

Begin Summary:

From 'Abdallah Abu Zayd 'Abd-al-Hamid to "our Shaykh and Emir, Abu Mus'ab 'Abd-al-Wadud". Subject: A letter from the Emir of the Nigeria group. Imam Abu Bakr Shiku, who assumed power of the Nigeria group after the death of Imam Muhammad Yusuf, sent three brothers to us: Abu Muhammad Amir al-Masir, Khalid al-Barnawi, and Abu Rayhanah. They had previously lived with us in the Tariq Ibn Ziyad Battalion and we know them well and have close ties with them. They want to have ties between their emir and the emir of AQIM and set up comms via Internet and phone. They want to have an intermediary who is based in Niger. They request cooperation between us and them and mentioned having a big problem with weapons and money. They want to take brothers out of Nigeria and bring them here for training. They would like to consult regarding waging jihad in Nigeria.

I asked if they were already an organization or if they wanted to join an organization, and they said the Imam wants to talk about that himself, but he is ill due to wounds he received in the last war. I asked about weapons and money and they want them now because some of the brothers are despairing. They have about 200 brothers they want to train here. They would come here for training and then return to Nigeria and then another group would come.

I told them that training is divided into two kinds: practical training, for which we cannot set a time limit, and theoretical training, which is less beneficial. The matter of an intermediary based in Niger should be easy to manage, but it needs to be done in complete secrecy, and experience has shown that his lifespan will be short. Regarding communications, I told them it will be easy, it happens all the time.

They also mentioned they want wage guerilla warfare and that the enemy in their land is preoccupied with corruption. They are also having problems with explosives, with explosive material and with buying the materials. They have 1000 detonators.

I asked how things are going in Nigeria and they said they are preparing for war. They have bought 1000 rounds of Kalashnikov ammunition. However, they only have 15 Kalashnikovs with one magazine each, and they were used in the last war. The rest fell into enemy hands or are broken. They have an rpg7 launcher and one inert projectile.

Then I asked about their centers. They have a large center in Borno called Ibn Taymiyah. This center has a mosque, a house for the Imam, a university that teaches Shari'ah knowledge, and a library. There are centers in other states, including another one that is like the large one. They are in Kano, Dalo (دلو), Yula (يولا), Adma (ادما), and Kaduna (كادونا). There are centers in other

states, but they may only have a mosque or a school. They are in Kasna (كسنا), Sokoto, Fataskan (فتسكن), Yobe, Qombro (قمبرو), Darnaqbi (درنقبي), Mobe (موبي), Bami (بامي), and Diffa, Niger. There are about 5000 students overall. They stated that the brothers set up these centers. Originally, they had gone to the mosques, but owing to some problems, they set up these centers.

They recounted several stories of the enemy's aggression against them (shootings in the mosques, setting fire to the Imam's house, etc.). Two hundred brothers have been killed. When they withdrew, individually or in groups, some went to other countries and others went to the jungle. The enemy is unforgiving and will kill you for any offense. There are a lot of wounded brothers. They recounted another event in which the brothers raided an enemy center and took forty rifles. They escaped into the jungle and have not been heard from since.

They said they have been waging jihad, trying to kill the biggest of the criminals, but have achieved nothing so far. Right now they are trying to avoid confronting the enemy except through martyrdom operations and IEDs. Once they have real bases in the mountains or the jungle, then they can launch attacks.

They said that what is happening now in Nigeria had happened to Muhammad 'Ali and that Imam Muhammad Yusuf died after being arrested and tortured. They also told me the story of how they came to name themselves Boko Haram.

My dear shaykh, we are waiting for your response. Please don't keep them waiting.

Monday, 3 Ramadan 1430