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CA: This Periodic Review Board is being conducted at 0911 hours on 05 April 2016, with regard to the following detainee: Salem Ahmad Hadi Bin Kanad, ISN 131.

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 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

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 personnel are also present:

LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE BOARD;

CASE ADMINISTRATORS;

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES;

TWO TRANSLATORS;

THE DETAINEE; AND,

SECURITY OFFICERS.



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TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

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. This session is being observed by representatives from non-governmental organizations.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Good morning. This Board is called to order. The Board is convened to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted for Salem Ahmad Hadi Bin Kanad, ISN 131, in order to protect against a continuing significant threat to the security of the United States. From here on forward, we'll refer to the detainee as Salem...

TRANS 1: ... [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]...

PM: ... I'm sorry. This session's unclassified.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Salem, this is your Periodic Review Board to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted in your case. Your 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



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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. The translators are here to ensure that everybody understands your statements and that you understand what is being said during your hearing.

TRANS 1: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

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

TRANS 1: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PR 1: Yes, Ma'am.

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

Salem Ahmad Hadi Bin Kanad, ISN 131, is a Yemeni who fought for the Taliban and possibly received training from al-Qaeda. He has continued to praise terrorist groups and activities, indicating that he remains... he retains an extremist mindset. Nevertheless, he has remained mostly compliant with the guard force at Guantanamo Bay; committing no violent offenses since late 2013. Neither Salem nor his relatives in Saudi Arabia or Yemen have identified links with extremists outside of Guantanamo...

TRANS 1: ... **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**...



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PM: ... Sorry. Salem did not participate in his first hearing before the Periodic Review Board. During Salem's third file review, the Board, by consensus, determined that a significant question was raised as to whether the detainee's continued detention is warranted and therefore, an additional full review should be conducted.

TRANS 1: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

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

TRANS 1: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PR 1: Yes, Ma'am.

TRANS 2: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

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'll indicate as such and stop the proceedings until we have resolved the issue. Has the detainee had an opportunity to review the PR's unclassified opening statement?

TRANS 1: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PR 1: Yes, Ma'am.

PM: All right. Personal Representatives, please proceed.



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PR 1: Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the Board. We are the Personal Representatives for ISN 131. Thank you for the opportunity to present Mr. Salem Ahmad Hadi Bin Kanad's case.

For the past year, Salem has willingly participated in the Periodic Review Board process and has attended all meetings with his Personal Representatives. During this time, Salem has conducted himself in a professional manner throughout our engagements. We would characterize his personality as reserved, but warm. In his approximately fourteen years at Guantanamo, he has demonstrated a history of compliant behavior and has not presented any significant force protection problems while at Guantanamo. His good behavior is evidenced by the fact that he resides within a facility where only the most compliant detainees are authorized to live. In fact, his fellow detainees once elected him as a block leader and entrusted him with the responsibility of addressing detainee issues with the security guard force.

He has constructively engaged with Task... Joint Task Force Medical Staff in order to address and manage his chronic health issues. This team approach has greatly improved his physical condition and quality of life. Hence, he has resolute... lutely pursued a daily exercise regimen of self-care, which includes cardiovascular activities. He has taken advantage of the educational



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opportunities, while detained at Guantanamo. These opportunities include English, Computer Science, and Life Skill classes, where Salem looks forward to utilizing one day when he reun... is reunited with his family members in Saudi Arabia. Salem would like to return to his home in Riyadh where he is... desperately wants to reunite with his father, brothers, and sisters. All of his family members have pledged unwavering financial support, a place of residence, and assistance with his enrollment in a vocational school to further his education in English and Computer Science. He is conf... he's confident these studies, along with the sales experience he gained while working in his father's auto detailing business will set him up well for a career in sales and marketing in order to be a supportive father to his daughters.

We are certain that Salem's desire to pursue a better way of life is trans... if transferred from Guantanamo is genuine, and that he does not represent a continuing or significant threat to the United States of America. Salem is open to transfer to any country, but would prefer an Arabic speaking country, if possible, where he can be a productive member of society and live the rest of his life in peace.

Thank you for your time and attention. We are pleased to answer any questions you may have throughout these proceedings.



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PM: I don't... are they not translating on the other side?

**(NO VERBAL RESPONSE FROM CA)**

PM: No? Okay. The Board Members may reserve questions until the detainee and witness statements have presented in their entirety. But, at this time, does any Board Member have a question for the Personal Representatives in the unclassified session?

**(NO VERBAL RESPONSE FROM BMs)**

TRANS 1: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PM: All right, with no questions, this concludes the unclassified portion of this hearing. I ask that everyone remain seated until further instructed by our Case Administrator.

TRANS 1: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

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

TRANS 1: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

**[The public session closed at 0923, 5 April 2016.]**

**[END OF PAGE]**

ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYM KEY

BM: BOARD MEMBER

CA: CASE ADMINISTRATOR

DET: DETAINEE

PC: PRIVATE COUNSEL

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)