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By: HB

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A report from Saif Al-‘Adl  
Al-Hadidiyah on 01/17/1994

In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

A summary report on the following:

- 1- The purchase of a launch.
- 2- A description of the “Al-Hadidiyah” forest.
- 3- A picture of the existing leadership.
- 4- The results of Sheikh Hasan’s first tour to the area.

Thanks be to God who says about the faithful, “Oh you the faithful, fear God and always ally with the truthful”; and may the blessings of God be on His prophet Mohammed.

### **(1) Concerning the launch:**

There is no argument about its importance due to the following points:

- A- It is a safe and secure venture, with God’s assistance.
- B- It is a means for transporting equipment from the ship which is expected to arrive.
- C- It is a source of income estimated at 600,000 Kenyan shillings/month.

**Note:** The last point will be explained in more detail later.

A) Its entry point was good, with God’s mercy. The largest fear with the launch will always be the height of the waves. In view of what the sailors informed me, the type of launch we intend to purchase will be difficult to sink because it is made of fiberglass. In the worst conditions, it will tip over and float on the surface of the water.

The other probable fear connected with this launch concerns the coast guard -which rarely ambushes anyone- and the secret word/password which is DOLLAR. After crossing/passing the island of Lamu, the coast guard will not appear again until we reach the city of Kionja. In Kionja they have security police and the navy, but they don’t have boats or launches and very rarely receive anyone from Lamu.

The third point in this matter is the sailor (captain) of this launch. Sailing the launch is very simple, but the actual expertise lies in knowing your way in the sea. The most important aspect is familiarity to the approach routes to the shores, even during the times of ebb tide.

Not all available sailors abide by the laws. They are known for low morals and big egos. Cigarette smoking, chewing gat, chasing women and lying, etc. are common among them.

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It is possible to find only these kind of men, money and threats influence them. Therefore, we must find a sailor from within. Yemeni Brother Mohammed 'Aboh, please postpone # (20), will solve the problem if we dispatch him in periodic hunting/fishing trips to the area. We decided to begin training a group of Somalis on swimming and sea activities during the coming period, God willing, in order to have a good reliable crew.

The fourth point is finding a sailor who is willing to go and bring the ship back. We have a captain who knows the way from Dar Al-Salam, Tanzania to 'Aden, Yemen. The problem, though, is that we don't trust him, because he fits into the above mentioned moral description of the sailors. As far as his skills are concerned, he is excellent. I traveled with him previously, he knows the best ways to approach shores.

**B)** According to what is written in the papers, the launch capacity is 7.3 tons, but the sailors say it is 6.0 tons. The launch is capable of carrying a large number and variety of items in its three storage areas:

- 1- The first is located in the bow and is relatively small in size.
- 2- The second is located in the middle and is not among the largest.
- 3- The third is located in the aft, housing the engine, and is not adequate to store anything.

The launch surface can carry many things, and also contains a small room large enough for two persons. This type of launch was originally made in Somalia for a Swedish Company. The company manufactured 500 launches in Somalia before shutting down its business long before the war. These launches are called "Volvo", driven by a two cylinder Sap Manourah engine, and yield a maximum speed of 15 km/hr. The launch carried a crew of four sailors (the captain, his assistant, cook and a student), and with myself, the

brother who accompanied me, and the fish merchant, the buyer there were three additional passengers. The offering price of the launch was (1,200,000), and we are trying to bring this price down to (800,000). The owner of the launch is driving a hard bargain.

My personal opinion is that we should purchase this launch even if it cost \$15,000, if the price exceeds that, then the decision becomes yours, particularly when I explain point (C) to you. This is information I have about the launch. Its main fault is that it has no plumbing.

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C) The owners of these launches do not fish, but buy fish from small boats which go on periodic fishing trips lasting about 10 days. Afterwards, the fish are sold to a company which provides ice, free of charge, to the owners of the launch.

The cost per trip in Kenyan shillings:

- 1- Round trip fuel, two barrels of diesel – 12,000
  - 2- Employees' wages (driver, six assistants, five cooks, four students) – 15,000 /month.
  - 3- Food for the trip – 2,000
- Total = 29,000 Kenyan shillings.

**Note: Employees' wages are calculated monthly and not per trip.**

The price of fish per kilo from the sea (17 – 30), according to the type

The price of shrimp per kilo from the sea (200 – 250)

The fish selling price to the company (40 – 70), according to the type

The shrimp selling price to the company (350 – 400)

Calculation based on an average purchase price of 20, and selling price of 50, of a quantity estimated at 5 tons:

Total purchase price =  $20 \times 5,000 = 100,000$  shillings

Total selling price =  $50 \times 5,000 = 250,000$  shillings

Total cost =  $100,000 + 29,000 = 129,000$  shillings

Add the sum of 11,000 shilling for maintenance

The final cost becomes 140,000 shillings

Total profit =  $250,000 - 140,000 = 110,000$  shilling

Monthly profit will be =  $110,000 \times 3 = 330,000$

By adding the deducted wages for two trips  
 $388,000 = 580,000 + 330,000$  shilling (TC: numbers do not add up unless you take one of the zeros from 580,000 and add 58,000 to 330,00 to equal 388,000).

These numbers represent the low season of fishing. I would like to tell you that Somali shores are rich with fish, especially with shrimp which is called here (Argosto). According to the merchant who accompanied us, the average profit in one trip is (250,000 – 300,000) shillings.

According to this simple calculation, we could, God willing, make what we pay for the launch, and make an investment towards establishing a fishing company capable of controlling the shores of Somalia and the fishing industry.

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Therefore, I hope we will be able to purchase this boat and send Brother Mohammed ‘Abdoh.

