

Periodical Review: Summary of Information from the Jihadi Forums

The First Half of February 2011

This report summarizes the most prominent events mentioned in the Jihadi online forums over the course of the first half of February 2011. Following are the main issues raised in this report:

- Anwar Al-Awlaki addressed the media in an audiotape, calling for the real face of the United States and its agents to be exposed.
- The 16th issue of the "Sada Al-Malahem" magazine was published.
- A member on Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb's Sharia Committee stated that every Muslim is duty-bound to join the Jihad in the Maghreb.
- Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb claimed responsibility for the attempted assassination of the Mauritania President.
- The "Islamic State of Iraq" organization called to Egypt to found an Islamic religious state.
- One of Ayman Al-Zawahiri's deputies in the Egyptian "Islamic Jihad Group" expressed his support for the demonstrators in Egypt.
- The "Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen" movement in Somalia started a television channel.

New publications

Ideology

- Anwar Al-Awlaki's audio segment, titled "A message to those in the field of media", was published. Following are its main points:¹
 1. Accusing the U.S. and the West - according to Al-Awlaki, the U.S. and the West, in the name of 'freedom of speech', allow all forms of heresy and everything but the truth, which would expose their real face. Al-Awlaki attacks President Obama for signing a bill permitting homosexuals to serve in the army. He states that "the U.S. and its agents" are promoting the illusion of liberty, democracy and human rights, but in fact are taking over the world's resources, exploiting people and robbing them of their rights.
 2. A call to free Arab journalists - Al-Awlaki mentions imprisoned Arab journalists who have been incarcerated for exposing the true face of "the U.S. and its agents", such as Tayseer Allouni, Sami Al-Hajj and Abd Al-Ilah Haidar Shaea. According to him, the West wants to silence the voices and even fight to block the "Wikileaks" website. He calls to the media not to forget the crimes of the Yemen government who collaborated with the Americans in bombing the homes of Yemen residents, and to publish it. He also urges the media in the Islamic world not to become a pawn in spreading America's interests. He stresses that anyone who dares to expose the U.S. corruption is accused of being a terrorist. He concludes with supporting Shaea, and calls on all the journalists in Yemen and outside of it, on his tribe and on the people of Yemen to help him.

¹ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

- The "Al-Malahem" Jihadi media institute, operating on behalf of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, published a video titled "Death of the Traitors 2".² The video focuses on the Mujahideen's reaction towards the Yemen Security Forces. The Yemen Security Forces have been accused of heading a policy of oppression against the Muslim residents and of collaborating with the Americans and the "Crusaders" against the Mujahideen, for example by providing intelligence regarding their activity. The video also addresses the security coordination that exists between the Yemen Security Forces and the Houthis. As a result of the Security Forces' actions, the Mujahideen have begun eliminating security officers and attacking their institutions as part of their "Actions for the purging of the Arabian Peninsula of the contamination of spies and collaborators". As of now, dozens of officers have been eliminated in various districts in Yemen.

Furthermore, the video addresses the Mujahideen's kidnapping and execution of the Deputy Director of State Security in the Sa'adah District, General Muhammad Salih Al-Husam. In the video, the General admits that he has taken part in a number of crimes, such as: "the destruction of homes of innocent people, the abduction of several religion students from the Dammaj Center in Sa'adah".



The execution of Muhammad Salih Al-Husam

² <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb>

- Several Jihadi forums reported that the Al-Maqreze Center for Historical Studies, which operates from London under the management of Hani Al-Siba'i, an Egyptian Islamist living in London, claimed it has received on February 3rd, 2011, an audio message from Sheikh Abu Hamza Al-Misri. Abu Hamza is currently in prison; his audio message is directed to the Egyptian people. Abu Hamza's statement was recorded during a telephone conversation he had had with his family in English, as he is prevented from speaking in Arabic for security reasons, except in extraordinary circumstances.³



Abu Hamza, 53 years old, born in Egypt, is serving today a seven-year sentence in Britain for inciting Muslim believers to murder heretics. He is wanted in the United States on 11 counts. According to the American indictment, Abu Hamza is accused of attempting to found a terrorist training camp in Oregon between 1999 and 2000, and of providing support to the Taliban and Al-Qaeda.

