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## The Illinois Shopping Mall Plot

Report #3 in a NEFA series, "Target: America"  
A NEFA analysis of U.S. v. Shareef  
June 2007  
\*Updated December 2007\*

[The NEFA Foundation is releasing this updated "Target: America" report in light of Derrick Shareef's guilty plea and the public release of a number of documents, including summaries of FBI interviews of Shareef and an informant, as well as an 123-page prosecution filing filled with transcripts of recorded conversations. The material sheds new light on Shareef's plan to target an Illinois shopping mall, his desire to attack U.S. military facilities in America, his relationship with indicted terrorist Hassan Abujihad, and his radicalization process.]

### **U.S.-Based Plotter**

On January 4, 2007, federal prosecutors in Chicago indicted Rockford, Illinois resident Derrick Shareef (a.k.a. Talib Abu Salam Ibn Shareef) on one count of attempting to damage or destroy a building by fire or explosion and one count of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction.<sup>1</sup> On November 28, 2007, Shareef — who converted to Islam when he was sixteen<sup>2</sup>— pled guilty to attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction.<sup>3</sup>

Prosecutors believe that Shareef was acting alone. As the Department of Justice notes, "at all times Shareef allegedly was acting on his plan between November 29, 2006, and December 6, 2006, Shareef was in contact with only an acquaintance [CS], who unbeknownst to him was cooperating with the FBI, and an undercover agent who was posing as the cooperating individual's friend."<sup>4</sup>

That cooperating witness was William "Jamaal" Chrisman, a former gang member and crack dealer who served jail time for attempted armed robbery and possession of a stolen car.<sup>5</sup> Chrisman, who has received \$22,000 for assisting the FBI in a number of investigations since 2001, decided to help the government because "after

<sup>1</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL.), No. 06-CR-919, Indictment, Filed January 4, 2007.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>3</sup> "Rockford Man Pleads Guilty in Foiled Plan to Set Off Grenades in Rockford Shopping Mall," Department of Justice Press Release, November 28, 2007, [http://nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/FeaturedDocs/U.S.\\_v\\_Shareef\\_DOJPR\\_GuiltyPlea.pdf](http://nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/FeaturedDocs/U.S._v_Shareef_DOJPR_GuiltyPlea.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> "Federal Task Force Arrest Rockford Man in Foiled Plan to Set Off Grenades in Rockford Shopping Mall," Department of Justice Press Release, December 8, 2006, [http://www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/Chicago/DOJPR\\_Indictment.pdf](http://www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/Chicago/DOJPR_Indictment.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> John Christoffersen, "Hearing Shows Informant's Work," *Associated Press*, December 1, 2007.

9/11 Muslim scholars in Saudi Arabia and Morocco said that it was incumbent on Muslims to stop terrorists."<sup>6</sup>

The FBI tasked Chrisman to approach Shareef at the Illinois video game store at which he worked. The same day they met, Chrisman convinced Shareef to move in with him. Chrisman commented, "He was supposed to move in with his manager. I told him he was better off staying with me, a Muslim staying with a Muslim."<sup>7</sup>

### **The Target**

Shareef intended to detonate grenades in garbage cans at the CherryVale Shopping Center in Rockford, Illinois.<sup>8</sup> The mall, located approximately 90 miles west of Chicago, has approximately 130 retail stores.<sup>9</sup>

A FBI summary of a debriefing of William Chrisman states, "Shareef and source had discussed targets for attacks, and came to the conclusion that a shopping mall during the holiday season is an easier target, and it would hurt the holiday season all over the country if a mall were attacked...Shareef and source anticipated that the mall would be very busy...due to Christmas sales..."<sup>10</sup>

Transcripts of recorded conversations provide further insight into Shareef's mindset. When Chrisman suggested that they "disrupt Christmas," Shareef enthusiastically responded, "Oh hell yeah, the mall is where it's at."<sup>11</sup>

FBI recording devices also capture Shareef acknowledging that he was seeking to attack "any place that's crowded."<sup>12</sup>

### **Selecting a Date for the Attack**

According to William Chrisman, the attack was slated to occur on Friday, December 22, 2006.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Michael Mayko, "FBI Informant Testifies in Terror Case," *Connecticut Post*, November 30, 2007.

