

Date: 20021201

#336-9

TO: ALEC

(b)(1)
(b)(3) NatSecAct

FROM:

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - DETAILS OF [] NOVEMBER 2002 INTERROGATION SESSIONS WITH 'ABD AL-RAHIM HUSAYN MUHAMMAD 'ABDU NASHIR

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TO: PRIORITY ALEC INFO [] (b)(1) DIRECTOR.

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TEXT:

COMBINE: COMPLETE

1. ACTION REQUIRED: NONE, FYI ONLY. DEFER TO HEADQUARTERS FOR (b)(1)
DISSEMINATION OF THE BELOW IN INTEL FORMAT. (b)(3) NatSecAct

2. SUMMARY: ON [] NOVEMBER, DAY 14 OF AGGRESSIVE INTERROGATION PHASE OF SENIOR AL-QA'IDA OPERATIVE 'ABD AL-RAHIM HUSAYN MUHAMMAD 'ABDU ((NASHIR)) AKA MULLAH ((BILAL)) (SUBJECT), SUBJECT UNDERWENT

TWO SEPARATE INTERROGATION SESSIONS. THE FIRST SESSION LASTED FROM 1000 - 1054 HOURS; SECOND SESSION LASTED FROM 1559 - 1610 HOURS LOCAL TIME. IN THE FIRST SESSION, INTERROGATORS REVIEWED WITH SUBJECT HIS CONTACTS

[Redacted]

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IN THE AFTERNOON SESSION, SUBJECT WAS ADVISED THAT [Redacted] HE WOULD BE MOVED TO ANOTHER FACILITY (DESCRIBED AS A MUCH WORSE PLACE) AND THAT HIS DEGREE OF COOPERATION NOW WOULD IMPACT THE SEVERITY OF HIS TREATMENT

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3. THE FIRST INTERROGATION SESSION ON [Redacted] NOVEMBER BEGAN AT 1000 HOURS, WHEN SECURITY TEAM, INTERROGATORS [Redacted] AND LINGUIST [Redacted] ENTERED THE CELL. SUBJECT, WHO HAD BEEN WALKED OVER TO THE WALLING WALL, HAD THE ROLLED TOWEL/NECK SUPPORT PLACED AROUND HIS NECK. INTERROGATORS BEGAN BY STATING THAT ARRANGEMENTS WERE BEING MADE FOR SUBJECT TO TRAVEL, AND THAT THIS TRAVEL WAS GOING TO TAKE PLACE IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS. SUBJECT WAS ADVISED THAT IN THE MEANTIME, HE WAS STILL GOING TO HAVE TO WORK, AND THAT THE QUALITY OF HIS WORK HERE WOULD DIRECTLY INFLUENCE THE QUALITY OF HIS LIFE IN THE NEW LOCATION. EITHER WAY, INTERROGATORS WERE GOING TO MAKE SURE THAT SUBJECT GOT HIS JUST REWARDS. INTERROGATORS ASKED IF SUBJECT HAD BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION TO MOVE HIS SMALL BOX. (BASE NOTE: SMALL BOX HAD BEEN MOVED BY SUBJECT OVERNIGHT TO THE FAR CORNER OF THE CELL, TO BLOCK THE VIEW OF SUBJECT'S WASTE BUCKET FROM DIRECT VIEW THROUGH THE CELL BARS.) SUBJECT SAID THAT HE WANTED TO ARRANGE HIS SPACE; INTERROGATORS INFORMED SUBJECT THAT THIS WAS NOT HIS SPACE AT ALL - IT WAS THEIR SPACE, AND HE WAS NOT TO DO ANYTHING WITH IT WITHOUT THEIR PERMISSION. INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT THEY HAD THINGS THEY WANTED TO ASK HIM, BUT FIRST WANTED TO KNOW WHAT SUBJECT HAD TO TELL THEM.

