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News Release

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Detainee Transfer Announced

The Department of Defense announced today the transfer of two Uighur detainees from the detention facility at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay to the Government of El Salvador. These detainees were subject to release from Guantanamo as a result of a court order issued on October 7, 2008 by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, and are voluntarily resettling in El Salvador.

As directed by the President's January 22, 2009, executive order, the interagency Guantanamo Review Task Force conducted a comprehensive review of these cases. As a result of that review, which examined a number of factors, including security issues, these individuals were designated for transfer by unanimous consent among all six agencies on the task force. In accordance with statutory reporting requirements, the administration informed Congress of its intent to transfer these individuals.

The United States coordinated with the government of El Salvador to ensure the transfer took place in accordance with appropriate security and humane treatment measures.

Today, 169 detainees remain at the detention center in Guantanamo.