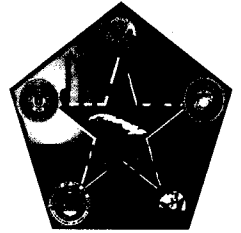




S E C R E T // N O F O R N // 20311208

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



JTF-GTMO-CDR

8 December 2006

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

SUBJECT: Combatant Status Review Tribunal Input and Recommendation for Continued  
Detention Under DoD Control (CD) for Guantanamo Detainee, ISN: US9SA-010015DP (S)

### JTF-GTMO Detainee Assessment

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

- JDIMS/NDRC Reference Name: Abd al-Rahim Hussein Muhammad Abdah al-Nashiri
- Aliases and Current/True Name: Saeed Abdallah Qasem al-Mansouri, Abu al-Miqdad, Abu Bilal al-Makki, Muhammad Umr al-Harazi, al-Hajj Ahmad, Mahyoob Qa'ed Sa'id al-Qutabi, Eid al-Harbi, Eid A'yed Shannan al-Mo'abbadi, Muthib Thawab al-Mutayri, al-Ahnaf
- Place of Birth: Mecca, Saudi Arabia (SA)
- Date of Birth: 5 January 1965
- Citizenship: Yemen (YM)
- Internment Serial Number (ISN): US9SA-010015DP



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

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

a. (S) Recommendation: JTF-GTMO recommends this detainee for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD).

b. (S//NF) Executive Summary: Detainee is one of al-Qaida's most skilled, capable, and prolific operational coordinators. Detainee reported directly to UBL and led his own al-Qaida group that was responsible for conducting operations outside of Afghanistan. Detainee has been linked to as many as a dozen plots to attack US and western interests to

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include the successful USS COLE and M/V LIMBURG attacks. Detainee has close connections to most senior al-Qaida members and a long history of jihadist activity. 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 **HIGH** intelligence value.

**4. (S//NF) Account of Detainee's Timeline:**

**The following section is based on a consolidation of several accounts from various significant individuals in order to assemble a feasible timeline.**

**a. (S//NF) Timeline from 1992 to 1997:** From 1992 to 1993, detainee fought in the Tajikistan jihad<sup>1</sup> where he met al-Qaida operative, Walid Muhammad Salih Bin Attash aka (Khallad) aka (Silver), for the first time. The leader of detainee's group during the trip was Hamza al-Ghamdi, who had been Usama Bin Laden's (UBL) bodyguard and a long-time jihadist.<sup>2</sup> In 1993, detainee trained at al-Qaida's Jihad-Wal Camp near Khowst, Afghanistan (AF), where he met al-Qaida operative, Abu Zubaydah for the first time.<sup>3</sup> Later in 1994, detainee and Khallad met UBL in Jalalabad, AF, where the two of them stayed in a UBL guesthouse for a week. During that time, detainee listened to UBL speak about the coming battle with the US. Detainee eventually returned to Saudi Arabia then traveled to Yemen while Khallad remained in Afghanistan.<sup>4</sup>

In 1995, detainee, Hamza al-Ghamdi and a 10-15 member group were en route to northern Afghanistan to fight in the Tajik jihad, but were unable to cross the border into Tajikistan. Detainee then traveled to southern Afghanistan where he learned UBL had returned from Sudan.<sup>5</sup> By late 1996, detainee wanted to learn the status of some of his uncles who had gone to Afghanistan for jihad. He also wanted to know more about the Taliban. During this timeframe, while Hamza al-Ghamdi was serving as one of UBL's bodyguards, detainee saw UBL for the second time, in Kandahar, and listened to him speak about the coming battle with the US.<sup>6</sup> In early 1997, detainee stayed in Afghanistan, traveling back and forth from Kandahar to the front lines of Kabul and Jalalabad. Detainee said he fought

<sup>1</sup> TD-314/11500-04, TD-314/11164-03

<sup>2</sup> TD-314/38699-03

<sup>3</sup> TD-314/49853-02

<sup>4</sup> TD-314/52239-02

<sup>5</sup> TD-314/64177-03, TD-314/17348-04

<sup>6</sup> TD-314/17348-04, TD-314/52239-02

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with the Taliban against the United Islamic Front for the Salvation of Afghanistan (UIFSA), but was not a commander. Detainee contracted malaria while visiting the front lines and became very ill so he returned to Kandahar where he again met UBL while staying at UBL's airport guesthouse.<sup>7</sup>

**b. (S//NF) Timeline from 1998 to 2000:** In 1998, after learning of his cousin Jihad Harazi's suicide bombing of the US Embassy in Kenya, detainee joined al-Qaida. By this time detainee completely agreed with UBL's message to attack the US. Once he joined al-Qaida, detainee trained at Ibn al-Khattab's camp and trained on a variety of weapons. Sometime in 1998, detainee met privately with UBL and was introduced to the idea of attacking a western vessel off the coast of Yemen. A week later, he traveled to Yemen.<sup>8</sup> Around late-1998 to early-1999, detainee fled back to Afghanistan after learning that Khallad was detained by Yemeni authorities.<sup>9</sup> In late spring 1999, after six-to-seven months in Afghanistan, UBL provided detainee with \$2,000 USD to return to Yemen, purchase a boat, and observe the travel of US Navy ships and oil tankers off the coast.<sup>10</sup> Detainee cased the Red Sea in a powerboat over the course of three-to-four months. In September or October 1999, UBL recalled detainee to Afghanistan, requesting a summary of his findings. Detainee reported having seen several oil tankers, but no US Navy ships in the area.

