

Bin Ladin Urges 'Arabian Peninsula' People To Prepare for 'All-out War'

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

[Unattributed report: "Bin Ladin in a Special Message to the 'People of the Peninsula': Take up Arms To Defend Your Honor. Warned of 'Critical Days and All-out War'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] London, Al-Quds al-Arabi--An internet website close to Al-Qa'ida Organization has carried a new message from Shaykh Usama Bin Ladin, which it said was brought by one of the senior mujahidin who has returned from Afghanistan. The message calls on the people of the Arabian Peninsula in particular to get ready to face critical days and an allout war.

The Al-Qa'ida leader's new message says: "From my examination of the bitter reality and of the conspiracies and terrible disasters being hatched between the corridors of the crusaders and Jews in Congress and the so-called "Security Council" and with which they will strike, starting in the Middle East with a strike on Iraq -- having in fact already taken the decision to strike it -- I would like you to tell your kinsfolk, your tribesmen, and all people: Do not think that the war will be between the United States and Iraq or between Bush and Saddam. It is between you, all our Muslim brothers, and us on one side and the crusaders and the Jews on the other. Therefore you the people of the Peninsula in particular are facing difficult days ahead and very dangerous ordeals that Allah will test you with, so be prepared with weapons, even if light ones, at least to defend your honor. Urge Allah the Almighty to let you stand firm and save you from these ordeals that will be more dangerous than the great ordeals through which the Peninsula has been.

"Nevertheless, we will give you everything we possess and will defend the land of Muhammad -- may the peace and blessings of Allah be with him -- as much as we can if these ordeals do break out. We will do to the United States what pleases the Muslims and fill their hearts with joy, God willing.

"Let us, we and you, be one hand until relief follows these ordeals and victory comes to this religion." End of the text of the message.

The bearer of the message, a senior mujahid who had fought in Bosnia, Kosovo, Chechnya, and recently in Afghanistan, says: Special circumstances happened to my family that required me to return to them from the land of jihad. When I took leave of Shaykh Usama -- may Allah protect and grant him victory -- he gave me a legacy and insisted I deliver it to the largest number of people in the Arabian Peninsula.

[Description of Source: London Al-Quds al-Arabi in Arabic -- London-based independent Arab nationalist daily with an anti-US and anti-Saudi editorial line; generally pro-Palestinian, pro-Iraqi regime, tends to be sympathetic to Bin Ladin]