



S E C R E T // N O F O R N // 20330609

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO
U.S. NAVAL STATION, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
APO AE 09360



JTF-GTMO-CDR

9 June 2008

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

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD) for
Guantanamo Detainee, ISN US9YM-000441DP (S)

JTF-GTMO Detainee Assessment

1. (S) Personal Information:

- JDIMS/NDRC Reference Name: Abdul Rahman Ahmed
- Current/True Name and Aliases: Abd al-Rahman Ahmad Said Abdihi, Abd al-Rahman Ahmad Saad al-Mansur, Abd al-Rahman Yasir al-Mansur, Abd al-Rahman Ahmad Abdullah Abdihi, Abd al-Rahman Ahmad al-Taifi, Abd al-Rahman Ahmad Saad al-Ziahri, Abu Abdallah Hamza Ahmad Abdallah al-Khatab, Abu Bakr, Hamza Ahmad Abdallah al-Khatab, Thu al-Qarnin al-Sanani, Bin Saleen, Alexander, Sam
- Place of Birth: Sanaa, Yemen (YM)
- Date of Birth: 1979
- Citizenship: Yemen
- Internment Serial Number (ISN): US9YM-000441DP



2. (U//FOUO) Health: Detainee is in good health.

3. (U) JTF-GTMO Assessment:

a. (S) Recommendation: JTF-GTMO recommends this detainee for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD). JTF-GTMO previously recommended detainee for Continued Detention on 10 October 2007.

b. (S//NF) Executive Summary: Detainee is an admitted member of al-Qaida who possessed prior knowledge of the 11 September 2001 attacks as well as other planned attacks against US interests. Detainee was identified as a commander of evacuating front line forces

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assessed to be Usama Bin Laden's (UBL) 55th Arab Brigade during hostilities against US and Coalition forces, and was in direct communication with UBL. UBL tasked detainee and a small group to establish an al-Qaida base of operations in Yemen upon the event of al-Qaida's extrication from Afghanistan (AF). Detainee is associated with senior al-Qaida leaders, and acknowledged receiving basic militant training at al-Qaida's al-Faruq Training Camp, and specialized terrorist training including suicide operations. Detainee admitted staying in al-Qaida guesthouses, is listed on multiple al-Qaida affiliated documents, and has written letters for radical extremist shaykhs known to support ongoing operations against US and Coalition forces. JTF-GTMO has determined detainee to be:

- A **HIGH** risk, as he is likely to pose a threat to the US, its interests, and allies
- A **HIGH** threat from a detention perspective
- Of **HIGH** intelligence value

c. (S//NF) Summary of Changes: The following outlines changes to detainee's assessment since the last JTF-GTMO recommendation. (Changes in this assessment will be annotated by ➤ next to the footnote.)

- Added detainee's prior knowledge of the 11 September 2001 attacks
- Added aliases Alexander¹ and Abd al-Rahman Yasir al-Mansur²
- Revised detainee's account of events
- Added detainee's account of other JTF-GTMO detainees at al-Faruq Training Camp
- Added detainee associations to Shaykh Abdallah Bin Faysal al-Ahdal and Abu Qatada

4. (U) Detainee's Account of Events:

The following section is based, unless otherwise indicated, on detainee's own account. These statements are included without consideration of veracity, accuracy, or reliability.

a. (U) Prior History: Detainee completed high school in Yemen in 1997 and worked for an undetermined length of time as a shepherd, an armed security guard, a used car salesman, and a farmer who grew khat on his parents' farm.³ Detainee never served in the military,

¹ ➤000758 SIR 12-MAR-2007

² ➤IIR 6 034 0145 07, IIR 6 034 0327 07, IIR 6 034 0045 08, CIR 316-21873-06

³ NDIC INTSUM 31-MAY-2003, Analyst Note: Khat (also kat or qat) is an evergreen shrub (*Catha edulis*) native to the Horn of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. Khat is a narcotic leaf. Contradicting his high school completion, during a visit with a Yemeni delegation in March 2008, detainee claimed he was illiterate. The Delegation noted detainee spoke like an educated person. See Multiple ISNs Yemeni Delegation 26-Mar-2008.

