

Al-Zawahiri: "Six Years Since the Invasion of Iraq"

April 21, 2009

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

"Shaykh Ayman al-Zawahiri: Six Years Since the Invasion of Iraq; And, Thirty Years Since the Signing of Peace Treaty with Israel"

[This document is a transcript of a communication obtained by NEFA investigators and made available on behalf of the NEFA TerrorWatch subscription service. This transcript is provided for educational and informational purposes only. The As-Sahab Media Foundation is the official propaganda arm of Al-Qaida and is the exclusive source of audio and video recordings of Bin Laden, Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri, and other high-ranking Al-Qaida leaders in South Asia.]

"In the name of Allah, and thanks due to Allah, and prayer and peace upon Allah's messenger and upon his family, companions, and allies."

"O Muslim Brothers...Peace [be] upon you and Allah's mercy and blessings...thereafter: These days we have witnessed thirty years since the signing of the peace treaty with Israel, and six years since the invasion of Iraq, and each of those events needs a stand."

"Regarding the peace treaty with Israel, after thirty years, two matters became clear: The first one: One of the most important results of the agreement is removing Egypt from the arena of the Arab-Israeli struggle, and therefore Israel took control of the region and occupied Lebanon a few times, attacked the Nuclear reactor in Iraq, and, lastly, it killed, destroyed, and damaged in Gaza, and the Arabs, on top of all the Egyptian government, did not flinch, even many of them encourage Israel and support it."

"The second one: This treaty is a living example to the wasting of sacrifices forgone in the battlefield, amidst the hoaxes of politics and its bargains, as, in the 1973 war, the Egyptian and Syrian militaries came forward in the first days of the war. Then, as a result to the cowardice of Egyptian political leadership, matters flipped and the Israelis went forward towards the Syrian and Egyptian fronts. And these are known and documented details. And this is not the time to mention it."

"Then, the war concluded with a chain of negotiations that finally resulted in the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty that wasted sacrifices and blood, to start a new period in the region in the heart of the Islamic world, distinguished by the control and elevation of the Americans and Jews."

"Hence, sacrifices in the battlefield only aren't enough to achieve victory. The political negotiations that run, after the fight, might achieve gains for a specific side that it couldn't have achieved in fighting. And, this is what happens today of negotiations and pressure on the government in Gaza for Israel to gain, in negotiation, sanctions, and pressures, what it cannot achieve in the battlefield."

"Munir Sharif: Seemingly to me, they want to have a national consensus government that Hamas agrees on. This national consensus government will exhaust all their efforts to have Salam Fayyadh on top of them, and to secure the authority forces that Dayton established in the West Bank, and to secure the arrests that took place, and for that, huge pressures occurred for the Palestinian dialogue to begin and to answer Hamas's demands of releasing the prisoners. So,

I see now that the circulating dialogue is still working within an umbrella of which purpose is to prepare the Palestinian situation to cause some sort of stillness between Hamas and Fatah and the appearing organizations, and to form a government considered as everyone's government, headed by Salam Fayyadh. And the meeting between Salam Fayyadh and Mahmoud Abbas means walking in the path that [George] Mitchell wants. Meaning, solving the Palestinian case and the attempt to prevent any resistance to this case, so those who are moving with the negotiations now in Cairo MUST not pay attention to.”

“Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri: Regarding Iraq, six years has passed since its invasion by the crusaders, and thanks due to Allah six years of loss, failure, and American involvement in a lake of two wars with the Islamic World. They don't know how to pull out from them without defeat, losses, and economic bleeding.”

“Abdul'Baree Atwan: Practically, why is this international economic collapse [happening]? This international economic collapse [happened] because al-Qa'eda engrossed America in two wars. The war in Afghanistan and the war in Iraq [cost] more than \$800 billion.”

“As-Sahab Correspondent: A study by two economists showed that the overall expense for the war on Iraq, taking in considerations two approaches, one conservative and the other unbiased, it maybe reaches between one to two trillion dollars as we showed in the next table, although they have decided to not include in the expense report the expense of the war on Afghanistan, which they decided that it cost America, until the date of their study in February of 2006, \$82 billion, with an average of \$1B monthly. And similarly, the report of the Iraq Study Group, an estimate was done that reaches \$2 trillion for the final expense for America's involvement in Iraq.”

“Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri: Six years in which the Western crusade uncovered its teeth and showed the truth behind its criminal ugly reality without dyes or peels. Six years in which the Western crusade showed us the truth of its democracy, freedom, justice, and [its own] human rights not our humans; the rights of the Western human to enslave every person of others because he who is not from the West is not considered human. He, Westerner, has no shame in occupying their countries, liquidating their resources, bombing their cities, burning their villages, and destroying their homes in the name of defending freedom and establishing democracy.”

“The one-eyed Western democracy only sees democracy as existing only in the West or in the service of the West. But, if the Islamic Front for Rescue won in Algeria, or Hamas won the elections in Gaza, then they don't have [solution] but war, bullying, bombing, destruction, and sanctions.”

“The Islamic Front for Rescue and Hamas gave up on the principles of governing with Sharia, and they agreed to enter elections on the condition of a secular constitution that allows...voting... Hamas agreed to enter elections on the conditions of the Oslo Agreement...and despite all that, the Western crusade did not [cease]....”

“In the recent days, the negotiations circulated in Cairo to force on the Muslim Palestinian public, with schemes and plots, what Israel did not force with killing and destruction.”

“And, the negotiations are run by the same criminals who sanctioned our people in Gaza and prevented their [Palestinian] women, children, and elders to refuge in Egypt. And they prevented the angry Muslim populaces from going to rescue their brothers in Palestine. And for

those who succeeded in reaching their brothers, prison was waiting for them as a punishment for threatening the safety of Israel.”

“With the help of the Americans, they destroyed the tunnels through which our brothers in Gaza were receiving [food] supplies. Those traitor criminals are the ones who are [currently] running the negotiations in Cairo, and continuing the pressure on Hamas's leadership to abide by the quadripartite crusader conditions.”

“Dr. Azzam al-Tamimi: The feeling amongst Hamas, although they do not express it, is that Egypt is who led the battles against Gaza. Omar Suleiman specifically was who led the battle against Hamas and against Gaza.”

...

“Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri: And unfortunately, some leaders continued in the same downward fall entitled Mecca Agreement, so they announced that they're ready to agree with the traitor government in Ramallah based on the Mecca Agreement that includes abiding with the international resolutions.”

“I say to those leaders that the international resolutions must not be respected but must be contempt, removed, detested, and scandalize who accept it and show their betrayal to the nation. How can we respect the international resolutions? Do we respect the Israeli flag raised in Akka, Haifa, Yafa, ar-Ramla, and Asqalan based on the international resolutions?”

“Do we respect the Israeli government based in the occupied Palestine based on the international resolutions? Do we respect Israel's borders and its appropriation of Palestine before the 4th of June of 1967, decided by the international resolutions? Do we respect the end-war status between Egypt and Israel, based on the international resolutions? Do we respect Yasser Arafat and Mahmoud Abbas's recognitions of Israel, and culpability to every jihadi operation, based on the international Oslo resolutions? Do we have to respect the Israeli embassies and the Israeli flag fluttering above it in Egypt, Mauritania, Jordan, and the embassy in Qatar under the title of Office of Commerce, because they were done by international resolutions? And, do we have to, subsequently, respect the Israeli Ambassador, and his embassy's cabinet, in all these countries?”

“How is possible to have in every Muslim heart the precise duty of Jihad to free Palestine, and the rest of the occupied Islamic countries, while respecting the international resolutions?”

“And, I say to these leaders that Mahmoud Abbas, submissive to America and graced by the Crusader West, was given, after years of failed negotiations, nothing, so will they give you, by recognizing and respecting the international resolutions, anything?”

“Then, why abdicate with an enemy who won't agree with less than complete surrender to it? And what is the benefit of a path Arafat walked through and died poisoned? And why accept walking...in a path everyone has...walked [and] lost?”

