, in my interview with Scott in Time Magazine in 1996, or with Peter Arnett on CNN in 1997, or my meeting with John Weiner in 1998. You can observe it practically, if you wish, in Kenya and Tanzania and in Aden. And you can read it in my interview with Abdul Bari Atwan, as well as my interviews with Robert Fisk.”

Absence of OBL Statements

As of 1 Dec. 2005 this video statement was the last released by Osama bin Laden and is also his last address to Americans, which he had been doing annually in Oct. since 2002. In 2005, there was no Oct. address to Americans made and as of Oct. 2005 we are now in the longest period without any public announcement from Osama bin Laden since 9-11.

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While there are a number of different theories as to why we have not heard any statements from Osama bin Laden, there is one that factors into this analysis. It is that Ayman al-Zawahiri has increased the frequency of his statements and new faces such as Azzam al-Amriki have been introduced in order to maintain al-Qaeda's public presence while Osama bin Laden waits to issue another statement until after the next large-scale attack in CONUS or in close proximity to it. We have no intelligence to conclusively state that this is the case but when examined in light of the other information, it is one valid possibility for why he has gone so long without issuing a statement.

Al-Zawahiri Final Warning

A month after the release of bin Laden's 29 Oct. 2004 address to Americans, Ayman al-Zawahiri appeared in a new video on al-Jazeera on 29 Nov. In his statement, al-Zawahiri said, "What remains is one last piece of advice for the United States [American people], which I must tell them, although I know that they will not take it: You should select one of two methods for dealing with the Muslims, either dealing with them on the basis of respect and exchange of interests or dealing with them as an open bounty, a looted land and humiliated sanctities. This is your problem."

Completion of Warning Cycle

The completion of the warning cycle would move al-Qaeda operational elements closer to execution of a planned attack, it is unclear, however, what correlation if any may exist between the completion of the warning cycle and any particular operational phase. Consequently, while the end of the warning cycle opens the door, it is uncertain how that relates to the actual attack timing. In the case of the truce offer to Europe it amounted to 15 months. Many factors subject to unpredictable variations will ultimately decide when such an operation would be executed. A primary driving factor will always be that if al-Qaeda does not feel the prerequisites are in place for a high degree of success then it will wait. Patience in furtherance of a more successful attack will generally always prevail and is a lesson commented on by al-Zawahiri. He wrote in his book "Knights Under the Prophet's Banner" in a section dealing with target selection of the importance of "The need to inflict the maximum casualties against the opponent, for this is the language understood by the West, no matter how much time and effort such operations take."

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In the case of the truce offering to Europe, Osama bin Laden offered the truce on 15 Apr. 2004 and gave European countries 90 days to act on it. When the 90 days came and went, many dismissed it as a baseless threat. Quite simply, al-Qaeda's warning and execution cycle extended beyond the span of current memory for Americans and many others. In statement after statement following the expiration of the offer, al-Qaeda made no mention of it. The lack of references seemed to reinforce the idea that it was a baseless threat and mere posturing on behalf of bin Laden. On 7 Jul. 2005, all of that changed with the attacks in London. More than half of the statements released by al-Qaeda in the months following the attack, stated repeatedly that no one should be surprised as bin Laden had provided fair warning in his truce offer. The period from the issuance of the truce to the execution of the London bombings was 15 months. During that time there was no renewed threat statement, no reiteration of the threat, nothing to indicate to those who felt it was baseless that the attack was approaching. Al-Qaeda charted its course, issued whatever public statements it felt were necessary and moved forward with its plan.

Now that 13 months has passed since the 29 Oct. warning, providing time for Americans to follow bin Laden's advice, much like the Europeans were given 15 months to act on their warning, we are in a heightened threat period for a mass casualty attack by al-Qaeda in CONUS.

Another direct warning to Americans like the 29 Oct. address will most likely not be issued again until after an attack. Al-Qaeda likely feels it has completed the necessary warnings and provided enough time for the American people to change their course. It is also unlikely that Osama bin Laden feels the American people have taken his advice. If these conditions are true then the door is open for another large-scale attack in CONUS. Operational and other factors now would be the deciding pieces as to when it may occur.

An attack designed to follow this warning cycle would likely be designed to be on a scale greater than or equal to 9-11 but may be accomplished in a different manner than how 9-11 was executed. For example, it may involve a wave of low-level suicide bombings in fairly rapid succession designed to paralyze the country over a period of weeks as opposed to a singular attack on multiple simultaneous targets.

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AL-QAEDA & WARNINGS

Warnings are generally issued to one or two different groups often well in advance of an attack by al-Qaeda and many other jihadi groups. The first group is Muslims. The warnings are designed to notify Muslims that they should stay away from the targets so that they are not injured in an attack. The second group is the targeted group itself. In this case, the warnings are designed to present them with the option of changing their ways in order to prevent an attack from occurring. The warnings allow al-Qaeda and other groups to help manage any backlash from collateral damage and also to provide additional justification/support for answering questions and criticism about mass casualty events or when extensive damaged is caused. Below are a number of al-Qaeda references to warnings. The most significant being al-Zawahiri's quote from 1 Sep. 2005.

