

31 March
2008

Dear Cote Family,

My father Ahmed was captured a while ago and is a Prisoner of WAR in Iraq, he appeared in a video tape showing him being held by gun men who took him. The US Government kept saying they'll find him, but it's been so long that I have come to one conclusion, he was Abandoned, forgotten About, and left to Rot in the Hell of Iraq. I know he is still Alive And the Pentagon has tried telling me he's dead, don't get your hopes up, it's been too long he can't be alive! Well I know better, I have received reports of him being Alive in ~~in~~ a detention Area somewhere in Iraq where they hold Americans. And when I Bring Him Home, I'm gonna Sue this Country for Lying, Abandonment, Being Chicken Cowards and not demanding his Release, And I'm filing criminal charges against the Commander in Chief Bush and Cheney for not Responding to my letters, What I'm trying to say is I'm praying for Jonathan Cote to find his way home, And I know you miss him so much, Please, don't let them forget about him, Pressure them to death, demand they go and get him Now, Let them Know to Make it the Number 1 Priority, Because sooner or later they will have forgotten him Just like my Poor dad, My mother hanged herself, My brother got drunk one night and slammed into a tree and died shortly there after, My Life is Ruined and Over, I'm Just 15 years old, Please I Beg You Fight them, Let them Know the POW/MIA Issue Must Be the Number 1 priority above all the other nonsense stuff in Iraq, they forget easily because it's not their family that's missing, Please, Time Is Running Out! FIGHT to Bring Jonathan Cote Back to you Before it's too Late,

God Bless

Strongly

Ahmed
Ahmed
JR

WORLD

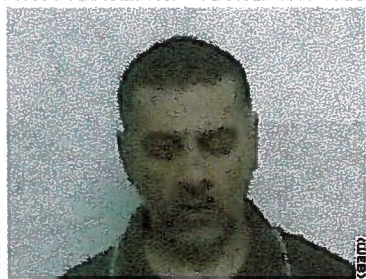
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IRAQ: Transition of Power

SPECIAL REPORT

Uncle: Abducted U.S. soldier appears in video

POSTED: 9:15 a.m. EST, February 14, 2007



A man identified as U.S. soldier Ahmed K. Altaie appeared in a video Wednesday posted on a Web site used by militants.

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- **NEW:** U.S. military analyzing video for authenticity
- Sgt. Ahmed K. Altaie was kidnapped in October while serving as translator
- Unknown group "Ahel al-Beit Brigades" makes first claim of responsibility
- "It's 100 percent him," Altaie's uncle, Entifadh Qanbar, tells CNN

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BAGHDAD, Iraq (CNN) -- The uncle of an Iraqi-American U.S. soldier abducted last October in Baghdad identified his missing nephew Wednesday in a video posted on a militant Shiite Web site.

U.S. Army Sgt. Ahmed K. Altaie was kidnapped October 23 while serving as a translator for the U.S. military and has since been listed as "duty status whereabouts unknown."

The previously unknown group identified themselves as the "Ahel al-Beit Brigades" in a message posted on a Web site for supporters of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's Medhi militia. ([Watch the "first proof of life" of the kidnapped U.S. soldier since his abduction last year](#))

The Web posting said, "we have captured American soldier Ahmed Qusay of the 4th Brigade," referring to the soldier's U.S. military unit. "We warn the American people to avoid sending their soldiers to Iraq in order that they not have the same fate of other soldiers who are being killed, wounded and captured."

The soldier's uncle, Entifadh Qanbar, told CNN he has been in touch with the abductors and he said the video is "proof of life," a step in the negotiation process that has been stalled for a couple of weeks.

"It's 100 percent him," said Qanbar, who spoke to CNN from Washington, D.C. "It looks like he lost some weight, but he's in great shape. I never lost hope."

The U.S.-led coalition has offered a \$50,000 reward for information leading to Altaie's recovery.

Mother: Altaie wants to help both sides

In November, Altaie's mother, Nawal Altaie of Ann Arbor, Michigan, said her son came to the United States as a teenager and wants to "help both sides and bring peace."

The reservist had worked in aircraft maintenance before enlisting in the Army as a translator, according to his parents.

Military officials said last year that Sgt. Altaie joined the reserves two years earlier and was sent to Iraq in November of 2005.

The video portion of the posting is 10 seconds long and shows Altaie from the shoulders up, wearing a white shirt and speaking against a white wall. There is no audio.

It's unknown when the video was made but it is the first public claim of responsibility for the kidnapping of Sgt. Altaie, whose rank was Army specialist at the time of the abduction.

Army spokesman Maj. Gen. William Caldwell said Wednesday the U.S. military is analyzing the video "to ascertain its authenticity."

"We maintain a team dedicated that has a sole mission of working personnel recovery, we continue to follow each lead," said Caldwell. "We're very concerned about Spc. Altaie, or now Sgt. Altaie -- we continue tracking and monitoring that situation."

The pro-Sadr Web site typically features new statements by the cleric and pictures or videos of operations carried out by the Medhi militia against U.S. and British military forces.

An aide to al-Sadr denied that the group had any link to Altaie's abduction. ([Watch why the anti-American cleric reportedly has fled Iraq to Iran, fearing for his safety](#))

VIDEO

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[Video offers first 'proof of life' of soldier missing for months](#) (2:02)



[Report: Anti-U.S. cleric flees Iraq, fearing for his safety](#) (2:45)

SPECIAL REPORT



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