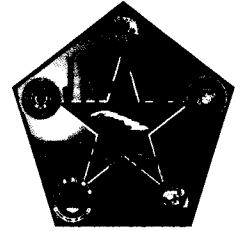




S E C R E T // N O F O R N // 20310320

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



JTF GTMO-CG

20 March 2006

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: US9SA-000093DP (S)

## JTF GTMO Detainee Assessment

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

- JDIMS/NDRC Reference Name: Yasser T Al Zahrani
- Aliases and Current/True Name: Yasir Talal Abdallah Al Zahrani, Ammar, Al Bataar
- Place of Birth: Yanbu, Saudi Arabia (SA)
- Date of Birth: 22 September 1984
- Citizenship: Saudi Arabia
- Internment Serial Number (ISN): US9SA-000093DP



**2. (FOUO) Health:** Detainee is in good health. He has a history of rheumatoid arthritis. He went on three hunger strikes in the past, most recently in July 2005. He has a history of dehydration due to hunger strike treated with intravenous fluids. He had surgery to remove a cyst from his lower back while detained. He suffered a gunshot wound to his right calf prior to his detention. He has a history of recurrent Pilonidal cyst.

### 3. (S//NF) JTF GTMO Assessment:

**a. (S) Recommendation:** JTF GTMO recommends this detainee for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD). **If a satisfactory agreement can be reached that ensures continued detention and allows access to detainee and/or to exploited intelligence, detainee can be Transferred Out of DoD Control (TRO).** JTF GTMO previously assessed detainee as Retain in DoD Control (DoD) on 26 June 2005.

CLASSIFIED BY: MULTIPLE SOURCES  
REASON: E.O. 12958 SECTION 1.5(C)  
DECLASSIFY ON: 20310320

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**b. (S//NF) Executive Summary:** Detainee is assessed to be a jihadist who traveled to Afghanistan (AF) to fulfill what he perceived to be a religious duty. He has been identified as a fighter on the front lines of Konduz, AF, for approximately three months and was present for the Qala-I-Jangi uprising. It is assessed this detainee is a MEDIUM risk, as he may pose a threat to the US, its interests and allies. JTF GTMO determined this detainee is of LOW intelligence value.

#### 4. (S//NF) 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's father is a senior official in the Saudi Interior Ministry, reportedly holding the rank of abid, or brigadier. His family moved from a longtime residence in Mecca to Jeddah, SA in 2001. In approximately June 2001, detainee completed the eleventh grade. After sitting at home for approximately two months and hearing that sheikhs from neighboring towns were saying jihad in Afghanistan (AF) was a religious duty, detainee decided to travel to Afghanistan.<sup>1</sup>

**b. (S//NF) Recruitment and Travel:** In approximately August 2001, a man named Ahmed Al Salami told detainee that he should go to Karachi, Pakistan (PK), and meet up with Saria Al Makki (variant: Maki, Meki, Mekki, Meci, Mecci). Detainee traveled (using a roundtrip ticket) from Jeddah to Karachi via Dubai, United Arab Emirates. He financed the trip himself with savings he had earned selling perfumes to hajj pilgrims. Detainee intended on returning in approximately October/November 2001. Al Makki met detainee at the Karachi airport and took him to a rented room where they stayed for two days before flying to Quetta, PK. The pair spent the night in Quetta before traveling to Kabul, AF, via Kandahar, AF, and Spin Boldak, AF. They stayed overnight in a mud house in Kabul, before traveling two days to Konduz, AF.<sup>2</sup>

**c. (S//NF) Training and Activities:** In Konduz, detainee was taken to a place called the Taliban Center. He spent one month training under an individual named Khair Allah on the use of the Kalishnikov rifle, the Makarov pistol, hand grenades, and in field training. Detainee was then assigned a guard position at a second line post between Konduz and Taloqan, AF. The position was referred to as the Issam or Issam Al Bin. Detainee claimed

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<sup>1</sup> IIR 6 034 0011 03, 000093 302 27-MAR-2002

<sup>2</sup> IIR 6 034 0011 03, 000093 302 27-MAR-2002, IIR 6 034 0216 02

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he served at this post under Mullah Thaker for three months before the front line “crumbled.”<sup>3</sup>

