



IntelCenter

al-Qaeda Messaging/Attacks Timeline
v1.7

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INTRODUCTION

The al-Qaeda Messaging/Attacks Timeline covers statements and other significant public and semi-public communications by al-Qaeda and its affiliates. The timeline also covers significant attacks by al-Qaeda and its affiliates. All attacks appear in bold type.

This version covers the period from January 2003 to 21 May 2004. The prior period from 29 December 1992 to the end of 2002 is available in "The al-Qaeda Threat: An Analytical Guide to al-Qaeda's Tactics & Targets" by Ben Venzke and Aimee Ibrahim (ISBN 0966543734 - <http://www.intelcenter.com/alqaedathreat>).

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TIMELINE

January 2003	Osama bin Laden Statement "Islamic Action Between Causes of Consensus and Advocates of Disagreement"
January 2003	Ayman al-Zawahiri Book on pillars of allegiance and disavowal in Islam
January 2003	Da'wah and Jihad Emir Abu Usamah al-Kuwaiti Interview, Threatens Attacks in Kuwait al-Sharq al-Awsat
January 2003 (est.)	Ayman al-Zawahiri Article "Until When Will We Continue To Ask These Questions?"
6 January 2003	Ayman al-Zawahiri Letter to Montasser al-Zayat asking him not to doubt the purpose of 9-11 attacks
February 2003	Osama bin Laden Audio Tape
February 2003	Abu Mohammad al-Ablaj First email to al-Majallah
11 February 2003	Osama bin Laden Audio Tape
19 February 2003	Sulaiman Abu Ghaith Article calling for jihad support, warns about pending war in Iraq
March 2003	Saif al-Adel Article "Message to our People in Iraq and the Gulf Specifically, and to Our Islamic Ummah in General: The Islamic Resistance Against the American Invasion of Qandahar and Lessons Learned"

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March 2003	Saif al-Adel Article "American Commandos Operations in Afghanistan"
March 2003	Thabit bin Qays Interview, reemergence of al-Neda al-Sharq al-Awsat
12 March 2003	Um Osama Interview, announces female martyrdom units
13 March 2003	Sulaiman Abu Ghaith Article "Divine Tests on the Path of Jihad"
April 2003	Osama bin Laden Audio Tape, calls for martyrdom operations
3 April 2003	Al-Qaeda Statement concerning US involvement with Afghanistan and Iraq
7 April 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Email to al-Majallah stating that the group had finished preparations to attack the Saudi regime and the rear of the US Army
10 May 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Email to al-Majallah stating recent arrests in Saudi Arabia did not derail attack, plans moving forward
10-11 May 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Email interview with al-Majallah, threatens to execute attacks in Gulf countries, says suicide bombers ready
12 May 2003	Vehicular Bombing Chechen Nadterechnyy District Administration Building Znamenskoye, Chechnya
12/13 May 2003	Vehicular Bombings Western Housing Compounds Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

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14 May 2003	Assassination, Suicide Bombing Chechen Administration leader Akhmad Kadyrov Iliskhan, Chechnya
16 May 2003	Suicide Bombings Places of Gathering Casablanca, Morocco
21 May 2003	Ayman al-Zawahiri Audio Tape, threatens Arab countries cooperating with US
25 May 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Interview, threatens attacks against US al-Majallah
29 May 2003	Unknown al-Qaeda Members Statement, threatens attacks against Saudi royal family
21 June 2003	Abu Haris Abdul Hakim Video, claims Mombasa & Riyadh attacks
22 June 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Interview, discusses al-Qaeda targeting and strategy al-Majallah
5 July 2003	Suicide Bombings Krylya Open-Air Rock Festival Tushino Airfield, Russia
19 July 2003	Mohammed bin Ahmad al-Salim Book "Thirty-Nine Ways for Serving Jihad and the Mujahideen"
23 July 2003	Abdullah bin Nasser al-Rashid Book "Invalidating the Objections to the Riyadh Bombings: Destroying the Objections of 'Islam Today' of al-Islam al-Youm on the Attack of the 11 th of Rabi al-Awal"

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August 2003	Youssef bin Saleh al-Ayiri Book "The Future of Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula After the Fall of Baghdad: The Religious, Military, Political and Commercial Future"
August 2003	Youssef bin Saleh al-Ayiri Audio Tape
1 August 2003	Vehicular Bombing Russian Military Hospital Mozdok, Russia
3 August 2003	Ayman al-Zawahiri Audio Tape, concerning al-Qaeda prisoners
5 August 2003	Vehicular Bombing JW Marriott Hotel Jakarta Indonesia
7 August 2003	Vehicular Bombing Jordanian Embassy Baghdad, Iraq
9 August 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Statement al-Majallah
18 August 2003	Abdel Rahman al-Najdi Audio Tape, concerning al-Qaeda efforts in Iraq
19 August 2003	Vehicular Bombing UN Headquarters Baghdad, Iraq
September 2003	Youssef bin Saleh al-Ayiri Book "The American Military Encounters in the Arabian Peninsula"
September 2003	Islamic Studies and Research Center Book, "explains America's economic, cultural, political and military losses from the Manhattan attack to the latest events in Iraq."

