

five Americans and two Indian government officials. The Saudi government arrested four perpetrators, who admitted connections with bin Laden.²⁷ Over the subsequent several years, al Qa'ida conducted several attacks in such locations as Kenya, Tanzania, and Yemen. In 1996, bin Laden issued a declaration of jihad against the United States and noted that the "presence of the American Crusader military forces on land, sea and air of the states of the Islamic Gulf is the greatest danger threatening the largest oil reserve in the world." Consequently, he said, U.S. oppression of the Holy Land "cannot be demolished except in a rain of bullets."²⁸ In 1998, bin Laden called specifically for the murder of any American, anywhere on earth, as the "individual duty for every Muslim who can do it in any country in which it is possible to do it."²⁹ Even within such European countries as the United Kingdom, a growing number of extremists sought training from al Qa'ida in Pakistan and Afghanistan. A British House of Commons report noted that, as "Al Qa'ida developed in the 1990s, a number of extremists in the UK, both British and foreign nationals—many of the latter having fled from conflict elsewhere or repressive regimes—who began to work in support of its agenda, in particular, radicalising and encouraging young men to support jihad overseas."³⁰

After 2001, al Qa'ida significantly increased its number of attacks, which spanned a wider geographic area across Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. As Figure 6.2 indicates, al Qa'ida continued to conduct attacks in several key locations, such as Saudi Arabia and Kenya. But it also expanded into North Africa (Tunisia and Algeria), Asia (Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Pakistan), the Middle East (Jordan,

²⁷ National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States, *The 9/11 Commission Report: Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States*, Washington, D.C., 2004, p. 60; Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, *The Age of Sacred Terror*, New York: Random House, 2002, pp. 132, 242.

²⁸ Osama bin Laden, "Declaration of War Against the Americans Occupying the Land of the Two Holy Places," August 23, 1996.

²⁹ Osama bin Laden, "World Islamic Front for Jihad Against Jews and Crusaders: Initial 'Fatwa' Statement," *al-Quds al-Arabi*, February 23, 1998, p. 3.

³⁰ House of Commons, *Report of the Official Account of the Bombings in London on 7th July 2005*, London: The Stationery Office, HC 1087, 2006, p. 29.