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PERIODIC REVIEW BOARD, April 21, 2014

**SALEM AHMAD HADI BIN KANAD, ISN 131**

**OPENING STATEMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the board, we are the Personal Representatives for Salem Ahmad Hadi Bin Kanad. To my right/left is our translator, (translator's call sign). Today, we will be presenting our case without the aid of a private counsel. We've met with Salem on multiple occasions and have learned a lot about him and his family. Salem has eagerly worked with us to prepare his case during the Periodic Review Board process, and we are eager to demonstrate to this board that he is a peaceful man. He has put his trust in us as his military personal representatives to guide him through the process and show to you that he should no longer be considered a continued significant threat to the United States.

To accomplish this, we would like to go over some factors for you to consider while deciding Salem's case. First, Salem has been a consistently compliant detainee. As stated in his UNCLASSIFIED Compendium, "[Salem] has not presented significant force-protection problems while at the Guantanamo Bay detention facility." A testament to his good behavior is the fact that he resides within a facility where only the most compliant detainees are authorized to live. It is the only camp in which the detainees are allowed to live in communal conditions. Residing within this camp means Salem has abided by a lengthy set of rules and guidelines established by the camp

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administrators. Second, during his detention he has become a trusted leader by his fellow detainees. In fact, his fellow detainees once elected him a block leader and entrusted him with the responsibility of addressing detainee issues with the security force. Third, Salem has taken it upon himself to maintain an exercise regimen that helps him stay physically fit and healthy considering the limiting conditions of the camp. All three of these attributes illustrate that Salem is a man capable of taking care of himself and his fellow detainees all while abiding by camp rules.

A common theme throughout our discussions with Salem has been his strong desire to return to a normal, productive life in Saudi Arabia. He would like to return to his home in Riyadh in order to reunite with his father, brothers and sisters; all of whom have no identified extremist affiliation. Once home, he plans to attend a vocational school to study English and Computer Science. He's confident those studies, along with the sales experience he gained while working in his father's auto detailing business, will set him up well for a career in sales and marketing. Most importantly, establishing a stable career will finally allow him to become a supportive father to his two daughters. Salem has repeatedly spoken of his two daughters and desperately wants to bring them home to Riyadh. He has never met his youngest daughter in person as she was only two months old the last time he saw her. He can't wait to make up for the time lost during her childhood. While providing for their needs he wants to urge both daughters to complete their educations. His youngest daughter is currently in elementary school and, through his regular phone calls, he has urged her to focus on

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her studies. Salem's goal for her would be to accomplish something he never did: complete her education through high school. His oldest daughter is currently learning to be a housewife, in accordance with their custom, but has shown great interest in sewing. Salem hopes to enroll her in a vocational school so that she can become a seamstress and pursue a job doing something she loves.

Salem also desires to rekindle his relationship with his father in order to be the loving son he should have been. His father is aging and has sold his business in order to retire. During our conversations with Salem it has been readily apparent that he would like to spend time with his father; making up for the time they lost. As a child, Salem worked for his father and helped with the business that provided a stable income for the entire family. Ultimately, he wants to take the work ethic his father taught him and apply that to his studies and career. He wants to be capable of providing financial support for his father, brothers, sisters and family once he is working.

In order for Salem to achieve his goals he will need the support of his family. In fact, Salem's family is praying for his transfer and is readily prepared to support him upon his return to Riyadh. His brother has contacted us stating the family is prepared to take Salem in and provide for his every need while he reestablishes himself as a productive member of the community. The Board can review the brother's statement in Exhibit 2. The family will provide him a place to live, support him financially, and assist with his enrollment in a vocational school to further his education.

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As you review Salem's case, we would like you to consider the person he is today, his goals of becoming a supportive member of his family, and his desire to reunite with his two daughters and father. We hope the statements provided show you the person we've gotten to know, and we believe Salem's written statement only bolsters our case. Salem is looking towards the future and the man that he wants to be. He wants to be a loving father, a supportive son, an educated man, and a productive working member of his community. He would like to live the rest of his life in peace. We believe the information and documents we've provided this Board fully support you finding that he no longer should be considered a continued significant threat to the United States of America.

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