Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb: Urgent Warning to the Countries of the European Captives (January 12, 2012)

On January 12, 2012, Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) issued an "urgent warning to the European nations who have hostages held by our organization." AQIM stated that European support for a "military attack on the mujahideen in north Mali will be taken as their approval for executing their citizens." AQIM then addressed the hostage's families: "You must pressure your governments to avoid... this military operation that will surely cause the death of your relatives."

"Recently we heard from trustworthy sources that there are numerous movements by the Crusader alliance, headed by France, and of their assistants and followers in the coastal region, headed by the Algerian and Mauritanian regimes, that clearly signal their definite preparation to launch a military operation to target the Mujahideen in an attempt to rescue the Western hostages held captive by the organization."

"And it clearly appears that France and her agents didn't learn from the past lessons, and they have no intention to avoid repeating the previous stupidity that made them cause the death of the French hostages in Niger and Mali. And accordingly, in order to clear our conscious in front of the public opinion, and especially the families of the hostages in France, Britain, Holland and Sweden, we announce the following:"

“1- We send a clear warning to the government of the aforesaid countries; France, Britain, Holland and Sweden, that their stances a military attack on the mujahideen in north Mali will be taken as their approval for executing their citizens...”

“2- If the military operation causes the death of the hostages, their blood will be divided on everyone who participated in this [inevitable] aggression, and the European governments and their followers of governments of the coastal region will bear the full responsibility for what happens.”

“3- The Mujahideen do not wish for such a tragic ending, and they are careful to find a peaceful and just resolution for the affair of the hostages. And based on it, we direct an urgent call to the families of these hostages; we say to them: you must pressure your governments to avoid...this military operation that will surely cause the death of your relatives.”

“4- We demand from the media of the European countries in question to shed the light on this risk and political adventure the governments are going to wage, careless toward the blood of their citizens.”
“And finally we say to France and her allies: how many stupidities will you experiment? And what is the necessary number of your citizens you have caused and will cause the death of in order to be convinced that your policy toward the Mujahideen is a wrong policy and needs revision?”

“And he who has warned has been excused.”

“And our last prayer is praise Allah Lord of the Worlds”

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