<sup>7</sup> Michael Mayko, "FBI Informant Testifies in Terror Case," *Connecticut Post*, November 30, 2007.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006. Note: On July 31, 2007, Nuradin Abdi, a Somali national living in Columbus, Ohio, pled guilty to conspiring to provide material support to terrorists. In June 2004, authorities had charged that Abdi, "along with co-conspirators, including admitted al Qaeda member, Ayman Faris, initiated a plot to blow up a Columbus area shopping mall..." A different government court filing cited a conversation between Faris and Abdi in which "Abdi told Faris that 'things were heating up'" and that they "need to do something." When asked what they should do, Abdi responded, "take an AK-47 to a mall and start shooting." See: U.S. v. Abdi, (S.D. OH.), No. 2:04-CR-88, Plea Agreement Under Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)c & Government's Motion to Detain Defendant and Memorandum in Support, Filed June 14, 2004 & Government's Response to Motion of Defendant to Suppress All Statements Allegedly Made by the Defendant and All Evidence Seized in Violation of the Fourth Amendment, Filed July 1, 2005.

<sup>9</sup> "Federal Task Force Arrest Rockford Man in Foiled Plan to Set Off Grenades in Rockford Shopping Mall," Department of Justice Press Release, December 8, 2006, [http://www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/Chicago/DOJPR\\_Indictment.pdf](http://www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/Chicago/DOJPR_Indictment.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

<sup>11</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>12</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>13</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

## **Procuring Weapons**

On December 6, 2006, federal authorities arrested Shareef when he attempted to trade stereo speakers for four hand grenades and two handguns during a meeting with an undercover agent in a store parking lot.<sup>14</sup>

Prior to his arrest, Shareef spoke of buying guns on the west side of Rockford.<sup>15</sup> And during a November 9, 2006 meeting with the undercover agent, Shareef inquired about the price of AR-15s, AK-47s, Glock 33s, body armor, and hand grenades.<sup>16</sup>

## **Conducting Surveillance at the CherryVale Mall**

Shareef carried out surveillance at the CherryVale Mall on November 30 and December 1, 2006. (During both trips, FBI surveillance teams followed Shareef.)<sup>17</sup>

During the November 30<sup>th</sup> surveillance, Shareef and Chrisman spent their time "walking around the mall property and discussing the layout of the mall." The FBI recorded Shareef saying, "I think...if we...do something like this, we...gotta do it simultaneously, like you would have to hit one spot and I'll do another one."<sup>18</sup>

According to the FBI, on December 1<sup>st</sup>, the men "walked around the mall measuring the amount of time it would take to walk from one point in the mall to other points."<sup>19</sup> To keep track of time, they used Chrisman's cell phone.<sup>20</sup> Evaluating escape routes, they assessed a nearby escalator and door, selecting the door to exit through.<sup>21</sup>

During their December 1<sup>st</sup> dry run, they also discussed the best way in which to carry out the attack. A FBI affidavit and a FBI interview of William Chrisman provide vivid details on that planning.

Chrisman told FBI agents that "both would wear hoodie-type sweatshirts with large front pockets from which they could pull pins on grenades"<sup>22</sup> unseen, then roll them under food stands. They would then walk out at a quick pace, dropping more grenades as they went in quick succession. They anticipate that a grenade takes about

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<sup>14</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>15</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 1, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted November 30, 2006.

<sup>16</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>19</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>20</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

<sup>21</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

<sup>22</sup> When Chrisman asked Shareef whether he would have attempted the attack without him, "Shareef said he would have done the attack without source, but Shareef would not have had access to grenades without source. Shareef said he would have done something though." *See*: U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

15 seconds to detonate."<sup>23</sup> Shareef worried "it would be hard trying to do three, though, 'cause that's three pins you gotta pull."<sup>24</sup>

Chrisman further explained to the FBI that:

"Shareef had an idea that they should drop grenades in a garbage can. Source added that items such as nails would cause a lot of casualties. Shareef said that he could put nails in a Krispy Kreme bag at some point before the attack, then sit down next to a trash can. Shareef would then eat a donut and put the bag into the garbage. At a later point, a grenade would be put into the same trash can and would explode with the nails."<sup>25</sup>

Shareef gleefully exclaimed: "That's pandemonium. The garbage going to be shrapnel."<sup>26</sup> He also commented, "If Allah wills a lot of people around that garbage can, that place is crowded."<sup>27</sup> In a prior conversation, Shareef had remarked, "the last thing anybody gonna be thinking about at the mall is a damn grenade"<sup>28</sup>

When Chrisman told Shareef that women would likely be killed in the attack, "Shareef responded with words to the effect that 'They kill ours.'"<sup>29</sup> Notably, Shareef had listened to a speech by Al-Qaida propagandist Adam Gadahn (a.k.a. Azzam the American), "during which Azzam stated it was okay to kill women and children."<sup>30</sup> Moreover, according to Chrisman, "Shareef made a joke about a guy who would be trying to finish eating a corn dog with one arm while the other had just been blown off."<sup>31</sup>