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3 September 2003	Abdel Rahman al-Najdi Audio Tape, denying responsibility for the assassination of Mohammed Baqer al-Hakim and threatening more attacks inside and outside the US
3 September 2003	Islamic Studies and Research Center Book "The Attack of 11 Rabi 1: The Operation of East Riyadh and Our War with America and its Allies"
10 September 2003	The Sahab Institute for Media Production Video, includes Said al-Ghamdi's martyrdom tape "American Hell in Afghanistan and Iraq"
21 September 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Email interview with al-Majallah, threatens future attacks, talks about planning, impact of arrests, WMD, Iraq and Afghanistan
28 September 2003	Ayman al-Zawahiri Audio Tape, attacking Pakistani President Musharraf
17 October 2003	The Sahab Institute for Media Production Video, includes martyrdom tapes of May Riyadh attackers and audio recording of attack "The Wills of the Heroes"
18 October 2003	Osama bin Laden Audio Tape aired on al-Jazeera, threatens attacks against forces joining US in Iraq, also threatens attacks in US
24 October 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Email interview with al-Majallah, threatens US trade in the Gulf
27 October 2003	Saif al-Adel Article in Sawt al-Jihad #2 Writes about US strikes against al-Qaeda & Taliban in Afghanistan after 9-11 "Knights Under the Prophet's Banner"

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30 October 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Email interview with al-Majallah, threatens attacks against US during Ramadan
November 2003	Article in Sawt al-Jihad #3 Recounting of the firefight between al-Qaeda and Saudi security forces in the al-Suweedi neighborhood of Riyadh "al-Suweedi Battle"
8 November 2003	Vehicular Bombing Muhaya Housing Compound Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
12 November 2003	Vehicular Bombing Italian Military/Police Base al-Nasiriyah, Iraq
13 November	Abu Salamah al-Hijazi Threatens an al-Qaeda strike around the end of Ramadan against US
15 November 2003	Vehicular Bombings Neve Shalom & Beth Israel Synagogues Istanbul, Turkey
15/16 November 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Email interview with al-Majallah published, al-Ablaj claims bombing of synagogues in Istanbul, Turkey and the bombing of the Italian HQ building in al-Nasiriyah, Iraq for al-Qaeda, threatens Japan
20 November 2003	Vehicular Bombings HSBC Bank HQ & British Consulate Istanbul, Turkey
21 November 2003	Islamic Studies and Research Center (unconfirmed) Video, contains operational footage of attacks against coalition forces in Iraq "American Hell in Iraq"

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21 November 2003	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Email statement to al-Majallah, claims bombing of British targets in Istanbul, Turkey for al-Qaeda, threatens new al-Qaeda attack between Eid al-Fitr (Around 25 Nov.) and Eid al-Adha (1/2 Feb.)
3 December 2003	The Sahab Institute for Media Production Video, includes martyrdom tapes of al-Qaeda members killed by security forces in Saudi Arabia "The Martyrs of Confrontations of the Arabian Peninsula"
Around 8 December 2003	Abu Osama Interview, says new Sahab video will be released before Eid al-Adha (1/2 Feb.) but after "great event"
19 December 2003	Ayman al-Zawahiri Audio Tape, marks the 2 nd anniversary of the battle of Tora Bora in Afghanistan
4 January 2004	Osama bin Laden Audio Tape, mentions capture of Saddam Hussein
4 February 2004	The Sahab Institute for Media Production Video, includes video of the Nov. 2003 al-Muhaya attack "Badr al-Riyadh: The Assault on the Crusader al-Muhaya Settlement and Discovering Important Details"
24 February 2004	Ayman al-Zawahiri Audio Tape, mentions French move to ban head scarves in school
6 March 2004	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Email statement to al-Majallah, addresses reasons why an al-Qaeda attack did not occur between Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha
11 March 2004	Bombings Four Commuter Trains Madrid, Spain

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13 March 2004	Abu Dujan al-Afghani Video, claims responsibility for 11 March Madrid train bombings for al-Qaeda
25 March 2004	Ayman al-Zawahiri Audio Tape, calls for overthrow of Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf and his government
29 March 2004	Abdul Aziz al-Moqrin Article in "Camp al-Battar Magazine" "The Targets Inside Cities"
15 April 2004	Osama bin Laden Audio Tape, offers truce to Europe
21 April 2004	Vehicular Bombing Traffic Directorate Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
22 April 2004	Al-Haramayn Brigades, claims responsibility for 21 Apr. bombing of Traffic Directorate in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
24 April 2004	Vehicular Bombings Khawr al-Amaya oil terminal near Basra, Iraq
26 April 2004	Abu Musab al-Zarqawi Statement, claims responsibility for attack on Khawr al-Amaya oil terminal near Basra, Iraq
27 April 2004	Abdul Aziz al-Moqrin Audio Tape, denies responsibility for 21 Apr. bombing of Traffic Directorate in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; affirms targeting priorities
29 April 2004	Abu Musab al-Zarqawi Audio Tape, confirms plans to attack Jordanian General Intelligence Department (GID) in Amman, Jordan; denies possession of chemical weapon
2 May 2004	Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj Email statement to al-Majallah, states al-Qaeda did not execute 21 Apr. bombing of Traffic Directorate in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; states the attack was by the al-Haramayn Brigades which he implies has an affiliation with al-Qaeda

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6 May 2004

Osama bin Laden
Audio Tape, offers gold for assassinating US
and UN officials as well as civilian and military
personnel from Japan, Italy, Britain and other
countries operating in Iraq

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