CA: This periodic review board is being conducted at 0902 hours on 2 August 2016 with regards to the following detainee: Guleed Hassan Ahmed, ISN 10023. As a reminder, the unclassified portions of these proceedings are being recorded for the purpose of generating a transcript to be posted on the PRS website.

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

CA: Representatives from the following agencies are present and are members of the Board:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE;
DEPARTMENT OF STATE;
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 personal are also present:

LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE BOARD;
CASE ADMINISTRATORS;
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES;
TRANSLATOR;
THE DETAINEE; AND,
SECURITY OFFICER.

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

CA: The detainee's Personal Representatives, the detainee, and the translator are located at the detention facility U.S.
Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Cuba. They are attending via video teleconference and the detainee has waived translation of the unclassified summary and the Personal Representatives' opening statement. These documents have been posted to the Periodic Review Secretariat website. This session is being observed by foreign national and local media, foreign government officials, and representatives from non-governmental organizations.

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Good morning. The Board is convened to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted for Guleed Hassan Ahmed, ISN 10023, to protect against a continuing significant threat to the security of the United States. From here forward, we will refer to the detainee as Guleed. This session of the hearing is unclassified.

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Guleed, 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's necessary to protect against a continuing significant threat to the national security of the United States. The focus of this hearing is on the 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: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]
PM: The Personal Representatives are your representatives to assist you during this process and finally, the translator ensures that everybody understands your statements and that you understand what is being said during this hearing.

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

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

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PR 1: Yes, Ma'am.

PM: Thank you. I'll read the unclassified summary.

Guleed Hassan Ahmed, ISN 10023...

(TRANS INTERRUPTS PM)

PM: ...Guleed Hassan Ahmed, ISN 10023, in 1995 travelled from Sweden to Afghanistan to receive training, probably from al-Qaeda, that he could use for jihadist purposes in his native Somalia. He went to Somalia in 1997, joined the radical Muslim group, Al-Ittihad al-Islamia [sic], fought... fought against the Ethiopian military and provided training to Al-Itthad al-Islami members. Guleed subsequently served as a key member of al-Qaeda in East Africa’s network in Somalia. He provided logistical and operational support to al-Qaeda in... in East... excuse me... he provided legal [sic] and operational support to al-Qaeda in East Africa’s leaders, including most certainly casing Camp Lemonier in dji... Djibouti, the target of an al-Qaeda in East Africa plot.
Despite initially admitting to his al-Qaeda associations and providing great deal of information about support to al-Qaeda in East Africa, Guleed over the course of his detention has sought to downplay his connection to the group.

Guleed almost certainly remains committed to extremists... to... remains a committed extremist and retains a world-view aligned with al-Qaeda’s global jihadist ideology, but has consistently attempted to deceive U.S. officials by saying that he only supports regional insurgent efforts. Throughout his detention at Guantanamo Bay, he has expressed hatred towards the West and support for violent extremism, although he generally has been compliant with guard staff.

Guleed has maintained to U.S. officials that only... the only jihad he supports is the regional conflict in East Africa during his interviews. It is unclear whether Guleed has become more radical during his time in detention, having possibly been influenced by more senior detainees, or if he always possessed anti-Western views and over time has become less hesitant to express them.

Guleed has expressed interest in reengaging in extremism if released. He does not appear to have direct contact with extremists outside of Guantanamo, but some of his closest associates prior to detention have emerged as leaders in al-
Shabaab, which almost certainly would provide avenue for Guleed’s reengagement.

The Personal Representatives wish to make an unclassified opening statement at this time?

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: I’m sorry, Personal Representatives, do you wish to make an unclassified statement at this time?

PR 1: Yes, Ma’am.

PM: All right. I’d like to remind all the participants that any information shared at this time must be unclassified. If there’s a concern about the classification of the information, I will indicate as such and stop the proceedings until we resolve the issue. Has Guleed had an opportunity to review your statements?

PR 1: Yes, Ma’am.

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

(PR 1 ASSISTING TRANS WITH LOCATION OF TRANSLATION)

TRANS: [... CONTINUES TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PR 1: So, again; yes, Ma’am.

PM: Alright. Please proceed.

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PR 1: Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the Board. We are the Personal Representatives for ISN 10023, Mr. Guleed Hassan Ahmed. He has met with us on multiple occasions over the
past month and has never missed a meeting. From the start, he has been cooperative and enthusiastic about his PRB.

Guleed has family in both Canada and in the U.S. and all are ready and willing to support Guleed upon his transfer. He is especially looking forward to reuniting with his wife and four children who live in Kenya.

As an HVD, he has not had access to as many classes and programs as other detainees. He has however, tried to participate in anything that was offered. Guleed likes to watch National Geographic movies, Blue Planet documentaries, and anything about science or nature. He likes to read religious books, Harry Potter books, the Economist, and Newsweek.

Guleed would like the chance to leave detention at GTMO and start a new, simple, and peaceful life. He has had experience in Computer Engineering and small business in the past that could be useful in setting up a new life.

In our meetings with Guleed, he has stated to us that he harbors no enduring ill-will to the United States. Additionally, he has stated he wants nothing to do with extremism anymore and does not consider himself to be a threat to anyone. He wants only to live a peaceful life with his wife and children.

Thank you for your time and attention. We stand ready to answer any questions you have.
PM: Thank you [coughs], excuse me. Board Members may reserve questions until detainee and witness statements have been presented in their entirety. Does anyone have a question at this time?

(NO VERBAL RESPONSE FROM BMs)

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Alright with no questions, this concludes this portion of the hearing. I'd ask we all stay seated until further instructed by the Case Administrator.

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

CA: We'll take a 15-mintue recess to prepare for the remaining sessions.

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

[The public session concluded at 0921, 2 August 2016]

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