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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA APO AE 09360

JTF GTMO-CG

28 October 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, United States Southern Command, 3511 NW 91st Avenue, Miami, FL 33172.

SUBJECT: (S) Recommendation to Retain under DoD Control for Guantanamo Detainee, Tarek Dergoul, ISN: US9UK-000534DP.

- 1. (S) Personal Information: Tarek Dergoul is a British national, born in 1977 (age 26) in London, United Kingdom. He is in good health.
- 2. (S) **Detention Information**: Subject detainee advised that in late July 2001, he spoke with a friend, Abdul Rashid, a Bangladeshi, about going to Afghanistan and participating in Jihad. They agreed to go during a meeting at a Friday prayer session in the East London mosque of "White Chapel." Detainee and his friend traveled from Heathrow Airport, London, to Islamabad, Pakistan (PK). They then traveled to Quetta, PK, where they stayed in a guesthouse for one night before traveling on to Kandahar, Afghanistan (AF). In August 2001, detainee traveled to Kabul, AF, and lived in a guesthouse for approximately one month and while at this guesthouse, detainee underwent weapons training. In September 2001, detainee traveled to Jalalabad, AF where he spent a couple of months at a guesthouse, in a town called Chogh Mukharaba, AF. Detainee claims that during Ramadan, in November 2001, he spent 19 days hiding in the caves in the Tora Bora Mountains and he was wounded. Detainee claims he was taken into custody by the Pakistanis after he fled Tora Bora into Pakistan and turned over to the Americans. Detainee was subsequently transported to Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba on 2 May 2002 because of his affiliation with White Chapel mosque and its role in facilitating recruits to fight on behalf of the Taliban and Al-Qaida.
- 3. (S/NF) Reasons for Detention: Detainee has made the several statements that condone the attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001 with the following comments: "The attacks against the World Trade Center were understandable because Muslims were just attempting to take matters into their own hands. Muslims in Chechnya and the occupied territories are terribly repressed, and their struggle against occupiers is justifiable. Suicide bombers in Palestine are not crazy; they are making rational decisions. These are the facts." Detainee is clearly

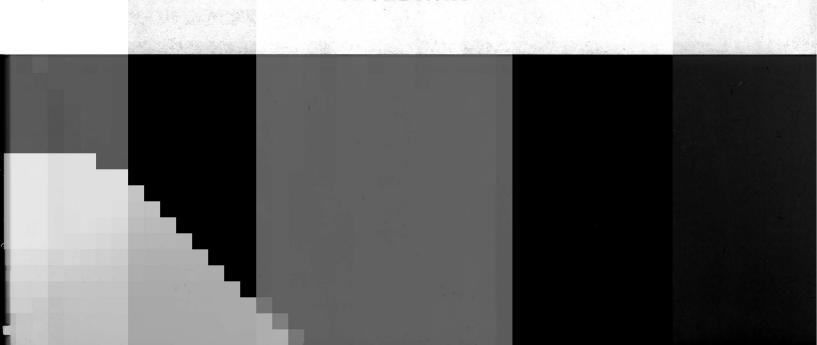
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committed to Jihad and has not been cooperative or forthright during his detention. Detainee is assessed as being an Islamic extremist and probable Al-Qaida recruit who traveled to AF to fight Jihad, where he received weapons training and probably participated in hostiles against the US.

- 4. (S) Assessment: Based on information collected and available to Joint Task Force Guantanamo as of 27 October 2003, detainee ISN: US9UK-000534DP is assessed as having been recruited to fight on behalf of the Taliban and he has probable Al-Qaida affiliations and links with known Al-Qaida supporters in the UK. Moreover, based on the detainee's folder, the knowledgeability brief, and subsequent interrogations by JTF Guantanamo, the detainee is of moderate intelligence value to the United States. Based on the above, detainee poses a high threat to the U.S., its interests or its allies.
- 5. (S) **Recommendation**: In view of the foregoing, I recommend subject detainee be retained under DoD control.
- 6. (C) Coordination: JTF Guantanamo notified the Criminal Investigative Task Force of this recommendation on 17 October 2003, who concurred with the assessment on 20 March 2003 that this detained would remain under DoD control.

(Commanding

al, U.S. Army

CF: CITF-GTMO