Ayman al-Zawahiri on 1 Sep. 2005

- “We have warned time and again. We are warning, once again, that we will respond in kind to all those who took part in the aggression against Iraq, Afghanistan and Palestine. As they caused rivers of blood to flow in our countries, we will, God willing, explode volcanoes of anger in their countries. The lands and interests of the countries that took part in the aggression against Palestine, Iraq and Afghanistan are targets for us. Let anyone who wants safety remain away from the targets. He who warns is excused.”

Qaeda al-Jihad Organization in Europe on 7 Jul. 2005

- “We continue to warn the governments of Denmark and Italy and all the Crusader governments that they will be punished in the same way if they do not withdraw their troops from Iraq and Afghanistan. He who warns is excused.”

Osama bin Laden on 29 Oct. 2004

- “This is the message which I sought to communicate to you in word and deed, repeatedly, for years before September 11th. And you can read this, if you wish, in my interview with Scott in Time Magazine in 1996, or with Peter Arnett on CNN in 1997, or my meeting with John Weiner in 1998. You can observe it practically, if you wish, in Kenya and Tanzania and in Aden. And you can read it in my interview with Abdul Bari Atwan, as well as my interviews with Robert Fisk.”

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Qaeda al-Jihad Organization in the Land of the Two Holy Places on 6 Jun. 2004

- "Notice in Regard to Warning the Muslims from the Crusaders and Heretics". "All compounds, bases and means of transport, especially Western and American airlines, will be the direct target for our coming operations in the near future. We are renewing our calls and warnings to our Muslim brothers, warning them not to mingle with the American and Western crusaders and the rest of the infidels in the Arab peninsula. And the Muslims should stay away from visiting them in their homes and compounds and avoid using all shapes and forms of transportation used by them. For those Muslims who don't abide by this, they will pay the price by getting killed, too. And there is no other legal choice but fighting them and disrupting them. We also warn security forces and guards of Crusader compounds and American bases and all those who stand with America, its agents ... and the tyrants of the Saudi government, and urge them to repent."

Qaeda al-Jihad Organization in the Land of the Two Holy Places Leader Abdul Aziz al-Muqrin on 27 Apr. 2004

- We warn the Americans again not to stay in the Arabian Peninsula or leave any bases or support the Jews in Palestine and should stop supporting the corrupt governments, otherwise this will mean they will continue to be targeted everywhere. We advise Muslims to stay away from places where Americans are present such as housing and military compounds if they don't want to get hurt. Jews, Americans, and the crusaders will generally be our targets for the next year, which will be made a lot tougher on them. The renegade Saudi government will not be capable to protect them or their interest or provide them with security."

Ayman al-Zawahiri on 19 Dec. 2003

- "How can we excuse you [Americans] after all the warnings that have been issued to you. Now reap the thorns that you are still planting."

Osama bin Laden on Feb. 2003

- "Then in 1998, the Mujahideen warned America to cease their support to the Jews and to leave the Land of the Two Holy Sanctuaries, but the enemy refused to heed this

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warning, so the Mujahideen, with the ability from Allah, smashed them with two mighty smashes in East Africa. Then again America was warned, but she refused to pay attention to the warnings, so the Mujahideen destroyed the American Destroyer, the USS Cole, in Aden, in a martyrdom operation, striking a solid blow to the face of the American military and at the same time, exposing the Yemeni Government as American agents, similar to all the countries in the region.”

Osama bin Laden on 12 Nov. 2002

- “Australia, which we had already warned not to participate in the aggression against Afghanistan let alone its abhorrent role in splitting East Timor (from Indonesia), ignored our warnings until it woke up at the sound of the explosions in Bali. All the time until then, its government had falsely stated that they weren't targeted.”

