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Communiqué from "Al-Qaida's Jihad Committee in Mesopotamia" (Abu Musab al-Zarqawi)

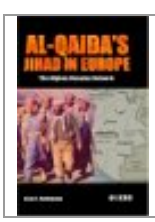
March 16, 2005

"A statement on behalf of Al-Qaida's Military Commander regarding the withdrawal of Italy from Iraq."

"In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful:"

"All praise be to almighty Allah and prayers to his messenger Mohammed, his family, and supporters. A letter from Abu Usaid al-Iraqi to all our mujahideen—may Allah support and reward them. What you are seeing now is the ripe fruit of your hard work… Allah has prepared paradise for the mujahideen to be among the prophets and the righteous. O' brothers in faith, may Allah bless you and your holy jihad because you have completely fulfilled your task… now you are following in the steps of the followers of the prophet. You are declaring jihad in the same way they did before you. No one else has followed in the steps of the prophet as you have, so keep following that path because it is an act of goodness. We say to those who have been humiliated in the land of Mesopotamia and we tell the Italian cross worshippers that we vow never to stop fighting you, and we ask Allah to help us in striking your necks… this is the same way the prophet used to deal with these evil people. Italy has abandoned Iraq because the numbers of its casualties and losses and increased. O' Allah, attack the Jews and Christians because they are weak in your presence. O' Allah, you are our guide and destiny, and we fight in your cause."

Abu Usaid al-Iraqi – Commander of the Military Wing
Al-Qaida's Jihad Committee in Mesopotamia
6 / Safar / 1426 - March 16, 2005



Al-Qaida's Jihad in Europe: the Afghan-Bosnian Network

"For Bin Laden's involvement in the Bosnian conflicts, see Evan F. Kohlmann, Al-Qaida's Jihad in Europe." - U.S. 9/11 Commission Final Report (July 2004)

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