



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

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

JTF GTMO-CG

27 December 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, Imad Achab Kanouni, ISN: US9FR-000164DP

1. (S) **Personal Information:** Imad Achab Kanouni is a Moroccan national, born on 6 March 1977 (age 26) in Casablanca, Morocco. Detainee also holds French citizenship. He has been diagnosed with latent Tuberculosis, but is otherwise in good health.
2. (S) **Detention Information:** Subject detainee claims he immigrated to Afghanistan (AF) in March 2000 to further his studies of Islam and live in a purist Islamic state. Detainee stated that in the winter of 1999, he briefly left Germany to fight against the Serbs in Albania but returned to Germany in early 2000. Detainee advised he left Germany for good in March 2000, where he decided to study Islam in Afghanistan through his own funding. After arriving in Pakistan, detainee stated he crossed the border on foot into Towr Kham, AF, without having to provide any documents. Detainee then took a taxi from Jalalabad, AF, to Kabul, AF, and stayed at the Wazir Akbar Khan Mosque, which has been visited by many extremists and is in the same neighborhood as several Al-Qaida and Taliban safehouses, including one that Usama Bin Laden used. At the mosque, he met a subject named Abu Bilal (a potential Al-Qaida facilitator), who helped him find an apartment. Detainee advised he spent his time attending classes given by Sheik Abu Walid Ansari at Ansari's home (this may have been the Al Ansar guesthouse, an Al-Qaida guesthouse located in Kabul, AF). After the attacks of September 11, 2001, detainee claims he fled Kabul with 10 Arabs (including two French detainees connected to Al-Qaida), and they briefly lived at the Algerian guesthouse in Jalalabad, AF, before fleeing towards the mountains. Detainee and the other Arabs were arrested by Pakistani authorities after they illegally crossed over the border. Detainee was turned over to US authorities and subsequently transported to Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba, on 11 February 2002 because of his knowledge of Al-Qaida and Taliban facilities and personnel in the Kabul, AF, area, as well as persons known to associate or support the Taliban or Al-Qaida in the Kabul, AF, area.

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JTF GTMO-CG

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3. (S) **Reasons for Continued Detention at GTMO:** Detainee, though cooperative, has not been completely forthright. He has failed to explain the circumstances surrounding his travels to Albania to fight against the Serbs. Detainee has also been careful not to incriminate himself through his associations with any extremists he may have connections to through his attendance of several mosques in Germany, that were known at the time to promote Jihad. Detainee reportedly traveled extensively in the United Kingdom and has yet to explain those travels. Detainee has failed to be forthright concerning his probable affiliations with Al-Qaida members through the safehouses and "schools" he claims he attended. Detainee has never explained either the circumstances of his flight from Afghanistan after the bombing campaign began or the fact that he was captured with two French detainees connected to Al-Qaida: ISNs: US9FR-000325 and US9FR-000236. Detainee also reportedly lived with US9FR-000325 and another Al-Qaida connected detainee, US9FR-000161. Detainee claims that he lived with an individual named Bilal, an Egyptian, while in Jalalabad, AF. Bilal is an alias of Abu Hamsa al-Masri, the radical Imam of the Finsbury Park Mosque who is also an Egyptian. Although Bilal is a common name, it is possible that the detainee met with, stayed with, or had contact with Abu Hamsa al-Masri during his travels in the United Kingdom and was possibly attempting to throw off interrogators by associating Bilal with Afghanistan. All three of the French detainees that the detainee is associated with are connected to the Finsbury Park Mosque. Detainee has yet to be fully exploited concerning these issues.

4. (S) **Assessment:** Based on information collected and available to Joint Task Force Guantanamo as of 3 December 2003, detainee ISN: US9FR-000164DP is assessed as being a possible member of Al-Qaida. Moreover, based on the detainee's folder, the knowledge-ability brief, and subsequent interrogations by JTF Guantanamo, the detainee is of intelligence value to the United States. Based on the above, detainee poses a medium risk, as he may possibly pose a threat to the U.S., its interests or its allies.

5. (S) **Recommendation:** Retain under DoD control.

6. (S) **Coordination:**


A. Criminal Investigative Task Force (CITF): JTF Guantanamo notified the Criminal Investigative Task Force (CITF) of this recommendation on 8 December 2003. In the interest of national security and pursuant to an agreement between the CITF and JTF GTMO Commanders, CITF will concur with JTF GTMO's assessment that the detainee poses a medium risk.

S E C R E T // X 1

JTF GTMO-CG

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B. Staff Judge Advocate: Detainee's enemy combatant status was reassessed on 15 Feb 03, and he remains an enemy combatant.


GEOFFREY D. MILLER
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

CF: CITF-GTMO

S E C R E T // X 1