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5. INTERROGATORS THEN TOLD SUBJECT THAT HIS NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THEIR REQUESTS FOR ACCURATE, MEANINGFUL INFORMATION WAS REALLY ALL THEIR FAULT, FOR NOT CONDITIONING SUBJECT PROPERLY. LIKENING THE CONDITIONING PROCESS TO TENDERIZING A FINE STEAK, INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT THAT PERHAPS HE SIMILARLY JUST NEEDED CONDITIONING AND "TENDERIZING" TO BE READY FOR WHAT INTERROGATORS WERE ASKING OF HIM. SUBJECT WAS TOLD THAT IN THE PAST, HIS LIES AND DECEPTIONS WOULD HAVE MADE INTERROGATORS FURIOUS, BUT SINCE THEY NOW KNEW WHERE HE WAS HEADED, THEY REALLY JUST WISHED THAT SUBJECT HAD BEEN MORE FORTHCOMING WITH THEM. INTERROGATORS LAID OUT THEIR PLAN FOR SUBJECT WHILE HE CRIED: THEY HAD A LONG LIST OF QUESTIONS THAT WERE GOING TO BE ASKED OF SUBJECT, ONE BY ONE. BEGINNING WITH THE FIRST QUESTION, IF SUBJECT DID NOT PROVIDE THE ANSWER INTERROGATORS WERE LOOKING FOR, CONDITIONING METHODS WOULD BE APPLIED. THE PROCESS WOULD CONTINUE, QUESTION BY QUESTION, UNTIL SUBJECT BEGAN TO BE COOPERATIVE. SUBJECT WAS ASKED WHAT HE HAD TO SAY FOR HIMSELF: HE SAID THAT HE WOULD TELL EVERYTHING TO INTERROGATORS TRUTHFULLY.

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7. INTERROGATORS, POINTING TO THE SECURITY TEAM, ADVISED SUBJECT THAT THE MEN IN BLACK HAD ALL VOLUNTEERED FOR THIS JOB WHEN THEY HEARD SUBJECT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE USS COLE ATTACK, AND HAD SOMETHING TO AVENGE. INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT THAT THEY COULD NOT NECESSARILY GUARANTEE THAT THESE MEN WOULD NOT CHOOSE TO CONDITION SUBJECT IN THEIR OWN WAY WHILE SUBJECT WAS LEFT IN THE CELL WITH HIS HOOD ON AND INTERROGATORS WERE OUT OF THE ROOM. USING AN ATTENTION GRAB FOR EMPHASIS, SUBJECT WAS TOLD THAT INTERROGATORS NEVER THREATENED SUBJECT WITH SOMETHING THEY DIDN'T INTEND TO CARRY OUT. SUBJECT WAS ADVISED THAT INTERROGATORS KNEW SUBJECT HAD INFORMATION HE DIDN'T WANT THEM TO KNOW, AND THAT THE MEETINGS WITH MUKHTAR WERE ONLY ONE PIECE OF THE PUZZLE. SUBJECT AGAIN SAID HE WAS TRYING TO GO IN SEQUENCE, TO TELL ALL ABOUT MUKHTAR. INTERROGATORS DEMANDED SUBJECT GIVE THEM NEW INFORMATION ON MUKHTAR. [REDACTED]

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11. INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT TO LISTEN TO THEM, AND REPEATED THEIR STORY ABOUT THE MEN IN BLACK, AND THE SCORE THEY MIGHT LIKE TO SETTLE WITH SUBJECT. INTERROGATORS NOTED THAT WHILE THIS WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE GOOD FOR SUBJECT, IT WOULD LIKELY WORK TO INTERROGATORS' ADVANTAGE. INTERROGATORS WERE GOING TO LEAVE SUBJECT STANDING AT THE WALL FOR A WHILE, AND LET HIM THINK OF HOW TO HELP INTERROGATORS. TOLD AGAIN TO THINK, SUBJECT SAID THAT HE NEEDED SOME WATER TO DRINK, BECAUSE HE WAS DYING; INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT HE WASN'T DYING, NOTING THAT SUBJECT WAS ACTING LIKE A LITTLE GIRL.

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[redacted] CALLING SUBJECT A "SPOILED LITTLE RICH SAUDI," WHOSE "SISSY" CRYING WOULD EARN HIM NO SYMPATHY. INTERROGATORS DEPARTED THE CELL, LEAVING SUBJECT TO STAND AT THE WALLING WALL, HOODED, AT 1054 HOURS.