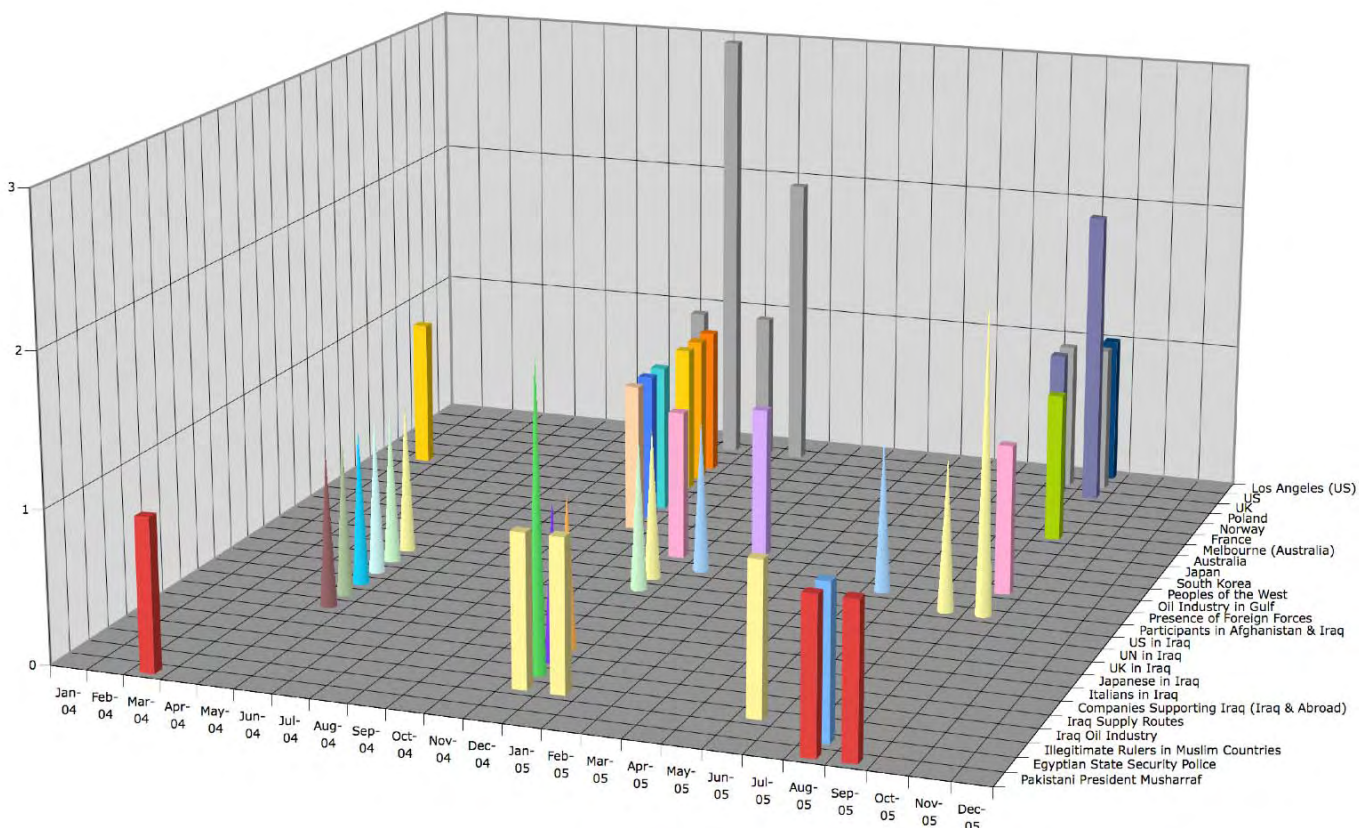
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AL-QAEDA THREATS VISUALIZATION



The above chart shows a visual representation of all countries and target classes specifically mentioned by Osama bin Laden, Ayman al-Zawahiri and Azzam al-Amriki from 2004 to 9 Dec. 2005. The cones represent threats that are geographically focused predominantly in Iraq or Afghanistan.

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SIMILARITIES IN LANGUAGE IN 15 APR 2004 & 29 OCT 2004 STATEMENTS

There are a number of content similarities between Osama bin Laden's 15 Apr. 2004 European Truce Offer and his 29 Oct. 2004 Address to Americans. These similarities, which do not appear in any other statement from Osama bin Laden or Ayman al-Zawahiri from 2004 to 1 Dec. 2005, are significant since the European Truce Offer was a final warning before attacks in Europe, as demonstrated by the July London bombings.

The European offer placed responsibility on the Europeans for their actions and promised attacks if they did not change their ways. The Address to Americans does the same. In both cases the language used was fairly plain spoken and direct. It appears to be crafted in a way as to be understood by the average person on the street in Europe or in the US.

Both statements begin in the first few paragraphs with essentially the same statement. Variations are likely due to differences in translation.

European Truce Offer – 15 Apr. 2004

“Peace upon those who followed the right path.”

Address to Americans – 29 Oct. 2004

“Peace be upon he who follows the guidance.”

The closing of both messages is almost identical and uses a number of phrases that only appear in these two statements in the period from 2004 to 1 Dec. 2005. It is important to note that in the case of the European Truce Offer analysis is based off an English translation and in the Address to Americans it is based off of al-Qaeda's own English subtitles. Slight variations that are present are more likely than not a byproduct of translation variations.

European Truce Offer – 15 Apr. 2004

“It is said that prevention is better than cure. A happy person is he who learns a lesson from the experience of others.

Heeding right is better than persisting in falsehood.

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Peace be upon those who follow guidance.”

Address to Americans – 29 Oct. 2004

“As has been said, ‘An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure.’

And know that, ‘It is better to return to the truth than persist in error.’ And that the wise man doesn’t squander his security, wealth and children for the sake of the liar in the White House.

In conclusion, I tell you in truth, that your security is not in the hands of Kerry, nor Bush, nor al-Qaeda. No.

Your security is in your own hands. And every state that doesn’t play with our security has automatically guaranteed its own security.

And Allah is our Guardian and Helper, while you have no Guardian or Helper.

All peace be upon he who follows the guidance.”

While an exhaustive search has not yet been completed, so far only one other instance prior to 2004 has been found where Osama bin Laden or Ayman al-Zawahiri used the “All peace be upon he who follows the guidance” phrase or a variation of it. It appeared at the beginning of another warning statement from Osama bin Laden on 12 Nov. 2002, talking about the attack against Australians in Bali, Indonesia on 12 Oct. 2002 and warning other countries who were participating in operations in Afghanistan.

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OSAMA BIN LADEN EUROPEAN TRUCE OFFER 15 APR 2004

Praise be to Almighty God; Peace and prayers be upon our Prophet Mohammed, his family, and companions.

This is a message to our neighbors north of the Mediterranean, containing a reconciliation initiative as a response to their positive reactions.

Praise be to God; praise be to God; praise be to God who created heaven and earth with justice and who allowed the oppressed to punish the oppressor in the same way.