“And, why accept the traitors who work with Israel openly and explicitly who arrest the mujahideen, torture them, and tell the Jews about their secrets?”

“Muhammad Nazzal, member of Hamas' Political Office: I have an Israeli security plan...this was in '98, and by the way, 10 years passed on it, written on it 'Director of Preventive Security

Office.' This was adopted by the Preventive Security [force]. This document is very, very dangerous, and I believe it must get circulated in the media. The most important thing in this document is establishing a cooperative force between Israel, the United States, and the [Palestinian] Authority for the sake of securing [against] attack[s]...now, of course, who is Terrorism? Terrorism is Hamas and Jihad and so on."

"The cooperative force--watch it!--directs the work of the Palestinian Authority, and monitors implementing operations, and supervises the way they're done. In the plan, there's legislation of a law against terrorism, and implementing the law. Of course...what is terrorism? A law was legislated that prevents establishing charity foundations, and this and that. This plan they started implementing [until] the al-Aqsa Intifada began. After the Intifada, you know...it froze. Now, Salam Fayyad's government in the West Bank is implementing this, and you know, there are the charity foundations, the traditional bases for terrorist organizations...Zakat committees and charity foundations controlled by Hamas...there are suggestions that Salam Fayyadh has implemented [this law]...I have...in 11/29/2007, Jamal Bawatneh, minister of Awqaf and religious affairs, presented a chain of decisions that will result in attacking charity work...103 foundations were prohibited based on this project."

"Al-Jazeera Anchor: Are there American and Israeli pressures they cannot resist? No, no. this is unacceptable...today they're fighting with the Israelis against their own people, and I want to tell you a point...brother Ahmad, one Qassami Mujahid hero was arrested named Awni Sharif."

"Al- Jazeera Anchor: The one who was hiding and it was said that he was killed before?"

"Muhammad Nazzal: Yes. There were rumors that he was a martyr so he can keep doing his work...after six or seven years or hiding and running...the security forces...the Palestinian Dayton forces celebrated because they arrested this heroic mujahid."

[Dr. Abdullah al-Nafeesy]

"Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri: My Muslim and Mujahideen brothers in Gaza: the formula the Jewish crusader campaign tries enforcing on you is simply food and a living in exchange for dropping the weapon. And, because Palestine cannot be freed without Jihad, then the people of Jihad must find an exit. And here I am repeating what I said before: if situations become narrow in some place, they widen up in another place, and our enemies...,crusaders and Jews, are spread everywhere. The second matter: you mujahideen brothers in different Jihad fronts, their minds, hearts, homes, camps, and fronts are [all] open for you and to every Muslim seeking to glorify Islam and Muslims. And they will be honored, and even closer to Allah, with your support, participation, and cooperation with you in one Jihad to one nation against one enemy...so did the message get across?"

"And, back to the [previous] talk of six years passing since the crusaders invaded the Islamic, Jihadi, caliphate of Iraq, so I say: six years erected by Allah grace morals of tawheed, jihad, dearness, and freedom in facing the most fierce Zionist-crusader campaign our Muslim nation encountered throughout history, and the nation discovered its truth and the enormous power it has, and learnt that jihad is what prevents the force of Kafirin, unjust criminals."

[Verse]

[Dr. Abdullah al-Nafeesy]

“Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri: Six years of strong jihadi nucleus in Iraq. This caused failure and is still causing failure to the crusader American project, in the heart of the Islamic World. In Iraq a proud...jihadi nucleus was formed, and heading it is the Islamic State of Iraq, supported by Allah, and the evil powers of foreigners and Arabs gathered against it with war, money, plots, lies, messiness, Fitnas, torture, and invading honors. And despite all that, the jihadi powers remained in Iraq headed by the Islamic State of Iraq; steadfast, solid like a proud mountain, events can shake it and hurricanes can't scare it, from Allah's grace and will.”

“Six years in which the reality of those who shadow themselves with Islam and at the same time they deal with the crusader occupier on occupying Muslim homes in Iraq and Afghanistan.”

