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CA: This Periodic Review Board is being conducted at 0902 hours on 1 September 2016, with regard to the following detainee: Mohammed Ahmed Rabanni.

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 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;**

**PRIVATE COUNSEL;**

**TWO TRANSLATORS;**

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PM: Ahmed Rabbani, this is your Periodic Review Board 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 released from U.S. custody. It is not on the lawfulness of your detention.

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

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

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

PM: Personal Representatives and Private Counsel, has Ahmed Rabbani had an opportunity to review the unclassified summary?

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

PR 1: Yes, Ma'am.

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

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

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Most of his infractions occurred between 2013 and 2015, probably in part to protest his separation from his brother. Ahmed Rabbani has also been on hunger strike for an extended period of time. Ahmed Rabbani has provided little information of value and has recanted several of his earlier statements about his support for al-Qaeda.

Ahmed Rabbani has indicated that he would like to be transferred to Malaysia because he is ethnically Burmese. He has marketable job skills, having been a former sweets maker and a professional driver. However, according to source with first hand access, Ahmed Rabbani remains steadfast in his support for extremist causes and groups, praising acts of terrorism and expressing disdain for Americans. Ahmed Rabbani has maintained contact with former detainees, one of whom is confirmed having reengaged in terrorist activities with ISIL, and who could provide ramad... Ahmed Rabbani with clear venue to reengage in his... to reengage after his release if he chooses to do so.

Do Personal Representatives and Private Counsel wish to make unclassified opening statements at this time?

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

PR 1: Yes, Ma'am.

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

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transfer to Pakistan, although he is willing to go anywhere the Board recommends. He has also expressed his willingness to participate in any rehabilitation program.

Earlier in his life, Mr. Rabbani managed hotels with his father, and later, he managed them on his own. Mr. Rabbani was a shrewd and cunning businessman and chased after the almighty dollar. He did not really care to find out who he was working with, but he stresses that he was working for money, not for a religious cause or agenda.

While he is still a hunger striker, Mr. Rabbani eats at our meetings and now goes willingly to his feedings to consume his liquid meals. Hunger striking is a peaceful way of protesting his situation and one of the few choices or decisions that Mr. Rabbani feels he can make while in detainment. Mr. Rabbani has started to eat regular food, but after years of hunger striking, his body now rejects the food and causes him severe nausea. Mr. Rabbani is now working with the medical staff in an effort to get back on solid food.

Mr. Rabbani has focused on his artistic skills while here in Guantanamo. He has painted hundreds of pieces of art, some of which have been submitted for the Board to see. Additionally, an art dealer in New York is interested in showing

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PC: Esteemed Periodic Review Board Members, my name is Shelby Sullivan-Bennis. It is my privilege to represent Ahmed Rabbani and to appear before this Board today. I do so on behalf of all those at Reprieve who have been his counsel for the duration of his time in Guantanamo.

Ahmed Rabbani appears before this Board today after a harrow... harrowing 14 years in detention which began, as we now know, as a case of mistaken identity. The Executive Summary of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Study of the CIA's Detention Interrogation Program confirms what Ahmed knew from the start by September 11, 2002, it was determined that an individual named Muhammad Ahmed Ghulam Rabbani, aka Abu Badr, and his driver were arrested, not Hassan Ghul. Thus, Ahmed was indeed not a senior al-Qaeda leader, a concession that did not arrive until after he had suffered dreadfully in a "Black Site." The Senate report reflects that he was one of the few subjected to enhanced interrogation techniques without authorization. He has remained in detention at Guantanamo Bay, and appears before this Board today to tell his story.

In an effort to pave the way for Ahmed's release from Guantanamo Bay, we at Reprieve, as well as those at our affiliate organization in Pakistan, the Foundation for

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his feet. Indeed, the amount of support Ahmed has waiting for him is considerable.

Additionally, Reprieve has a program set up to help our clients reintegrate into society called "Life After Guantanamo," which is partially funded by the United Nations. This is a program that serves the interests of each relevant stakeholder - the client needs the help, and we, the United States, want the client to do well. For several clients who were resettled and repatriated by both Administrations, we worked with the State Department and host governments on transition plans for clients; we have visited clients multiple times after release; we have served as an ongoing point of contact for local authorities; we have facilitated financial support and referrals for needs ranging from job placement to mental health care; we were a trusted and experienced resource in facilitating successful transition for these clients, who are now rebuilding their lives. Finally, as mentioned, we have specific experience working with groups on the ground in Pakistan, and we would of course offer the same assistance to Ahmed.

Thank you for taking into consideration the information we have provided. We respectfully submit that Ahmed Rabbani should be approved for transfer from Guantanamo consistent with the

ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYM KEY

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