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but learned to use weapons, including the AK-47 assault rifle and various handguns, during his childhood.⁴

b. (S//NF) Recruitment and Travel: Detainee purchased at least one jihadist video entitled "Russian Hell", which showed the Russian invasion of Chechnya. Detainee was inspired by heroic stories about fighters in Chechnya and decided to attend training to fight in Chechnya. Ali al-Dailamy, aka (Abu Hamman), a Yemeni who fought in Afghanistan, suggested detainee travel to Afghanistan for training. Detainee gave al-Dailamy his passport and al-Dailamy obtained a Pakistani visa for detainee. Detainee paid the airline fare to Pakistan (PK), circumventing another individual named Abu Muath al-Sanaani, aka (Munzir Maad al-Sanani), who normally provided the money for airline tickets to Pakistan.⁵ Detainee traveled from Yemen to Karachi, PK where he stayed at the Embassy Hotel for two days. Detainee resided in the Taliban Center in Quetta, PK for two days before continuing to Kandahar, AF. Detainee arrived in Afghanistan on 11 June 2001 and stayed at the al-Nibras Guesthouse in Kandahar for one week.⁶

c. (S//NF) Training and Activities: During detainee's stay at al-Nibras, UBL visited the guesthouse to talk with the militants. On 16 June 2001, UBL returned with other al-Qaida leaders including Ayman al-Zawahiri and Abu Hafs al-Masri, aka (Muhammad Atif). UBL met with residents in the courtyard, and ate dinner with them. During these visits, UBL talked about Afghanistan, Yemen and Saudi Arabia and the political situations in those countries as well as the Americans' involvement in the Middle East and how they start all the problems in the world. Detainee also met Mahmoud Abd al-Aziz Abd al-Mujahid, ISN US9YM-000031DP (YM-031), a UBL bodyguard. After this dinner, detainee departed the guesthouse and proceeded to the al-Faruq Training Camp, where he received 57 days of training from Abd al-Qadus, the *emir* (leader) of the camp.⁷ Training included the use of the AK-47, pistols, M-16s, Uzis, G-3 assault rifles, Kalaco rifles, and rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs). He also received instruction on land mine theory. Detainee performed well in training and al-Qaida leaders chose him as part of a group to receive specialized training for suicide missions. For those chosen for suicide missions, students learned how to religiously prepare for suicide missions. Detainee and his chosen group traveled to Kabul, AF where they received training to resist interrogation and torture. The group visited the front lines of Afghanistan and had the opportunity to meet with al-Qaida leaders. On two occasions at the end of July and beginning of August, UBL visited the al-Faruq Training Camp. During the

⁴ >000441 SIR 05-SEP-2003, IIR 6 034 0391 02

⁵ Analyst Note: A variant of Abu Muath al-Sanaani is Abu Muad al-Sanany.

⁶ >IIR 6 034 0022 04, 000441 302 06-FEB-2003, Analyst Note: The Sadar Bazaar is an area known for al-Qaida transient berthing. Numerous detainees used one of several hotels in this area including the Dubai, Mustafa, and Embassy hotels during their travel to Afghanistan. At least one of the 11 September 2001 hijackers used hotels in this area approximately four months before the attacks.

⁷ 000441 302 06-FEB-2003, Analyst Note: Variants of Quddus include Quddus, Qudas, and Gadus.

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first visit, UBL spoke with the camp instructors at another location within the camp. During UBL's second visit, UBL addressed the instructors and trainees with a speech emphasizing the importance of jihad. After their training was complete, detainee's group was given a mission to establish an al-Qaida base in Yemen. Before 11 September 2001, detainee attended another meeting with UBL and other senior al-Qaida leaders. The discussion at the meeting related to upcoming operations and whether the US would invade Afghanistan after the attack.⁸ Detainee traveled to the Arab Guesthouse in Kabul, operated by Hamza al-Ghamdi, and resided there for two to three months. Detainee visited Arabs at the Kunduz frontlines where he was injured by an explosion. Detainee was taken to the hospital in Kunduz where he recuperated for two weeks. Detainee later heard all the Arabs were instructed to travel to Mazar-e-Sharif, AF.⁹