“The last six years uncovered the dangerous role of Iran, and its allying powers, in cooperating with the crusader invader against the Muslims in Iraq and Afghanistan. And [to see] how the Shiite clerics who consider themselves representatives of the twelfth Imam did not issue not even one Fatwa that urges jihad and fighting against the occupier crusader kafir enemy in homes of Islam in Iraq and Afghanistan.”

...

“America decided to pull out of Iraq and to leave its agents...,so who forced it to pull out before implementing its plans in the region? Isn't it the sacrificial brave jihadi powers for the cause of Allah, and headed by the Islamic State of Iraq, may Allah support it and sustain it?”

“America decided to pull out of Iraq and to leave it agents in it to face their fate awaiting them, and Allah-willing will hit them like it hit their ancestors in Vietnam, Iran, and others.”

“And, America claims that it destroyed Jihad, which it refers to as insurgency in Iraq. So who forced it to pull out before implementing its plans in the region? Isn't it the sacrificial heroic mujahid forces for the cause of Allah, and headed by the Islamic State of Iraq, protected and sustained by Allah.”

“Six years in which after Bush went to the place he deserves in History after he was saluted in Iraq with shoes. And America came to us with a new face, trying to trick us. A face that calls for change, which is our change--to give up on our faith and rights--not changing their criminality, aggression, larceny and bewilderedness.”

“Adam Kokash, former American soldier in Iraq: What Obama is doing with our foreign policy is not change. Our forces are still and will remain in Iraq under the title of non-combat forces, then our forces will increase in Afghanistan, and they all fight for so-called America's interests; meaning stealing the region's resources.”

“James Trechello, former American soldier in Iraq: Obama continues the policies of President Bush, this is not change. Keeping 50 thousand soldiers and 200 thousand veterans is an incomprehensible matter. They're Americans carrying weapons not fixing schools and hospitals...it's an invasion.”

“Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri: Whatever the explanation was for Obama's victory in the elections,...the truth that cannot be denied is that Obama's victory is an admission from the American people of the failure of Bush and his bandits, and that the people are finished with their stupidity, losses, lies, and hoaxes...And, if Bush and his bandits succeeded and won in Iraq, then why did the American [presidential] candidate criticize them? And, Obama was able to

exploit their failure in Iraq to achieve a historic political victory. If America won in Afghanistan after seven years and in Iraq after 6 years, then why are its soldiers losing self-esteem and the suicide rates increasing...[according to] a survey last year?"

"After six years, Jihad is still continuous in steadfast Iraq, and the Mujahid forces...protected by Allah, are still challenging the American tyranny. And, the crusader forces, with their powerful abilities, broad allies, numerous followers, and the Iranian cooperation with it, are still incapable of containing the jihadi extension in Iraq, but also America is forced to have the Iraqi field open for the jihadi extension, and in front the Islamic State of Iraq, and leave."

"Despite its knowledge and assurance that the Islamic State of Iraq and its mujahidin brothers will not have a decision until the borders between them and Bayt al-Maqdis are broken, and they'll flee to its corners to bond with their brothers there in Jihad against the Jewish Zionists, and rescue al-Aqsa Mosque, Allah-willing."

"And so, today after six years from the crusader invasion of Iraq, I firstly direct thanks to the Mawla raised and glorified on what he provided of solidity and steadfastness to his mujahidin servants in Iraq."

"Then, secondly I direct congratulations, support, and thanks to Islam's lions in Iraq, each one by one, and to the dear jihadi Islamic State of Iraq and its hero Amir Abu Omar al-Baghdadi al-Husseini al-Hashimi al-Qarshi, and to the lion of Islam Abu Hamza al-Muhajir, and their brave brothers."

"And, to my brothers and beloved ones in Ansar al-Islam group, headed by the kind sheikh Abu Abdullah al-Shafi'I and their dear brothers. And to all the groups of the dear jihadi Iraq, I tell you may Allah reward you the best of goodness on behalf of Islam and Muslims in this era, and I ask Allah to accept your sacrifices and reward you the best of goodness, and to group us soon; victorious, liberators in to Bayt al-Maqdis, Baghdad, Riyadh, Cairo, Kabul, and the rest of Islamic homes, and for the Mawla to conclude to us and you with his support, rewards, and generosity until we bring back the Caliphate country proud and towering, even if the kafirin had hate...verse."

"And, may Allah reward you once again on your steadfastness, the purity of your approach, and the clarity of your belief. So, why do you bargain on it, like many others bargained, and of them who claimed to belong to Jihad and tawheed. Steadfastness, then steadfastness O servants of Allah as victory is an hour of patience."

"My brothers, lions of Islam in Iraq: today you are the hope of the nation to reach Bayt al-Maqdis and free Palestine, so be solid and patient as you are in a great trench of Islam..."

"People of Jihad and Tawheed in Iraq, you must unite your words around the word of Tawheed. It is your road to victory and control. Continue with that with as much as you can and Allah will grace, guide and take care of you."

"And, be positive my mujahidin brother in Iraq, starting with Islamic State of Iraq, may Allah support it...Be positive as your brothers in Afghanistan and Pakistan are having the crusader enemy and its puppets bitterness, and are hitting it hard, so pressure on it from your side as your brothers in Afghanistan and Pakistan are pressuring it from their side."

“And, as I ask Allah raised and glorified to reward the best to Iraq's honest and loyal Ulama who gave fatwas on the urgency of jihad against the occupying crusader enemy of the land of Islam. Those who defended the mujahidin's 'Erdh and honor, and who refused to be an instrument in the hands of America and Iran against their Muslim brothers and children in Iraq.”

“I also plea to the Muslim Nation to support the mujahideen in Iraq and specially the Islamic State of Iraq, as this is the shortest way to change the bitter present in the heart of the Islamic World, and heading towards Bayt al-Maqdis and breaking the boundaries and borders the corrupt tyrants had placed between us and our brothers everywhere.”

“And, we will [always] be incapable of stopping the crimes in Palestine, and others of Islamic places, if we don't break these boundaries...And, we will be satisfied [as a result], everytime the Crusader Zionist enemy stands against us and our brothers with a new massacre, with protesting, shouting, giving speeches and lectures, then we turn to our homes broken, miserable and incapable.

“And today, Allah allowed for us this rare opportunity that, in the beloved Iraq, jihad has risen free of governments and regime chains, and a...united mujahid Islamic state was founded. It destroyed the American crusader plan in the heart of the Islamic World, and is burning to head towards al-Aqsa Mosque and Palestine.”

“So, let us support this blessed jihad in the Caliphate of Iraq, and let us support this patient young country and to not back away from this obligation and that responsibility as Allah will bring down on us His punishment and discontent...”

“And, I dedicate with my call the honest Ulema of the nation who have and still crack with truth, and those who unveiled for the nation the facts. And, they showed the who the traitors were; allying with the crusaders and Jews, and who the honest mujahideen were; those who sacrifice with their souls and money and everything they own for the [nation] dearness and glory.”

“I ask the nation's honest Ulema to scandalize the collaborator traders of faith who cooperated with the crusader occupier in Iraq and Afghanistan, and did not until this day issue one Fatwa to fight the Crusaders in Iraq and Afghanistan. And how could they issue fatwas against those who brought them on the heads of their spears to govern? And, I ask them to encourage the nation to go to the different Jihad battlefields, and especially in Iraq as it is the gateway to Bayt al-Maqdis, Allah-willing.”

“And, to warn the nation about the discouraging Ulema who ask the nation to sit and leave the mujahideen in the face of the crusader campaign at the time of which the mujahideen did not stop encouraging the nation. The mujahideen encourage the nation to jihad with its children and money, and the others encourage them on sitting and receding and even give hypocrite compliments to the traitors sanctioning Gaza, and commence the Arabic initiative to recognize Israel.”

“And, I ask the honest Ulema of the nation to encourage the nation on seeking to change the corrupt and corrupting leaders who cooperate with the Crusader occupier against Islam and Muslims in Iraq, Afghanistan, Palestine, Algeria, and Somalia. And, to unveil for the Muslim nation the truth about these regimes and leaders who were placed by the crusader occupier in Afghanistan, Iraq, Ramallah, and Somalia, and who came o atop the crusader tanks, under their flags and security.”

“And, in the conclusion of my speech, I would like to dedicate two letters, the first to the Americans and the other to the Muslims.”

“The letter to the Americans, I tell them: Six years after the invasion of Iraq, and more than seven years [after] the invasion of Afghanistan,...[Americans]still...taste the consequences of Bush's stupidity and his bandits', but the new president Obama did not change....”

“America is still the one killing Muslims in Palestine, Iraq, and Afghanistan, and is the one stealing their resources, occupying their lands, and supporting the thieving corrupt traitor leaders in their countries, so subsequently the problem did not end but is [actually] getting bigger and increasing.”

“The Muslim nation...rejects surrender to humiliation and demands punishment for the criminals. And this is what your leaders try to...[hide] from you and trick you in[to believing] that capturing X or killing Y or torturing Z will protect America from dangers.”

“Kill, torture, and imprison who you want, but that won't change anything from the determination of jihad against you, as you are facing the nation of jihad, tawheed, and patience that stood in the face of your injustice and crimes. And, what Obama is seeking...[in] increasing the military...[presence] in Afghanistan, and the continuation in raiding Pakistan, is pouring oil on the already burning fire, and will have you encounter more losses, casualties, and handicapped. And, Obama claims his readiness to negotiate with the reformed Taliban, of which he is fooling you, fooling himself, or both together.”

[Munir Shafiq]

“Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri: [The] Taliban and all the mujahideen in Afghanistan and Pakistan are fighting under the Emirate of Amir of the believers Mulla Muhammad Omar, protected by Allah, and he is the heroic Muslim mujahid who dared you with Allah power and support, so Allah had him steadfast. And here you are getting defeated facing his mujahideen, that is why Mulla Muhammad Omar said a word that'll be written in the history of Islam and humanity with golden water.”

“And he said it in the hardest of times when the storm of the crusader occupation was surrounding Afghanistan. He said: ‘Bush promised us...defeat, and Allah promised us...victory, and we will see which of the promises is more truthful.’”

“So, did you Americans learn anything? Or are you still with your materialism following Obama who'll guide you towards the fate of the British and Russian in Afghanistan?”

“What Obama is claiming that he'll solve...the problem(s) of Iraq and Afghanistan by negotiating with Iran is another delusion he's tricking you with. In Afghanistan, Iran doesn't dare to step in it one step, and it best knows the Afghan people and their history, and all Iran can do is supply its agents in Afghanistan with supplies, weapons, and money, and it is a matter the Islamic Emirate in Afghanistan has stood against before, and it cornered Iran's agents in 5% of Afghanistan's territory. But in Iraq, Iran will not be able, with its limited power and the enmity it instilled in the hearts of Muslims and mujahideen, to succeed in what you have completely failed with all your power and might. Your cooperation with Iran has stained Iran's face and distorted its image in front of all Muslims. And as much as you cooperate with it, as much as the hatred of Muslims increased towards it, as this is a plan foreseen to fail because it will provoke the Muslim

Nation and will encourage it and unveil for it the dimensions of the dangerous Iranian role in stabbing the nation in the back.”

[Munir Shafiq]

“Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri: But, my letter to the Muslims I tell them: six years [have] passed since the invasion of Iraq, in which the mujahideen were steadfast like solid heroes coming to death. The news of their victory has started waving with the American...pull out, so take note of those brave heroes. America shouldn't horrify you with its noise and chaos, lies and trickery. Your mujahideen brothers have stepped on its nose in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Somalia, and America and its allies of crusaders and Jews are declaring today the most vicious crusader campaign in history....”

“...and don't be cheap...with money, which is the vein of jihad....”

“O Allah! Create for this nation a rational matter in which your obedient people are dear, and in which your disobedient ones are humiliated, and in which endorsement of virtue and prevention of vice.”

“And our last prayer thanks due to Allah Lord of the Worlds, and prayer of Allah upon our master Muhammad and his family and companions.”

“Peace [be] upon you and Allah's mercy and blessings.”