UBL then instructed detainee to case activity in the Port of Aden, YM.<sup>11</sup> In late November 1999, detainee flew back to Yemen, and, per UBL's instructions, met with Jamal Muhammad Ahmed Ali al-Badawi, a suspect in the COLE attack. In February 2000, after the attack on the USS THE SULLIVANS failed due to the explosives-laden boat capsizing and sinking soon after it was launched, detainee returned to Afghanistan. Despite the setback, UBL told detainee to try the operation again.<sup>12</sup> Upon returning to Yemen in September 2000, detainee chose Hassan al-Khamiri and Ibrahim al-Thawr aka (al-Nebras) to be his suicide operatives for the operation that would eventually occur against the USS COLE. Detainee received a phone call from Khallad who told him that UBL wanted them replaced. Detainee was angry about this decision and went to Afghanistan immediately to talk to UBL and explain that changing operatives would set things back. Prior to departing for Afghanistan, detainee gave his two operatives in Yemen instructions to carry out the attack on the next US warship that entered the port.<sup>13</sup> Two-to-three weeks after detainee

<sup>7</sup> TD-314/52239-02, TD-314/09594-03

<sup>8</sup> TD-314/08879-04

<sup>9</sup> TD-314/08879-04

<sup>10</sup> TD-314/52239-02, TD-314/08879-04

<sup>11</sup> TD-314/04078-03

<sup>12</sup> TD-314/08879-04

<sup>13</sup> TD-314/08879-04

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returned to Afghanistan, USS COLE was attacked by his operatives.<sup>14</sup> Detainee met with UBL in November 2000, and following the meeting returned to the front lines.<sup>15</sup>

**c. (S//NF) Timeline from 2001 to 2002:** In January 2001, detainee traveled from Karachi to Lahore, Pakistan (PK), to recruit operatives for a Strait of Hormuz (SoH) operation.<sup>16</sup> In March or April 2001, UBL instructed detainee to go to Karachi and research the availability and price of a large fishing boat for the SoH attack. UBL told detainee to take Muhammad Hasan Ghulam Rabbani aka (Abu Badr al-Pakistani), ISN US9PK-001461DP (PK-1461), with him for assistance. Detainee and PK-1461 spent two weeks in Karachi collecting information before detainee returned to Afghanistan to advise UBL that the boats they saw were expensive and had mechanical problems. UBL instructed detainee to return to Karachi and look for a fishing boat large enough to hold two smaller boats. UBL provided detainee additional money and instructed him to begin searching for a ship; research the availability and cost of a small fishing boat; learn Karachi's boat registration process; and study the Port of Karachi's entry and exit procedures using fishing expeditions as cover. UBL told detainee to take Umayr Bin Attash, ISN PK9SA-001456DP (SA-1456), with him to Karachi. SA-1456 cooked and ran errands for detainee and PK-1461.<sup>17</sup> Instead of acquiring the ship for the SoH operation in Karachi, detainee ultimately sent al-Qaida operatives to the UAE who then purchased a 300-400 ton ship for the attacks.<sup>18</sup>

On 11 September 2001, detainee was recovering in the Laiqa Hospital in Karachi following a tonsillectomy.<sup>19</sup> When he learned of the attacks and the pending US-led military response, he hurried his recovery and returned to the front lines in Afghanistan.<sup>20</sup> In October 2001, detainee met with UBL in Kabul and was told to complete the SoH operation so he headed toward Pakistan.<sup>21</sup> Detainee traveled to Kandahar around November 2001<sup>22</sup> where he met with Khalid Shaykh Muhammad (KSM) to discuss the SoH operation and detainee's planned travel to Saudi Arabia and the UAE.<sup>23</sup> Detainee then traveled to the Zormat region of Afghanistan<sup>24</sup> and the mountains between Kabul and Khowst, where he, Khallad, and Abu Faraj al-Libi fought under the command of Abdul Hadi al-Iraqi.<sup>25</sup> Around

<sup>14</sup> TD-314/05653-03, TD-314/08879-04

<sup>15</sup> TD-314/05653-03

<sup>16</sup> TD-314/09594-03

<sup>17</sup> TD-314/11991-03, TD-314/38975-02, Analyst Note: SA-1456 is the brother of Khallad Bin Attash.

<sup>18</sup> TD-314/38682-02

<sup>19</sup> TD-314/38682-02

<sup>20</sup> TD-314/05653-03

<sup>21</sup> TD-314/09515-03

<sup>22</sup> TD-314/09515-03, TD-314/29878-03, Analyst Note: In TD-314/29878, the senior al-Qaida members reportedly met in Zormat in December 2002, but these meetings are assessed to have taken place in December 2001 vice 2002.