- One of the surfers on the "Shumukh Al-Islam" Jihadi forum posted a request made by Sheikh Hussein bin Mahmud, a pseudonymous of an apparently popular commentator in the global Jihadist community. The request was to publish, as soon as possible, Sheikh Abu Musab Al-Suri's book, "The Sunni in Al-Sham in conflict with the Nusayriyyah,⁴ the Crusaders and the Jews" on every forum, every website and everywhere. One of the forum supervisors

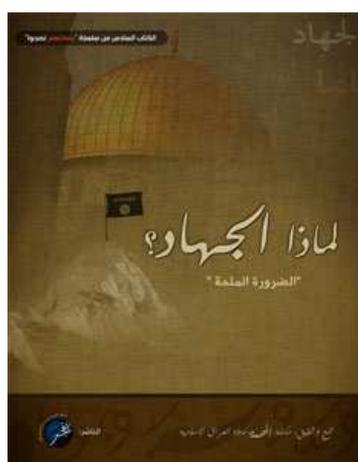
³ <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>

⁴ A synonym for the Alawi congregation in Syria, which includes the Syrian elite, including the Syrian President, Bashar Al-Asad.

complied with the request and announced the opening of a virtual workshop for the surfers, where the book as banners containing select quotes could be published.



- The "Al-Fajr" media center published the book "Why Jihad? - A Pressing Need", written by the late Sheikh Abu Al-Hassan Al-Filastini, who was Al-Qaeda in Iraq's former religious authority. The book was published in coordination with the "Al-Himmah" Library of the "Islamic State of Iraq". It is the sixth book in a series of publications titled "With Their Blood They Advised".⁵



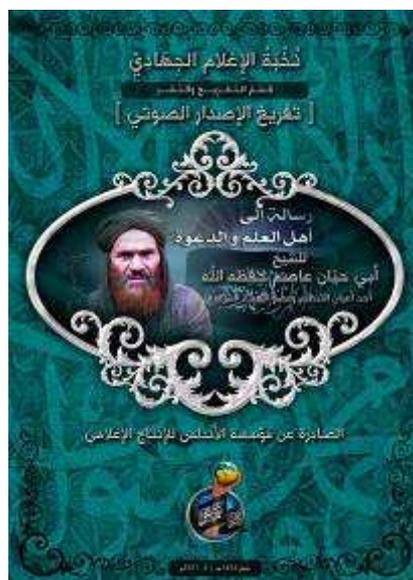
- The "Al-Kataib" channel, a television channel operated by the "Al-Kataib" media institute, which belongs to the Somali "Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen"

⁵ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

movement, aired a video summarizing the organization's activities over the course of the past year.⁶



- The "Al-Andalus" institute published statements made by Sheikh Abu Hayyan Asim, who is a senior member of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb and a member of the Sharia Committee. His statements are directed at religious clerics in the Maghreb countries.⁷ According to the Sheikh, Islam today is under physical, ideological and cultural attack. The Crusader-Jew alliance, and its allies from amongst the Muslim regimes, have all banded together to weaken Islam. **Therefore, the Sheikh states, every Muslim must join the Jihad under Al-Qaeda's flag, in the Maghreb and everywhere else, against the enemies of Islam".**⁸



- The Jihadi forums published an audio segment by "one of the humble [Muslim women]" titled "Cries of pain and a request for aid from the righteous soldiers

⁶ <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb>

⁷ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

⁸ <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>

of the Arabian Peninsula".⁹ In the audio segment, a Muslim woman appeals to the people of the Arabian Peninsula and speaks of Muslim women's dishonor, torture, etc. at the hands of the Yemen Security Forces.



