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CA: This Periodic Review Board is being conducted at 0905 hours on 17 May 2016, with regard to the following detainee: Muhammed Rajab Sadiq Abu Ghanim, ISN 44.

As a reminder, the unclassified portion of these proceedings are being recorded for the purpose of generating a transcript to be posted on the PRS website.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

CA: Representatives for the following agencies are present and are member of the Board:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE;

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE;

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE;

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY;

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE; AND,

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.

The following personnel are also present:

LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE BOARD;

CASE ADMINISTRATORS;

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES;

TWO TRANSLATORS;

THE DETAINEE; AND,

SECURITY OFFICER.

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TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

CA: The detainee's Personal Representatives, the detainee, and one translator are located at the detention facility, U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. They are attending via video teleconference and the detainee waived translation of the unclassified summary and Personal Representatives' opening statements. These documents have been posted on the Periodic Review Secretariat's website. This session is being observed by national and local media and Representatives from Non-Governmental Organizations.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: This Board is convened to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted for Muhammed Rajab Sadiq Abu Ghanim, ISN 44, to protect against a continuing significant threat to the security of the United States. From here on, we will refer to the detainee as Muhammed. This session of the hearing is unclassified.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Muhammed, this is your Periodic Review Board to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted in your case. Continued law of war detention will be warranted if it is necessary to protect against a continuing significant threat to the national security of the United States. The focus of this hearing is on the

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threat you may pose to the United States and its interests, if transferred or released from U.S. custody. It is not on the lawfulness of your detention.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: The Personal Representatives are your representatives to assist you during this process. Finally, the translators ensure that everyone understands your statements and that you understand what is being said during the hearing.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Personal Representatives, has the detainee had an opportunity to review the unclassified summary?

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PR 2: Yes, Sir.

TRANS 2: Yes, Sir.

TRANS 2: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Thank you. I will now read the unclassified summary:

Muhammed Rajab Sadiq Abu Ghanim, ISN 44, is an experienced militant who probably acted as a guard for Usama Bin Ladin af... in Afghanistan. He forged relationships with future al-Qaeda members while fighting for jihadist's cau... causes during the 1990s and probably participated in plots against government and Western interests in Saudi Arabia and Yemen. He also associated with several

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USS... USS Cole plotters and probably left Yemen for Afghanistan around the time of the bombing in October of 2000, although we have no evidence that he had a role in the operation. In Afghanistan, he fought for the Taliban against the Northern Alliance, worked for an al-Qaeda-associated charity, possibly trained to become an al-Qaeda instructor, and became one of Bin Ladin's guards, probably because of his prior jihadist experience and ties to other al-Qaeda members. Pakistani authorities arrested him in the company of other suspected Bin Ladin bodyguards as they crossed into Pakistan in late 2001.

Muhammed has committed an average number of infractions compared to other detainees at Guantanamo Bay, but has improved his behavior [sic]... behavior since to... since mid-2013, probably because he wanted to improve his chances for transfer. The majority of his infractions have been non-violent and relatively minor; however, he has also participated in mass disturbances and non-violent demonstrations in response to quality of life issues or perceived injustices committed by the guard force. Muhammed has demonstrated varying levels of cooperation during his interviews, and has cooperated... his cooperation has improved when he felt that the debriefer was treating him with respect. He has been reluctant to discuss other detainees, except to report on their impending hunger strikes or possible uprisings. Muhammed appears to have some

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influence among other detainees and has served as an intermediary between some detainees, which may have helped rise [sic] his status in detention.

Muhammed has avoided explicitly aligning himself with violent extremism, probably judging that this may improve his chances for transfer. He has expressed hatred toward the United States on occasion, probably out of frustration with his distention [sic] and debriefers' line of questioning. One of the former detainees with whom Muhammed has corresponded is suspected of reengaging in terrorism and several of his family members and childhood friends associate with al-Qaeda of the Arabian Peninsula who could facilitate Muhammed's intro... reintroduction to the group or other extremist activity if he chose to reengage.

PM: Do the Personal Representatives wish to make an unclassified opening statement, at this time?

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PR 2: Yes, Sir.

TRANS 2: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: I'd like to remind all participants that any information shared at this time, must be unclassified. If there is a concern about the classification of the information, I will indicate such and

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will stop the proceedings until we... we resolve the issue. Has the detainee had the opportunity to review your statements?

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

(NO VERBAL RESPONSE FROM PRs)

PM: Personal Representatives, please proceed.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PR 2: Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the Board. As Muhammed Rajab Sadiq Abu Ghanim, ISN 044, Personal Representatives, we would like to thank the Board for allowing us the opportunity to present Muhammed's case and reveal how he is no longer a continuing significant threat to the United States.

From day one, Muhammed has actively participated in every meeting that we schedule with him. He was always eager to provide any information that was asked of him, as well as provide any clarity to any situation that was not fathomable to us. During our meetings, Muhammed has expressed his desire to return home and to reunite with his family. He is aware that he may not be going back to Yemen, but he is willing to settle wherever the board determines for him. He is enthusiastically looking forward to the opportunity to have a wife and children of his own someday.

Since his detention in Guantanamo, Muhammed has been respectful to the guard force, and he has diligently tried to keep his fellow

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detainees from harming themselves and each other. He has been a compliant detainee and has taken advantage of the many opportunities presented to him to learn about American culture. He likes to read books written by American authors as well as watching several American television shows. He has become a person who is considerate and tolerant of others. Additionally, his time here has given him the opportunity to meet Americans and be exposed to American values and culture. This has giving [sic] him an appreciation of the good things that America and Americans can accomplish.

Muhammed fosters no ill-will toward the United States and is no longer a threat to America; he is ready to answer any questions the Board may have for him at this time.

PM: Thank you very much. Board Members may reserve questions until detainee and witness statements have been presented in their entirety. Does anyone have a question at this time?

(NON-VERBAL RESPONSE FROM BMS)

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Okay. With no questions, this concludes this portion of the hearing. I ask that all remain seated until further instructed by the Case Administrator.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

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CA: We will take a 15-minute recess to prepare for the remaining sessions.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

[The public session closed at 0918, 17 May 2016.]

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ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYM KEY

BM: BOARD MEMBER
CA: CASE ADMINISTRATOR
DET: DETAINEE
PM: PRESIDING MEMBER
PR 1: PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE ONE
PR 2: PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TWO
TRANS 1: TRANSLATOR ONE (LOCATED AT PRS HQ)
TRANS 2: TRANSLATOR TWO (LOCATED AT GUANTANAMO BAY)