<sup>23</sup> TD-314/12068-03, TD-314/38532-02

<sup>24</sup> TD-314/09515-03, TD-314/29878-03

<sup>25</sup> TD-314/03141-03, TD-314/13836-03

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November/December 2001, Abu Zubaydah traveled to Zormat for an informal meeting with most of the al-Qaida leadership including KSM, Abu Muhammad al-Masri, Abu Tayyib, Abu Yasir al-Jazairi, and Sayf al-Adel.<sup>26</sup> By December, detainee was still in Zormat meeting with his mujahid associates Khallad, Abu Faraj al-Libi, and KSM planning for more attacks.<sup>27</sup> Around January 2002, Abu Zubaydah facilitated detainee's travel to Bannu, PK,<sup>28</sup> from Birmal, AF, with a group of 10-15 mujahideen.<sup>29</sup> During January or February 2002, detainee visited PK-1461 in Karachi and together they helped facilitate the travel plans of mujahideen out of Afghanistan.<sup>30</sup> Detainee stayed at a house with Khallad and his brother, SA-1456, for several days, then provided the house to Abdu Ali al-Hajj Sharqawi aka (Riyadh the Facilitator), ISN PK9YM-001457DP (YM-1457). While at this house, KSM and Khallad discussed trying to help his associates in Pakistan flee to their home countries.<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile, KSM put together a training program for assassinations and kidnappings<sup>32</sup> as well as pistol and computer training. The training was not intended to prepare the participants for any specific operation but to keep the residents of the safe houses occupied. KSM told the men to prepare to depart for other countries as soon as possible and that they should plan and execute small operations against the US.<sup>33</sup>

In March 2002, detainee traveled to the Arabian Peninsula via Indonesia and Bangladesh. He then traveled between Qatar, Oman, the UAE, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia.<sup>34</sup> While in Dubai in March 2002, detainee contacted and met with Sanad Yislam al-Kazimi, ISN US9YM-001453DP (YM-1453), who he asked to case the road from UAE to Yemen, via Oman. Detainee told YM-1453 that he intended to use a truck to transport explosives along this route and wanted YM-1453 to report on the security situation to include the presence of roadblocks and the level of security at the borders.<sup>35</sup> While detainee was in Dubai, Khallad telephoned him on approximately three occasions: first to advise him that the Moroccan cell members who were casing for the SoG operation needed money; second, to tell him that Saudi national Zayd al-Khayr had called with an offer to acquire prepaid telephone cards from Indonesia; third, to tell him that Yemeni cell member Walid al-Shayba needed someone with explosives expertise to place explosives in a boat for the Yemen operation.<sup>36</sup> In April 2002, detainee visited Qatar; he attempted to enter Saudi Arabia, but was denied entry.

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<sup>26</sup> TD-314/51970-02

<sup>27</sup> TD-314/03141-03, TD-314/09515-03, TD-314/09155-04, TD-314/11500-04

<sup>28</sup> TD-314/49853-02, TD-314/10133-03, TD-314/11500-04

<sup>29</sup> TD-314/25790-03, TD-314/22294-02

<sup>30</sup> TD-314/09515-03, TD-314/24552-02

<sup>31</sup> TD-314/11500-04

<sup>32</sup> TD-314/10133-03, TD-314/39587-02

<sup>33</sup> TD-314/06945-03

<sup>34</sup> TD-314/07162-03

<sup>35</sup> TD-314/48167-03

<sup>36</sup> TD-314/07162-03, Analyst Note: The Yemeni operation is assessed to refer to the attack on the M/V LIMBURG.

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Detainee therefore returned to Dubai and halted work on the SoH operation.<sup>37</sup> Two months after the SoH operation was abandoned detainee began planning for the Port Rashid operation.<sup>38</sup> In June 2002, detainee was in Dubai to find and sell the ship acquired by Muhammad Ahmad Haza al-Darbi, ISN US9SA-000768DP (SA-768) for the aborted SoH operation; however, he could not locate the ship. In July 2002, detainee rented an apartment in Dubai and met with YM-1453<sup>39</sup> regarding the procurement of explosives for the Port Rashid operation. They also went to the Dubai flying club to check on pilot lessons.<sup>40</sup> In September 2002, after about a month in Saudi Arabia, detainee returned to Dubai to review the Port Rashid project and received word from Abu Hajir that plans for the attack on the US Embassy in Riyadh were continuing (NFI).<sup>41</sup> In October 2002, Abu Shahid called detainee to celebrate the successful M/V LIMBURG attack and to advise that he was redirecting all his attention toward attacking the US Embassy in Sanaa, YM.<sup>42</sup>

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

a. (S//NF) On 21 November 2002, senior US officials told the press that detainee was captured in the UAE earlier in the month and was in US custody.<sup>43</sup>

b. (S) **Property Held:** None

c. (S) **Transferred to JTF-GTMO:** 4 September 2006

d. (S//NF) **Reasons for Transfer to JTF-GTMO:** Detainee was transferred to JTF-GTMO to face prosecution for terrorist activities against the United States.