- An announcement was made on a new GIMF contact page regarding the "Facebook" social network.¹⁰



⁹ <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>

¹⁰ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

Strategy

- The "Jihad Media Elite" Jihadi propaganda group published an audio segment by Sheikh Khalid Al-Rashid, a Salafi-Wahabbi sheikh who was sent to a Saudi prison for criticizing the country's policy. In the audio segment, the Sheikh calls to the nation to mobilize and to fulfill the Jihad commandment, whether by physically leaving for the battlefield or by providing funding. This audio segment was published as part of the "Equip Us" campaign.¹¹



Instructional and Guidance Publications

- The "Al-Fajr" Jihadi media institute published the 19th audio segment in the series of publications called "The Creation of Horror: a Course in Security and Intelligence". The segment, which features Sheikh Abdullah Al-Adm, is titled "The Secret Interview and the Meeting".¹²
- One of the surfers on the "Shumukh Al-Islam" Jihadi forum published an 80 page long booklet titled "Security and Intelligence". The booklet groups together 22 chapters (in PDF format and audio segments) as well as a chapter

¹¹ <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb>

¹² <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb>

by Abdullah Al-Adm dealing with planning special operations, security, transport and more.¹³



Magazines

- The 16th issue of the "Sada Al-Malahem" magazine was published. The issue contains, amongst other things, several articles dealing with the explosive charges that had been sent to the U.S. on UPS and FedEx cargo planes. These articles discuss the objectives of the operation and the way in which the explosives passed undiscovered by the security systems and the X-ray machines at the airports. In addition, the issue contains articles dealing with the Houthis, with the Jihad theater in Somalia and with the situation in Gaza.¹⁴

¹³ <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb>

¹⁴ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

صدى الملاحم

مجلة دورية تصدر عن تنظيم قاعدة الجهاد في جزيرة العرب



السنة الرابعة - العدد السادس عشر - صفر ١٤٣٢ هـ



Reports from the field

Afghanistan - Pakistan

- The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan published an announcement on the "Victory of the popular revolution in Egypt". In the announcement, the Emirate congratulates the Egyptian people for the historical victory and its success in overthrowing President Mubarak after 30 years in government. Furthermore, the Emirate expresses its hope that the Egyptian people will now be wise enough to establish a free and just Islamic government and that they will act to thwart the plots of foreign enemies. According to the Emirate, the current situation in Egypt holds several clear messages for the Americans and their collaborators, such as the likelihood that the Afghan people will rise

up in a popular Intifada against their American occupiers due to the aggression they are showing in Afghanistan.¹⁵

Iraq

- The "Islamic State of Iraq" organization published an announcement titled "From the Islamic State of Iraq to our Muslim residents in beloved Egypt". Following recent events in Egypt, the "Islamic State of Iraq" organization wished to clarify several points with this announcement:¹⁶
 1. The Egyptian people must strive to empower a ruler that will instill the laws of Allah.
 2. Jihad for Allah and against his enemies is the religious duty of every Muslim.
 3. The enemy facing the Egyptian people is the enemy fighting Allah, scorning his religion, making alliances with its enemies, etc. This enemy is embodied in the tyrannical rulers.
 4. The Egyptian people must organize their ranks, maintain a solid connection amongst themselves and help the weak. Furthermore, the use of weapons is the voice that is heard most of all.
 5. The Egyptian people have the supreme duty to free the prisoners in the Egyptian prisons.
 6. There is no truth to the claims meant to instill fear amongst the demonstrators. The enemies are plotting against Egypt and the demonstrators are asked not to flinch in face of them.
 7. Jihad today is expressed in helping Allah's religion, in helping those exploited and those discriminated against amongst the Egyptian people, in

¹⁵ <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>

¹⁶ <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>

helping the people of Gaza, in helping the people of Iraq and every Muslim suffering under the tyrannical rulers.

