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PERIODIC REVIEW BOARD, JANUARY 28, 2014
ABDEL MALIK AHMED ABDEL WAHAB AL-RAHABI, ISN 37

**OPENING STATEMENT OF
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the board, I'm Lieutenant Commander [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Major [REDACTED] and I are the Personal Representatives for Abdel Malik Ahmed
Abdel Wahab Al Rahabi. Mr. David Remes, on my right/left, is Abdel Malik's Private Counsel.
To my right/left is our translator, (translator's call sign). Major [REDACTED] and I first met with Abdel
Malik on 25 July 2013, and have more than 45 hours of direct interaction. Over the past six
months, he has demonstrated enthusiasm and desire to participate in the Periodic Review Board
process. Throughout this process, Major [REDACTED] and I have worked closely with Abdel Malik and
Mr. David Remes, to provide you with information demonstrating that Abdel Malik does not
pose a significant threat to the security of the United States.

It is apparent to us that Abdel Malik desires to return home to Ibb, Yemen, and reunite
with his wife, his parents, and especially with his daughter, Aisha, who is now 13. If
transferred, he plans to teach, continue his education, and pursue a business of his own, which is
outlined in the Yemeni Milk and Honey feasibility report. He also has the ability to work for his
father as a tailor. The Periodic Review Board Summary also states that if he is released, he will
most likely return to his family. Based upon his strong family ties, his outside employment
opportunities and aspirations, his continuing education, and his compliant behavior, we believe
he will most certainly return to his family. After careful review of the documents we've
provided and hearing Abdel Malik's comments, we are confident you will share our opinion and
recommend that he be transferred.

Statement of Personal Representative, PRB Hearing for ISN 37

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Thank you for your time and consideration. Major [REDACTED] and I are happy to answer any questions you may have throughout this proceeding. We will now defer to Mr. David Remes for his opening statement.

Statement of Personal Representative, PRB Hearing for ISN 37

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**OPENING STATEMENT OF PRIVATE
COUNSEL DAVID H. REMES**

Good morning. I'm David Remes, private counsel for Mr. Rahabi. I have been Mr. Rahabi's lawyer since 2004. Covington & Burling is my co-counsel.

Here are the factors I urge you to consider in deciding Rahabi's case.

Looking first to his life as a detainee, Mr. Rahabi is compliant and the camp authorities consider him trustworthy. In 2009, the authorities decided to move most of the detainees from single cell detention to communal living conditions. They tested the waters by moving a selected group of detainees to limited communal conditions, and then to full communal conditions. At each stage, Mr. Rahabi was among the first detainees they moved. When they extended communal conditions to the general detainee population, they put Mr. Rahabi in a communal cellblock for the most compliant detainees.

During last year's hunger strike, in which Mr. Rahabi participated, the authorities moved the strikers back to single cell detention. When Mr. Rahabi ended his hunger strike, they returned him to the cellblock for compliant detainees. His blockmates elected him block leader. He has worked with camp authorities to ease the tensions between camp authorities and detainees that continue to smolder.

In the years before the hunger strike, the authorities offered detainees classes. Mr. Rahabi took practical courses, in English and business, with Saifullah Paracha, who has submitted a statement on his behalf. Mr. Rahabi also took courses for personal growth. Among these were art class, which gave him a love of watercolors. We have submitted examples of his fine colorings. Finally, Mr. Rahabi is one of the principal authors of a substantial business plan for an agricultural enterprise called "Yemen Milk and Honey Farms Limited." The report is stunningly

detailed, thorough, and comprehensive. It shows the detainees' broad knowledge of commerce, their dedication to constructive pursuits, and their awareness of the need to set returning detainees on a path to economic independence. We have submitted a copy of the report.

Looking to the life that awaits Mr. Rahabi when he returns to Yemen, Mr. Rahabi has a large and supportive family. Over three dozen relatives make the five-hour car journey from Ibb to Sana'a to participate in the family calls the authorities allow detainees every two months. Needless to say, Mr. Rahabi's parents, his wife, and his daughter, Ayesha, are present. Others include his brother-in-law Sadeq Muhammad Said Ismail, a former detainee (ISN 69), who was repatriated in June 2007. After being repatriated, Mr. Ismael returned to Ibb. He married and began a family. I have met him and his son. We have submitted videos and interviews with Abdalmalik's father, his wife, Ayesha, and Sadeq, which I conducted on January 14.

Ayesha is a beautiful girl of 13. Mr. Rahabi has not seen her since she was an infant. His face lights up at the mention of her name. He lives to see her. I spent time with Ayesha in July, when I visited Ibb with a news team. She was very shy but rose to the occasion. She brought us to tears softly singing a song for her father. Ayesha writes her father long, detailed letters about her life. She sends him poems and drawings of hearts, roses, and crescent moons. She even sends her report cards and teacher commendations. We have submitted samples of these items and copies of photos showing her growing up. Her writings are heartbreaking. I call the Board's special attention to pages 9-11.

When he returns to Yemen, Mr. Rahabi will continue his studies at university and use his education to teach. His father, Ahmed, who is a tailor, will employ him if need be. His whole family, Ayesha most of all, will keep him firmly anchored at home.