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



# JTF-GTMO-CDR

17 November 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-000091DP (S)

# **JTF-GTMO Detainee Assessment**

### 1. (S//NF) Personal Information:

- JDIMS/NDRC Reference Name: <u>Abdel al-Saleh</u>
- Current/True Name and Aliases: <u>Abdul Muhssin Abdul Reb</u> <u>Salah al-Aubaissy, Dahya, Doheia al-Hadrami</u>
- Place of Birth: <u>al-Mukalla, Yemen (YM)</u>
- Date of Birth: <u>1979</u>
- Citizenship: <u>Yemen</u>
- Internment Serial Number (ISN): <u>US9YM-000091DP</u>



- 2. (U//FOUO) Health: Detainee is in good health with no significant medical problems.
- 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 CD on 25 December 2006.

**b.** (S//NF) Executive Summary: If released without rehabilitation, close supervision, and means to successfully reintegrate into his society as a law abiding citizen, it is assessed detainee would probably seek out prior associates and reengage in hostilities and extremist support activities. Since transfer to JTF-GTMO, detainee has been hostile and non-compliant with the guard force. Detainee has been non-cooperative during custodial interviews and withheld information of intelligence value indicating his continuing support for extremism. Detainee is assessed to be a member of al-Qaida. Detainee traveled to

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Afghanistan (AF) to participate in combat and fought for six months on the front lines with the 55<sup>th</sup> Arab Brigade, commanded by al-Qaida leader Nashwan Abd al-Razzaq Abd al-Baqi, aka (Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi), ISN US9IZ-010026DP (IZ-10026). Detainee reportedly received militant training at the al-Qaida supported al-Faruq Training Camp. Detainee has openly called for violent actions both while in detention and after release, including actions specifically targeting Christians and Jews. JTF-GTMO determined this 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 **LOW** intelligence value

**c.** (S//NF) Summary of Changes: There are no significant changes to detainee's assessment since the last JTF-GTMO recommendation.

### 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.** (S//NF) **Prior History:** Detainee attended school through the fifth grade and then went to work as a porter, doing odd jobs around the town and the docks. In 1997, at the age of 18, detainee joined the Yemeni National Police. After training, detainee was assigned to the department charged with guarding buildings such as banks, utility plants, and tourist sites.<sup>1</sup> After five years with the National Police, detainee claims he wanted to leave Yemen, due to his dislike of the way people could avoid tickets by paying bribes.<sup>2</sup>

**b.** (S//NF) Recruitment and Travel: In 2001, detainee heard about a *fatwa* (religious edict) issued by Sheik Abdullah bin Jibril.<sup>3</sup> In the *fatwa*, Jibril instructed young men from Yemen to go to Afghanistan to fight with the Taliban against the Northern Alliance.<sup>4</sup> Shaykh Hamed Badothman, a seventy year-old Imam at the Shuhatha Mosque in al-Mukalla, also preached that young men from Yemen should go and fight for the Taliban in Afghanistan.<sup>5</sup> Motivated by these *fatwas*, detainee decided to quit his job and travel to Afghanistan. Detainee stated that he funded his own travel. Detainee did not inform his

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 000091 302 12-APR-2002

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 000091 302 19-MAY-2003

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Analyst Note: Variant: Gabriel. Jibril is assessed to be Shaykh Abdullah Bin Abd al-Rahman Jabrin, a Saudi cleric who issued a *fatwa* obliging Muslims to support the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> IIR 6 034 0224 02, 000091 KB 13-FEB-2002

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> IIR 6 034 0224 02, 000091 MFR 30-MAR-2002, Analyst Note: Detainee alternately stated that, per a *fatwa*, he intended to wage jihad in Chechnya, and felt cheated by the Taliban for making him fight the Northern Alliance, a cause in which he did not believe. See 000091 302 19-MAY-2003

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family of his decision to wage jihad because his father had previously forbidden him from going and threatened to withhold detainee's inheritance.<sup>6</sup> In approximately June 2001, two days prior to detainee's departure, his acquaintance, Muhammed Omar Askar, traveled from Yemen to Afghanistan. Omar met detainee at the airport in Karachi, Pakistan (PK). Detainee claims Omar met him at the airport to ensure detainee got on the right bus to Afghanistan.<sup>7</sup> While in Karachi, they spent the night with a friend of Omar's. En route to Afghanistan, the two spent between one and three days in a Taliban office in Quetta, PK, where they told an Afghan man named Dawood (variant: Daood) that they had come to fight with the Taliban against the Northern Alliance.<sup>8</sup> Detainee then traveled to Kandahar, AF.<sup>9</sup>