The amount available to us now is \$8,000 that was sent by Abu Fatimah as part of the \$14,000, and the \$3,000 I requested from Ghazi when I was in Mumbasa.

The \$3,000 was transferred to the camp’s budget because they urgently needed it. We will dispatch the Brother with the \$8,000, and you can supply the rest of the amount, may God bless and assist you.

**Note:** There is a previous report on the same trip and the Kaambooni cape.

## **(2) Description of the Al-Hadidyah Forest:**

The native Somalis call it the “Calm Sea”, and they also call it “The Land of the Elephant” for several reasons:

- A- The height of the trees, some reaching 15 meters in certain locations, and the density of the trees, where it is impossible to see the sun in some areas, and it is difficult to walk in other areas, even for humans.
- B- The secular extremists fled into this forest in the past, and no one has been able to eliminate them until now. They still exist inside this forest, inside Kenyan land.
- C- A small insect exists in this forest. It is larger in size than the fly, and smaller than the bee, black in color, and like mosquitoes it mainly lives on water, but only during the daytime. It does not exist in the whole

forest, but in some areas, and in different densities. It is impossible for it to exist in some areas, and its numbers are lighter in some areas than in other areas.

This insect makes animals go crazy. A donkey ran for a distance of 20 km after it was attacked by this insect. Our men call the insect “piercing incendiary”, but they have become accustomed to it. While sitting in class, you hear the slaps from everywhere, announcing the human victory over this insect.

Because of this insect, it is impossible for the bedouins to enter the area to safeguard their animals. The insect’s long and sharp stingers pierce the clothes and easily get under the skin. No known negative effects are caused by the insect, however, and the moment you hit it the sting pain is gone.

It is said that the insect was brought to the area a long time ago by the Europeans, as it did not exist here before that time.

D- All the animals are present in the area where you see the flocks of large and small monkeys – our neighbors – deer of different sizes, the wild cow, the lions (our best friends and we have a pact against the deer).

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This area has a lots of elephants. I did not see them, but I saw the destruction to trees that was caused by them. For all these reasons, it was difficult for the people to live in this area; but pray to God our men are able to do so.

There is a ravine filled with water, and fish at least ten months out of the year in the area where we will establish the camp. It is difficult to strike the camp from the air. Even if they wanted to burn the entire area it would be difficult, because there are open areas and the ravine is large.

Let me add that during the rainy season, it would be impossible for any equipment or vehicle to reach the area. It becomes muddy and swampy, and it becomes impossible to move over it except on foot or by animal, and from the Kaambooni Cape road only.

We were very successful in selecting it, and we can do many things with this area. But it requires certain amenities, such as storage areas or camps.

The forest is about 45 km away from the Kaambooni Cape, 200 km from Dopli, 30 km from Kelpo and 45 km from Patato. It is possible to use it for any kind of training you can think of, except urban warfare and snow warfare.

I just returned from a tour to the camp, as we begin the new training course and the obedience class given by Brother Nouruddin in the land of gathering, at the beach of Wadi Al-Jihad (Al-Jihad ravine) under the shade of the trees. The cool breeze blew over our faces and there were cries of the trainees saying Jihad, Jihad. This was my first experience as I sat watching and listening, the biting insects came down on me from every side.

### **(3) An Idea about the Existing Leadership:**

Brother Mukhtar says that the existing leadership here is represented in Sheikh Hasan and his Deputy ‘Abd Al-‘Aziz, and the two Brothers Mohammed ‘Abdullah and Ahmad Madoubi, the carrier of this letter. I can say in accordance to what I have seen with my own eyes that it is a leadership as simple as it is very loyal. Our scientific evidence is that they accompanied us at all times, beginning with preparation for the camp, training and then fighting. They insisted on participation in the training and in the fighting, too.

We must note that they are desperately in need of someone to support them and stand beside them after God, especially in matters concerning organization and administration, and military operations.

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The existing leadership, Al-Sheikh Hasan and Al-Sheikh ‘Abd Al-‘Aziz, make a stable administration, meaning that work of one without the other will not be as complete and coordinated as when they are both working together during all phases of the operation. The capability of persuasion and the influence of Sheikh Hasan was clear during the last phase in the Da’awa and in the political fields. As for Sheikh ‘Abd Al-‘Aziz, he represents the side of utmost importance; pushing forward military combat activity. The leadership, as we previously mentioned, is in urgent need for someone to organize this activity from all aspects. They want only to fight and nothing else, and they are ready and willing to accept any work program or ideas submitted from our side.

I would like to direct your attention to an important financial matter. The leadership during the past period has not asked us for any financial support as a condition of cooperating with us, due to the unavailability of the funds during this phase. Everyone agreed that God will not abandon us as long as we work on the path of Jihad (these are the words of Sheikh Hasan). This concludes what Brother Mukhtar has said and written about the subject of the leadership. I support him in his opinion and pray to God that we succeed.

#### **(4) The result of the first Political Tour by Sheikh Hasan in the area:**

Sheikh Hasan made a quick tour of the area that was, in my opinion, a media initiative to present the Brothers and the new movement. The Sheikh moved to Kelpeo where he met with the Sheikhs of Kelpeo and Patato. According to the details of the meetings, the talks were fruitful and all parties agreed on one objective, that being fighting the infidels and governing by the Holy Koran. As far as who among the tribes in the region will assume the leadership position – time for such talks is not due yet – they all agreed to hold talks at a later date.

Some Sheikhs said they will join you now to fight the infidels. Others said they were amazed by your stand during the last period. We knew that you were facing problems and that this is your actual role. According to sources, there were no objections except for one of the Sufi's Sheikhs.

In general, the session was very beneficial.

For your information and may God bless you,

Saif Al-‘Adl