



INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM RESEARCH

A Centre of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

A Call To Arms



DETAILS

Video Code	AE10-025	Date of Download	8 Mar 2010
Main Voice	Adam Yahya Gadahn	Date of Video	7 Mar 2010
Website	Al-Fallujah Islamic Forums http://202.71.102.68/~alfalof/vb/showthread.php?t=106367	Duration	25 min 26 sec
Producer	Al-Sahab	Language	English with Arabic Subtitles

DESCRIPTION

This 25 minute video produced by Al-Qaeda's official media wing Al-Sahab was released on 7 March 2010 and widely posted on Arabic extremist forums. It features Adam Gadahn aka Azzam Al-Amriki, the American Al-Qaeda spokesman, praising the bombing of C.I.A base in Khost and a ranking officer of the U.S. Army, Major Nidal Malik Hassan for his "courageous" assault on Fort Hood in early November last year. In light of his bravery and defiance, Gadahn urged Muslims to follow in the footsteps of Major Nidal. He suggested that any aspiring 'martyrs' who are planning an attack should not limit their weapon choice to just firearms and explosives. Citing September 11 as an example, he said that 'a little imagination and planning and a minimal budget could turn anything into a deadly, effective and convenient weapon'. Targets of attack should not only be US military bases but also other strategic places and institutions around the world 'that epitomize Western decadence, depravity, immorality and atheism' and are of major interest and concern for U.S. and its allies. Gadahn reminded Muslims that unsuccessful attempts of attacks on Western mass transportation could also cause serious financial

damage to the US and the West in general.

ANALYSIS

This latest Adam Gadahn video follows the shootings at Fort Hood US military base in Texas. The date stated in the video (Muharram; the first month in the Islamic calendar) explains the relevance in terms of the time this video was probably recorded i.e. late December to early January, although the delay in release is questionable. The focus of Gadahn's video this time appears to be attacks executed in U.S. military bases particularly the Fort Hood shooting and the call for more lone wolf attacks in the U.S. Despite the fact that Major Nidal Hassan has no affiliation with Al-Qaeda or any other Islamist militant organizations, Gadahn chose him as a role model for aspiring mujahideen worthy to be followed. The video calls for more attacks not only on US military bases but other strategic targets of high value and importance to the US as well as its accomplices. September 11 was also mentioned as an example of employing other than firearms and explosives. The usual Al-Qaeda rhetoric of 'jihad against the Zionist-Crusaders and it is the duty of every Muslim' was reiterated before the end of the video. Other than doubts raised in the forum regarding the alleged capture of Gadahn, the response seen in extremist forums is predictably and unsurprisingly positive.

Coincidentally, reports of Gadahn's capture in Pakistan were circulated the day the video was released. However, Pakistani officials later affirmed – with confirmation from US intelligence - that the suspect was not Gadahn but another American suspected to be AQ operative whose name - Abu Yahya Mujahideen Al-Adam - resembles Gadahn's, hence the mistaken identity. Adam Gadahn remains at large.