Peace upon those who followed the right path:

In my hands there is a message to remind you that justice is a duty towards those whom you love and those whom you do not. And people's rights will not be harmed if the opponent speaks out about them.

The greatest rule of safety is justice, and stopping injustice and aggression. It was said: Oppression kills the oppressors and the hotbed of injustice is evil. The situation in occupied Palestine is an example. What happened on 11 September and 11 March is your commodity that was returned to you.

It is known that security is a pressing necessity for all mankind. We do not agree that you should monopolize it only for yourselves. Also, vigilant people do not allow their politicians to tamper with their security.

Having said this, we would like to inform you that labeling us and our acts as terrorism is also a description of you and of your acts. Reaction comes at the same level as the original action. Our acts are reaction to your own acts, which are represented by the destruction and killing of our kinfolk in Afghanistan, Iraq and Palestine.

The act that horrified the world; that is, the killing of the old, handicapped Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, may God have mercy on him, is sufficient evidence.

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We pledge to God that we will punish America for him, God willing.

Which religion considers your killed ones innocent and our killed ones worthless? And which principle considers your blood real blood and our blood water? Reciprocal treatment is fair and the one who starts injustice bears greater blame.

As for your politicians and those who have followed their path, who insist on ignoring the real problem of occupying the entirety of Palestine and exaggerate lies and falsification regarding our right in defense and resistance, they do not respect themselves.

They also disdain the blood and minds of peoples. This is because their falsification increases the shedding of your blood instead of sparing it.

Moreover, the examining of the developments that have been taking place, in terms of killings in our countries and your countries, will make clear an important fact; namely, that injustice is inflicted on us and on you by your politicians, who send your sons - although you are opposed to this - to our countries to kill and be killed.

Therefore, it is in both sides' interest to curb the plans of those who shed the blood of peoples for their narrow personal interest and subservience to the White House gang.

We must take into consideration that this war brings billions of dollars in profit to the major companies, whether it be those that produce weapons or those that contribute to reconstruction, such as the Halliburton Company, its sisters and daughters.

Based on this, it is very clear who is the one benefiting from igniting this war and from the shedding of blood. It is the warlords, the bloodsuckers, who are steering the world policy from behind a curtain.

As for President Bush, the leaders who are revolving in his orbit, the leading media companies and the United Nations, which makes laws for relations between the masters of veto and the slaves of the General Assembly, these are only some of the tools used to deceive and exploit peoples.

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All these pose a fatal threat to the whole world.

The Zionist lobby is one of the most dangerous and most difficult figures of this group. God willing, we are determined to fight them.

Based on the above, and in order to deny war merchants a chance and in response to the positive interaction shown by recent events and opinion polls, which indicate that most European peoples want peace, I ask honest people, especially ulema, preachers and merchants, to form a permanent committee to enlighten European peoples of the justice of our causes, above all Palestine. They can make use of the huge potential of the media.

I also offer a peace initiative to them, whose essence is our commitment to stopping operations against every country that commits itself to not attacking Muslims or interfering in their affairs - including the US conspiracy on the greater Muslim world.

This peace can be renewed once the period signed by the first government expires and a second government is formed with the consent of both parties.

The peace will start with the departure of its last soldier from our country.

The door of peace is open for three months of the date of announcing this statement.

For those who reject peace and want war, we are ready.

As for those who want peace, we have given them a chance. Stop shedding our blood so as to preserve your blood. It is in your hands to apply this easy, yet difficult, formula. You know that the situation will expand and increase if you delay things.

If this happens, do not blame us - blame yourselves.

A rational person does not relinquish his security, money and children to please the liar of the White House.

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Had he been truthful about his claim for peace, he would not describe the person who ripped open pregnant women in Sabra and Shatila and the destroyer of the capitulation process as a man of peace.

He also would not have lied to people and said that we hate freedom and kill for the sake of killing. Reality proves our truthfulness and his lie.

The killing of the Russians was after their invasion of Afghanistan and Chechnya; the killing of Europeans was after their invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan; and the killing of Americans on the day of New York was after their support of the Jews in Palestine and their invasion of the Arabian Peninsula.

Also, killing them in Somalia was after their invasion of it in Operation Restore Hope. We made them leave without hope, praise be to God.

It is said that prevention is better than cure. A happy person is he who learns a lesson from the experience of others.

Heeding right is better than persisting in falsehood.

Peace be upon those who follow guidance.