**5. (S//NF) Capture Information:**

**a. (S//NF)** The group retreated to Konduz where coalition forces surrounded them. After approximately nine days, Konduz fell.<sup>4</sup> At that time, a deal was struck with General Dostum of the Northern Alliance allowing fighters to leave with their weapons and travel to Mazar-E-Sharif, AF, where they would surrender.<sup>5</sup> On the 11<sup>th</sup> day of Ramadan, the fighters traveled to Mazar-E-Sharif where they turned in their weapons and were taken to the Qala-I-Jangi prison.<sup>6</sup> The day after they arrived at the prison, detainee and others were taken to a square in the prison yard. Detainee heard gunfire and explosions coming from the prison and then a firefight ensued injuring detainee in the leg and foot. He fell to the ground and remained in the same position until nightfall, when other prisoners retrieved him and carried him back to the underground prison. They remained there for seven days before they were forced to surrender. Detainee was removed from the prison, taken to a prison / clinic in Sheberghan, AF. He remained there for one month before being transferred to US custody.<sup>7</sup> Detainee’s initial screening by US forces was on 29 December 2001.<sup>8</sup>

**b. (S) Property Held:**

- 1 – roll white gauze

**c. (S) Transferred to JTF GTMO:** 20 January 2002

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

- Taliban training center in Konduz
- Taliban training center outside Konduz used as a rear operating base

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<sup>3</sup> IIR 6 034 0011 03; Also referenced in 000093 302 27-MAR-2002, 000093 FM40 26-SEP-2003, and IIR 6 034 0216 02

<sup>4</sup> Analyst Note: Konduz fell on 26 November 2001.

<sup>5</sup> IIR 6 034 0011 03; Also referenced in 000093 302 27-MAR-2002

<sup>6</sup> MFR 29MAR2002, date referenced in 000093 INITIAL SCREENING 29-DEC-2001, Analyst Note: 11 Ramadan converts to 27 November 2001.

<sup>7</sup> IIR 6 034 0011 03

<sup>8</sup> 000093 INITIAL SCREENING 29-DEC-2001

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**6. (S//NF) Evaluation Of Detainee's Account:** Detainee has provided a fairly consistent timeline that has been corroborated (for the most part) by other detainees.

**7. (S//NF) Detainee Threat:**

**a. (S) Assessment:** It is assessed the detainee poses a MEDIUM risk, as he may pose a threat to the US, its interests and allies.

**b. (S//NF) Reasons for Continued Detention:** Detainee is assessed to be a jihadist who traveled to Afghanistan to fulfill a perceived religious duty. Detainee admitted to traveling to Afghanistan for jihad. Detainee's name appears on an Al-Qaida associated document. He has been identified as a fighter on the front lines of Konduz. Detainee admitted he was present at Qala-I-Jangi during the uprising.

- (S//NF) Detainee admitted traveling to Afghanistan to participate in jihad and residing in an unidentified mud house.<sup>9</sup> (Analyst Note: Based on detainee's transit path, it is assessed that the mud house was a Taliban associated guesthouse.)
  - (S//NF) A variation of detainee's name, Yasser Talal Al Zahrani, was found in a document listing 324 Arabic names, aliases, and nationalities, recovered from raids on safe houses associated with suspected Al-Qaida in Karachi. Yasser Talal Al Zahrani was associated with no alias and the statement "has possession of a Saudi passport." (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 training, the front lines, or abroad. Trust accounts were simply storage compartments such as envelopes or folders that were used to secure the individual's personal valuables until completion of training or another activity.)<sup>10</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee admitted he received training and was positioned at the secondary lines for three months under Mullah Thaker in the fall of 2001;<sup>11</sup> however, he denied engaging in any fighting.<sup>12</sup> Mullah Thaker was the commander of Konduz Arab Brigade units.<sup>13</sup> (Analyst Note: It is highly unlikely that detainee was in a front line position for three months without participating in hostilities.)
    - (S//NF) Al-Qaida member John Walker Lindh identified detainee as Abu Ammar from Saudi Arabia. He further stated that detainee was one of the youngest, which is why he stood out. Lindh stated detainee was approximately 17 years old and was

<sup>9</sup> IIR 6 034 0011 03; Also referenced in 000093 302 27-MAR-2002

<sup>10</sup> TD-314-40693-02, Analyst Note: Detainee is listed as 303 on this listing.

<sup>11</sup> IIR 6 034 0011 03; Also referenced in 000093 302 27-MAR-2002

<sup>12</sup> IIR 6 034 0011 03; Also referenced in 000093 302 27-MAR-2002

<sup>13</sup> IIR 6 034 0265 02

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always joking and talking. Detainee was in the same group as Yarmook and was involved in food services. Detainee was always at front line base camps and helped in the kitchen of an Arab guesthouse (as a cook) in Konduz after fleeing from the front lines. Lindh did not recall seeing detainee at Qala-I-Jangi and thought he was killed. Lindh identified Ghaleb Nasser, ISN US9YM-000128DP (YM-128), as Yarmook.<sup>14</sup> (Analyst Note: Detainee has never discussed working in food services while on the lines. He has not discussed the guesthouse in Konduz or his role in its kitchen.)

○ (S/NF) Assessed Al-Qaida member Ali A Motaieb, ISN US9IZ-000111DP (IZ-111), identified detainee multiple times as Al Batar (variant: Al Bataar) who came from a wealthy family. IZ-111 stated detainee trained at Al-Farouq. IZ-111 stated he saw detainee on the northern lines as a member of the Marwan Group. He further claimed that detainee purchased weapons for the Taliban. IZ-111 said detainee carried a Kalashnikov rifle and a radio. IZ-111 claimed detainee was associated with Abd Al-Hadi Al-Iraqi as well as a friend of Abd Al Salaam. IZ-111 further stated that detainee was a money courier and a man with a suspicious nature.<sup>15</sup> (Analyst Note: IZ-111's identification of detainee as attending training at Al Farouq is a contradiction to detainee's story in which he indicates he attended training outside Konduz with seven others for one month.<sup>16</sup> No other reporting identifies detainee as a money courier or weapons broker. Abd Al Salaam is assessed to be Abd Al Salaam Al Hadrami.)

▪ (S/NF) Detainee's name was found in the pocket litter of IZ-111.<sup>17</sup> (Analyst Note: The extent and nature of the connection between detainee and IZ-111 is unclear, as is the reason why IZ-111 possessed a slip of paper with detainee's name.)

▪ (S/NF) Abd Al-Hadi Al Iraqi aka Abd Al-Muhayman Al-Iraqi<sup>18</sup> aka Qutaibah<sup>19</sup> was one UBL's closest commanders and the person in charge of non-Afghan Taliban troops/Al-Qaida fighters in the Afghanistan Northern front,<sup>20</sup> known as the 55<sup>th</sup> Arab Brigade.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> 000204 302 12-SEP-2002

<sup>15</sup> 000093 MFR 27-JAN-2003, 000111 MFR 25-MAY-2003, IIR 6 034 0015 04, 000089 MFR 22-JUN-2002, IIR 6 034 0109 02, 000111 302 22JUN02

<sup>16</sup> IIR 6 034 0011 03; Also referenced in 000093 302 27-MAR-2002, 000093 FM40 26-SEP-2003, and IIR 6 034 0216 02

<sup>17</sup> IZ-111 Pocket Litter page in JDIMS: DA 4137, Item 3, front

<sup>18</sup> TD-314-28084-02

<sup>19</sup> TD-314/32273-03

<sup>20</sup> IIR 2 340 6093 02, IIR 6 034 1301 04, IIR 6 034 0913 03

<sup>21</sup> IIR 2 340 7121 02

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- (S//NF) Abd Al Salaam Al Hadrami aka Muamar Said Abud Dayan was the leader of the forward line of troops; they were under his command after Abd Al-Hadi Al-Iraqi.<sup>22</sup> Abd Al-Salaam Al-Hadrami was killed in action during an air strike.<sup>23</sup>
- (S//NF) IZ-111 stated detainee worked as a member of the Marwan Group. The Marwan Group aka Marwan Center aka Marwan Hill, known as the “Big Kitchen,”<sup>24</sup> served as a field kitchen for the front lines. It was located five minutes by car to the west of the forward positions in Khwaja Ghar, AF.<sup>25</sup> (Analyst Note: This corroborates Lindh’s reporting that detainee worked as cook.)
  - (S//NF) Assessed Al-Qaida member Sadi Ibrahim Ramzi Al Zahrani, ISN US9SA-000204DP (SA-204), identified detainee as Yasser Al Zahrani, a Saudi who fought in Abu Dujanah’s group. Abu Dujanah was identified by SA-204 as Walid M Haj, ISN US9SU-000081DP (SU-081).<sup>26</sup>
- (S//NF) When shown detainee’s picture, senior Al-Qaida detainees were unable to identify detainee.<sup>27</sup> (Analyst Note: While not conclusive, this suggests that detainee lacked both experience and rank within the organization.)
- (S//NF) Detainee admits being present for the uprising at Qala-I-Jangi, but claims he was injured and did not see where Western prisoners were taken.<sup>28</sup>
  - (S//NF) Assessed Al-Qaida member Abd Al Rahman Ahmad, ISN US9SA-000095DP (SA-095), identified detainee as Yasser, a detainee from Saudi Arabia. He stated detainee was in the basement at Qala-I-Jangi during the prison uprising in Mazar-E-Sharif.<sup>29</sup>
  - (S//NF) Assessed Al-Qaida member Bijad D Al Atavi, ISN US9SA-000122DP (SA-122), identified detainee as Yasser from Saudi Arabia whom he knew from Sheberghan prison. SA-122 advised that detainee was part of the Taliban.<sup>30</sup>