**6. (S//NF) 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 one of the highest-ranking, most skilled, and dangerous al-Qaida operatives captured to date. He has a proven ability to

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<sup>37</sup> TD-314/09515-03

<sup>38</sup> TD-314/07162-03, TD-314/09515-03, TD-314/13836-03, TD-314/39022-03

<sup>39</sup> TD-314/09515-03, TD-314/11280-03

<sup>40</sup> TD-314/07162-03

<sup>41</sup> TD-314/07162-03

<sup>42</sup> TD-314/07162-03

<sup>43</sup> TERR-005-022-2004, TD-314/22893-05, ICC DAILY TERRORISM SUMMARY 22-NOV-2002, GMP20040602000010

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plan and carry out attacks against the US, its interests and allies, is linked to as many as a dozen plots to attack US and western interests. Detainee masterminded the October 2000 attack against the USS COLE and the October 2002 attack against the merchant vessel (M/V) LIMBURG. From at least April 2001, detainee directed maritime and land-based terrorist attacks, many targeting US military interests, to include (but not limited to) a plot to sink a US warship or tanker in the Strait of Hormuz (SoH) intended to block the Strait; a plot using an explosives-filled airplane against western warships at Port Rashid, Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE); a plot to blow up the US Embassy in Sanaa, YM; maritime attacks in the Red Sea and off the coasts of al-Hudaydah and Aden, YM; and a disrupted maritime operation targeting US, United Kingdom (UK), and other NATO ships and submarines in the Strait of Gibraltar (SoG). Detainee has direct, long-term links to most senior al-Qaida members and is a long term participant in militant jihad.

- (S//NF) Detainee is one of al-Qaida's most skilled and capable operational coordinators who headed his own al-Qaida group comprised mostly of Saudis and Yemenis. His cell was responsible for conducting suicide and sabotage operations outside of Afghanistan.<sup>44</sup> Detainee explained that he dealt directly with UBL without any intermediaries. Detainee and KSM mutually agreed to avoid each other's operations just in case either was arrested.<sup>45</sup> Detainee has been considered more senior in al-Qaida than KSM and did not have to answer to anyone regarding financial matters and the spending of al-Qaida money.<sup>46</sup> Detainee is so dedicated to jihad that he reportedly received injections to promote impotence and recommended the injections to others so more time could be spent on the jihad (rather than being distracted by women).<sup>47</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee conceived, planned, organized, and led numerous plots against US interests and allies including the successful attacks on the USS COLE and French M/V LIMBURG.
  - (S//NF) Detainee was the senior operative who masterminded and coordinated the USS COLE attack in Yemen.<sup>48</sup>
    - (S//NF) According to detainee, at a private meeting in Afghanistan in 1998, the original idea for the attack on the USS COLE was relayed to him directly by UBL. The objective was to attack a US or western oil tanker off the coast of Yemen. Detainee traveled to Yemen a week later and his team began the process of assembling the necessary components, such as a boat and explosives, and began the requisite training and surveillance.<sup>49</sup>

<sup>44</sup> TD-314/16930-02, TD-314/34532-02

<sup>45</sup> TD-314/16245-04

<sup>46</sup> TD-314/38975-02

<sup>47</sup> IIR 6 044 0068 02

<sup>48</sup> TERR-005-022-2004, ANTITERRORISM FORCE PROTECTION 22-NOV-2002

<sup>49</sup> TD-314/08879-04

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- (S//NF) Fawaz al-Rabii aka (Furqan al-Tajiki),<sup>50</sup> an operative in the USS COLE attack, reported that the attack was authorized and funded by UBL, planned by the detainee, and carried out by Hassan al-Khamiri and Ibrahim al-Thawr aka (al-Nebras).<sup>51</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee stated the USS COLE suicide bombers, Hassan and Nebras, were chosen because Hassan knew the area and Nebras could operate the boat.<sup>52</sup>
- (S//NF) Before successfully attacking the USS COLE, detainee organized and attempted a similar attack on the USS THE SULLIVANS. The mission failed because the boat with the explosives capsized and sank after it was launched for the attack.<sup>53</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee planned the successful suicide attack on the French oil tanker M/V LIMBURG,<sup>54</sup> as requested by UBL.<sup>55</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee admitted that he was involved in a plan to attack oil tankers in the Arabian Gulf/SoH using suicide operatives in six-to-seven meter-long explosive-laden boats. Detainee planned to lower smaller boats into the sea from a larger boat and have them attack tankers. Detainee said that the other al-Qaida personnel involved in the operation were SA-768 and four Yemenis: Salman, Abu al-Shahid, Musab, and Gharib. Detainee stated that UBL first talked to him about the plan in Afghanistan in April or May of 2001 and they talked about it again in Afghanistan in October 2001. Detainee also stated that the operation was canceled because of problems communicating with UBL and the inability to acquire the necessary explosives from Pakistan.<sup>56</sup>
  - (S) SA-768 confirmed his participation in this operation when he admitted that he purchased a boat for a terrorist attack at the direction of detainee. The vessel was to be utilized against an oil tanker in the SoH.<sup>57</sup>
  - (S//NF) SA-1456 reported that PK-1461 knew of a large transport ship and a plan by detainee to conduct an attack against US shipping, probably in the SoH. SA-1456 thought the ship might be used as a mother ship and would deploy smaller vessels located in or on the ship using a crane. Once deployed, the

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<sup>50</sup> Analyst Note: Fawaz, deceased as of 1 October 2006, is the brother of JTF-GTMO detainee Salman Yahya Hassan Mohammed Rabeii, ISN US9YM-000508DP.