- The "Islamic State of Iraq" organization published a report summarizing the terrorist activities (28 terrorist attacks) it has carried out in the southern region of Iraq, such as placing explosive devices, assassinating collaborators, etc.¹⁷
- The "Hanein" Jihadi forum reported that, according to security sources in Iraq, Al-Qaeda has succeeded in recruiting Shiites to its ranks.¹⁸

The Arabian Peninsula

- A surfer from Yemen posted that he has tried to visit Islamist prisoners being held in the "Political Security" prison in Sana'a in order to ascertain their condition, but that he was prevented from doing so by the Yemen Security Forces. In the post, he reveals that he has received information from inside the prison that the prisoners are on a hunger strike. The surfer says he has met with the father of the Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula leader, Abu Basir Al-Wahishi, who told him that the Yemen Security Forces broke the legs of the organization's leader's brother, Abd Al-Salam Al-Wahishi. The Amir's cousin, Al-Humam, is also imprisoned.¹⁹

The Maghreb

- Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb issued an announcement in which it claimed responsibility for the attempted assassination of the President of Mauritania on February 11th, 2011.²⁰ In the announcement, the organization calls on the

¹⁷ <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb>

¹⁸ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

¹⁹ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

²⁰ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

Mauritania Army to overthrow the President, who is perceived by Al-Qaeda as an agent of France, and stresses that it shall continue in its efforts to eliminate him until it succeeds.²¹

- The general manager of the "Atahadi" Jihadi forum, Salman bin Muhannad, published a video clip titled "Adel Jawadi, one of the Mujahideen who is a member of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb".²²



- A surfer posted a message on behalf of three former prisoners from Tunisia who fled Tunisia after the riots and came to Algeria to join Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb. In the message, the three former prisoners say that they were arrested in Tunisia after being accused of belonging to the Salafi-Jihadi movement and have now managed to reach Algeria and wish to join Al-Qaeda "in order to join hands against the enemies of Allah all over the Islamic Maghreb".²³
- A surfer posted a message that he received from someone who is in contact with prisoners in one of the prisons in Morocco. The message was written following the downfall of the presidents of Tunisia and Egypt. In the message, the prisoners express their desire to see the downfall of the Moroccan royal

²¹ <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>

²² <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>

²³ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

house. They also address the oppression, injustice and torture of the citizens and of the prisoners.²⁴

The Al-Sham region

- On February 4th, 2011, the "Ma'sadat Al-Mujahideen" Palestinian Jihadi organization published an announcement of support for the demonstrators in Egypt.²⁵ A week later, on February 11th, the organization published another announcement congratulating the demonstrators for their victory over Mubarak's tyrannical regime.²⁶
- The "Al-Ma'asada" media institute published a book titled "A valuable research: Will popular demonstrations succeed in Syria?" by Sheikh Abu Al-Zahraa Al-Zubeide.²⁷

According to the Sheikh, the Baath regime in Syria and the ruling Asad family have shed the blood of innocent Muslims more than any other ruler. In his eyes, the purported conciliatory policy led by Bashar Al-Asad towards the people of Syria is an illusion. His support of Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad and the Lebanese Hezbollah, as well as his ties with Iran, Turkey, Iraq, Russia and other countries, which give him the alleged image of an obstacle to peace in the Middle East, are also meant to confuse public opinion.

However, in actuality, Bashar Al-Asad's regime is waging an all out war against the Muslims and serves as a shield for Israel's security. For example, since Israel's conquering of the Golan, he has not initiated any missile launches from his territory nor has he carried out any raid against the Jews. There is also an agreement between Hamas and Syria which limits Hamas'

