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Al-Qaida in Saudi Arabia: excerpts from “The Laws of Targeting Petroleum-Related Interests”



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“The Laws of Targeting Petroleum-Related Interests and a Review of the Laws Pertaining to the Economic Jihad”, by Shaykh Abdullah bin Nasser al-Rashid (a.k.a. Abdelaziz bin Rashid al-Anzi)—may Allah release him from prison...”

“In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious Most Merciful... These days Allah has enabled us to expand the battlefields of the jihad. Praise be to Allah, many Muslims are waking up from their state of distraction, as they answer the call for jihad in the name of Allah, and fulfill what Allah has ordered them to do. One of the areas that our knights have focused their strikes on is the oil industry. This includes a variety of petroleum-related interests such as oil wells, oil production facilities, pipelines, and individual leaders in the industry. The mujahideen have been making an effort to destroy such targets, and competing with one another in their drive to set these targets ablaze and bomb them. Praise be to Allah, these operations have had a great impact. After all, oil is a vital resource for the modern industrial world, and a resource that is fundamental for the economies of the industrialized infidel countries. Oil enabled America to dominate the world, after it succeeded in taking over the source of oil in the eastern part of the Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, and


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other countries as well. The mujahideen have recently targeted a number of petroleum-related interests. As expected, these attacks were among the most powerful blows dealt to the enemy. These attacks dealt a blow to the economies of the infidel crusader countries. Among these operations were the two attacks in Yanbu in which the Bani Ansar who executed them, may Allah have mercy upon their souls, became martyrs. Another example is the operation that was carried out by the Al-Quds Brigade that targeted the crusaders in Khobar..."

"...The conclusions that I have reached in my study, thanks to Allah's guidance, are briefly summarized by the following points:

- 1.) The targeting of oil facilities is a legitimate means of economic jihad. Economic jihad is one of the most powerful ways in which we can take revenge on the infidels during this present stage.
- ...
- 3.) The infidels do not own what they have seized from the Muslims. It is still Muslim property.
- 4.) The demolition of infidel property as part of a war is legitimate, as long as the benefits outweigh the costs of such an action.
- 5.) It is okay to destroy Muslim property if infidels have seized control of it, or if there are fears that something like this may happen. This is true as long as the potential damage of the infidels making use of this property is greater than the potential benefit that can be obtained when this property is returned to Muslim hands.
- 6.) There are four types of oil related interests:
 - a. Oil Wells: The targeting of oil wells is not permitted as long as an equally powerful alternative exists. This is because the negative consequences of such an operation outweigh the benefits...
 - b. Oil Pipelines: These are among the easiest targets to attack. The benefits of attacking pipelines outweigh the costs.
 - c. Oil Facilities: These are not to be targeted if they are privately owned by a Muslim. Individual leaders from the petroleum industry: these are among the easiest targets to attack, and the benefits of such operations far outweigh the disadvantages—as long as [spilling] the blood of the person who is being targeted is permissible. As for industry leaders whose blood has not been permitted, they should not be targeted except in situations where there is no other choice but to attack a facility they are currently located in..."



[Top]: Saudi anti-terrorist commandos storm a housing complex for Western oil workers in Khobar seized by Al-Qaida gunmen in May 2004.

[Bottom]: The aftermath of an Al-Qaida terrorist attack on Western nationals in the Saudi Red Sea oil and petrochemical hub of Yanbu, May 2004.

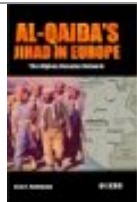
"...The following is a list that explains how damage is inflicted upon the infidels by attacks on oil facilities:

- 1.) Rising oil prices: The countries that are hurt the most by rising oil prices are the industrialized superpowers. America—may Allah rid us of her soon—is the number one



reputation. It also raises concerns over the future, and could indeed have an effect on production when certain individuals who are active in the oil market are targeted. It is forbidden to kill a person simply because he works for one of the oil companies, unless it is evident that he is helping the infidels against Muslims. For example, if the individual supplies the American military in Iraq with fuel, guards the crusaders that work inside the oil facilities, guards one of the American occupiers, or [guards] the bases of the agents in Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula. If one of the people whose blood is sacrosanct is present in one of the facilities, and there is no choice other than to attack this facility, then killing him for the sake of the broader interest is permitted. Unless he was a sinner, such a person will become a martyr, Allah willing... It is imperative, nonetheless, to avoid shedding such a person's blood whenever this is possible, and Allah knows best. These operations offer the greatest reward, because of the insignificant and virtually non-existent costs that are associated with them when infidels are the ones who are subject to attack..."

"Signed: the evening of the 26 Rabi al-Thani 1425 [June 15, 2004]. This document was later edited and reviewed in distant councils. The most recent of these reviews was held on Sunday evening, 29 Dhul Qadah [January 9, 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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