### **Recording a Martyrdom Video**

According to a FBI affidavit, Shareef recorded a martyrdom video, which, the affidavit states, "is common for individuals planning attacks on civilians as part of violent jihad."<sup>32</sup> In his video, recorded on December 2, 2006, Shareef said:

"This may be my last will and testament, the last words that I have spoken to those who know me, to those who do not know me. My name is Talib Abu Salam Ibn Shareef. I am 22 years of age. I am from America, and this tape is to let you guys know, who disbelieve in Allah, to let the enemies of Islam know, and to let the Muslims alike know that the time for jihad is

<sup>23</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

<sup>24</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>25</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

<sup>26</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>27</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>28</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>29</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

<sup>30</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

<sup>31</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

<sup>32</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

now...Be strong, oh Mujahideen. Be strong oh brothers who want to fight for jihad..."<sup>33</sup>

He continued,

"This is a warning to those who disbelieve, that we are here for you, and I am ready to give my life...May Allah protect me on this mission we conduct...So do not cry, do not mourn for me. Do not believe what the kafir [infidel] will say about me when you read in the newspapers and when you see the television articles about me. Do not believe this. Understand that your son is a strong man...who believes and fears his Lord to the degree that he will give his life."<sup>34</sup>

The FBI further notes that, in a separate conversation, Shareef told Chrisman, "I swear by Allah man, I'm down for it too, I'm down for the cause, I'm down to live for the cause and die for the cause, man."<sup>35</sup>

Additionally, Shareef and Chrisman "engaged in a discussion about shaving their body hair and meditating to prepare." Analyzing this conversation, FBI Agent Jared Ruddy writes, "based on my training and experience as well as the context of the call, I believe that the CS [Chrisman] and Shareef were discussing the preparations they would undertake prior to committing an attack."<sup>36</sup>

### **Formulating an Escape Plan**

Shareef told FBI agents that he had been "uncertain if he would die in his attack but was 'ready to defend Islam; to die in submission to Allah.'"<sup>37</sup> If he had survived, he and Chrisman planned to "lay low in Maine, or possibly in Chicago" following the attack. Moreover, prior to his arrest, Shareef expressed a desire to escape to Morocco.<sup>38</sup>

### **Shareef's Excitement re: Possible Recognition by Usama bin Laden**

When Chrisman noted that Usama bin Laden "will be talking about" him after the attack, "Shareef reacted very positively to this observation, and praised Allah that it would be so."<sup>39</sup>

However, Shareef told Chrisman that "the heros [sic] of Islam don't fight for headlines," so he would be indifferent to media attention.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>34</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>35</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>36</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>37</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 3, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

<sup>38</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 1, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted November 30, 2006.

<sup>39</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

<sup>40</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 3, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

### **Shareef's Relief over His Arrest?**

During a FBI interview on December 7, 2006, Shareef informed FBI agents that he "viewed his arrest by the FBI as a blessing from Allah because the FBI stopped him from doing something that Allah would have chastised him for."<sup>41</sup> "Aware that "he does not have the authority to speak on behalf of Islam," Shareef asserted that he would "rather spend the rest of his life in jail than live with the torment of having killed innocent people and having acted against Allah's desires."<sup>42</sup>

Shareef told FBI agents that he had been "pushing himself to conduct the attack on the mall" and that "no one could have stopped" him, "not even his mother." He believed "it was the right jihad."<sup>43</sup>

### **Additional Information – Researching Synagogues to Attack**

In a conversation with Chrisman, Shareef acknowledged researching synagogues during the summer 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war:

"I'm ready man, these Kafirs [a term translated as 'infidel'] don't give a damn about us, niggers don't care what happens to the Umma [an Arabic word meaning community or nation that is commonly used to mean the collective nation of Islamic states], about sisters getting raped, about brothers losing their (UI). They don't care, man. All they care about is (UI)...I probably would have eventually ended up just stabbing the shit outta some Jews or something. Just stabbing them niggers with a steak knife."<sup>44</sup>

Shareef continued,

"Dude, I ain't gonna lie. Because during that war with Hezbollah, man, I had already started to look at synagogues out here and in the DeKalb area and everything. I was looking at synagogues, I was doing Mapquest...One of them was down the block from the masjid [mosque], I knew that they do their thing on Saturdays, right. I was like, I'm gonna lay low out here, I'm gonna camp out overnight, be out there on Friday night after Jumma [Friday payer] or Saturday morning about 12:00 or 1:00 o'clock., I be there. And as soon as I see them fools going in the building, I had planned on trying to grab one, depending on how it was, niggers trying to run in the building all at once and open up shop, I was just going to go over there and shank one or two of them."<sup>45</sup>