²⁴ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

²⁵ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

²⁶ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

²⁷ <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb>

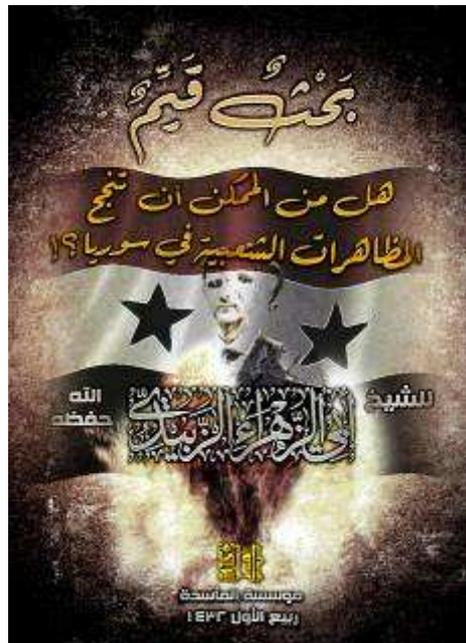
activity only to the Gaza Strip and its surrounding areas outside of Israel. In addition, the Syrian prisons are filled with many Muslims.

Despite the above, the Sheikh believes that demonstrations against the Syrian government such as those held in Egypt and Tunisia will not succeed for the following reasons:

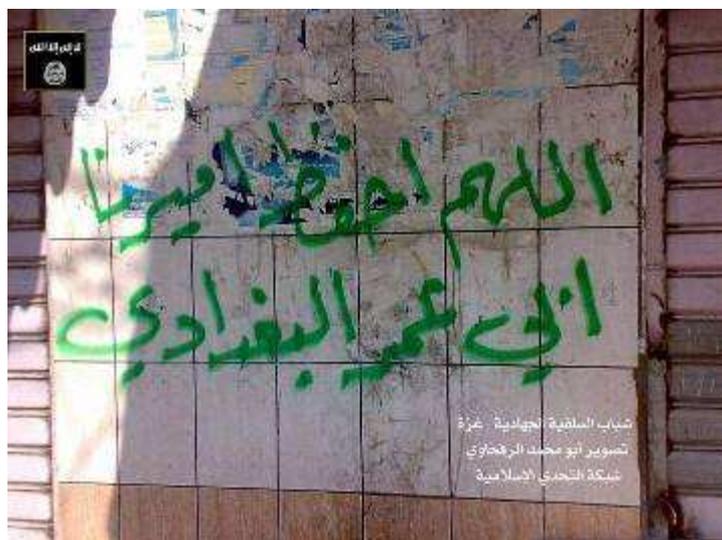
- a. The Syrian regime is constantly misleading with great success the public's opinion by presenting the illusion that it is a regime opposing the West and defending the rights of Muslims as well as those of the Palestinians.
- b. The Syrian government is ready for any provocation and popular Intifada with its Security Forces, and with aid from Hezbollah and Iran.
- c. Unlike Egypt, there are no opposition parties in Syria that can inflame the masses.

According to the Sheikh, this should not prevent believers from acting to change the existing government in Syria, especially in view of the fact that its government is Alawi and is in fact a minority, as most of the people in Syria are Sunni.

Furthermore, the Sheikh explains that "What is important is that Syria must be the arrowhead amongst the people of the Uniqueness of God and Jihad, as it is next to Palestine, it is the gate for Iraq [...] and that is where the wars will be waged". According to the Sheikh, everyone must join a massive propaganda campaign that exposes the true face of the Syrian regime, such as by highlighting the massacre at Hama in 1982, by addressing the funds stolen from the people by the government, by exposing the Shiitization going on in the country whose majority is Sunni, etc.



- One of the surfers on the "Atahadi" Jihadi forum published photographs of graffiti painted by "the Salafi Jihadists boys" against the Shiite in the Gaza Strip.²⁸



The graffiti says: "Allah safeguard our Amir Abu Omar Al-Baghdadi",
the late Amir of the "Islamic State of Iraq"

²⁸ <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>



The graffiti days: "Shiia is a heretic congregation"

Egypt

- It should be noted that the "Al-Jahafil" forum was filled with updates on the events in Egypt. The surfers posted gloating comments regarding the government's downfall and called out insults at Mubarak and his entourage.
- The Al-Maqreze Center for Historical Studies, operating from London under the management of Hani Al-Siba'i, and Egyptian Islamist living in London, noted that it had received an email message from Thirwat Salah Shehatah, a senior Al-Qaeda commander and one of Ayman Al-Zawahiri's deputies in the Egyptian Islamic Jihad group.

