discuss the matter once she reaches the central area, God willing.

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- If you have my son Khalid's card and can send it with his brother Hamzah and his mother without delaying their arrival, that would be very good. If not, then don't [send it with them], and later on (you) can send Khalid's card with the intermediaries and my card after that.
- Regarding the Zaydan interview, we feel this should [be done via] written correspondence. As we mentioned in an earlier message: You must keep in mind the possibility, however slight, that journalists could be under surveillance that neither we nor they can perceive, either on the ground or via satellite particularly Ahmad ((Zaydan)). Also, a chip could be planted in a piece of their equipment before they reach the meeting location to do anything with them or to interview one of the brothers. As you know, Ahmad Zaydan has had several interviews with leaders of the Taliban, as well as with Shaykh Sa'id, God rest his soul. But as it happened, the Americans did not kill any of them, even though they knew his location from having tracked Ahmad Zaydan. However, this (interview) could be something they have been watching for, because they identified the house where the deceased brothers Abu-'Umar al-Baghdadi and Abu-Hamzah al-Muhajir were located through satellite surveillance of one of the brothers who went to see them after they were released from prison.

Also, I want to mention that I approve what Brother Suhayb mentioned concerning the media.

- As for the money you received in local currency, it should be gotten rid of, because its value has been declining and it continues to go down. As for the ransom money for the Afghan prisoner, I think you should use one-third of the money to buy gold and another third to buy euros. Then, use one-third of the remainder to buy Kuwaiti dinars and another third to buy Chinese yen; the remaining third can be for expenses, if no other resources are available in the near future. When you do spend this money, use the euros first, then the dinars, the yen, and then the gold, which should be purchased as ten-tola (pieces, in several amounts over a one-month period. FYI, gold [coins] are minted in several countries, such as the Swiss, Dubai and South African coins. The broker you deal with should be trustworthy, but you can sell a small amount of gold on the main market to

make sure it is genuine. I was told that your intermediary has connections with a broker in Peshawar who is from his same tribe.

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In terms of buying gold, the overall price trend is upward. Even with occasional drops, in the next few years the price of gold will probably reach \$3,000 an ounce. Right now it is \$1,390 an ounce, but before the events in New York and Washington it was \$280 an ounce.

Note: If the price of gold reaches \$1,500 or a little over before you get this message, it's still alright to buy it.

- I am waiting to hear the responses of the brothers in the other regions to what you sent them about the general policy.
- I received a file from Brother Suhayb and looked over the contents. Please tell him for me that I looked at it and thank him for his advice. Also tell him that I was planning to issue a general statement on that matter once I received feedback from our brothers in the other regions on what we sent them about that. After reading your and brother Suhayb's messages I am leaning toward issuing the statement [more] quickly. However, as you mentioned before, it requires very precise weight, but time does not permit this, as the one carrying the letter has asked for a reply within a very limited time after the message arrives. Because of this, you should issue a brief, nonexpansive statement that contains the essence of Suhayb's statement. I also will ask Shaykh ((Abu-Muhammad)) to do that, but your statement should be recorded via audio or video. It would be very good if you could inform brother Suhayb of this, also noting that this will not negate what I have to say on the issue later on. This is a tremendous duty, and we must continue to hammer [that message] home until the desired end is achieved, God willing. Also let [Suhayb] know that I have written a letter to the leader of the faithful on this so that the mujahidin can be cautioned on it.
- Regarding the five French citizens and turning over responsibility for negotiations on them to al-Qa'ida at the center, my view on the negotiation plan is as follows:

We should hold off killing the four French [men], and show them documents and clacks on crimes by the Americans filmed in Afghanistan, and similar incidents, and everything that would