Statement of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar of 25 April 2003

Original in Pashtu and released in Peshawar, Pakistan by a member of the Hezb-e-Islami party. English translation (of unknown provenance) provided by Kathy Gannon, AP. Ms Gannon reported on this statement for the AP on 26 April 2003 from Islamabad, Pakistan -- "Commander Promises Bush 'bin Ladens' " <u>http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/ap/20030426/ap_on_re_as/afghan_h</u> <u>ekmatyar_2</u>

Has the Iraq tragedy come to an end?

After the fall of Baghdad, people think that the war in Iraq has came to an end. USA believes that war has come to end, but they deceive themselves. In fact, the war shall start after this moment. I would like to clarify to world in general and Muslims in particulars that the Iraq war was between advanced technology of USA and the worn out weapons of Russia. USA won the battle apparently. He said that it is a pity for USA that they captured Baghdad only with 52 tanks and no one resisted.

I may clarify that one war has ended in Iraq and the second war is going to start because after the fall of Taliban, one war has ended and the other guerrilla war started.

Administratively, Kabul and Baghdad have been captured on the basis of advanced technology but people in both the cities have practically started war against them. Now the aggressor forces and their puppet rulers in Kabul cannot sleep tight. They are facing uprising. I repeat this for Iraq and say that it is not the 19th century that people shall be subjugated on the basis of weapons. I give good news to the Muslim world that the victory war is going to start in the near future in Iraq. Days are nearer that everyone shall rise against USA. The US forces are confined in tanks and planes. If they get down of the tanks and planes, they shall face the toughest resistance from the people of Iraq. I believe that the Iraqi people shall be victorious because USA was thinking that soon after the Iraq war, there will be revolt in the Iraqi army but their dreams did not become true. US troops will expecting a revolt from the Shiite population in case of war and to the contrary to their expectations, they supported Saddam Hussein and denied any support to the US troops.

After the fall of Baghdad, we have witnessed the following changes in the US attitude:

- 1. USA has become proud that they are defeatless and that is the reason that they are threatening Iran and Syria.
- 2. North Korea, Syria and Iran are asked by USA to learn lesson from Iraq which does not suit any super power like USA.

Oh world community and Muslims! With the fall of Baghdad, USA has given the message to the world that Russia is justified to capture Chechnya, India is justified to capture Kashmir and the Israel can capture Palestine. Bush has time and again said that USA shall be victorious. Muslims should understand that USA wants to make his position strong in the Gulf. Bush says that the fall of Saddam Hussein shall reduce terrorism in gulf countries, so it has given a message to Israel on this plea and they are attacking the Palestinians houses. I ask USA that the fall of Baghdad is not a good news for you. You killed Muslims and destroyed a Muslim country. I regret that USA is claimant of human rights and civil liberation but they dropped more than 30,000 guided bombs and missiles on Baghdad having no regard for Human rights. I am sure that with the fall of Baghdad, Muslims all over the world have become united and it is clear that they shall reply the America in the same currency.

USA imposed puppet Karzai in Kabul. They want to repeat the same experience in Baghdad. In fact they are deceiving themselves. They planted Karzai on 30 billions Dollars and collapsed Taliban but are still far from achieving their objectives in Central Asia, so they shall face the same fate in Iraq after spending 80 billion Dollars. It is a pity for the US citizens that they do not learn from their past. They brought a Shiite leader in the shape of Karzai to Baghdad but he was assassinated there. People do not accept Karzai in Kabul and people are not ready to accept American puppet in Baghdad, is it possible for the USA to rule the world with such blunders? The slogans of Karzai, Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) and the restoration of constitutions in Kabul failed and I am sure that the same experiences shall fail in Baghdad too. It is a confirmed situation that the Muslims all over the world shall rise against USA because USA has violated all of her promises both in Kabul and Baghdad. Even the opposition of Saddam also supported him during the war. I give special message to Bush, that previously an Arab Mujahid had to face great difficulties to reach USA for your killing. Now every Arab is OBL [Osama bin Laden] and has find the place of Jihad in their neighbourhood.

You will see the wrath of this Muslims youths in the shape of suicide attacks. Oh Proud Bush, wait for thousands of OBL. Soon after the fall of Baghdad, the embassies of China, France and Russia in Baghdad were attacked and looted. It is a clear message that USA is not capable to maintain peace. The USA deceived its allies like it did in Kabul. All those people who supported Iraq war should also wait for coup de data and suicide attacks in their countries. Muslims world has become united and USA is doing atrocities against them. I am sure that all those people who supported Iraqi war with USA shall face the fate of Pakistan because Musharraf supported USA but the Muslim population gave vast majority to the Islamists and Jehadi forces in the Pakistani parliament and showed their resentment over the policies of Musharraf.

In the last I would like to say that the USA shall be failed in Iraq as it failed in Kabul. Bush shall never be succeeded that they shall make their hold strong in

Central Asia through his puppet government in Kabul and capture the Middle east by imposing puppet regime in Baghdad. World knows that in the war with Iraq, USA did not care for UNO. It is a foolish politics and we have been compelled to rise against them. I once again say that the US aggression had resemblance with the USSR aggression in Afghanistan. USSR faced defeat in Afghanistan and USA shall face defeat in Iraq.

I am sure that Baghdad shall be another Vietnam for USA and I ask all the youths that Jehad is our way and you should join the ranks of Jehad and destroy USA by suicide attacks.

Hekmatyar, Afghanistan.