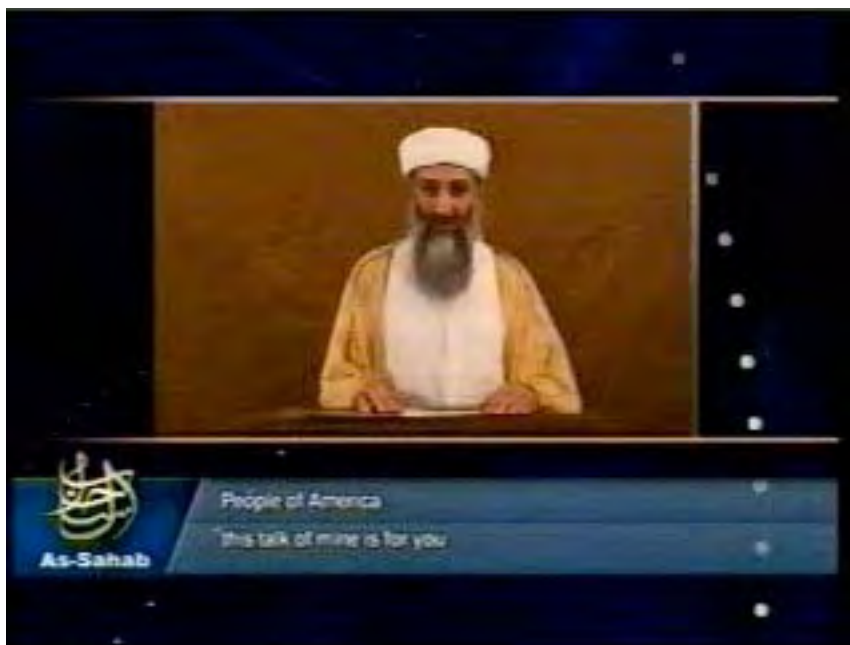
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OSAMA BIN LADEN ADDRESS TO AMERICANS ON 29 OCT 2004

According to an al-Jazeera note, this transcript was based on an unedited translation of the Arabic subtitling that appears on the original video. The video was delivered to al-Jazeera's office in Karachi, Pakistan in an envelope on 29 Oct., according to al-Jazeera.

Osama bin Laden:

Praise be to Allah who created the creation for his worship and commanded them to be just and permitted the wronged one to retaliate against the oppressor in kind. To proceed:

Peace be upon he who follows the guidance: People of America this talk of mine is for you and concerns the ideal way to prevent another Manhattan, and deals with the war and its causes and results.

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Before I begin, I say to you that security is an indispensable pillar of human life and that free men do not forfeit their security, contrary to Bush's claim that we hate freedom. If so, then let him explain to us why we don't strike for example – Sweden? And we know that freedom-haters don't possess defiant spirits like those of the 19 – may Allah have mercy on them.

No, we fight because we are free men who don't sleep under oppression. We want to restore freedom to our nation, just as you lay waste to our nation. So shall we lay waste to yours.

No one except a dumb thief plays with the security of others and then makes himself believe he will be secure. Whereas thinking people, when disaster strikes, make it their priority to look for its causes, in order to prevent it happening again.

But I am amazed at you. Even though we are in the fourth year after the events of September 11th, Bush is still engaged in distortion, deception and hiding from you the real causes. And thus, the reasons are still there for a repeat of what occurred.

So I shall talk to you about the story behind those events and shall tell you truthfully about the moments in which the decision was taken, for you to consider.

I say to you, Allah knows that it had never occurred to us to strike the towers. But after it became unbearable and we witnessed the oppression and tyranny of the American/Israeli coalition against our people in Palestine and Lebanon, it came to my mind.

The events that affected my soul in a direct way started in 1982 when America permitted the Israelis to invade Lebanon and the American Sixth Fleet helped them in that. This bombardment began and many were killed and injured and others were terrorized and displaced.

I couldn't forget those moving scenes, blood and severed limbs, women and children sprawled everywhere. Houses destroyed along with their occupants and high rises demolished over their residents, rockets raining down on our home without mercy.

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The situation was like a crocodile meeting a helpless child, powerless except for his screams. Does the crocodile understand a conversation that doesn't include a weapon? And the whole world saw and heard but it didn't respond.

In those difficult moments many hard-to-describe ideas bubbled in my soul, but in the end they produced an intense feeling of rejection of tyranny, and gave birth to a strong resolve to punish the oppressors.

And as I looked at those demolished towers in Lebanon, it entered my mind that we should punish the oppressor in kind and that we should destroy towers in America in order that they taste some of what we tasted and so that they be deterred from killing our women and children.

And that day, it was confirmed to me that oppression and the intentional killing of innocent women and children is a deliberate American policy. Destruction is freedom and democracy, while resistance is terrorism and intolerance.

This means the oppressing and embargoing to death of millions as Bush Sr. did in Iraq in the greatest mass slaughter of children mankind has ever known, and it means the throwing of millions of pounds of bombs and explosives at millions of children – also in Iraq – as Bush Jr. Did, in order to remove an old agent and replace him with a new puppet to assist in the pilfering of Iraq's oil and other outrages.

So with these images and their like as their background, the events of September 11th came as a reply to those great wrongs, should a man be blamed for defending his sanctuary?

Is defending oneself and punishing the aggressor in kind, objectionable terrorism? If it is such, then it is unavoidable for us.

This is the message which I sought to communicate to you in word and deed, repeatedly, for years before September 11th.

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And you can read this, if you wish, in my interview with Scott in Time Magazine in 1996, or with Peter Arnett on CNN in 1997, or my meeting with John Weiner in 1998.

You can observe it practically, if you wish, in Kenya and Tanzania and in Aden. And you can read it in my interview with Abdul Bari Atwan, as well as my interviews with Robert Fisk.

The latter is one of your compatriots and co-religionists and I consider him to be neutral. So are the pretenders of freedom at The White House and the channels controlled by them able to run an interview with him? So that he may relay to the American people what he has understood from us to be the reasons for our fight against you?

If you were to avoid these reasons, you will have taken the correct path that will lead America to the security that it was in before September 11th. This concerned the causes of the war.