c. (S//NF) Training and Activities: When detainee arrived in Kandahar detainee went to a "Jihad School" in downtown Kandahar.<sup>10</sup> Detainee spent three days at the school praying and observing others instructing and studying the Koran. On the third day he was told there was an emergency in Northern Afghanistan and he volunteered to go with a group of fifty Taliban to fight the Northern Alliance. The group was driven to the airport, loaded on a plane and flown to Kunduz, AF, where they were loaded into trucks and driven north to the front lines at Khwaja Ghar, AF, where detainee was issued an AK-47 assault rifle upon arrival.<sup>11</sup> Detainee fought on the front lines at Khwaja Ghar area for the Taliban from June to December 2001.<sup>12</sup> The overall commander in Khwaja Ghar was Mullah Thaker<sup>13</sup> and the leader of all Arabs was a Yemeni named Abd al-Salam al-Hadrami.<sup>14</sup> Abdul al-Hassan, a Yemeni national, commanded detainee's unit of approximately fifteen men. At night, they lodged in a farmhouse, approximately a fifteen minute walk from the front lines. Detainee's unit would engage in sporadic combat with Northern Alliance forces in the vicinity of a river and he would fire approximately one to two magazines per engagement. (Analyst Note: The river is assessed to be either the Amu Darya or the Kokcha River.) As Northern Alliance forces advanced, detainee was ordered to withdraw to Kunduz. Detainee remained in Kunduz until the seventh day of Ramadan, when he was ordered to retreat to Kandahar.<sup>15</sup> (Analyst Note: The seventh day of Ramadan 2001 corresponds to 22 November.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 000091 302 19-MAY-2003

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Analyst Note: Detainee alternately stated that the two took a taxi to Kandahar. See 000091 MFR 30-MAR-2002 <sup>8</sup> Analyst Note: Detainee alternately claimed that Omar remained in Karachi. Detainee reported that he next saw Omar in Mazar-e-Sharif, where Omar was using the alias Othman (variant: Uthman). Detainee denied knowing status of Omar. This Taliban office is assessed to be the Daftar Taliban guesthouse. See IIR 6 034 0224 02, 000091 KB 13-FEB-2002, 000091 MFR 30-MAR-2002

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 000091 302 12-APR-2002

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Analyst Note: Jihad School is probably the Islamic Institute in Kandahar.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 000091 302 12-APR-2002

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Detainee originally stated he was only a guard, but later admitted he was a fighter. 000091 KB 13-FEB-2002, 000091 302 12-APR-2002

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Variant: Zakir

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Analyst Note: Abd al-Salam al-Hadrami was second-in-command of the 55<sup>th</sup> Arab Brigade under IZ-10026.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> IIR 6 034 1269 03

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## 5. (U) Capture Information:

a. (S//NF) On the way to Kandahar, detainee was informed that surrender had been negotiated with the Northern Alliance. When the convoy arrived at Mazar-e-Sharif, AF, the group climbed off the trucks, surrendered their weapons, and then re-boarded the trucks. They were taken to the Qala-i-Jangi prison where they were searched, relieved of their possessions, restrained, and placed in a basement. Detainee claimed he gave his passport to Emir Gharib, the leader of the Qala-i-Jangi prison.<sup>16</sup> That night, detainee stated he was shot during an uprising and continually passed out. Detainee reported that he is unable to recall much about the next couple of days because he kept falling asleep. Detainee recalls a large quantity of water in the basement, lots of bombing, and screaming.<sup>17</sup> Detainee was secured by General Dostum's forces and later transferred to US custody in Kandahar on 28 December 2001

## b. (S) Property Held:

• Four pills of unknown substance

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

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

- Information on Arab fighters in Afghanistan
- Yemeni military
- Yemeni police

6. (S//NF) Evaluation of Detainee's Account: Detainee's account of recruitment and travel to Afghanistan is typical of many detainees. His claim of not receiving basic paramilitary training in Afghanistan conflicts with other reporting. Though detainee's employment and training as a Yemeni National Police officer would provide him with familiarity with firearms, it is unlikely that it would be sufficient for him to bypass the training pipeline in Afghanistan. Detainee's account of fighting against Northern Alliance forces in Khwaja Ghar, the withdrawal to Kunduz, and subsequent surrender to Dostum's forces is corroborated by other detainee accounts and known facts. Detainee has not accounted for the time between the prison uprising

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> IIR 6 034 1269 03, Deception at Qala-i-Jangi
<sup>17</sup> 000091 302 12-APR-2002

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and his transfer to US forces. Detainee was probably in a hospital or clinic and then in Sheberghan Prison under Northern Alliance control.<sup>18</sup>

#### 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: If released without rehabilitation, close supervision, and means to successfully reintegrate into his society as a law abiding citizen, it is assessed detainee would probably seek out prior associates and reengage in hostilities and extremist support activities. Since transfer to JTF-GTMO, detainee has been hostile and non-compliant with the guard force. Detainee has been non- cooperative during interviews and withheld information of intelligence value probably indicating his continuing support for extremism. Detainee is assessed to be a member of al-Qaida. Detainee served with the 55<sup>th</sup> Arab Brigade. Several detainees placed him at the Kunduz front lines. He was reportedly at the al-Faruq training camp. Detainee's name and aliases were found on lists in al-Qaida safe houses. Detainee continues to call for violent extremism both during and after detention.