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12. THE SECOND SESSION OF THE DAY BEGAN AT 1559 HOURS WHEN SECURITY TEAM ENTERED THE CELL, AND MOVED SUBJECT TO SIT IN THE PLASTIC CHAIR BY THE BARS. INTERROGATOR [redacted] AND LINGUIST [redacted] ENTERED THE CELL, AND SAT IN CHAIRS ACROSS FROM SUBJECT. INTERROGATOR REMOVED SUBJECT'S HOOD, AND TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD SOMETHING HE WANTED TO TELL SUBJECT, AND WANTED TO MAKE SURE SUBJECT COMPLETELY UNDERSTOOD EVERYTHING INTERROGATOR HAD TO SAY. INTERROGATOR ADVISED THAT WE WERE UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT SUBJECT BELIEVED WE WOULD SQUEEZE ALL THE INFORMATION WE COULD OUT OF SUBJECT, THEN EXECUTE HIM; INTERROGATOR ADVISED THAT THIS WAS NOT THE CASE. THAT SAID, HOWEVER, INTERROGATOR ALSO BELIEVED THAT SUBJECT WAS HOLDING BACK INFORMATION AND DOLING IT OUT IN TINY PIECES BECAUSE SUBJECT BELIEVED THIS MIGHT PROLONG HIS LIFE. ASKED IF HE UNDERSTOOD, SUBJECT NODDED. SUBJECT WAS TOLD THAT THIS WAS NOT GOOD FOR HIM. IF SUBJECT DID NOT START TO PROVIDE USEFUL INFORMATION, WE WOULD TURN SUBJECT OVER TO "OTHER PEOPLE" BECAUSE HE WOULD BE OF NO USE TO US, AND THESE OTHER PEOPLE WOULD CERTAINLY KILL HIM. INTERROGATOR STATED THAT HE WANTED SUBJECT TO UNDERSTAND THAT HE INCREASED HIS CHANCES OF LIVING BY GIVING INFORMATION TO INTERROGATOR. BY NOT DOING SO, SUBJECT WAS INCREASING HIS CHANCES OF BEING TURNED OVER TO ANOTHER NATION.

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13. SUBJECT WAS TOLD THERE WAS ANOTHER THING: WE HAD OTHER PRISONERS WHO, AFTER SIX MONTHS OR MORE, WERE CONTINUING TO PROVIDE US WITH USEFUL INFORMATION, ALTHOUGH IT WAS NO LONGER NEW. THESE INDIVIDUALS WOULD TALK ABOUT THE AL-QA'IDA ORGANIZATION, HOW THE PEOPLE THINK, AND OTHER USEFUL SUCH INFORMATION. SUBJECT WAS TOLD THAT PEOPLE WHO PROVIDED CRITICAL INFORMATION UP FRONT, AND WHO WANTED TO HELP IN THE LONG RUN, ENDED UP LIVING IN MUCH BETTER CONDITIONS. THAT PRIVILEGE HAD TO BE EARNED, HOWEVER, AND SUBJECT HAD NOT YET DONE SO. INTERROGATOR ADVISED THAT ALL THESE CRITICAL PIECES WERE COMING TOGETHER NOW, AND THAT SUBJECT WAS GOING TO BE MOVED. INTERROGATOR'S FRIEND [redacted]

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[redacted] THE NEW PLACE, SUBJECT WAS WARNED, WOULD BE VERY BAD INDEED, BUT SUBJECT COULD AMELIORATE THIS SOMEWHAT BY THE DEGREE OF COOPERATION HE EXHIBITED NOW. SUBJECT WAS TOLD THAT IF HE THEN CONTINUED TO COOPERATE AT THE NEW PLACE, EVENTUALLY THE PRESSURE ON HIM WOULD CEASE, AND SUBJECT WOULD PERHAPS BE ABLE TO LIVE A LIFE WITHOUT THE FEAR OF DEATH. INTERROGATOR REMINDED SUBJECT THAT HE NEVER TOLD SUBJECT ANYTHING THAT WASN'T TRUE, AND WOULD ALWAYS DO WHAT HE TOLD SUBJECT HE WAS GOING TO DO. SUBJECT WAS ASKED AGAIN IF HE UNDERSTOOD; SUBJECT AGAIN NODDED. INTERROGATOR TOLD SUBJECT THAT THE ABOVE DID NOT CHANGE WHAT INTERROGATOR HAD PROMISED EARLIER AT THE WALLING WALL, AND DID NOT CHANGE THE SENTIMENTS OF THE MEN IN

BLACK OUTSIDE THE CELL. THIS WAS JUST A CLARIFICATION FOR SUBJECT. INTERROGATOR STATED THAT THE NEXT TIME HE SAW SUBJECT, HE WAS GOING TO ASK HIM ONE QUESTION; IF SUBJECT DID NOT RESPOND APPROPRIATELY, INTERROGATOR WAS GOING TO "TENDERIZE" HIM. INTERROGATOR TOLD SUBJECT THAT WAS ALL; INTERROGATOR AND LINGUIST DEPARTED THE CELL AT 1610 HOURS.

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END OF MESSAGE

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