5. (U) Capture Information:

a. (S//NF) Over 70 JTF-GTMO detainees surrendered to General Abd al-Rasheed Dostum's troops in late November 2001. Detainee reportedly negotiated the safe passage from Konduz to Kandahar of the forces under his command, and was directly authorized by UBL to agree that his group would surrender their weapons to the Northern Alliance forces as part of the negotiated deal. Dostum's forces detained detainee and his group and took them to the Qala-i-Jangi prison located outside Mazar-e-Sharif on 24 November 2001. After one night in captivity, the prisoners revolted leading to the deaths of members of the Northern Alliance forces and CIA operative Johnny "Mike" Spann.¹⁰ Detainee and the majority of JTF-GTMO detainees who survived the uprising hid in the basement until they were re-captured on 29 November 2001.¹¹ Detainee was transferred to US custody in December 2001 and taken to Kandahar detention facility.¹²

b. (S) Property Held:

- 14 unidentified pills

c. (S) Transferred to JTF-GTMO: 9 February 2002

d. (S//NF) Reasons for Transfer to JTF-GTMO: To provide information on the following:

⁸ >IIR 6 034 0391 02, IIR 6 034 0042 02, 000441 302 06-FEB-2003

⁹ IIR 6 034 0391 02(b)

¹⁰ Multiple ISNs OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM - Part 3 - November 2001, IIR 6 034 0391 02(b)

¹¹ Deception at Qala-i-Jangi Prison - USSOC - May 2005

¹² IIR 6 034 0012 03

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- Al-Faruq Training Camp in Afghanistan
- Weapons and training of al-Qaida fighters
- Al-Qaida members who issued *fatwas* (religious edicts) calling for jihad

6. (S//NF) Evaluation of Detainee's Account: Detainee's account is only partially truthful, although he was initially forthcoming and provided a credible timeline and recount of his activities in Afghanistan. Some details he provided were surprisingly incriminating, such as multiple meetings with UBL and other al-Qaida leaders, the specialized training he received, and his selection to establish a new al-Qaida cell in Yemen. Detainee has corroborated reports by other detainees that he fought on the front lines in Afghanistan, but denied serving in a leadership capacity. Detainee reported he was captured prior to October 2001 and was at the Qala-i-Jangi prison for approximately 52 days, probably in effort to distance himself from his leadership on the front lines. He subsequently tried to discount his initial story as a joke and has been uncooperative ever since. However, detainee has been identified by other JTF-GTMO detainees who trained at the al-Faruq Training Camp.

7. (U) Detainee Threat:

a. (S) Assessment: Detainee is assessed to be a **HIGH** risk, as he is likely to pose a threat to the US, its interests, and allies.

b. (S//NF) Reasons for Continued Detention: Detainee is an admitted member of al-Qaida who possessed advanced knowledge of the 11 September 2001 attacks. Detainee, who is listed on multiple al-Qaida affiliated documents, held a leadership position within UBL's 55th Arab Brigade during hostilities against US and Coalition forces and was tasked by UBL to establish an al-Qaida base in Yemen upon the event of al-Qaida's extrication from Afghanistan. Detainee is directly associated with senior al-Qaida leaders, and acknowledged receiving basic militant training at al-Qaida's al-Faruq Training Camp, and specialized terrorist training including suicide operations. Detainee admitted staying in al-Qaida guesthouses and has written letters to radical extremist shaykhs known to support ongoing operations against US and Coalition forces.

- (S//NF) Detainee is an admitted member of al-Qaida who possessed advanced knowledge of the 11 September 2001 attacks. Detainee, who is listed on multiple al-Qaida affiliated documents, held a leadership position within UBL's 55th Arab Brigade during hostilities against US and Coalition forces and was tasked by UBL to establish an al-Qaida base in Yemen.
 - (S//NF) During an FBI interrogation, detainee acknowledged he attended a meeting with UBL and other senior al-Qaida leaders before 11 September 2001 during which they discussed an upcoming operation and whether the US would

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invade Afghanistan after the attack.¹³ (Analyst Note: Detainee's statement is an acknowledgement he had prior knowledge of the 11 September 2001 attacks.)