<sup>51</sup> TD-314/36314-03

<sup>52</sup> TD-314/38699-03

<sup>53</sup> TD-314/08879-04, TD-314/08019-04

<sup>54</sup> TD-314/36314-03

<sup>55</sup> TD-314/08690-03, Analyst Note: The M/V LIMBURG was bombed off the Yemeni coast on 6 October 2002.

<sup>56</sup> TD-314/06945-03, TD-314/26905-04, TD-314/38682-02, TD-314/09515-03, TD-314/11991-03

<sup>57</sup> IIR 6 034 1003 03



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- smaller ships would attack US ships. SA-1456 believed the ship was located in the UAE.<sup>58</sup>
- (S//NF) The Port Rashid operation was the successor to detainee's aborted SoH plot. The operation involved hijacking an airplane from a local airfield, loading it with explosives and then flying it into a western warship docked at Port Rashid.<sup>59</sup> Detainee explained that he had planned to instruct YM-1453 to obtain explosives for use in the Port Rashid operation from Yemeni al-Qaida cell leader Abu Shahid and to deliver the explosives to the runway located at the Dubai flying club.<sup>60</sup>
    - (S//NF) According to YM-1453, detainee instructed him to scout the route from Yemen to the UAE and mentioned that a truck would eventually transport explosives along the route, hidden under produce or fish. Detainee had YM-1453 fly over the proposed operating area and took aerial photographs of al-Sharka Airport, UAE.<sup>61</sup>
    - (S//NF) KSM confirmed the plans, which had been devised by detainee to target US aircraft carriers in Port Rashid, were to be executed by January 2003. After detainee's arrest, the targets changed to include US ships near Kuwait and Qatar.<sup>62</sup>
  - (S//NF) As of spring 2002, al-Qaida was planning terrorist operations against the US and UK Embassies in Sanaa.<sup>63</sup> The late Abu Hafs al-Masri aka (Muhammad Atef) selected detainee as one of two al-Qaida members to organize the mechanics and logistics of the attacks against the US Embassy in Sanaa using an estimated one ton of TNT; however, the attack was delayed due to the 9/11 attacks.<sup>64</sup> Operatives from detainee's cell proposed to acquire assault rifles and explosives and attack either the US or the UK Embassy in Sanaa.<sup>65</sup>
    - (S//NF) Detainee approved the proposal against the embassies in principal. Detainee expressed his interest in simultaneous operations against as many embassies as possible, but he instructed that they attempt single or multiple attacks on the embassies in the priority order of US, UK, France, and Cuba. The attacks were to occur using Russian-manufactured rockets and bombs. A small amount of detainee's funding was used for the purchase of munitions for the

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<sup>58</sup> TD-314/37835-02

<sup>59</sup> TERR-005-022-2004

<sup>60</sup> TD-314/27813-03

<sup>61</sup> 001453 SIR 01-OCT-2004, TD-314/08690-03

<sup>62</sup> TD-314/12984-03, Analyst Note: US aircraft carriers are too large to make port calls at Port Rashid, but they make port calls at Jebel Ali, also in the UAE.

<sup>63</sup> TD-314/04879-03, ANTITERRORISM FORCE PROTECTION MESSAGE 28-FEB-2004, TD-314/21827-04

<sup>64</sup> TD-314/01604-02

<sup>65</sup> TD-314/00537-03

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proposed embassy attack. The group had discussed the use of briefcase bomb attacks as a contingency plan.<sup>66</sup>

- (S//NF) Detainee was involved in a plot involving smuggling vehicles and explosives from Oman to Yemen, possibly indicating plans to attack with multiple vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIED's) in Yemen or Oman.<sup>67</sup>

(Analyst Note: This line of reporting may have come from detainee's instructions to YM-1453 to deliver explosives from Yemen to the UAE for the Port Rashid operation.)