• (S//NF) Detainee was a member of the 55<sup>th</sup> Arab Brigade, led by IZ-10026, which fought against US and coalition forces. Detainee admitted fighting on the Kunduz front lines.<sup>19</sup>

(S//NF) Detainee claimed Abd al-Salam was his commander in the Khwaja Ghar area of Afghanistan.<sup>20</sup> Abd al-Salam al-Hadrami aka (Mu'amar Sa'id Abud Dayan) was subordinate to IZ-10026 in the Arab Brigade.<sup>21</sup> Al-Hadrami reportedly was killed during combat in 2001.<sup>22</sup>

• (S//NF) Ali Abdul Motalib Awayd Hassan al-Tayeea, ISN US9IZ-000111DP (IZ-111), identified detainee as Dehi al-Hadrami. IZ-111 recognized detainee from Darul-Aman and the front lines at Kunduz.<sup>23</sup> IZ-111 stated detainee was present in a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Analyst Note: In February 2002, an interviewer noted a scar on the right side of detainee's head, corroborating his stated injury during the uprising. 000091 INTIAL SCREENING FORM 29-DEC-2001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Analyst Note: The 55<sup>th</sup> Arab Brigade served as Usama Bin Laden's (UBL) primary battle formation supporting Taliban objectives, with UBL participating closely in the command and control of the brigade. Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi had primary operational command of the 55<sup>th</sup> Arab Brigade, serving as UBL's military commander in the field. Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi was known to have a direct line of communication to UBL.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> IIR 6 034 0227 02

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> IIR 2 340 6400 02, IIR 6 034 0837 02

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> IIR 6 034 0077 03

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> 000111 MFR 22-JUN-2002, Analyst Note: A variant of Dehi is Dahia.

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camp together with IZ-10026. (Analyst Note: Darul Aman is assessed to be the Daral-Aman Guesthouse located in southern Kabul, AF.<sup>24</sup>)

• (S//NF) John Philip Walker Lindh identified detainee from a photo. Lindh said he knew detainee by the name of Dihya and commented he had seen detainee on the "back lines" and at the Arab Guesthouse in Kunduz after the retreat. Lindh mentioned detainee had served in the Yemeni military.<sup>25</sup>

 $\circ$  (S//NF) Mesh al-Muhammed Rashid al-Shedoky ISN US9SA-000071DP (SA-071, transferred), identified detainee as being in the Telhal area of the front line. SA-071 claimed he and detainee were in the same unit.<sup>26</sup>

• (S//NF) Detainee's alias, Dahyia al-Hadrami, appears on a list of missing and martyred al-Qaida members. The list was recovered in the Shah-e-Kot area of Afghanistan on 6 March 2002. Detainee is listed as missing and part of a group from Mazer-e-Sharif and the Qala-i-Jengi fortress.<sup>27</sup>

• (S//NF) Detainee reportedly received training at the al-Qaida-sponsored al-Faruq training camp outside of Kandahar.

• (S//NF) IZ-111 stated detainee trained at the al-Faruq training camp.<sup>28</sup> IZ-111 also identified detainee as Abd al-Hammas aka (Dahia). IZ-111 and detainee were housed together at the Sheberghan Prison following the Qala-i-Jangi Prison uprising.<sup>29</sup>

• (S/NF) Detainee admitted to spending three days at the "Jihad School".<sup>30</sup> This school is assessed to be al-Madrasa al-Jihadia (Jihad School) in Kandahar.<sup>31</sup> (Analyst Note: This is where they brought many recruits for vetting to make sure they were not spies prior to allowing them access to training camp or the front lines if the the recruit already had training.)