Shortly thereafter, Shareef added: "They definitely gonna know that this shit ain't over, and they not as safe as they thought."<sup>46</sup> Despite this rhetoric, a summary of a FBI

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<sup>41</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 3, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

<sup>42</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 3, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

<sup>43</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 3, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

<sup>44</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>45</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>46</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

interview of Shareef states, "Shareef thought about attacking the synagogue but did not have any specific plans or a date set."<sup>47</sup>

Notably, members of a Los Angeles terror cell, who pled guilty in December 2007, also "conduct[ed] surveillance of synagogues in the Los Angeles area in preparation to kill Jewish persons."<sup>48</sup>

### **Additional Information – Considering Targeting Government Facilities**

During a recorded conversation with Chrisman on November 29, 2006, Shareef said, "A target?...I want some type of city hall-type stuff right now, federal court houses." He continued:

"the courthouse in DeKalb where I be going every month them niggers do weak as hell. You go in there and you clock the first three niggers at the door that they got, and you up in there, you know what I'm saying? And everything else is gonna have to be tactical. But see when you dealing with stuff like that, the courthouse, there's always a PD [police department] right down the block. Know what I'm saying? I just want to smoke a judge."<sup>49</sup>

To address the heavy police presence at the courthouse, Shareef said, "You gotta do stuff under severe weather conditions. That helps too. Doing stuff in the snow, rain because you see less pigs out there. That's tactical."<sup>50</sup>

Later in the conversation, Shareef stated: "I'm thinking stuff like courthouses, city hall, government places, government facilities." When Chrisman asked, "So, you serious," Shareef replied, "I'm serious..."<sup>51</sup>

In a November 30, 2006, FBI debriefing of Chrisman, Chrisman told agents that "Shareef is ready to go out on his own and attack government buildings."<sup>52</sup> In preparation, Shareef wanted to conduct surveillance on federal buildings and post offices.<sup>53</sup>

### **Additional Information – Shareef Lived with an Indicted Terrorist**

Shareef first met Hassan Abujihad (a.k.a. Paul Hall), a former U.S. Navy sailor and Muslim convert, when Shareef was eighteen and living in Phoenix, Arizona.<sup>54</sup> Abujihad, who at that point had been discharged from the Navy, gave Shareef a ride home from

<sup>47</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 5, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

<sup>48</sup> U.S. v. James, (C.D. CA.), No. 05-CR-214, Indictment, Filed August 31, 2005.

<sup>49</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>50</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>51</sup> U.S. v. Shareef, (N.D. IL), No. 06-CR-919, Complaint, Filed December 8, 2006.

<sup>52</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 1, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted November 30, 2006.

<sup>53</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 1, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted November 30, 2006.

<sup>54</sup> Fighting with his mother and step-father, he moved to Phoenix to be with his father. See: U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

the Islamic Community Center of Phoenix and offered to help him. The two instantly bonded, and, eventually, Shareef moved in with Abujihad.<sup>55</sup>



*Hassan Abujihad*

In March 2007, Abujihad was indicted on terrorism and espionage charges.<sup>56</sup> Abujihad – who served aboard the U.S.S. Benfold and held a SECRET clearance – allegedly emailed Babar Ahmad classified information<sup>57</sup> on the movements of a U.S. Navy battle group tasked with targeting Al-Qaida and discussed “the battle group’s perceived vulnerability to terrorist attack.”<sup>58</sup> (In additional correspondences with Ahmad, Abujihad praised Usama bin Laden and the October 2000 attack on the U.S.S. Cole.<sup>59</sup> See Appendix 1 for the full text of one of Abujihad’s emails.)

Ahmad is a British citizen indicted in Connecticut on an array of charges, including providing material to terrorists and money laundering conspiracy.<sup>60</sup> According to prosecutors, “Ahmad was the leader of a terrorist support cell in London.”<sup>61</sup> He served as the webmaster of the Azzam Publications websites, which included azzam.com, azzam.co.uk, qoqaz.net, qoqaz.co.uk., webstorage.com/~azzam, and waaqiah.com.<sup>62</sup> Federal prosecutors allege that Azzam Publications “was established and operated to recruit individuals to be mujahideen and to solicit and raise funds and assistance for jihad, including for the Taliban and Chechen mujahideen...”<sup>63</sup>

<sup>55</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 6, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 6, 2006 and U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>56</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Indictment, Filed March 21, 2007.

<sup>57</sup> “Former Member of U.S. Navy Arrested in Arizona on Terrorism and Espionage Charges,” Department of Justice Press Release, March 7, 2007,

[http://www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/Chicago/DOJPr\\_AbuIndictment.pdf](http://www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/Chicago/DOJPr_AbuIndictment.pdf).

