Subject: Eyes Only - Details of November 2002 Interrogation Sessions with 'Abd Al-Rahim Husain Muhammad 'Abdu Nashir

Ref: None

Text:

Combine: Complete

1. Action Required: None, FYI. Also defer to headquarters on dissemination of all or part of the below in intel format.

2. Summary: On November 2002, day 16 of base aggressive phase interrogations of senior al-Qaeda operative 'Abd Al-Rahim Husain Muhammad 'Abdu ('Nashir), aka Mullah ('Bilal) (subject), subject was questioned for approximately one-and-a-half hours by HVT.
INTERROGATOR ON TOPICS RELATED TO CURRENT Threats TO U.S. INTERESTS. DURING THE INTERROGATION, SUBJECT EXHIBITED SIGNS OF RESISTANCE AND PROVIDED LITTLE NEW OR VERIFIABLE INFORMATION.

AFTER THE MORNING INTERROGATION SESSION CONCLUDED, SUBJECT WAS LEFT ALONE FOR APPROXIMATELY 45 MINUTES, A SECOND PLANNING MEETING WAS HELD, AND ORCHESTRATED A THEATRICALLY FLAWLESS "RESCUE" SCENARIO DESIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH FOUR THINGS, ALL AIMED AT DECREASING SUBJECT'S ABILITY TO PREDICT OR CONTROL EVENTS AS A RESISTOR:

- DISRUPT SUBJECT'S EXPECTATIONS OF EVENTS AND HOW HE CAN CONTEND WITH / CONTROL THEM;
- INCREASE SUBJECT'S ANXIETY FOR HIS SAFETY;
- INCREASE CONDITIONING OF LEARNED HELPlessness;
- INCREASE SUBJECT'S FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN.

OPENED BY TELLING SUBJECT IT WAS TIME TO GO TO WORK, AND THAT INTERROGATORS HAD TAKEN GREAT PAINS TO CLEARLY AND REPEATEDLY EXPLAIN TO SUBJECT THAT THINGS WOULD GO WORSE FOR HIM IF HE CONTINUED TO DELAY PROVIDING TRUTHFUL, COMPLETE INFORMATION ON THREATS TO U.S. INTERESTS. SUBJECT WAS TOLD THAT INTERROGATORS WOULD FACTOR HIS COOPERATION INTO THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HIS TREATMENT AT THE NEW, MUCH WORSE PLACE TO WHICH PROMISED SUBJECT HE WOULD BE GOING WITHIN DAYS. SUBJECT NODDED AND SAID HE UNDERSTOOD AND WOULD TELL EVERYTHING HE KNEW. SUBJECT WAS TOLD TO BEGIN BY TALKING ABOUT HIS KNOWLEDGE OF OPERATIONS THAT WERE EITHER BEING PLANNED,
DISCUSSED, OR CONSIDERED BY AL-QA’IDA OR ITS SUPPORTERS DURING
GATHERINGS TO OCCUR ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, "BUT ESPECIALLY IN THE GULF WHERE WE KNOW YOU HAD
RESPONSIBILITIES."

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11. [Blank] TOLD SUBJECT TO GET BACK ONTO THE TOPIC AT HAND:
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12. SAD THAT HE WAS NOT PLEASED WITH SUBJECT'S ANSWERS, AND THAT THEY WOULD CHANGE TOPICS TO GIVE SUBJECT ANOTHER CHANCE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, AND TO HOPEFULLY MAKE SUBJECT'S LIFE LESS INTOLERABLE AT THE "NEW PLACE" SUBJECT WAS GOING. SUBJECT WAS TOLD TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT AND ALIASES.

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25. "THOSE ______ SAID, POINTING TO TWO BLACK-SUITED SECURITY TEAM MEMBERS STANDING NEXT TO SUBJECT, "WERE PARTICULARLY
CHOOSEN BECAUSE THEIR BROTHERS WERE ________ AND THEY ARE VERY
AGITATED ABOUT WHAT YOU HAVE SAID AND NOT SAID. I SUGGEST YOU BE VERY
CAREFUL IN HERE." WITH THAT, ________ HOODED SUBJECT AND
DEPARTED, LEAVING SUBJECT STANDING AGAINST THE WALL. SECURITY TEAM
MEMBERS GUIDED SUBJECT TO THE CORNER OF THE CELL AND HAD HIM SIT
DOWN, AND LOCKED THE CELL DOORS AT APPROXIMATELY

