Important Telegram to our Brothers in the Armed Forces
Osama bin Laden
September 19, 1994

[Please note: Images may have been removed from this document. Page numbers have been added.]

Written September 19, 1994 while bin Laden was living in the Sudan.

Translated by the CTC at West Point Military Academy; minor errors that resulted in poor English, at the fault of the translators themselves, have been corrected to prevent giving an unfairly skewered view of the author.

Brothers of Islam and Guardians of the Religion and the Faith.

Oh, successors of those pious ancestors who bore the light of right guidance and spread it among humanity. Oh, offspring of Bin Abi Wiqas and Muthanna bin Haritha al-Shaybani and al-Qa'qa' bin amr al-Tamimi, and those of the best companions of the Prophet who waged Jihad with them. Oh, men whom the Ummah has preserved for a hateful day, for settling the breach.

Oh, defence by which the Ummah - God willing - wards off the treachery of those attacking honour and the religion: Behold, and see plainly how the Saudi regime bares its teeth, and reveals its hypocrisy and toadying. The hostility to Islam, Da'wah and preachers, which it covered up, has been exposed by its putting the best of the Ulema into the depths of prison and subjecting them to terrible abuse. Its raging campaign is devouring fertile and barren lands in an attempt to prevent the birth of the Awakening, to dry up its springs and make it go backwards. By God, it is indeed the greatest of conspiracies which the regime is undertaking, demonstrating its loyalty to the enemies of Islam and Muslims, and not protecting it in its suffering. But we hope to God that someone will come from amongst you to protect us in our affliction, someone who, God willing, is doubtless coming. Be this hope for the Ummah.

The failings of this regime have been exposed, its subservience made plain, and its enmity of the religion and the Ummah revealed.

• Is this not the regime that imported women of the Christian armies to defend it, placing the army in the highest degree of shame, disgrace and frustration?

• Is this not the regime that opened up the country in all its length and breadth, and filled it with American Army bases? It is out of the question for any officer, no matter how high his rank, to contradict the command that the Apostle of God, may God bless him and grant him peace, made to his Ummah when he was on his deathbed, "Expel the polytheists from the Arabian peninsula." al-Bukhari relates it.\scriptstyle[1]
• Is this not the regime that the pride of Islam, and the manliness of the Arabs could not shake, even when it made the Muslim army participate as a cover for the American Army's occupation of Somalia?!

• Is this not the regime that made use of the army and the country to help the gangs of communists who opposed God and his Messenger in Yemen, ignoring the Fatwa of the true Ulema and avoiding consultation with the commanders of the army? God Almighty says, "You will not find any people who believe in God and the Last Day loving those who opposed God and his Messenger."

• Is this not the regime that has striven and continues to strive to keep the army weak? One example and a comparison between the peninsula and the Zionist entity usurping Palestine will show this clearly:
  o The area of the peninsula is more than four times that of occupied Palestine. It takes a large army to defend this vast amount of land, but we find that the peninsula's army is not even a tenth the size of the army of the Zionist entity, with a huge difference in the level of armament.
  o This is at a time during which the army's budget has reached huge numbers, which the armies of the region as a whole have not attained. Where does this money go?! Perhaps the answer will become clear when we realise that Prince Sultan, Minister of Defence, received commissions on Arms Sales which in one year reached five billion dollars. This was at a time during which the stopped allowances and reimbursements for members of the Armed Services due to the sharp economic downturn, which the sons of the people tasted, while the allowances for the big men of the ruling family were not touched.

• Let us then ask the regime: "What preparations have been made to defend Tabuk and Khaybar from the ambitions of the Jews as proclaimed and written on the doors of the Knesset and stamped on their new coinage? Why do you keep the people from training to prepare for the coming danger?

• Finally, is this not the regime that disdains and ignores the feelings of the people and the armed forces by arresting their faithful Ulema, while its leaders show scorn, hatred and insolence towards these feelings, revealing the regime's hostility and warring on God, his Messenger and his worthy believers? The Apostle of God, may God bless him and grant him peace, said, "God says, 'He who is hostile to a friend of mine has challenged me to combat'" al-Bukhari related it.[2]

It is therefore clear to anyone with two eyes that the regime has lost its legitimacy for the following two reasons: Firstly, because of its friendliness and help to the enemies of the religion. Secondly, because of its hostility to the feelings of the people at a time, in which experts on the conditions of nations and and facts of history agree, that the regime's end and collapse are near. Tomorrow the regime will fall. It is just a matter of time.
Oh, men whom the Ummah awaits to defend the Cradle of Islam so that infidelity will not soil it. Oh, men whose sons will join them to help the truth in Palestine, and liberate the place from which the Apostle of God, may God bless him and grant him peace, ascended to Heaven, from the hands of the criminal Jews.\[3\]

Oh, those zealous followers of the religion of our prophet Muhammad, may God bless him and grant him peace. Oh, those who crowd together, shoulder to shoulder, in the first ranks to worship your mighty lord and who follow the practice of his noble Messenger, may God bless him and grant him peace.

Oh, extraordinary men, we remind you, "For reminding benefits the believers", that you are the guardians of the faith, the religion and land of the Muslims. We pray that God will keep you. We believe that you will be able to defend yourself when the regime orders you to subjugate and kill your Ulema, your fathers, your sons and your brothers. God Almighty has said, "If a man kills a believer intentionally, his recompense is Hell, to abide therein forever, and the wrath and curse of God are upon him, and a dreadful chastisement is prepared for him." And he, may God bless him and grant him peace, said "Until the end of the world, the most despicable thing to God is he who kills a Muslim man." Sahih al-Jami.\[4\]

The Apostle of God, may God bless him and grant him peace, promised that the rightful Caliphate is definitely coming after rapacious and tyrannical kings, and that they will be guided to it.

"As for those who turn to God, his Messenger and those who believe, they are the party of God who will surely triumph."

Dated: 14/4/1415AH
On their behalf:
Usamah bin Muhammad bin Ladin

Courtesy of Wikisource
http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Important_Telegram_to_our_Brothers_in_the_Armed_Forces
30 January 2012