<sup>58</sup> According to a DOJ filing, “The document stated that the battle group was scheduled to pass through the Straits of Hormuz on April 29, 2001, at night, under a communications blackout, and explicitly described the group’s vulnerability to a terrorist attack. **Weakness:** They have nothing to stop a small craft with RPG etc, except their Seals’ stinger missiles.” See: U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>59</sup> “Former Member of U.S. Navy Arrested in Arizona on Terrorism and Espionage Charges,” United States Attorney’s Office District of Connecticut Press Release, March 7, 2007,

[http://www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/Chicago/DOJPr\\_AbuIndictment.pdf](http://www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/Chicago/DOJPr_AbuIndictment.pdf).

<sup>60</sup> U.S. v. Ahmad, (D.C. CT.), No: 3:04-cr-00301-MRK, Indictment, Filed October 6, 2004.

<sup>61</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>62</sup> U.S. v. Ahmad, (D.C. CT.), No: 3:04-cr-00301-MRK, Indictment, Filed October 6, 2004.

<sup>63</sup> U.S. v. Ahmad, (D.C. CT.), No: 3:04-cr-00301-MRK, Indictment, Filed October 6, 2004.

### **Additional Information – Abujihad Teaches Shareef about Jihad**

Shareef lived with Abujihad on two occasions in 2003 and 2004 for a total of approximately seven months. A FBI summary of Shareef's interviews indicates the two men had a very close relationship: "Shareef looked up to Abu Jihad like a brother and Abu Jihad helped Shareef with getting his life in order."<sup>64</sup> For instance, Abujihad "supported Shareef; tried to help Shareef in finding work<sup>65</sup>; helped Shareef in getting his General Education Diploma; and encouraged Shareef to take college-level courses."<sup>66</sup> Abujihad even encouraged Shareef to join the Navy, though Shareef rejected this suggestion.<sup>67</sup>

The men also bonded over firearms, as Abujihad showed off his AK-47 to Shareef and took him a firing range, where they practiced with Shareef's own SKS rifle.<sup>68</sup>

In addition, Abujihad began discussing "the terms and justification for jihad early" in his relationship with Shareef.<sup>69</sup> Shareef told FBI agents that the topic first came up when they were watching Shareef's copy of "Martyrs of Bosnia," an Al-Qaida propaganda video widely disseminated by Azzam Publications.<sup>70</sup> According to FBI transcripts, over the course of their relationship, "Abu Jihad frequently provided Shareef with links to website, which usually contained news stories written from a different point of view."<sup>71</sup> The transcripts of Shareef's interviews add that:

"Abu Jihad was known to visit the Islamic Jihad websites but never encouraged Shareef to plan an attack. Abu Jihad believed in teaching unity in Islam; he compared this to the success of Hezbollah. Abu Jihad stated that Hezbollah was successful against Israel because their members had the same beliefs and Abu Jihad wanted the American Muslims to unite under one set of beliefs."<sup>72</sup>

As Shareef matured, jihadist propaganda continued to play a role in his radicalization, for FBI transcripts reveal that he frequently visited the Chechen jihadist

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<sup>64</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 6, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 6, 2006.

<sup>65</sup> Shareef frequently changed jobs, briefly working at Prime One Mortgage, MCI, Jack-in-the-Box, and elsewhere. See: U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 6, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 6, 2006.

<sup>66</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>67</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 6, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 6, 2006.

<sup>68</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>69</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>70</sup> "Dossier: Azzam Publications UK (Azzam.com, Qoqaz.net) and Mazen Mokhtar," <http://www.globalterroralert.com/azzam-mokhtar.pdf>.

<sup>71</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 5, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

<sup>72</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 5, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

website [kavkazcenter.com](http://kavkazcenter.com)<sup>73</sup> and viewed a martyrdom video of one of the 7/7 London suicide bombers.<sup>74</sup>

### **Additional Information – Shareef/Abujihaad Discuss Attacking Military Targets in 2003/2004**

According to Shareef, "in or about 2003," Shareef and Abujihaad talked about attacking a U.S. military recruiting station in a Phoenix mall. At Abujihaad's direction, Shareef visited the recruiting station, where he took the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test. Sharing his observations with Abujihaad, Shareef noted that recruiters from all four branches of the armed services were present, and that they "were very relaxed and...appeared to be unarmed." The men then pointed out that a recruiting station was an appealing target because "you could go in with a gun or a grenade and get them all at once."<sup>75</sup>

