

UNCLASSIFIED
Approved for Public Release

CA: This periodic review board is being conducted at 0941 hours on 01 March 2016 with regard to the following detainee: Suhayl Abdul Anam al Sharabi, ISN 569.

As a reminder, the unclassified portions of these proceedings are being recorded for the purposes 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;

TWO TRANSLATORS;

THE DETAINEE; AND,

SECURITY OFFICER.

UNCLASSIFIED
Approved for Public Release

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

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Good morning, does the detainee wish to waive translation of the entire hearing, to include unclassified written statements provided by the Personal Representatives and the detainee statement?

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PR 1: No, Ma'am, the detainee wishes to waive translation of only the unclassified summary and unclassified Personal Representatives' statement.

TRANS 2: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Thank you. The Board is called to order. This Board is convened to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted for Suhayl Abdul Anam al Sharabi, ISN 569, in order to protect against a continuing significant threat to the security of the United States. From here on forward, we will refer to the detainee as Suhayl. This session of the hearing is unclassified.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

UNCLASSIFIED
Approved for Public Release

PM: Suhayl, this is your Periodic Review Board to determine whether your continued law of war detention is warranted. Your continued law of war detention will be warranted if it 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 pose to the United States and its interests if you're 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 the process. Finally, the translators are here to ensure that everybody understands your statements and that you understand what is being said during the hearings.

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.

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

PM: Alright thank you. I'll read the unclassified summary.

Suhayl trained as a militant in Afghanistan before 11 September 2001. Suhayl met senior al-Qaeda members at the camps and became a

UNCLASSIFIED
Approved for Public Release

bodyguard for Usama Bin Ladin [sic]. He was part of an al-Qaeda external operations chief Khalid Shaykh Muhammad, KU-10024, plot to conduct 9/11 style attacks in Southeast Asia and traveled to Malaysia, where he stayed with al-Qaeda operative Walid Muhammad Salih Bin Attash, YM-10014 and two of the 9/11 hijackers. Suhayl was arrested in Karachi, Pakistan in early 2002.

Most reporting about Suhayl's involvement in al-Qaeda is from other detainees, who consistently state that he was a Bin Ladin [sic] bodyguard and may have been associated with an aborted hijacking plot in Southeast Asia. Suhayl admitted to al-Qaeda membership once, and has since denied involvement with that group. Suhayl has denied knowledge of any al-Qaeda operational plans and stated that he was unaware that the 9/11 hijacker who stayed with him in Malaysia, excuse me, that the 9/11 hijackers who stayed with him in Malaysia were al-Qaeda members. At the same time he described the two hijackers as martyrs.

Suhayl has made anti-U.S. statements and expressed support for extremism while at Guantanamo Bay. He has provided little information of value and had a poor compliance record with the majority of his detention, including assault on the guards and more than 1,000 forced cell extractions during his long term, non-religious fast. Suhayl's compliance record has improved since he

UNCLASSIFIED
Approved for Public Release

ended his fast in November 2014, probably because he wants to remain in communal living, according to the Joint Task Force Guantanamo's record of his compliance.

Suhayl has no knowledge of ongoing terrorism connections and maintains only intermediate contact with his family in Taiz, Yemen. They do not appear to be involved in terrorist activity. Suhayl has not discussed any definite post-detention plans. If repatriated, the political instability and al-Qaeda and the Arabian peninsula activity in Yemen would provide opportunities to reengage.

Do the Personal Representatives wish to make an unclassified opening statements at this time?

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

PR 1 and PR 2: Yes, Ma'am.

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

PM: Alright, I would like to remind everyone that any information shared at this time must be unclassified. If there is a concern about the classification of the information, I will indicate as such and will stop the hearing until we resolve the issue. Please go ahead.

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

PM: And I'm sorry before you continue, I forgot to ask, has the detainee had an opportunity to review your unclassified statement?

UNCLASSIFIED
Approved for Public Release

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PR 2: Yes, Ma'am.

TRANS 2: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PM: Alright, thank you, then please proceed.

TRANS 1: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

PR 2: Members of the Board, we are the Personal Representatives for Suhayl Abduh Anam al Sharabi. Suhayl was extremely happy, when we made our initial visit to notify him of his entry into the Periodic Review Board process, and we were pleasantly surprised to see that Suhayl was very cooperative and receptive to meet with us. Indeed, he was anxious to get to know us and to tell his story. During our first meeting he explained his background, his childhood, his family, and the future he hopes to have.

As is the case in many families in his village, Suhayl comes from a very large family. His father and mother are both still alive and miss him terribly. He has three brothers that have started their own families and are productive members of society. Suhayl has three sisters that are married with their own families as well. They live peacefully in the same village and wish to stay together. Suhayl's family places a high value on respect and the golden rule of treating each other as they would like to be treated. Together they are ready to welcome him back and move forward with him.

UNCLASSIFIED
Approved for Public Release

One of Suhayl's passions is sports. In particular, he enjoys playing and watching soccer. He aspires to become a sports administrator for a soccer team someday. In the meantime, he continually follows and supports the Brazilian National Team, and he spends his time with other detainees discussing sports, and of course, his team's chances of winning the World Cup.

Since his time in Guantanamo, Suhayl has come to believe strongly in mutual respect. His fellow detainees would attest to this fact. He deeply desires to reunite with his family and to start one of his own. In terms of the conflicts in his homeland, he is saddened about the attacks and that innocent people are caught up in such terrible strife. He wishes to stay out of any and all conflicts. In fact, he wishes to stay out of other people's business and to focus on his own well-being and future. Suhayl has not expressed any ill will or anger about his detention at Guantanamo, and he has expressed the great sadness that this has happened to his family. While Suhayl would prefer to be transferred to an Arabic speaking country, it is not necessary. Suhayl is willing to take part in a rehabilitation program and wants to make it perfectly clear to the Board that he is not a threat to the United States. Suhayl looks forward to answering your questions.

UNCLASSIFIED
Approved for Public Release

PM: Thank you. Board Members may reserve our questions until the detainee and witness statements have been presented in their entirety. Does any Member of the Board have a question for the...

[PM conferring with Board Members]

PM: Sorry. Board Members may reserve their questions until detainee and witness statements have presented in their entirety. Does any Member board have a question for the Personal Representatives in this session?

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

[No verbal response from the members.]

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

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

[The public session closed at 0955, 1 March 2016.]

[END OF PAGE]

ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYM KEY

BM: BOARD MEMBER
CA: CASE ADMINISTRATOR
DET: DETAINEE
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)