As for its results, they have been, by the grace of Allah, positive and enormous, and have, by all standards, exceeded all expectations. This is due to many factors, chief amongst them, that we have found it difficult to deal with the Bush administration in light of the resemblance it bears to the regimes in our countries, half of which are ruled by the military and the other half which are ruled by the sons of kings and presidents.

Our experience with them is lengthy, and both types are replete with those who are characterized by pride, arrogance, greed and misappropriation of wealth. This resemblance began after the visits of Bush Sr. to the region.

At a time when some of our compatriots were dazzled by America and hoping that these visits would have an effect on our countries, all of a sudden he was affected by those monarchies and military regimes, and became envious of their remaining decades in their positions, to embezzle the public wealth of the nation without supervision or accounting.

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So he took dictatorship and suppression of freedoms to his son and they named it the Patriot Act, under the pretense of fighting terrorism. In addition, Bush sanctioned the installing of sons as state governors, and didn't forget to import expertise in election fraud from the region's presidents to Florida to be made use of in moments of difficulty.

All that we have mentioned has made it easy for us to provoke and bait this administration. All that we have to do is to send two mujahideen to the furthest point East to raise a piece of cloth on which is written al-Qaeda, in order to make the generals race there to cause America to suffer human, economic, and political losses without their achieving for it anything of note other than some benefits for their private companies.

This is in addition to our having experience in using guerrilla warfare and the war of attrition to fight tyrannical superpowers, as we, alongside the mujahideen, bled Russia for 10 years, until it went bankrupt and was forced to withdraw in defeat.

All Praise is due to Allah.

So we are continuing this policy in bleeding America to the point of bankruptcy. Allah willing, and nothing is too great for Allah.

That being said, those who say that al-Qaeda has won against the administration in the White House or that the administration has lost in this war have not been precise, because when one scrutinizes the results, one cannot say that al-Qaeda is the sole factor in achieving those spectacular gains.

Rather, the policy of the White House that demands the opening of war fronts to keep busy their various corporations – whether they be working in the field of arms or oil or reconstruction – has helped al-Qaeda to achieve these enormous results.

And so it has appeared to some analysts and diplomats that the White House and us are playing as one team towards the economic goals of the United States, even if the intentions differ.

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And it was to these sorts of notions and there like that the British diplomat and others were referring in their lectures at the Royal Institute of International Affairs. (When they pointed out that) for example, al-Qaeda spent \$500,000 on the event, while America, in the incident and its aftermath, lost – according to the lowest estimate – more than 500 billion dollars.

Meaning that every dollar of al-Qaeda defeated a million dollars by the permission of Allah, besides the loss of a huge number of jobs.

As for the size of the economic deficit, it has reached record astronomical numbers estimated to total more than a trillion dollars.

And even more dangerous and bitter for America is that the mujahideen recently forced Bush to resort to emergency funds to continue the fight in Afghanistan and Iraq, which is evidence of the success of the bleed-until-bankruptcy plan – with Allah's permission.

It is true that this shows that al-Qaeda has gained, but on the other hand, it shows that the Bush administration has also gained, something of which anyone who looks at the size of the contracts acquired by the shady Bush administration-linked mega-corporations, like Haliburton and its kind, will be convinced. And it all shows that the real loser is...you.

It is the American people and their economy. And for the record, we had agreed with the Commander-General Mohammed Atta, Allah have mercy on him, that all the operations should be carried out within twenty minutes, before Bush and his administration notice.

It never occurred to us that the commander-in-chief of the American armed forces would abandon 50 000 of his citizens in the twin towers to face those great horrors alone, the time when they most needed him.

But because it seemed to him that occupying himself by talking to the little girl about the goat and its butting was more important than occupying himself with the planes and their butting of the skyscrapers. We were given three times the period required to execute the operations – All Praise is Due to Allah.

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And it's no secret to you that the thinkers and perceptive ones from among the Americans warned Bush before the war and told him, "All that you want for securing America and removing the weapons of mass destruction – assuming they exist – is available to you, and the nations of the world are with you in the inspections, and it is in the interest of America that it not be thrust into an unjustified war with an unknown outcome."

But the darkness of the black gold blurred his vision and insight, and he gave priority to private interests over the public interests of America.

So the war went ahead, the death toll rose, the American economy bled, and Bush became embroiled in the swamps of Iraq that threaten his future. He fits the saying, "Like the naughty she-goat who used her hoof to dig up a knife from under the earth"

So I say to you, over 15,000 of our people have been killed and tens of thousands injured, while more than a thousand of you have been killed and more than 10,000 injured. And Bush's hands are stained with the blood of all those killed from both sides, all for the sake of oil and keeping their private companies in business.

Be aware that it is the nation who punishes the weak man when he causes the killing of one of its citizens for money, while letting the powerful one get off, when he causes the killing of more than 1,000 of its sons, also for money.

And the same goes for your allies in Palestine. They terrorize the women and children, and kill and capture the men, as they lie sleeping with their families on the mattresses, that you may recall that for every action, there is a reaction.

Finally, it behooves you to reflect on the last wills and testaments of the thousands who left you on the 11th as they gestured in despair. They are important testaments, which should be studied and researched.