The following year, in 2004, Abujihaad purportedly developed a plan to attack U.S. military facilities in or near San Diego, California. Shareef told William Chrisman that "Abujihaad's plan called for diversionary fire that would draw soldiers from their barracks after which pre-positioned attackers would shoot the soldiers as they left their barracks."<sup>76</sup>

### **Additional Information – Shareef Moves Away from Phoenix: Late 2004**

In late 2004, Shareef moved to Genoa, Illinois, where he lived with his mother and step-father.<sup>77</sup> Between December 2004 and July 2006, Shareef and Abujihaad "had only intermittent contact."<sup>78</sup>

### **Additional Information – Shareef 's Relationship w/ Abujihaad is Revived**

In October 2006 conversations with William Chrisman, Shareef made a number of statements indicating his relationship with Hassan Abujihaad had been revived. For example, on October 10, 2006, Shareef indicated that he was planning to travel to Morocco with Abujihaad, who "was going to sponsor him or help pay for his trip." On October 12, Shareef told Chrisman "that he took an oath to Abujihaad and, as a result, could not talk about certain things."<sup>79</sup>

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<sup>73</sup> U.S. v. Abujihaad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 5, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

<sup>74</sup> U.S. v. Abujihaad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 2, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted December 2, 2006.

<sup>75</sup> U.S. v. Abujihaad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>76</sup> U.S. v. Abujihaad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>77</sup> U.S. v. Abujihaad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 4, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 6, 2006.

<sup>78</sup> U.S. v. Abujihaad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>79</sup> U.S. v. Abujihaad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

Significantly, in October 2006, Shareef introduced Chrisman to Abujihad and the two men began to "occasionally" communicate directly.<sup>80</sup>

### **Additional Information – The 2006 Revival of the Military Targets Plot**

In October 2006, Shareef told Chrisman, "I want to hit a [military] base with an R.P.Gizzle", which prosecutors assess means a rocket propelled grenade. That same month, commenting on the plan to attack recruiting stations, Shareef labeled it a "respectful action" that "cannot be refuted."<sup>81</sup>

On October 17, 2006, Shareef and Chrisman "discussed logistics for a possible attack" on the base, and Shareef asserted that, at the very least, Abujihad would assist them with "financial aid and logistics." Three days later, Shareef theorized that they "should be able to kill at least ten (10) people for each mujahideen fighter that they had."<sup>82</sup>

In late October 2006, Shareef traveled to Arizona to meet with Abujihad about the plot, reporting back to Chrisman, "we got the green light, we got the go-ahead." According to Shareef, Abujihad would assist with "any defensive operation" and would indeed provide logistical help. Elaborating, Shareef said that Abujihad "can help coordinate...so...it's not just like some random ass raid with niggers goin' in there spraying'....it's coordinated, to where everything is mapped out, escape route...entrance route." Later, Abujihad caveated his offer of assistance by pointing out that his intelligence may be outdated: "whatever I can give you that's beneficial, I'll give it to you. But whatever's cold turkey...if it's cold turkey, I can't give it to you...I can't give you the fresh meal I ain't been there in X amount of years. You see what I'm saying?"<sup>83</sup>

Shareef reported to Chrisman that he and Abujihad felt the base's cafeteria was a "safer target" because service members would likely be unarmed. If an attacker went in at lunchtime, "you pop 'em from that angle, then everybody rush out...Then you got a flank over there, that's just poppin' 'em." When Chrisman raised the issue of crossfire, Shareef responded, "That's where a sniper will come in, dude."<sup>84</sup>

Notably, Shareef told FBI agents that on one occasion, he and Abujihad "practiced rapid entry through a door as might be done during a raid."<sup>85</sup> Moreover,

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<sup>80</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>81</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>82</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>83</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>84</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>85</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 3, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

while in Arizona, Shareef learned about an individual who could provide them with sniper training.<sup>86</sup> (During a interview with FBI agents, Shareef sought to minimize the significance of his desire for sniper lessons. He told agents that "the reason to have such training was simply to know how to do it, not to use it in any specific attacks."<sup>87</sup>)

As Shareef's focus shifted to procuring weapons for the mall plot and military base plot, Shareef met with an undercover agent posing as a gun dealer. In that meeting, Shareef stated that one of his "guys in Phoenix...just want[s] two AR's [AR-15s]...an AK [AK-47] and a Glock." Abujihad preferred to buy the weapons on the black market so they could not be traced. The day of the meeting, Abujihad also allegedly requested 1,500 rounds of ammunition "because that was the amount of ammunition that a U.S. Marine would carry." Then, on November 12, 2006, Abujihad reportedly requested that Shareef personally deliver the weapons to him in Arizona. Three days later, in a conversation with Chrisman, Abujihad indicated he wanted a left-handed weapon.<sup>88</sup>

