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22 JULY 2019

GUANTANAMO DETAINEE PROFILE

Hani Saleh Rashid Abdullah
Abu al-Fadhl, Said Salih Said Nashir
Yemeni
29 September 1969
October 2002

Hani Saleh Rashid Abdullah (YM-841) traveled to fight in Afghanistan in June 2001, trained at al-Qa'ida's al-Farouq camp, and admitted to a close association with some of the group's external operations planners and senior leaders, including senior al-Qa'ida operative and 9/11 conspirator Walid bin Attash, better known as Khallad (YM-10014). Abdullah was one of the Yemenis arrested during the 11 September 2002 raids in Karachi, Pakistan, later labeled as the "Karachi Six," based on concerns that they were part of an al-Qa'ida operational cell intended to support a future attack. Based on a review of all available reporting, we judge that this label more accurately reflects the common circumstances of their arrest and that it is more likely that the six Yemenis were elements of a large pool of Yemeni fighters that senior al-Qa'ida planners considered potentially available to support future operations. Abdullah was probably intended by al-Qa'ida senior leaders to return to Yemen to support eventual attacks in Saudi Arabia, but he may not have been witting of these plans.