Among the most important of what I read in them was some prose in their gestures before the collapse, where they say, "How mistaken we were to have allowed the White House

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to implement its aggressive foreign policies against the weak without supervision." It is as if they were telling you, the people of America, "Hold to account those who have caused us to be killed, and happy is he who learns from others' mistakes," And among that which I read in their gestures is a verse of poetry, "Injustice chases its people, and how unhealthy the bed of tyranny."

As has been said, "An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure."

And know that, "It is better to return to the truth than persist in error." And that the wise man doesn't squander his security, wealth and children for the sake of the liar in the White House.

In conclusion, I tell you in truth, that your security is not in the hands of Kerry, nor Bush, nor al-Qaeda.

No.

Your security is in your own hands. And every state that doesn't play with our security has automatically guaranteed its own security.

And Allah is our Guardian and Helper, while you have no Guardian or Helper. All Peace be Upon he who follows the Guidance.

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EXCERPTS FROM AZZAM AL-AMRIKI ADDRESS IN OCT 2004

On 22 Oct. 2004, ABC News obtained a 75-minute video from The Sahab Institute for Media Production. The video was obtained from a source known to have Taliban and al-Qaeda contacts in the tribal region of Pakistan. ABC paid the source US\$500 in transportation fees. The video contained an interview conducted in English with an individual identified as Azzam al-Amriki [Azzam the American].

On the video Azzam said, "No, my fellow countrymen you are guilty, guilty, guilty, guilty. You are as guilty as Bush and Cheney. You're as guilty as Rumsfeld and Ashcroft and Powell. After decades of American tyranny and oppression, now it's your turn to die. Allah willing, the streets of America will run red with blood matching drop for drop the blood of America's victims." Azzam also said, "People of America, I remind you of the weighty words of our leaders, Osama bin Laden and Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri, that what took place on Sept. 11 was but the opening salvo of the global war on America. And that

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Allah willing, the magnitude and ferocity of what is coming your way will make you forget all about Sept. 11."

Additional excerpts from the video obtained by ABC News of Azzam al-Amriki appear below:

Interviewer:

You are an American who has joined a movement for waging war on America and killing large numbers of Americans. Don't you in any way feel you are betraying your people and country?

Azzam al-Amriki:

First of all, the allegiance and loyalty of a Muslim is to Allah, his Messenger, his religion and his fellow believers before anyone and anything else. So, if there is a conflict between his religion and his nation and family, then he must choose the religion every time. In fact, to side with the unbelievers against Islam and Muslims is one of the acts that nullifies one's Islamic faith and there's a verse in the Quran (recites a verse from the Quran in Arabic) you will not find any people who believe in Allah in the last day loving, loving those who resist Allah and his Messenger.

Even if they were their fathers or their sons, or their brothers, or their kindred or their clan. As such he has written faith in their hearts and strengthens them with spirit from himself. So, some of the early Muslims fought and killed their closest relatives during battle, prompting the revelation of this verse. And, even our Prophet Mohammed, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, er, fought, uh, and after a lot of defeat the Quraish tribe, to which he belonged. when it fought to impede Islam's propagation, sought to impede the message of Islam, rejected the message of Islam, and sought to impede its propagation. And some of the staunchest enemies of Islam were from among his closest cousins like Abu Jahl. Thus, Allah's religion takes precedence over all else: Wealth, status, family and nationality.

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Interviewer:

Ok, how do you respond to the Muslim clerics and governments around the world who say that you are a small fringe group of extremists, unrepresentative of Islam and the majority of peace-loving Muslims?"

Azzam al-Amriki:

Well, they would say that, wouldn't they? These Crusader pawns are the ones who don't represent Islam and Muslims, despite their claims to the contrary. And they know very well that the mujahideen stature has increased substantially among the Muslims after September 11, and the events that followed, which poses a direct threat to their continuing hold on power. This argument of theirs is especially well liked by their masters in the White House and 10 Downing Street, who apply it not just to us, but to all Muslims who reject Crusader domination. Uh, but the truth in evidence is on our side. Open the Quran, open the books of Sirah, the prophetic biography, and Ahadith, the prophetic teachings. Open the books of Fiqh, jurisprudence, both modern and ancient and you will find our position well supported. Jihad isn't something that al-Qaeda made up. Ruling by Islam law wasn't started by the Taliban. Hamas didn't invent the concept of martyrdom. Uh, where we differ from these defeatists and hypocrites is that we don't believe that these divine orders and principles are open to negotiation and compromise.

I'd like to tell these people, this is our religion. If you don't like it, that's your problem. But don't tell me that you're the true Muslim and I'm the extremist. You know, the same clerics and people who call us violent extremists and outcasts and endlessly repeat that Islam is a peaceful faith, permit or even encourage their followers to join the American and European militaries and intelligence agencies and the armies of the idle kings in the Muslim world and take part in the killing of thousands of Muslims in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere. So in effect, they're saying that for the Muslim to kill unbelievers in defense of Islam and Muslims is unacceptable, and if he does so, he's an extremist. While for the same Muslim to kill fellow Muslims in the name of America and so-called freedom and the supposedly civilized world is just fine and dandy and he will be practicing moderation.

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Look at this logic. These are evil, uneducated, ignorant, backwards people who should not be speaking on behalf of Muslims, much less talking about what is true Islam and what is not and accusing others. We are defending those who have no defender. We are holding fast to genuine Islam at a time when it's under siege from all sides. And we're standing up to confront an enemy that has intimidated governments and international organizations with fear. It's only natural that the governments and individuals who stand the most to lose from the defeat of the crusaders and Zionists will seek to hide our true nature and goals from the Muslim majority that is desperately looking for a way out of the nightmare that these traitors have imposed upon them for decades.