In addition, Shareef and Abujihad devoted considerable time to discussing the need for extreme caution. Abujihad commented, "You know I don't trust the phones, the phones are tapped, you got me?... 'bout as tapped as the internet..."<sup>89</sup> Repeatedly, the men utilized code, saying "seven" or "J" instead of "jihad" and saying "under the black leaves" instead of Usama bin Laden. Referring to Chrisman, Abujihad noted, "I'm always suspect of people, but I mean, your dude, he seems like a cool dude." And Abujihad points out that people at the mosque "be running their mouth." In his view, "first and primary thing for anybody should be their own security."<sup>90</sup>

Despite his professed interest in avoiding talk about sensitive topics over the phone, Abujihad "express[ed] support for acts of violent jihad aimed at killing U.S. military personnel" during conversations with Shareef. In a November 2006 call, Abujihad assessed the work of the "Juba Sniper" – an insurgent who purportedly shot 37 U.S. soldiers – noting that "Juba was a cold dude... if he's still breathing, may Allah still let him be pluggin' them dudes. If not, I know he done train more...in the skills and tactics that he got... 'cuz he was layin' 'em down!"<sup>91</sup>

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<sup>86</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>87</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 3, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

<sup>88</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007. Note: Abujihad does not want "hot" shells ejecting toward his face.

<sup>89</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>90</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>91</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

### **Additional Information – Shareef's Relationship w/ Abujihad Sours Again**

Due to Abujihad's concern with operational security, Abujihad became enraged with Shareef when he learned from Chrisman that Chrisman knew "everything" about his emails to Azzam Publications. Abujihad warned Shareef, "don't be Judas to me homey, you know what I mean?" He added that he would "rather be assassinated by a kaffir than executed by a brother's mouth."<sup>92</sup>

On December 8, 2006, two days after Shareef's arrest, but before the news became public, Abujihad called Chrisman and informed him that he no longer wanted to deal with Shareef, whom he labeled "an idiot." Abujihad warned Chrisman that Shareef is "undisciplined," refuses to listen, and is not ready for "a leadership role."<sup>93</sup>

By the time of his arrest, Shareef had become equally disenchanted with Abujihad. A FBI transcript of a Chrisman debriefing session notes that Shareef was increasingly impatient and did not "want to wait until Abu-Jihad decides to do something."<sup>94</sup> Interviewed by FBI agents, Shareef echoed this conclusion, informing them that, "Abu Jihad has changed and become soft."<sup>95</sup>

Nonetheless, prosecutors argue that, in post-arrest interviews, Shareef minimized "his and Abujihad's discussions about attacking a military recruiting center in Phoenix and a U.S. military base in San Diego" as "idle talk," partly "to protect Abujihad given Abujihad's mentor-like relationship with Shareef."<sup>96</sup>

### **Additional Information – Shareef and Abujihad's Interest in Recruiting a Caucasian to Minimize Scrutiny**

During a recorded October 6, 2006 conversation, Shareef told Chrisman, "you Caucasian dude, we got big respect for brothers like you. We used to be talkin' about tryin' to find a brother like you, like, man, we need to find us a, a Caucasian brother."

Prosecutors commented, "during this, and other, similar discussions, the CI understood Shareef to mean that Shareef and Abujihad were looking to recruit a Caucasian individual like the CI to join them because they believed that a Caucasian might be in a better position to obtain weapons and pursue other, similar efforts, without drawing or attracting attention to them."<sup>97</sup>

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<sup>92</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>93</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>94</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 1, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of William "Jamaal" Chrisman, Interview conducted November 30, 2006.

<sup>95</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 3, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

<sup>96</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>97</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

Again reflecting concerns about operational security, Shareef and Abujihad "dressed like 'kaffirs (non-Muslims/non-believers) and attended gun shows where Abujihad had purchased weapons." Similarly, when Abujihad visited a shooting range to train with a sniper rifle, he "dressed like a non-Muslim."<sup>98</sup>

In recent years, government officials have consistently sounded the alarm over terrorist interest in recruiting converts. For instance, in 2002, the FBI asserted that "information from debriefings of Al Qaeda detainees...indicates that the group has considered directly targeting U.S. passenger trains, possibly using operatives who have a Western appearance."<sup>99</sup> In 2004, then-Attorney General John Ashcroft remarked, "Al Qaeda is a resilient and adaptable organization, known for altering tactics in the face of new security measures...Our intelligence confirms Al Qaeda is...recruiting young Muslim converts of any nationality inside target countries."<sup>100</sup> And, in 2005, FBI Director Robert Mueller revealed that the Intelligence Community is "concerned about the potential for Al Qaeda to...exploit radical American converts."<sup>101</sup>

### **Additional Information – The American Islamic Movement**

Shareef discussed creating an organization that would "give back to the community,"<sup>102</sup> as well as carry out attacks. He suggested to Abujihad that they name the group either AIM (American Islamic Movement) or AMMO (American Muslim Mujahideen Organization).