**c. (FOUO) Detainee’s Conduct:** The detainee is assessed as a HIGH threat from a detention perspective. The detainee’s overall behavior has been non-compliant and hostile to the guard force and staff. The detainee currently has 113 Reports of Disciplinary Infraction listed in DIMS. Incidents for which the detainee has been disciplined include assault, failure

<sup>22</sup> IIR 2 340 6400 02, IIR 6 034 0837 02

<sup>23</sup> IIR 6 034 0077 03

<sup>24</sup> IIR 6 034 0077 03

<sup>25</sup> IIR 2 340 6400 02

<sup>26</sup> IIR 6 034 0386 02 (b), IIR 6 034 0384 02(b)

<sup>27</sup> TD 314 42540 05, TD 314 42497 05, TD 314 42517 05, TD 314 42543 05

<sup>28</sup> 000093 MFR 29-MAR-2002, IIR 6 034 0011 03

<sup>29</sup> IIR 6 034 0908 02

<sup>30</sup> IIR 6 034 0346 02, Analyst Note: Detainee is referenced by his MP ID, 85.

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to follow instructions/camp rules, using provoking words and gestures with the guards, threatening the life of a guard, damage to property, inciting a disturbance, exposing himself to guards, possession of both weapon and non-weapon type contraband, and cross block talking. The detainee had 12 Reports of Disciplinary Infraction for assault in 2005. The detainee's most recent assault was committed on 13 November 2005 when he punched a guard in the jaw upon being returned to his cell. The detainee has numerous cases of verbal harassment and threats towards guards. On 11 June 2005, the detainee yelled out to a member of Camp Delta staff, "9/11 you not forget, 9/11 you not forget" and then started laughing. On 11 July 2005, detainee told a guard that he would use a knife to cut his stomach open, cut his face off, and then drink his blood, smiling and laughing as he said it. The detainee was a major participant in the voluntary total fast of 2005-2006. The detainee has notes of conducting PT, to include combative type training, and at least twice has taunted guards claiming to want a fight.

**8. (S//NF) Detainee Intelligence Value Assessment:**

**a. (S) Assessment:** JTF GTMO determined this detainee is of LOW intelligence value. Detainee's most recent interrogation session occurred on 7 March 2006.

**b. (S//NF) Placement and Access:** Detainee's links with jihadists probably began in mid to late 2001, when he associated with a jihadist recruiter and facilitator. In late summer 2001, detainee resided in at least one guesthouse. In August 2001, detainee participated in training and then traveled to the front lines in Konduz. There, he claimed to have served as a guard, but is reported to have worked in food preparation and/or distribution. Detainee was present for the uprising at Qala-I-Jangi, but no reporting indicates he incited the disturbance. No reporting indicates detainee served in a leadership or operational planning capacity.

**c. (S//NF) Intelligence Assessment:** Detainee's exposure to the jihadist element in Afghanistan is unremarkable and less than many other detainees. The information detainee is assessed to know about the Taliban and events at Qala-I-Jangi is limited beyond what he has already provided. It is assessed the intelligence to be exploited from detainee is limited, and it would probably be dated and not tactically or strategically critical. Although most reporting indicates detainee was probably the average mujahid, further investigation is necessary to determine detainee's connection to IZ-111 who claimed detainee trained at Al-Farouq, purchased weapons for the Taliban, and was a money courier.

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

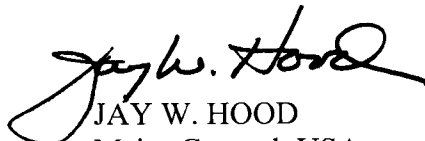
- Taliban training and fighting positions / leadership

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- Events at Qala-I-Jangi prison

**9. (S) EC Status:** Detainee's enemy combatant status was reassessed on 6 October 2004, and he remains an enemy combatant.



JAY W. HOOD  
Major General, USA  
Commanding