- (S//NF) Detainee stated if the US did not respond after the attack, al-Qaida would launch other attacks until the US did respond. Other senior al-Qaida members present during the meeting included Sulayman Abu Ghayth (assessed to be UBL's spokesman of the same name), and camp commanders and trainers such as Abu Muhammad al-Masri (commander of all al-Qaida training camps in Afghanistan), and al-Faruq commander Abd al-Qadus. Detainee also noted UBL used Sulayman Abu Ghayth, a Yemeni, as a guide in Afghanistan. Lastly detainee stated it was common knowledge in Afghanistan that something was going to happen in the US.¹⁴
- (S//NF) Analyst Note: It is assessed detainee identified two Sulayman Abu Ghayths in his report. One, UBL's spokesman and the other the Yemeni. The Yemeni guide is possibly Abd al-Rahman Abdu Abu al-Ghayth Sulayman, aka (Abu Ghayth), ISN US9YM-000223DP. While UBL is known to have provided indications of an impending operation to gatherings such as trainees at al-Faruq, few attended meetings with UBL where operations were discussed.
- (S//NF) Detainee was also knowledgeable about other al-Qaida attacks planned against US interests in Kuwait, Jordan, Qatar, and Oman. Detainee stated al-Qaida collected intelligence on US military bases in the Middle East, including the Mukairas Baidah and the Ras Abas areas in Yemen. Detainee stated US forces ruined many plans for attacks when they arrested so many individuals and sent them to JTF-GTMO.¹⁵
- (S//NF) Detainee is listed on multiple al-Qaida affiliated documents as a wounded or missing fighter during action in Northern Afghanistan.
 - (S//NF) Detainee's alias was found on a document associated to al-Qaida member Mustafa Ahmad al-Hawsawi, ISN US9SA-0010011DP (SA-10011), listing wounded and killed mujahideen and their families. This document was recovered during the series of raids in Pakistan in March 2003.¹⁶ (Analyst Note: Detainee's inclusion on the list is likely due to his injury prior to the retreat.)
 - (S//NF) Detainee's alias was found on a document listing killed, wounded and missing fighters recovered in Shahe Kot, AF on 6 March 2002. Detainee was listed as missing under the heading of "Third Convoy; Martyrs and Missing of Mazar-e-Sharif; Jangi Fort."¹⁷

¹³ >000441 302 06-FEB-2003

¹⁴ 000441 302 06-FEB-2003, Analyst Note: Listed as Suleyman Abu Khaith and Abu Mohammed Al Masry.

¹⁵ 000441 302 06-FEB-2003

¹⁶ >TD-314/17125-03 number 3 (listed as Thu al-Karnain)

¹⁷ >IIR 7 739 3111 02 (listed as Zo Al Qarnain), IIR 2 340 6716 02(c) (listed as Zu a-Qarain)

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- (S//NF) In a compilation of letters written to Hilal al-Azdi, detainee's alias is listed as requesting shoes from Husam or Abd al-Rahman al-Shami.¹⁸ (Analyst Note: According to these letters, Hilal al-Azdi appeared to be a significant individual connected to the al-Qaida training programs and guesthouses, with some references to finances.)
- (S//NF) Detainee acknowledged he went to the front lines and was injured in a missile attack. He was treated for his wounds at a hospital in Kunduz, where he stayed for two weeks before the retreat.¹⁹
- (S//NF) Muktar Yahya Najee al-Warafi, ISN US9YM-000117DP (YM-117), reported Zu al-Qarnain (detainee's alias), was treated for a broken leg at the al-Ansar clinic located outside of Kunduz.²⁰
- (S//NF) Yasin Muhammad Salih Mazeab Basardah, ISN US9YM-000252DP (YM-252), identified detainee as a fighter in Northern Afghanistan.²¹
- (S//NF) The Yemeni Political Security Organization identified detainee as a Yemeni al-Qaida member.²²
- (S//NF) Ali Abd al-Motalib Awad Hassan al-Tayeea, ISN US9IZ-000111DP (IZ-111), photo-identified detainee as the leader of the evacuation of fighters from Kunduz to Mazar-e-Sharif in November 2001. IZ-111 indicated Taliban Supreme Commander Mullah Omar and UBL authorized detainee to evacuate the fighters during satellite phone communication. Detainee made an agreement with representatives of General Dostum's Northern Alliance forces to allow the fighters to pass through Mazar-e-Sharif if they surrendered their weapons to Dostum's forces.²³
 - (S//NF) Analyst Note: IZ-111 claimed he was no more than five feet away from detainee when detainee made the call to Mullah Omar and UBL. Although IZ-111 reported detainee negotiated for safe passage, General Dostum's forces detained the large group when they arrived in Mazar-e-Sharif. Detainee's contact with, and authorization from UBL indicates detainee held one of the senior commands for the al-Qaida controlled forces (the 55th Arab Brigade) in Northern Afghanistan at the time. This was probably due to attrition from the deaths of several commanders and retreat of others from the battlefield.²⁴

¹⁸ >AFGP-2002-800320, Analyst Note: Detainee is listed as Zu-al-Qarnayn on Page 37 of 47.

