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CA: This Periodic Review Board is being conducted at s... 0912 hours on 21 March 2017, with regard to the following detainee: Saifullah Paracha, ISN 1094.

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.

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, THE  
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.

The following personnel are also present:

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

The detainee's Personal Representative and detainee are located

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at the detention facility, U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. They are attending via video teleconference and the detainee waived translation of the entire hearing. These documents have been posted to the Periodic Review Secretariat website. This session is being observed by foreign, national, and local media, and representatives from Non-Governmental Associations.

PM: Good morning. This Board is convened to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted for Saifullah Paracha, ISN 1094, to protect against a continuing significant threat to the security of the United States. From here forward, we'll refer to the detainee as Mr. Paracha. This session of the hearing is unclassified.

Mr. Paracha, 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.

The Personal Representative is your representative to assist you during this process.

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Personal Representative, has Mr. Paracha had an opportunity to review the Unclassified Summary?

PR: Yes, Ma'am.

PM: Thank you. I'll read the Unclassified Summary:

Saifullah Paracha, 1094, was a Pakistan-based businessman who acted as a facilitator for al-Qaeda senior leaders and operational planners. He met with Usama Bin Ladin in 1999 or 2000 and later worked with external Operations Chief Khalid Shaykh Muhammad, 10024, to facilitate financial tractions and pro... transactions and propaganda. Since his arrival at Guantanamo, Mr. Paracha has been very compliant with the detention staff and has espoused moderate views and acceptance of Western norms. Although there is no indication that he is in communication with extremists outside of Guantanamo, Mr... Mr. Paracha's extensive extremist business contact [sic]... contacts could provide him opportunities to reengage upon release should he choose to use them.

Personal Representative, do you wish to make a... unclassified opening statement at this time?

PR: Yes, Ma'am.

PM: All right. I'd like to remind everyone that any information shared at this time must be unclassified. If there's a

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concern with the classification of the information, I'll indicate as such and will stop the proceedings until we resolve the issue.

Has Mr. Paracha had the opportunity to review your statement?

PR: Yes, Ma'am.

PM: All right. Please proceed.

PR: Members of the Board, thank you for reviewing Mr. Sai... Sai... Saifullah Paracha's case so that he can answer your questions. He has reviewed the outcome from his first Board, understands your concerns, and has considered ways to mitigate the issues.

I did wanna [sic] address the reason behind Mr. Paracha's wanting to continue to work. While he is older, beyond retirement age, Pakistan does not offer the same social services as the United States. The concern that Mr. Paracha wanted to address before retiring have been caused by people taking advantage of his family due to his detention. He's declared on numerous occasions to me that he does not want to return home to become a businessman out of his sheer drive for success, but instead wants to get his family's life in order. A letter he received from his wife gave details of a civil case brought against Mr. Paracha, which he... has obviously distressed him. This case occurred as a result of his wife being conned into selling their family home. There are many debts as well as a Guantanamo-related stigma facing the Paracha family, as long-term

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friends and neighbors have abandoned them, making it even more difficult for Paracha's wife to succeed as the head-of-household in a male-centric society. Mr. Paracha wants to settle the court case and help his children get situated so that they can take over as the supporters for his family. He wants to be there for his wife and live a retired life.

He does not plan to make contacts with people he knew before GTMO, but instead plans to be a father and supporter for his wife and children. This support does not solely... financial [sic], but also present himself in the form of knowledge or emotional strength. The elderly are valued for holding the knowledge and experience of society, and Mr. Paracha intends to teach his children so they can become the family breadwinners. All three of his children have graduated from college. He would li... would like to return home to help strengthen his family and is willing to comply with any conditions placed upon'em [sic].

Thank you.

PM: Board Members may reserve questions until detainee witness statements have been presented in their entirety. Anyone have a question at this time?

**(No verbal response from the Board Members)**

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PM: All right. With no questions, this concludes this portion of the hearing. I ask that we all stay seated until further instructed by our Case Administrator.

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

[The public session closed at 0918, 21 March 2017.]

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ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYM KEY

BM: BOARD MEMBER  
CA: CASE ADMINISTRATOR  
DET: DETAINEE  
PM: PRESIDING MEMBER  
PR: PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE ONE