- (S//NF) Between December 2001 and May 2002, planning was underway to identify potential US and Israeli targets in (or near) Morocco for a SoG attack. In December 2001, two Saudi nationals approached detainee in Zormat and offered to identify potential US and Israeli targets in Morocco.<sup>68</sup> Detainee confided in one of the Saudi nationals, Hilal al-Assiri, that he had been thinking for some time about executing an operation against North Atlantic alliance submarines in the SoG and asked Assiri to monitor ship movements, rent an apartment, and buy a boat in order to be ready whenever detainee contacted him to start the operation.<sup>69</sup>

- (S//NF) Detainee advised the operatives that he had personally chosen the UK military base in Gibraltar to be the target for the operation. Detainee explained he had seen a news documentary on the base and thought it was a good target. Detainee provided the operatives \$10,000 USD for living and preliminary operational expenses and instructed them to conduct extensive surveillance of the base. Abu Hijah, who had many friends in the Moroccan fishing industry, was instructed to lease a fishing boat to use as cover for the surveillance activity. Once the surveillance report and operational plans were complete, detainee was to submit the report to UBL for final approval.<sup>70</sup>

- (S//NF) In May or June 2002, KSM learned of the disrupted plan to attack the military base in Gibraltar and was upset with detainee as KSM had no idea that any such planning was underway or that any operatives had been directed to Morocco in support of any such plan. In turn, Sayf al-Adel was upset with KSM as he also was unaware of the plan and assumed KSM had directed it without coordinating with him.<sup>71</sup> (Analyst Note: This demonstrates detainee operated separately within al-Qaida from KSM and Sayf al-Adel's operations.)

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<sup>66</sup> TD-314/01554-03

<sup>67</sup> ANTITERRORISM FORCE PROTECTION 22-NOV-2002

<sup>68</sup> TD-314/16245-04, TD-314/01869-03; Analyst Note: While TD-314/01869-03 is written as though detainee is a third-person, according to TD-314/16245-04, TD-314/01869-03 is a report from detainee.

<sup>69</sup> TD-314/24552-02, TD-314/12998-03, TD-314/32216-02

<sup>70</sup> TD-314/01869-03

<sup>71</sup> TD-314/12068-03

JTF-GTMO-CDR

SUBJECT: Combatant Status Review Tribunal Input and Recommendation for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD) for Guantanamo Detainee, ISN: US9SA-010015DP (S)

- (S//NF) According to Abu Zubaydah, detainee and KSM had a plan for another attack in the US after 11 September 2001. He noted that the plan was blessed by UBL sometime after the 9/11 operations. Abu Zubaydah stated that, in his opinion, UBL wanted the impact of this attack to be greater than those of 11 September 2001. With that in mind, Abu Zubaydah believed that the plan called for either car and/or truck bombs targeted against large and/or tall buildings, in a 9/11-style attack. Abu Zubaydah stated that the explosives will be manufactured from chemicals, noting that such explosives “are easy to make,” and identified the UN building as an almost certain target.<sup>72</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee may have evaluated potential operations in South Korea and the Philippines. In Afghanistan, in late 2001, detainee had seen another al-Qaida member’s passport which held a visa for South Korea. Detainee had asked that operative to temporarily surrender his passport so Khallad could make a copy of the South Korean visa stamp. The day after the al-Qaida member gave Khallad his passport, he saw a high quality copy of the South Korean visa stamp on nylon-like paper, which he believed was used to make a stamp of the visa.<sup>73</sup>
  - (S//NF) Abu Zubaydah said detainee was planning an operation in Asia, not in the US as was previously reported.<sup>74</sup>
- (S//NF) In August 2002, Abu Hurayrah, brother of Ali Yahya Mahdi al-Rimi, ISN US9YM-000167DP (YM-167), proposed to detainee a plan to attack US aircraft in Oman using surface-to-air missiles (SAMs). Abu Hurayrah claimed he had acquired money for the purchase of the missiles. Detainee instructed Abu Hurayrah to travel to Yemen and buy as many weapons and explosives as he could with the funds. In early October, Abu Hurayrah telephoned him in Dubai from Yemen and indicated that weapons and explosives were not as easy to acquire in Yemen as once had been the case.<sup>75</sup>
- (S//NF) KSM encouraged detainee to conduct small operations against US targets in Saudi Arabia, such as ambushes of US persons in automobiles and kidnappings of US citizens.<sup>76</sup>
  - (S//NF) A senior al-Qaida member said that during an unspecified timeframe detainee and two Saudi cell members came upon a man whose car had broken down alongside a road in Saudi Arabia. The cell members initially thought the man was a US citizen and wanted to kill him. When the cell members discovered the man was not a US citizen, his life was spared.<sup>77</sup>

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<sup>72</sup> TD-314/16584-02<sup>73</sup> TD-314/03043-03<sup>74</sup> TD-314/03233-05<sup>75</sup> TD-314/11724-03<sup>76</sup> TD-314/06945-03<sup>77</sup> TD-314/02524-03

JTF-GTMO-CDR

SUBJECT: Combatant Status Review Tribunal Input and Recommendation for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD) for Guantanamo Detainee, ISN: US9SA-010015DP (S)

- (S//NF) Detainee was reportedly involved in an operation targeting Ras Tanura Port, a major petroleum facility in Saudi Arabia.<sup>78</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee has ties to numerous high-level al-Qaida leaders, some of most significant are below listed:
  - (S//NF) Detainee worked directly for UBL<sup>79</sup> and pledged bayat (an oath of allegiance) to him.<sup>80</sup> Detainee believed he was being pushed by UBL to continue planning aggressive operations after 11 September 2001 against US interests in the Arabian Gulf region without much regard for his own security.<sup>81</sup> Detainee said that he spoke openly with UBL and, if he thought UBL was wrong, he would tell him so. Detainee said if UBL wanted him to participate in an operation, it would be incumbent upon UBL to convince detainee the operation was important to their cause.<sup>82</sup>
  - (S//NF) Abu Hafs al-Masri aka (Muhammad Atef): KSM reported that UBL placed detainee in charge of operations in Yemen, which was isolated from KSM's and Muhammad Atef's operations although Muhammad Atef was the one primarily in charge of all operations.<sup>83</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee and KSM met in Kandahar and were both in Zormat with many other senior al-Qaida members in December 2001.<sup>84</sup> Detainee also met with KSM on three different occasions in late February 2002 in Karachi and met with 9/11 planner, Ramzi Bin al-Shibh, ISN US9YM-010013DP (YM-10013), at one of the meetings.<sup>85</sup>
  - (S//NF) Abu Zubaydah reported that detainee is an al-Qaida operative who reported directly to UBL. Abu Zubaydah stated detainee headed his own al-Qaida group comprising most Saudis and Yemenis, which was responsible for conducting operations outside of Afghanistan, similar to KSM.<sup>86</sup> Abu Zubaydah has known detainee since 1993,<sup>87</sup> and added that it was well known detainee has excellent contacts within both the Yemeni tribes and Yemeni security services. These contacts provided travel documents and cover for extremists.<sup>88</sup> (Analyst Note: These contacts contribute to detainee's risk if he is handed over to Yemeni officials.)

<sup>78</sup> ANTITERRORISM FORCE PROTECTION 22-NOV-2002

<sup>79</sup> TD-314/03387-03

<sup>80</sup> TD-314/13597-03

<sup>81</sup> TD-314/08690-03

<sup>82</sup> TD-314/16245-04

<sup>83</sup> TD-314/35339-03

<sup>84</sup> TD-314/29878-03, TD-314/12068-03, TD-314/38532-02, Analyst Note: In TD-314/29878, the senior al-Qaida members reportedly met in Zormat in December 2002, but these meetings are assessed to have taken place in December 2001 vice 2002.

<sup>85</sup> TD-314/06945-03

<sup>86</sup> TD-314/16930-02

<sup>87</sup> TD-314/49853-02

<sup>88</sup> TD-314/33916-02

JTF-GTMO-CDR

SUBJECT: Combatant Status Review Tribunal Input and Recommendation for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD) for Guantanamo Detainee, ISN: US9SA-010015DP (S)

- (S//NF) Al-Qaida military operations commander, Sayf al-Adel: detainee thought that al-Adel served al-Qaida in an administrative function, such as taking care of matters for UBL and running a guesthouse. Detainee said he first met al-Adel in 1995 when al-Adel was in charge of the guesthouse in Jalalabad.<sup>89</sup>
- (S//NF) Al-Qaida planner, Walid Muhammad Salih Bin Attash aka (Khallad) aka (Silver), ISN US9YM-010014DP (YM-10014), assisted detainee in facilitating mujahideen,<sup>90</sup> planning operations,<sup>91</sup> and detainee considered him a friend.<sup>92</sup>
- (S//NF) Hamza al-Ghamdi, a former UBL bodyguard and long-time jihadist, was in charge of a guesthouse and training for al-Qaida in Kabul.<sup>93</sup> Detainee and al-Ghamdi fought in the Tajikistan jihad together in the early 1990's.<sup>94</sup>
- (S//NF) Jihad Harazi aka (Azzam), who was a suicide bomber in the 1998 US Embassy bombing in Kenya, was detainee's cousin.<sup>95</sup> As a result of learning of his cousin's successful operation, detainee joined al-Qaida.<sup>96</sup>
- (S//NF) Ibn Shaykh al-Libi reported that detainee and Khallad served two roles in al-Qaida; as operational planners and emergency points of contact for operatives deployed to conduct attacks.<sup>97</sup>
- (S//NF) Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi: Detainee last saw al-Hadi late in 2001 in the Zormat area of Afghanistan when al-Hadi wanted to stay and fight the US. Detainee said that al-Hadi only answered to UBL and Muhammad Atef.<sup>98</sup> Detainee fought under his command.<sup>99</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee met Ramzi Bin al-Shibh in Karachi while meeting with KSM but did not have any interest in him. According to detainee, al-Shibh was a new affiliate without an operational record. (Analyst note: This could be an indication that detainee did not know al-Shibh's role in the 9/11 attacks.)<sup>100</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee first saw Sulayman Abu Ghayth shortly after the attack on the USS COLE. Detainee described Abu Ghayth as previously being an Imam of a mosque in Kuwait before becoming associated with UBL. Detainee also said Abu

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<sup>89</sup> TD-314/16245-04

<sup>90</sup> TD-314/03504-03

<sup>91</sup> TD-314/52240-02

<sup>92</sup> TD-314/08879-04

<sup>93</sup> TD-314/17348-04, IIR 6 034 0863 02, IIR 6 034 0297 05, IIR 6 034 0796 02

<sup>94</sup> TD-314/38699-03

<sup>95</sup> TD-314/11614-05, TD-314/32877-03

<sup>96</sup> TD-314/52239-02

<sup>97</sup> TD-314/08327-02

<sup>98</sup> TD-314/39020-03

<sup>99</sup> TD-314/03141-03

<sup>100</sup> TD-314/06945-03

JTF-GTMO-CDR

SUBJECT: Combatant Status Review Tribunal Input and Recommendation for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD) for Guantanamo Detainee, ISN: US9SA-010015DP (S)

Ghayth was UBL's spokesman and he was always with UBL and Ayman al-Zawahiri. Detainee last saw him in Kabul a week prior to the coalition invasion of the city.<sup>101</sup>

- (S//NF) Detainee has connections to JTF-GTMO detainees (not all JTF-GTMO detainees who are tied to detainee are listed here, only those significance):
  - (S//NF) Detainee identified Salim Ahmed Salim Hamdan, ISN US9YM-000149DP, as a driver and bodyguard for UBL in Afghanistan who began working for UBL after UBL left Sudan.<sup>102</sup>
  - (S) Humud Dakhil Humud Said al-Jadani, ISN US9SA-000230DP, reported that detainee was very dangerous and very senior in al-Qaida.<sup>103</sup>
  - (S//NF) Faez Muhammad Ahmed al-Kandari, ISN US9KU-000552DP, traveled with detainee and both were facilitated by Abu Zubaydah from Peshawar, PK, to Afghanistan in April 2000.<sup>104</sup>
  - (S//NF) SA-768 worked for detainee, most notably on the SoH operation,<sup>105</sup> as well as the Port Rashid<sup>106</sup> and SoG operations.<sup>107</sup>
  - (S//NF) YM-1453 received instructions from detainee to scout the route from Yemen to the UAE, in which YM-1453 was to transport explosives for the Port Rashid operation.<sup>108</sup>
  - (S//NF) SA-1456, Khallad's brother, cooked and ran errands for detainee.<sup>109</sup>
  - (S//NF) YM-1457 reported that in late 2001, he arrived in Karachi to assist Arab fighters. Upon arriving in Karachi, he moved into detainee's home and immediately began to seek funds to support the mujahideen and their travel to Afghanistan.<sup>110</sup>
  - (S//NF) PK-1461 worked for detainee<sup>111</sup> and was responsible for facilitating the travel of detainee in Karachi. PK-1461 drove detainee around Karachi, purchased things for him and was always with detainee since he did not speak Urdu.<sup>112</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee participated in militant jihad in the following locations:
  - (S//NF) Tajikistan from 1992 to 1993.<sup>113</sup>
  - (S//NF) Chechnya; detainee arrived there in December 1994.<sup>114</sup>

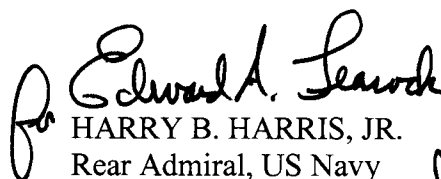
<sup>101</sup> TD-314/38699-03<sup>102</sup> TD-314/22893-05<sup>103</sup> IIR 6 034 0323 05<sup>104</sup> TD-314/06467-03<sup>105</sup> TD-314/37810-03, TD-314/13836-03, TD-314/26905-04<sup>106</sup> TD-314/02552-03<sup>107</sup> TD-314/47202-02<sup>108</sup> TD-314/27813-03, TD-314/48167-03, 001453 SIR 01-OCT-2004, 001453 SAR 04-DEC-2002<sup>109</sup> TD-314/11991-03, TD-314/43326-02<sup>110</sup> TD-314/04584-04, TD-314/10133-03<sup>111</sup> TD-314/25875-03, TD-314/33000-05<sup>112</sup> TD-314/38975-02<sup>113</sup> TD-314/11500-04, TD-314/11164-03<sup>114</sup> TD-314/11614-05, TD-314/36521-04, TD-314/51914-04

JTF-GTMO-CDR

SUBJECT: Combatant Status Review Tribunal Input and Recommendation for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD) for Guantanamo Detainee, ISN: US9SA-010015DP (S)

- (S//NF) Azerbaijan; detainee stayed at a guesthouse owned by Ibn al-Khattab.<sup>115</sup>
- (S//NF) Afghanistan.<sup>116</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee trained at Jihad Wal camp, near Khowst.<sup>117</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee trained at Khaldan camp.<sup>118</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee trained on explosives at al-Faruq.<sup>119</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee trained at Ibn al-Khattab's camp after joining al-Qaida.<sup>120</sup>

c. (U//FOUO) **Detainee's Conduct:** Detainee detention threat level is assessed as HIGH based on a DoD initial 90-day observation.

  
HARRY B. HARRIS, JR. *66, US NAVY*  
Rear Admiral, US Navy *DEPT COMNAVSEA*  
Commanding

<sup>115</sup> TD-314/11614-05, TD-314/19840-05

<sup>116</sup> TD-314/17348-04

<sup>117</sup> TD-314/49853-02

<sup>118</sup> TD-314/06467-03

<sup>119</sup> TD-314/06467-03

<sup>120</sup> TD-314/52239-02