• (S//NF) Detainee's name and alias, along with names of other known and assessed mujahideen, were found on documents recovered in al-Qaida safe houses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> 000098 SIR 15-MAY-2002(B), IIR 6 034 0307 02, IIR 6 034 0278 02, IIR 6 034 0387 02

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> IIR 7 739 0112 03

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> 000071 FM40 17-SEP-2002

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> IIR 7 739 3111 02

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Analyst Note: Al-Faruq was an al-Qaida run training facility. Garmabak Gar Militant Camp aka al-Faruq (BE# 0442CA0117, 314913N0645821E) was located 63 km west northwest of Kandahar, AF. This camp had several mosques, two firing ranges, an obstacle course, and dining and medical facility. Best known as a basic training facility for jihadists, training at this facility was conducted in 4 phases: small arms firing, physical conditioning, map reading/topography, and explosive devices. Generally, trainees completed all phases as a requirement for basic training. Following completion of their basic training, trainees had an opportunity to sign up for specialized courses. The courses available at al-Faruq or other locations included sniper, forgery, mountain or urban tactics, heavy weapons (such as mortars), medical, and assassination/ambush. NGIC Assessment 15-Oct-2003.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> IIR 6 034 0015 04 (d)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> 000091 302 12-APR-2002

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> IIR 6 034 0837 02,TD-314/00298-02,IIR 2 340 6150 02

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• (S//NF) A variant of detainee's name and alias, Abd al-Mohsin al-Basi aka (Dahiyah al-Hadhrami), was listed in a document on a floppy disk that was recovered during a raid of an al-Qaida safe house in Karachi on 11 September 2001. The document listed his safety deposit box number as 122-154, and its contents consisting of a passport.<sup>32</sup> (Analyst Note: Such lists are indicative of an individual's 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 or safety deposit boxes were actually storage compartments such as envelopes or folders that were used to secure the individual's personal valuables, including passports and plane tickets, until completion of training or other activities.)

• (S//NF) Detainee's name appears on a list of 324 Arabic names, aliases, and nationalities recovered from safe house raids associated with suspected al-Qaida located in Karachi. Detainee's name appears as Abd al-Muhsen Abd al-Rabb al-Ba'asi, his alias as Doheia al-Hadrami, and his nationality listed as Yemen.<sup>33</sup>

• (S//NF) On 15 July 2004, detainee gave a speech to other detainees on his block. Detainee stated that people came from various countries and joined al-Qaida to fight for an Islamic nation, and that their detention was a test of their resolve by Allah. Detainee further stated that the detainees needed to prepare themselves to go to paradise. Detainee also stated their religion [Islam] dictates they continue the fight after being released, and if not released that they continue the struggle within Camp Delta. Detainee ended his speech by stating they have all been ordered to kill the Jew and the Christian.<sup>34</sup> (Analyst Note: Detainee's speech was a call for continuing jihad within JTF-GTMO, for them to kill and be killed if necessary in support of their religion.)

**c.** (S//NF) **Detainee's Conduct:** Detainee is assessed as a **HIGH** threat from a detention perspective. His overall behavior has been non-compliant and hostile to the guard force and staff. He currently has 215 reports of disciplinary infraction listed in DIMS with the most recent occurring on 1 August 2008, when he refused his ninth consecutive meal. He has 33 reports of disciplinary infraction for assault with the most recent occurring on 23 July 2008, when he threw feces on the guard force. Other incidents for which he has been disciplined include inciting and participating in mass disturbances, inappropriate use of bodily fluids, unauthorized communications, damage to government property, attempted assaults, provoking words and gestures, and possession of food and non-weapon type contraband. In 2007, he had a total of 37 reports of disciplinary infraction and 38 so far in 2008.

#### 8. (U) Detainee Intelligence Value Assessment:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> TD 314/42895 02

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> TD 314/40693 02

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> 000091 Speech 15-July-2004

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**a.** (S) Assessment: Detainee is assessed to be of LOW intelligence value. Detainee's most recent interrogation session occurred on 22 February 2007.

**b.** (S//NF) Placement and Access: Detainee was a fighter in the 55<sup>th</sup> Arab Brigade. His recruitment and training were typical of other Yemeni recruits. Detainee probably had limited contact with leadership within the unit, but no reporting indicates detainee served in a leadership or planning role himself. Detainee's four-year employment within the Yemeni National Police would have provided him daily access to security procedures and other junior police officers.

**c.** (S//NF) Intelligence Assessment: Detainee has been generally uncooperative during custodial interviews and it is hard to accurately gauge detainee's true level of knowledge or intelligence value. Detainee has withheld incriminating information about himself. Detainee probably has background information on IZ-10026, Abd al-Salam al-Hadrami, and the 55<sup>th</sup> Arab Brigade. Detainee can provide knowledge of Yemeni police recruiting and training. Detainee may have information regarding like-minded Yemeni security personnel willing to ignore or facilitate extremist activities.

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

- Al-Qaida training
- Al-Qaida's 55<sup>th</sup> Arab Brigade
- IZ-10026
- Abd al-Salam al-Hadrami
- Recruiting in Yemen

**9.** (S) EC Status: Detainee's enemy combatant status was reassessed on 2 November 2004, and he remains an enemy combatant.

THOMAS

Rear Admiral, US Navy Commanding

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