26. ENACTMENT OF "RESCUE" SCENARIO: SUBJECT WAS LEFT ALONE FOR
APPROXIMATELY 45 MINUTES. BASE STAFF HELD A MEETING THAT INCLUDED
SECURITY TEAM MEMBERS. DURING THE MEETING, ________ EXPLAINED
PLANS FOR STAGING A FAKE RESCUE SCENARIO. ________ EXPLAINED THAT AS
WITH EVERYTHING IN AN INTERROGATION, THE THEATRICS WOULD NOT BE
GRATUITOUS, AND THAT THEY HAD A PURPOSE. THE FIRST PRIORITY OF ALL
INVOLVED WOULD BE TO NOT HURT THE SUBJECT, AND THE SECOND PRIORITY
WOULD BE TO MAKE THE RESCUE SCENARIO SEEM REAL ENOUGH TO THE SUBJECT
TO HAVE THE DESIRED EFFECTS, NAMELY FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN, A LACK OF
CONTROL OVER AN UNPREDICTABLE SCENARIO. ________ EXPLAINED THAT IF
SUBJECT FOUND WAYS TO "JUSTIFY" TO HIMSELF PROVIDING INFORMATION ONLY
UNDER THREAT, SUBJECT COULD BEGIN TO "CONDITION" INTERROGATORS' BEHAVIOR INSTEAD OF BEING CONDITIONED HIMSELF, AND THIS EXACT A
MEASURE OF CONTROL OVER HIS ENVIRONMENT. ________ LAID OUT AND
REHEARSED THE THEATRICS WITH FOUR SECURITY TEAM MEMBERS, WHO WERE
CAUTIONED REPEATEDLY TO MAKE A LOT OF NOISE, AVOID HURTING THE
SUBJECT, AND NOT TO SHOUT ANYTHING IN ENGLISH.

27. AT APPROXIMATELY ________ SECURITY TEAM MEMBERS
BURST INTO SUBJECT'S CELL, SHOUTING AND HOWLING, KICKING THE CELL
BARS, AND THROWING THE CELL DOOR OPEN WITH A SCREAM AND A CRASH.
SUBJECT WAS BROUGHT TO HIS FEET AND MOVED QUICKLY TO THE WALLING
PANEL. ________ - WHO COULD NOT BE SEEN BY HOODED SUBJECT - AND
SECURITY TEAM MEMBERS YELLED, KICKED THE CELL BARS AND SMALL BOX, AND
OUNDED THE WALLING PANEL WITH THEIR FISTS. THIS CONTINUED WHILE
PUT THE ROLLED TOWEL/NECK SUPPORT AROUND THE NECK OF THE
COWERING SUBJECT AND WALKED HIM FIVE TIMES. WHILE SHOUTING CONTINUED,
SUBJECT WAS TURNED AROUND AND LED BACK TO HIS CORNER. AT THIS POINT,
APPROXIMATELY 20 SECONDS AFTER THE TEAM FIRST ENTERED THE CELL,
SHOUTED ANGRILY IN ENGLISH, "WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON IN
HERE? YOU THERE, ALL OF YOU, GET OUT OF HERE." SECURITY TEAM ABRUPTLY
LEFT, WITH SUBJECT SITTING IN THE CORNER OF HIS CELL.

28. WITH THE CELL SUDDENLY QUIET, SUBJECT COULD BE HEARD
SOBBING, AND WAS SEEN TO BE SHAKING. ________ SQUATTED DOWN AND
REMOVED SUBJECT'S HOOD AND ASKED SUBJECT, "DID THEY HURT YOU? WHAT
HAPPENED?" SUBJECT SAID NOTHING BUT SHOOK HIS HEAD. ________ ASKED
AGAIN IF SUBJECT HAD BEEN HURT, AND ASKED SUBJECT, "WHAT STARTED
HIS, WHAT DID YOU DO?" AFTER DETERMINING, SUBJECT WAS UNHURT,
GOT TO FEET AND SHOUTED TO SECURITY TEAM TO SHUT THE
GATE. AFTER A MINUTE, ________ RE-ENTERED THE CELL WITH TRANSLATOR
AND REPEATED HIS QUESTIONS. SUBJECT CONTINUED TO CRY, BUT
SAID THAT HE WAS NOT HURT. SUBJECT WAS LEFT ALONE AND MONITORED
CLOSELY BY PSYCHOLOGICAL/MEDICAL TEAM FOR THIRTY MINUTES. HE COULD BE
SEEN CRYING AND BLOWING HIS NOSE, AND AFTER PERHAPS 10 MINUTES COMPOSED HIMSELF, AND COULD BE SEEN SITTING QUIETLY IN THE CORNER OF HIS CELL ON SOME TISSUE PAPER WHICH HE HAD CAREFULLY FOLDED INTO A PAD. JUDGED THAT THE RESCUE THEATRICS HAD GONE EXACTLY AS PLANNED AND HAD SERVED THEIR INTENDED PURPOSE.

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET