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Audio Message from Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri Issued by as-Sahab Addressed to Muslims: “Set Out and Support Your Brothers in Somalia” – January 2007



The voice of Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri, al-Qaeda’s number two, is featured in a 5:32 minute video produced by as-Sahab, the group’s multimedia arm, which features a still shot of Zawahiri from a previous release. The SITE Institute intercepted the video which will soon be released. Titled: “Set Out and Support Your Brothers in Somalia,” Zawahiri calls upon Muslims everywhere, specifically those Yemen, the Arab Peninsula, Egypt, North Africa, and Sudan, to participate in the jihad and provide Somali Muslims with men, experience, money, and advice to defeat the Ethiopian forces, who he refers to as the “slaves of America”. Addressing the Somali Muslims directly, the al-Qaeda leader refers to the U.S. military’s campaign in Somalia between 1992 and 1994, reminding that they have been defeated before, and due to the strikes of the Mujahideen in Afghanistan and Iraq, the American army is relatively weaker. Zawahiri then advises: “You have to use ambushes and mines, and raids and suicidal attacks until you rend and eat your prey as the lion does with his prey”.

Zawahiri also directly calls upon the youth of the Egyptian Islamic Group [al-Gama’a al-Islamiyya], indicating to them that they must, too, participate in the jihad. He states that these members joined the group to obey Allah, and if they are prevented from that duty, “they must crush the sarcophagus where they were embalmed alive”. Further, Zawahiri continues claims of a Mujahideen victory over the United States in Afghanistan and Iraq, and urges patience and steadiness as they will be defeated in Somalia, also.

Following is a transcript:

Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri (may Allah preserve him)

Set Out and Support Your Brothers in Somalia

Zul Hijjah 1427

In the Name of Allah, praise is unto Allah, Lord of all Mankind; peace and prayers upon the Prophet Muhammad, his family, and who followed him. Greetings to all Muslims over the world.

<Static image of Zawahiri from his April 2006 video speech>

0:20

I'm talking to you today about the Ethiopian Crusader forces attacking the land of the beloved Somalia, and the Security Council's conspiracies in issuing a resolution to send international forces to Somalia and deny the issuance of a resolution to withdraw the Ethiopian forces from Somalia.

I am here calling upon the Muslim Ummah in Somalia to resist in this new battlefield of the Crusaders' war, which is launched by America, its allies, and the United Nations against Islam and Muslims. The United Nations, which divided Palestine, and made a legitimate cover to invade Iraq and Afghanistan, now offers a new service for the Crusaders' allies with the leadership of America against the Somali Muslim Mujahid.

My Muslim brothers in Somalia, don't worry about the power of America, you already defeated it with the Help of Allah, and today, it is weaker than before. The Mujahideen already broke its back in Afghanistan and Iraq. Then she sent you its slaves. Don't worry about the first shock; it is not more than empty propaganda, arrogance, and boasting. The real battle will start by your campaigns against the Ethiopian forces, with the Help of Allah, as the gangs of believers will eat up, by rushing to jihad for the Sake of Allah, the invader Ethiopian Crusader army who attacked the Islamic land, Allah willing, as it happened in Afghanistan and Iraq where the most powerful force in the world was defeated when they faced the campaigns of the Mujahideen gangs who wanted Paradise. They will then be defeated by the Somali Muslim Mujahid land, Allah willing.

2:24

You have to use ambushes and mines, and raids and suicidal attacks until you rend and eat your prey as the lion does with his prey. You have in your jihad to adhere to your doctrine of allegiance and enmity and raise the Qur'anic slogan: <Qur'anic Verse>. This is one of the greatest secrets in the success of jihad in Afghanistan and Iraq. Everyone who helps the invaders is like them and should be judged the same, and there is no dignity.

I call upon my brothers the Muslims everywhere to participate in jihad in Somalia. I call upon the lions of believing in Yemen and I call upon the lions of Islam in the Arab Peninsula, the birthplace of conquest. I call upon my brothers, the lions of Islam in Egypt, Sudan, the Arab Maghreb [North Africa], and in every land of Islam: set out and support your brothers in Somalia by souls, money, advice, and experience, and hurt the slaves of America, which sends them to do their death instead [of their own forces].

3:44

I call upon Muslims everywhere to support their Mujahideen brothers who are fought by America and its slaves because they chose the Shari'a of Islam over the law of robbery, bribery, corruption, wrongdoing, and being agents. They have to take vengeance against them until they believe in Allah Almighty who has the kingdoms of heaven and earth. Allah is a witness. I ask them not to hear any call to abandon the support of their assaulted brothers.

And I call upon my brothers, the young men of al-Gama'a al-Islamiyya, to let them know that they didn't join this group but only to obey Allah. And if something prevents them from that, they must crush the sarcophagus where they were embalmed alive. Let them come out from these graves in which they are buried before death.

You Muslims in Somalia: I bring you the good news that America and its slaves will be defeated, with the Help of Allah, in Somalia as Allah defeated it in Afghanistan and Iraq. But be patient and steady. Allah said: <Qur'anic Verse>.

The last of our supplications is praise be unto Allah, Lord of all Mankind, and Allah's peace and prayers be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and companions.

May Allah's mercy, peace, and prayers be upon you.