¹⁹ IIR 6 034 0391 02(b), 000441 302 06-FEB-2003, Analyst Note: The Taliban surrendered Kunduz on 24 November 2001.

²⁰ >IIR 2 340 6139 02

²¹ 000252 SIR 04-JAN-2006

²² >TD-314/49402-01 paragraph O

²³ >000111 SIR 14-JUN-2007

²⁴ The 55th Arab Brigade, also referred to in reporting as the al-Qaida Brigade, the Mujahideen Brigade, and the Arab Fighters, served as UBL's primary battle formation supporting Taliban objectives, with UBL participating closely in the command and control of the brigade. Nashwan Abd al-Razzaq Abd al-Baqi, aka (Abdul Hadi al-Iraqi), ISN US9IZ-010026DP (IZ-10026), had primary operational command of the 55th Arab Brigade, serving as UBL's military commander in the field. For additional information see 55th Arab Brigade 01-Feb-1998, FBI 3540-

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- (S//NF) The retreating forces fled from Kunduz to Mazar-e-Sharif and intended to continue to Kandahar. Detainee's escape vehicle was a land cruiser ambulance equipped with a satellite phone. An Afghan translator known as Siddiqi accompanied detainee. Detainee also carried a large bag of Pakistani and US currency, passports of fighters, and two training videos which detainee made himself about mines and minefields. The videos taught how to set up ambushes. Detainee also carried numerous CD's depicting battles, location of camps, and information on individuals²⁵
- (S//NF) Detainee has corroborated certain details reported by IZ-111. Detainee stated a bag of money and several passports were in the vehicle detainee occupied when he left Kunduz. Detainee identified the driver of the vehicle as an Afghan named Sadiq. Detainee also reported having approximately 24,000 Pakistani Rupees (\$500 US) in his possession at the time.²⁶
- (S//NF) According to IZ-758, IZ-111 noted detainee is aka (Alexander), an alias given to him due to detainee's military exploits reminiscent of Alexander the Great. Detainee commanded troops in Northern Afghanistan and was in communication with UBL. Detainee collected passports of deceased fighters to facilitate the movement of fighters out of the country under false identities.²⁷
- (S//NF) Detainee admitted he was selected by senior al-Qaida leaders to establish an al-Qaida cell in Yemen which would serve as the base for al-Qaida. UBL instructed detainee to establish an al-Qaida base in Yemen after al-Qaida was forced out of Afghanistan. Detainee stated he might have been on a mission for UBL when the Northern Alliance captured him. Detainee and his group were given this assignment in Khowst, AF three days before Coalition forces began bombing in October 2001.²⁸
 - (S//NF) Detainee admitted he sat with UBL on more than 10 occasions during which UBL discussed Afghanistan, Yemen, and Saudi Arabia, as well as US involvement in the Middle East.²⁹ (Analyst Note: This is an unusually high number of meetings with UBL when compared to the majority of JTF-GTMO detainees.)

01548-026-0015, DIA CAR 55th Arab Brigade 18-Sep-2001, IIR 2 340 6362 02, 000440 SIR 04-Mar-2004, IIR 6 034 0246 02, IIR 6 034 0252 06, 000078 SIR 14-Oct-2006, and Various ISNs COLISEUM ANS I005-04-0132.

²⁵ >000111 SIR 14-JUN-2007, IIR 6 034 1232 03, 000111 SIR 04-NOV-2003, Analyst Note: In 000758 SIR 12-MAR-2007, IZ-758 reported IZ-111's awareness of the information.

²⁶ IIR 6 034 1024 04

²⁷ 000758 SIR 12-MAR-2007

²⁸ 000441 SIR 02-FEB-2003, 000441 302 06-FEB-2003, 000441 302 04-FEB-2003, Analyst Note: The report states they would set up "the base of the base, or the Qaida of the al-Qaida." Al-Qaida means "the base" and represents he would set up the base of operations for the organization al-Qaida in Yemen.

²⁹ 000441 302 06-FEB-2003, IIR 2 340 6220 02

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- (S//NF) Detainee met UBL and his deputy, Ayman al-Zawahiri, and Abu Hafs al-Masri (al-Qaida's military chief) at the al-Nibras Guesthouse.³⁰
- (S//NF) Detainee met Ali Muhammad Abdul Aziz al-Fakhri, aka (Ibn al-Shaykh al-Libi), ISN US9LY-000212 (LY-212), approximately five times. One of the last time detainee saw LY-212 was after 11 September 2001 in Khowst where LY-212 was in charge of running the battle against the Americans.³¹ (Analyst Note: LY-212 was the former commander of the Khaldan Training Camp and UBL's appointed military commander in Tora Bora, replacing Abd al-Quddus. Detainee apparently saw LY-212 prior to LY-212's movement to Tora Bora.)
- (S//NF) Detainee received basic and advanced training at al-Qaida's al-Faruq Training Camp, including advanced training in preparation for suicide operations.
 - (S//NF) Detainee admitted he trained at al-Faruq for 57 days from mid-June to mid-August 2001. His training included weapons familiarization on the AK-47, pistol, M-16, Uzi, G-3, Kalaco rifle, and RPG. At Kabul, detainee stated al-Qaida offered training courses on intelligence collection, mountain warfare, artillery, topography, land navigation, anti-aircraft weapons, military leadership, urban warfare, building and planting explosive devices, poisons, and forgery.³²
 - (S//NF) Richard Dean Belmar, ISN US9UK-000817DP (UK-817, transferred), identified detainee as Abu Bakr, the *emir* (leader) for UK-817's group of 20 at the al-Faruq Training Camp.³³
 - (S//NF) Detainee identified Zahar Omar Hamis Bin Hamdoun, aka (Ayash al-Hadrami), ISN US9YM-000576DP (YM-576), as the leader of his training group at al-Faruq in mid-2001.³⁴
 - (S//NF) Detainee photo-identified Ghassan Abdallah Ghazi al-Sharbi, aka (Abu Abdullah), aka (al-Otabi), ISN US9SA-000682DP (SA-682), in general weapons training at the al-Faruq Training Camp.³⁵
 - (S//NF) At al-Faruq, detainee was selected to be a member of an eight man cell to receive specialized training. Detainee stayed with these men at a guesthouse in Kabul run by al-Qaida facilitator Hamza al-Ghamdi.³⁶
 - (S//NF) Detainee stated he was experienced in weapons before he arrived at the al-Faruq Training Camp and because he did well, he and seven other students

³⁰ 000441 302 06-FEB-2003³¹ 000441 302 06-FEB-2003³² 000441 SIR 02-FEB-2003, IIR 6 034 0391 02³³ IIR 6 034 0420 05, 000817 HANDNOTE 06-JUN-2002, 000817 SIR 08-OCT-2004³⁴ >IIR 6 034 0391 02, IIR 6 034 0042 02³⁵ >000441 FM40 02-FEB-2003³⁶ 000441 302 06-FEB-2003, IIR 2 340 6442 02, Analyst Note: Abd al-Quddus was an al-Qaida commander who previously served as a commander of the al-Faruq Training Camp and commanded a group of fighters at Tora Bora in late 2001.

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were picked from the group of fighters and given special training. Detainee explained the specialized training also involved religious training. For those who had been chosen for suicide training, the trainers taught the students how to properly prepare for the religious aspects of suicide missions. Those students also live in special guesthouses. Detainee's group was taken to Kabul to be trained by a group of Egyptians to resist interrogation and torture. Al-Qaida also taught them to change their accents and how to dress and act in an airport. Detainee described al-Qaida as very organized. Detainee stated he is aware of 80 al-Qaida members who were pulled out of the al-Faruq Training Camp for special operations. The members who were designated for special operations were not included with members who were already trained and in Kabul or Kandahar waiting for orders.³⁷

- (S//NF) Supporting detainees reported counter-interrogation training, IZ-111 reported detainee instructed other JTF-GTMO detainees in ways to deceive their interrogators.³⁸
- (S//NF) Detainee admitted staying in al-Qaida guesthouses, and his name appeared on an al-Qaida associated document confirming his admission.
 - (S//NF) Detainee reported he stayed at the Hamza al-Ghamdi Guesthouse in Kabul for two to three months. This guesthouse was located in the Wazir Akbar Khan District in the former Saudi Ambassador's house, and operated by al-Qaida.³⁹ (Analyst Note: The Wazir Akbar Khan area is former diplomatic district occupied by the Taliban and al-Qaida for quarters and training.)⁴⁰
 - (S//NF) Detainee stated he stayed at the al-Qaida al-Nibras Guesthouse in Kandahar prior to training at the al-Faruq Training Camp. According to detainee, the al-Nibras Guesthouse was for those training for jihad. During his stay at al-Nibras, he met and had dinner with UBL on two separate occasions.⁴¹
 - (S//NF) Variations of detainee's name and alias were found on an al-Qaida affiliated document recovered from raids on suspected al-Qaida guesthouses in Pakistan. This list identifies the contents of detainee's trust account as a passport, ID cards, and photographs. (Analyst Note: Such lists are indicative of an individual's

³⁷ > IIR 6 034 0042 02, 000441 302 06-FEB-2003, 000441 SIR 12-FEB-2003

³⁸ 000111 SIR 20-JUN-2003

³⁹ IIR 6 034 0391 02, IIR 2 340 6462 02, 000441 302 06-FEB-2003, Analyst Note: This was identified as the Guesthouse 10, aka (Ashara Guesthouse), in IIR 6 034 0394 02, and as the Azzam Guesthouse in 000252 FM40 21-AUG-2004.

⁴⁰ Analyst Note: For additional information on the Wazir Akbar Khan area, see example reporting in TD-314/44118-04, TD-314/44654-06, IIR 6 034 0401 05, IIR 6 034 0281 03, IIR 6 034 0780 02, TRRS-04-03-1087, 000758 FM40 01-Nov-2002, 000041 302 21-Aug-2002, IIR 6 034 0284 05, TD-314/66073-06, and IIR 6 034 0144 08.

⁴¹ IIR 6 034 0391 02, 000441 302 06-FEB-2003, Analyst Note: The al-Nibras Guesthouse was also referred to as the Arab Center.

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residence within al-Qaida, Taliban, and other extremist guesthouses, often for the purpose of training or coordination prior to travel to the front lines or abroad. Trust accounts, also referred to as safety boxes or safety deposit boxes, were simple storage compartments such as envelopes or folders that guesthouse administrators used to secure the individual's personal valuables, such as passports and plane tickets. These items were entrusted to the guesthouse until completion of training or other activity.)⁴²

- (S//NF) Detainee has written letters to former JTF-GTMO detainees, Yusif Muhammad Mubarak al-Shihri, ISN US9SA-000114DP (SA-114), Anthony Kiyemba, ISN US9UG-000701DP (UG-701), and Birhel Amin Khalil al-Rawi, ISN US9IZ-000906DP (IZ-906). Detainee has written to Abd al-Rahman al-Hila, who was Abd al-Salam al-Hilah's, ISN US9SA-001453DP (SA-1463), brother, although their association is not currently clear. Detainee requested this letter to Abd al-Rahman al-Hila to be forwarded to Shaykh Abdallah Bin Faysal al-Ahdal in Hadramout, YM.⁴³
 - (S//NF) Shaykh Abdallah Faysal al-Ahdal was one of 26 Yemeni Muslim scholars who, in 2004, signed a document urging youth to support the resistance in Iraq.⁴⁴ In July 2005, Shaykh al-Ahdal was involved in the recruitment and training of Yemeni youths to fight against US forces in Iraq. Prior to being sent to Iraq, the youths were indoctrinated into the radical Salafi sect of Islam, instilled with a profound hatred toward the West and trained in martial arts in remote villages north of al-Mukalla, in the Hadramout region.⁴⁵
 - (S//NF) Detainee wrote a letter to IZ-906 in Surrey, United Kingdom, in which detainee requested IZ-906 to send his greetings to Shaykh Abu Qatada.⁴⁶ Shaykh Abu Qatada is assessed to be Abu Qatada, a suspected al-Qaida recruiter based in London. IZ-906 was an admitted associated of and has written to Abu Qatada in the past.⁴⁷ Abu Qatada has been identified as al-Qaida's spiritual liaison in Europe.⁴⁸ According to open source reporting, the United Kingdom granted Abu Qatada asylum in 1993 from Jordan, which identified him as an ally of UBL and sentenced him to death in absentia on terrorism charges. British authorities arrested Abu Qatada in

⁴² TD-314/47683-03, paragraph 127; TD-314/42895-02, paragraph 129; TD-314/40693-02, paragraph 156, Analyst Note: Listed under detainee's name variation was trust account number 238-115, with the contents listed as a passport, an identification card, a wallet, and a ticket. For additional information on these lists, see DAB Guesthouse Administration 14-Apr-2008.

⁴³ >IIR 6 034 0278 06, IIR 6 034 0326 07, IIR 6 034 0326 07, IIR 6 034 0145 07

⁴⁴ >TD-314/02710-05, TD-314/01942-05, TD-314/71519-04

⁴⁵ >IIR 5 399 8023 05, TD-314/64973-04

⁴⁶ >IIR 6 034 0045 08, Analyst Note: Detainee's letter was had Abi Qatada as the spellings, which is a variant of Abu Qatada.

⁴⁷ >Homeland Security Focus Report on Terrorist Recruitment 21-OCT-2005, IIR 6 034 0287 06, IIR 6 034 0595 03

⁴⁸ >000238 MFR 6 April 2003, Algerian Extremist Recruitment in Europe 31-May-2004, IIR 6 034 1054 03, GMP20021106000016 – "UBL's European Ambassador arrested in London."

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October 2002, but could not legally hold him. On 11 August 2005, British authorities again arrested Abu Qatada who is now awaiting extradition pursuant to new terrorism laws.⁴⁹

c. (S//NF) Detainee's Conduct: Detainee is assessed as a **HIGH** threat from a detention perspective. His overall behavior has been sporadically compliant and hostile to the guard force and staff. Detainee currently has 115 Reports of Disciplinary Infraction listed in DIMS with the most recent occurring on 11 May 2008, when he failed to follow the camp rules. He has 16 Reports of Disciplinary Infraction for assault with the most recent occurring on 27 May 2007, when he threw a mixture of feces and urine at the guard force. Other incidents for which he has been disciplined include inciting and participating in mass disturbances, failure to follow guard instructions and camp rules, inappropriate use of bodily fluids, unauthorized communications, damage to government property, attempted assaults, assaults, provoking words and gestures, and possession of food and non-weapon type contraband. In 2007, he had a total of 23 Reports of Disciplinary Infraction and five so far in 2008.

8. (U) Detainee Intelligence Value Assessment:

a. (S) Assessment: Detainee is assessed to be of **HIGH** intelligence value. Detainee's most recent interrogation session occurred on 16 January 2008.

b. (S//NF) Placement and Access: Detainee admitted he was an associate of multiple senior al-Qaida leaders and that he trained at an al-Qaida training camp. Detainee admittedly was selected for specialized training involving suicide operations. Detainee has resided in numerous al-Qaida facilities. Detainee was selected by senior al-Qaida leaders as one of eight al-Qaida operatives who were to establish a new al-Qaida cell in Yemen. Detainee was recruited via a common Yemeni-based al-Qaida recruitment network and served on the front lines. He was captured with over 70 other JTF-GTMO detainees.

c. (S//NF) Intelligence Assessment: Detainee has information about al-Qaida operational planning against US interests abroad. He has information about al-Qaida members at large including those in the Yemen recruitment network, as well as others who may have been identified for his Yemeni cell. He has information about senior al-Qaida leadership including UBL, Ayman al-Zawahiri, Abu Hafs al-Masri, and potentially others. Detainee has knowledge about suicide operative identification and indoctrination procedures. Detainee may have knowledge of the individual who killed CIA officer Mike Spann during the Qala-i-Jangi prison uprising in November 2001.

d. (S//NF) Areas of Potential Exploitation:

⁴⁹ > Washington Post - Newspaper - 12 August 2005

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- Future al-Qaida attack planning
- Al-Qaida cells
 - Individuals involved who may be at large
 - Establishment procedures/requirements
- Senior al-Qaida leadership
 - UBL
 - Ayman al-Zawahiri
 - Abu Hafs al-Masri
- Al-Qaida suicide training and operatives
- Qala-i-Jangi prison uprising
- False travel documentation
- Support to terrorist organizations in Yemen
- Terrorist biographical and psychological information
- Terrorist operations in the CENTCOM AOR

9. (S) **EC Status:** Detainee's enemy combatant status was reassessed on 12 August 2004, and he remains an enemy combatant.



D. M. THOMAS, JR
Rear Admiral, US Navy
Commanding

* Definitions for intelligence terms used in the assessment can be found in the Joint Military Intelligence College October 2001 guide *Intelligence Warning Terminology*.