It should be noted that the Jihadi forums frequently publish Hani Al-Siba'i's statements, placing them alongside other official Jihadi publications. This message too was published on the Jihadi forums. In the message, Shehatah expresses his support for the Egyptians demonstrating against President Mubarak's rule and implores them to complete the process of his impeachment. "We at the [Egyptian] Jihad group express solidarity with our Muslim people in Egypt [...] We would like to have been in the front row, to take part with you in this honor and to serve as your shield... However, a barrier has been set between us. The "Turra" and "Al-Aqrab" prisons [are under] massive guard and the "Abu Za'bal" [prison] is full of Mujahideen who

are serving an oppression life sentence!!.. and the rest were forced to leave the country to join the Mujahideen in other arenas. After the government has fought us".

Shehatah, 51 years old, worked in the past as a lawyer in the Al-Sharqiyya Province in Egypt. In 1981 he was imprisoned following the assassination of Egypt's president, Anwar Al-Sa'adat. However, three years later he was released from prison. Since then he has been arrested several times and later left for Pakistan, Sudan, Yemen and eventually settled down in Afghanistan, where he lived until the U.S. invasion in 2001. Since then, he has been out of touch and many rumors concerning his fate have circulated, in addition to rumors of his arrest by Iran and about his tours between the tribal regions. He was a member of the Shura Council of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad group. An Egyptian military court sentenced him to death, in absentia, due to his involvement in the affair of "Those returning from Albania" in 1999. It is possible that today Shehatah is in the Khorasan region.²⁹

- The Al-Maqreze Center for Historical Studies published a list of senior officials from the Egyptian government (52 names) who served under Mubarak. The list is titled "Wanted criminals who have harmed the Egyptian people and the nation should be prosecuted in the Sharia Court and anyone protecting them should also be prosecuted".³⁰

²⁹ <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb>

³⁰ <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb> ,http://www.almaqreze.net/ar/images/Most_Wanted.pdf



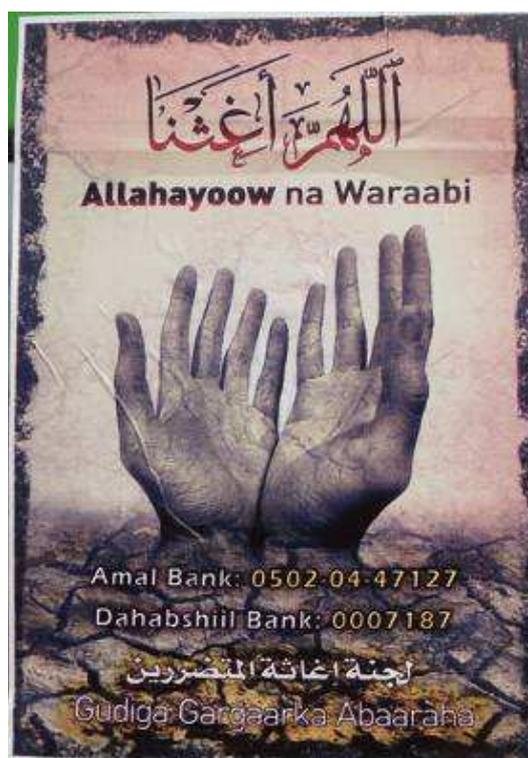
- A message was issued by a group calling itself "The Islamic Preaching of Alexandria" before Hosni Mubarak's resignation from office as Egypt's President. In the message, the group calls to maintain Egypt's identity as an Islamic state based on Islamic law and demands to hold free elections, to abolish the emergency laws, to appoint "people who place their faith in Allah" to public office in government offices and public institutions, to fight corruption, to reform the media institutions who distort the image of Muslim and of Islam, and to end the discrimination of Islamists in the field of employment.³¹

