

CA: This periodic review board is being conducted at 1110 hours on 27 January 2015, at the Periodic Review Secretariat Headquarters, with regard to the following detainee: Saeed Ahmed Mohammed Abdullah Sarem Jarabh.

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.]**

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;**

**OFFICE 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.**

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. This session is being observed by foreign, national and local media; Foreign Government Officials and representatives from Non-Governmental Organizations.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: This Board is called to order. This Board is convened to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted for Saeed Ahmed Mohammed Abdullah Sarem Jarabh, in order to protect against continuing significant threat to the security of the United States.

**[After the formal acknowledgement of the detainee's full name, the detainee prefers that the PM and BMs address him by the name, Saeed.]**

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: This periodic review board hearing session is unclassified. Classified documents and classified discussions relating to

classified information shall not be presented or discussed during the unclassified session of this hearing.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: Saeed, 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 such detention 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 threat you may pose to the United States and its interests if transferred or released from U.S. custody, and 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 1: Yes, ma'am.

PR 2: Yes, ma'am, he has.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: All right, I will read the Unclassified Summary now:

Saeed Ahmed Mohammed Abdullah Sarem Jarabh, YM-235, in mid-2001, traveled to Afghanistan, almost certainly with the intent to engage in jihad. He stayed at al-Qa'ida guesthouses, received at least basic weapons training at al-Qa'ida camps, and possibly fought on the frontlines, according to reporting. Much of the information available about YM-235's activity before detention is derived from his own statements, in which he expressed firsthand knowledge of al-Qa'ida members and facilities but consistently denied joining the group.

Since his arrival at Guantanamo, YM-235 has committed numerous disciplinary infractions but no major offenses, and the frequencies and severities of his infractions have decreased during the past four years. He has provided no information of intelligence value since his initial debriefings at Guantanamo. There are, however, no indications he harbors strong anti-American sentiments relative to other Guantanamo detainees, extremist beliefs, or intentions to reengage.

YM-235 throughout his detention has maintained contact with his brother, Samir, who probably is a member of al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula, or AQAP, in Sanaa and is associated with numerous extremists, including the AQAP amir. If repatriated to Yemen, YM-235 probably would return to his wife, daughters, and extended family in

Sanaa. Although Sanaa has experienced frequent AQAP and other activities, it may have the highest level of security in the country.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: Does the personal representatives wish to make an unclassified opening statement at this time?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PR 2: Yes, ma'am.

TRANS 2: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: Okay, I'll read this and then, personal representative, if you would pause before making your statement to allow the translator time.

I would 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 the proceedings will stop until the classification issue is resolved.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: Has the detainee had the opportunity to review the personal representatives' opening statement? And does he require translation today?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

TRANS 2: **[Speaking in Arabic]**

PR 1: Yes.

PR 2: Yes.

TRANS 2: **[Speaking in Arabic]**

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: All right, personal representatives, you can proceed with the opening statement.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PR 1: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen of the Board, we are the personal representatives for Saeed Ahmed Mohammed Abdullah Sarem Jarabh. To my left is our translator. We first met with Saeed in October of 2014 and we have become familiar with him and his family during numerous meetings. However, Saeed began the periodic review board process ten months ago when he first met with a previous PR team. Saeed has demonstrated eagerness and enthusiasm throughout his participation in the PRB process. Today, we intend to provide evidence that Saeed does not pose a significant threat to the security of the United States.

It is apparent to us that Saeed desires to return home to Yemen and reunite with his wife, his aging parents, and especially with his two daughters. His oldest daughter is engaged to be married in the next two years and Saeed dreams of being there on this special day for his daughter.

While detained at Guantanamo, Saeed has maximized every opportunity available for him for personal growth and education. As

recorded in our exhibits, he has pursued the study of English and Spanish languages, both spoken and written. This effort will greatly benefit him should he be transferred to a country other than Yemen. Additionally, Saeed has studied to increase his business acumen. Notably, he led a detainee project which developed a formal business plan for an agrarian farming operation. These high skills are in demand and are transferrable to any environment Saeed should find himself in. Saeed has engaged in constructive hobbies in order to keep his mind active and healthy while detained. His pursuit of the art of painting preserved both his sense of hope and love of life. Examples of his works are contained in our exhibit package.

Saeed has the blessing of a large extended family comprised of his parents, numerous brothers and sisters, along with their individual families. His strong ties to and love of his family is the foundation he has relied on during his detention. Saeed's desire for return to his family is beyond measure. His family has pledged to place their resources behind Saeed to ease his transition back to a life of normalcy, post-transfer. His family operates a successful business in Yemen, as documented in our exhibits, and has the resources to provide for a stable transition.

Based upon his strong family support, his personal aspirations, marketability for outside employment, continuing education, and compliant behavior while detained, we believe that

Saeed is an ideal candidate for transfer and does not represent a continuing significant threat to the security of the United States. Although Saeed desires to return to his home country, he is completely open to transfer to other nations where his family could join him. Notably, he has family currently living in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as documented by witness statements, who have pledged their support should he be transferred there. After careful review of the case documents and consideration of Saeed's statements today, we are confident you will find sufficient cause to recommend his transfer.

On the behalf of Saeed, we thank the Board for its time and careful consideration.

TRANS 2: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: There is no private counsel in these proceedings, and I understand board members may reserve questions until the detainee and witness statements have been presented in their entirety.

However, at this point does any member of the Board have a question for the personal representative in this session?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

**[No verbal response from the members.]**

PM: All right, with no questions, this concludes this portion of the hearing. And I ask that all remain seated until further instructed by the 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 1138, 27 January 2015.]

[At this point, the unclassified portion of the hearing ended.]

[END OF PAGE]

ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYM KEY

BM: BOARD MEMBER  
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)