According to court filings, "Abujihad proposed that they use the name 'AIM' as a public name for the purpose of raising funds for charity, while AMMO could serve as the name for their 'militant wing.'" More specifically, Abujihad counseled that

"we should use AIM as our, as our forefront name because we can use that name and be able to do things with it. We can, we can be political with it...We can, we can like print up pamphlets and papers...anything we do with that thing we can do, legally, and have it to where that's like our corporation...That's just the business front...the other one that's just straight seven...Nobody knows about it. Nobody knows these two organizations are even together."<sup>103</sup>

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<sup>98</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

<sup>99</sup> Federal Bureau of Investigation Press Release, October 24, 2002.

<sup>100</sup> Transcript, Department of Justice News Conference, May 26, 2004.

<sup>101</sup> Testimony of Robert S. Mueller III, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Before the Senate Intelligence Committee, February 16, 2005.

<sup>102</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Exhibit 3, Federal Bureau of Investigation FD-302 of Derrick L. Shareef, Interview conducted December 7, 2006.

<sup>103</sup> U.S. v. Abujihad, (D.C. CT.), No. 3:07-CR-57, Motion in Limine and Memorandum in Support of the Admission of Evidence Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(2)(E) and 801(d)(2)(A), Filed October 19, 2007.

## **Appendix 1**

The full text of the email, sent from abujihaad01@hotmail.com to Azzam Publications approximately six months after Al-Qaida's attack on the U.S.S. *Cole*, reads as follows:

Assalaamu'Alaikum [Peace be upon you]

Brothers/Sisters of Al-Islam

i am a muslim station onboard a u.s. warship currently operating deployed to the arabian gulf. it shall be noted before usama's latest video was viewed by massive people all over the world. that psychological anxiety had already set in on america's forces everywhere. all this is due to the martyrdom operation against the uss cole. since then every warship station either on the western or eastern shores of america who come to operate in the 5th fleet op area has to be given a force protect brief. well during the brief, i attended there was one thing that stuck out like thorns on a rose bush. i do not know who was the originator of this either top brass or an american politician. well here is his/her statement: "america has Never faced an enemy with no borders, no government, no diplomats, nor a standing army that pledges allegiance to no state." Allahu Akbar! [God is Great] Allahu Akbar! i give takbirs [a proclamation of the greatness of God] because i know deep down in my heart that the american enemies that this person has describe is the Mujahideen Feesabilillah. these brave men are the true champions and soldiers of Allah in this dunya [this world – and its earthly concern and possessions, as opposed to more spiritual realms]. i understand fully that they are the men who have brought honor to this weak ummah [Muslim community] in the lands of jihad afghanistan, bosnia, chechnya, etc. Alhamdulillah! With their only mission in life to make Allah's name and laws supreme over this world. i want to let it be known that i have been in the middle east

for almost a total of 3 months. for these 3 months you can truly see the effects of this psychological warfare taking a toll on junior and high ranking officers. but after the latest video supporting palestine. the top brass and american officials were running around like headless chickens very afraid, wondering if there is a possible threat. but this time the american population got wind of this and they came to know just how afraid the u.s. government is. thomas l. friedman wrote an article in the new york times called: "what it takes to make the americans turn tail, run." this article was distributed on my ship and most of the sailors said it was so true about the american government, and they feel like they are working for a bunch of scary pussies.....

a Brother serving a Kuffar [non-Muslim / non-believer] nation..  
Astaghfir'Allah....Hassan

The reply email dated July 19, 2001, sent from "Qoqaz.Net" from the email account azzampublications@yahoo.com to both abujihaad01@hotmail.com and qoqaz@azzam.com reads as follows:

AsSalaamAlaikum brother hassan,

What can we?

You said it all, and all I can add is that the Kuffar know that they cannot defeat the

Mujahideen (the warriors of Allah). I trust that you are doing your best to make sure that the other brothers & sisters in uniform are reminded that their sole purpose of existence in this dunya is purely to worship our Lord and Master, Allah (SWT). May Allah be with you & your brothers and sisters and keep you from all harm. Keep up with the Dawah [call to Islam] and the psychological warfare.

WasSalaam,  
From just another slave of Allah at Azzam Publications.....