³¹ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

Africa

- The Somali "Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen" movement published an announcement. In the announcement, the movement reveals that its Rescue Committee has sent a convoy of dozens of trucks loaded with flour, grain and oil to 7,500 families who are victims of draught in the Hiran and Shabelle Provinces. From photographs of the convoy, a banner hanging from one of the trucks can be seen, with the bank details of the Rescue Committee:³²

Amal Bank – 05020447127; Dahabshiil Bank – 0007187



³² <http://www.alqimmah.net>



- The "Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen" movement announced the success of the experimental ground broadcasts of the "Al-Kataib" news channel in Somalia, and boasted that this constitutes a defeat for the Somali government which does not have a television channel.³³ The channel has broadcasted a film published by the movement about a CIA agent, whose nickname was Ahmad Keysi, who was executed in northern Mogadishu. The film reveals that Keysi began working for the CIA in 2004, when he was recruited in Djibouti.³⁴



³³ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

³⁴ <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb>



General reports

- A surfer revealed that since February 7th, 2001, Sheikh Abu Musab Al-Suri has been held in a prison in Damascus under the surveillance of "Military Intelligence Branch 215". The surfer also mentioned that a Muslim prisoner was moved from Pakistan to this prison.³⁵

Miscellaneous

- The "Atahadi" Jihadi forum announced that on February 6th, 2011, an open forum with Sheikh Dr. Hani Al-Siba'i, an Egyptian Islamist living in London who heads the Al-Maqreze Center for Historical Studies, would commence. According to the announcement, the discussion will go on for three and a half hours using the Paltalk famous chat software in the "Minbar Al-Ansar" chat room. The topic of discussion will be "The people's revolution in Egypt: a reaction to the misconceptions about the Salafi - questions and answers about the revolution".³⁶
- The "Atahadi" Jihadi forum published links to an audio segment of an open forum held with Sheikh Abu Basir Al-Tartusi, a Salafi-Jihadi sheikh of Syrian

³⁵ <http://al-jahafal.com/vb>

³⁶ <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>,
http://www.almagreze.net/ar/infusions/the_kroax/embed.php?url=608

origin currently living in England. The open forum discussion concentrated on the recent events in Egypt. The discussion took place using the Paltalk famous chat software in the "Palestine, the Quran and the Sword [according] to the path of the righteous Salafi" chat room. Amongst other things, the Sheikh spoke of the demonstrators' duty to continue with their protests, and of the duty of the Ulama, the sheikhs and the preachers to join the protests.³⁷

- One of the surfers on the "Shumukh Al-Islam" Jihadi forum posted correspondence containing an appeal to the forum's surfers to pay attention to the organized propaganda war waged by some groups against the Mujahideen on "YouTube". According to the surfer, those helping the Mujahideen must "begin a new phase against the enemies of Allah and the Mujahideen on the internet, which we will begin with a campaign to purge "YouTube" of the lies of those slandering Allah's friends and the Mujahideen". In the correspondence, the surfer explains that this war should be manifested in several ways:³⁸

1. Following and locating videos defaming the Mujahideen in all languages, especially English, French, German, Russian and Spanish. According to the surfer, he has already succeeded in locating about 200 such videos, all in Arabic.
2. The links to these videos must then be sent privately to the surfer who authored this post (the campaign's initiator).
3. Once the links are received, the surfer will classify the videos into several groups. Up to now he has divided them into 44 groups of 5 videos each.

³⁷ <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>

³⁸ <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb>

4. The surfers participating in the campaign will be sent a group of videos which they will ask "YouTube" to remove from the network, "thus purging YouTube".
5. The results of the campaign will be published in this forum.