We have strong support from within all sectors of Muslim society and from within all Islamic groups. This is what terrifies the enemies of truth and causes them to resort to this sort of accusation. It's wishful thinking on their part. It's like they're telling themselves, 'Maybe if we repeat the lie often enough, it will come true.'

POST JULY LONDON BOMBINGS TRUCE REFERENCES

Four out of five statements following the July 2005 London bombings contained references to the truce offer. The only one that did not contain a truce reference was al-Zawahiri's brief call for earthquake aid for Pakistanis on 23 Oct. 2005. No statements following the truce offer on 15 Apr. 2004 and up to the July London bombings made any mention of it. It was only after the London attack was executed, 15 months after the truce offer, that al-Qaeda made reference to it again.

Ayman al-Zawahiri - 4 August 2005

- "O nations of the crusade alliance, we proposed that you at least stop your aggression against the Muslims. The lion of Islam, mujahid Sheikh Osama bin Laden, may God preserve him, offered you a truce until you leave the land of Islam. Has Sheikh Osama bin Laden not informed you that you will not dream of security until we live it in reality in Palestine and before all infidel armies leave the land of Mohammed, may peace be upon him. You, however, shed rivers of blood in our land so we exploded volcanoes of anger in your land."

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Ayman al-Zawahiri – 1 September 2005

• “Did not the lion of Islam, mujahid Sheikh Osama bin Laden, may God preserve him, offer you a truce if you left the land of Islam? However, you demonstrated an adamant stand and pride made you commit sin. Your Foreign Minister Jack Straw said that these proposals were worthy of contempt. So taste the consequences of the arrogance of your governments.”

Azzam al-Amriki – 11 September 2005

• “If they [President Bush and PM Blair] really cared about protecting you, they would have responded positively to Sheikh Osama’s proposal for a truce with the European nations, instead of arrogantly dismissing his initiative with the false claim that quote, ‘We don’t negotiate with terrorists, and that in any case, al-Qaeda has no demands to meet.’ Today, you, the people of Europe are paying the price for the arrogance of your leaders.”

Ayman al-Zawahiri - 19 September 2005

• “It’s now engaged in a massive, historic battle in Iraq, Afghanistan and Palestine, and indeed, on the Crusaders’ own turf. And the latest of its [jihad movement] raids there was the blessed London raid, which came as a slap on the face of British Crusader pride, after the Lion of Islam, the Mujahid Sheikh Osama bin Ladin – may Allah protect him – had offered a ceasefire to the people of the West for them to exit the lands of Islam, but their arrogance drove them to commit further crimes, and their haughty Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said that these initiatives deserve to be met with derision, so let them taste the fruit of the shamelessness and arrogance of their governments.”

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ABSENCE OF OBL STATEMENTS & AL-ZAWAHIRI FREQUENCY

- As of 1 Dec. 2005, we have seen no audio/video statements from Osama bin Laden in 2005. The last audio/video statement he made was on 27 Dec. 2004. This gap is 339 days long. The previous longest gap was 285 days and ran from 27 Dec. 2001 to 6 Oct. 2002. In addition, during the 2002 gap there were two written statements from bin Laden. There have been no written statements in 2005.

Bin Laden made a total of 13 audio/video statements between Jan. 2002 and 27 Dec. 2004. There are audio portions from bin Laden in the as-Sahab video "War of the Oppressed" that was released in the beginning of Aug. 2005, however, it does not appear that any of these are new, as is commonly the case with such videos.

- Osama bin Laden has released an audio/video statement addressed directly to Americans every year in Oct. since 2002. It is the only time between 2002 to 1 Dec. 2005 that his statements are directly addressed to the Americans. While he has released statements many other times throughout this period they have been addressed to the Europeans, the Ummah, Iraqis and others. Oct. 2005 marks the first time in three years that he has not made this address.

- In 2004, al-Zawahiri made five audio/video statements and Osama bin Laden made six. In 2003, al-Zawahiri made four releases and bin Laden made five. Both al-Zawahiri and bin Laden made 13 releases each between Jan. 2002 and 8 Jul. 2005. The two have consistently remained in close parity as to the number of audio/video releases that are made. This has changed dramatically with al-Zawahiri up to seven audio/video releases in 2005 as of 1 Dec., three of which were made in the Aug./Sep. period. At seven releases in 2005 so far, this is the most audio/video releases al-Zawahiri has ever made in one year.

- Osama bin Laden has never released a standalone audio/video statement in Sep. from 2002 on, his statements have always come in Oct. during this period. Al-Zawahiri on the other hand has released one or more audio/video statements every year in Sep. since 2002. Al-Zawahiri has never released an audio/video statement in Oct. with one exception in Oct. 2004 when the audio release came out on the first of the month and this

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year when he released a video statement about the earthquake in Pakistan on 23 Oct. 2005.

- It is important to note that the 6 Oct. 2002 audio release by Osama bin Laden, the first by him that entire year, kicked off, intentionally or coincidentally, the highest op tempo month of significant jihadi attacks to date, with five successful operations occurring between 6-28 Oct.

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