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# After-Action Report - Welfare Visit Omar Khadr 30 August, 2007

# Camp 4 Accommodations:

- 1. There are five detainees in a pod/room. The doors to pods open at 04:40hrs to compound and stays open until midnight. The inmates have unlimited access to showers and toilets. They also have a 2-hour recreational activity every day that is separated in two parts, morning and afternoon.
- 2. There are eighteen people in the same block which is subdivided into groups of five, five, and three. The detainees are together all day or as long as the doors are open. The doors are closed during construction, searches, bad weather, thunderstorms or hurricane watches. There is also access to cold water.
- 3. Omar reported that there was a search while he was in the recreational yard on 29 August at 22:00hrs. The area was locked down from 6-6:30 p.m. for training, 9:00 p.m. for dinner, then again at 22:00hrs for a search. Omar told me that they don't have any warning before the periodic searches. He did complain that searches are conducted during his recreation time.

#### Observations:

- 4. On 30 August 2007, from 10:20-16:00hrs, this reporting officer conducted a welfare visit with Mr. Omar Khadr. He is approx. 6.1" and weighs 185lbs. He was wearing a white tunic at the time of the meeting. His pants were long and oversized at his request. He prefers to wear baggy clothes. Omar wears size 101/2 wide shoes.
- 5. He told me that he had lost some weight due to self-imposed dieting. He is concerned about his weight. It is one thing that he can exert control over. He told me that if he notices that he is gaining weight, he stops eating. His weight varies from 180 to 195lbs.
- 6. His hair is still curly and his beard is now longer. He told me that he intends to cut his hair when it starts to bother him. Omar's toe and finger nails are kept clean and short. He reported that he has acne on his forehead, chest and arms.

#### Medical:

7. Omar reported that he has experienced problems with his digestion. He has been given medicine to treat Acid Reflux Disease but he has refused to take the pills he has been given. He wants to be tested and examined before taking any medication. Omar has a confirmed appointment with a Gastroenterologist in October 2007.

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This is Exhibit "O " referred to in the Affidavit of Sean Robertson day

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- 8. Omar reported that he has been feeling fine both medically and dentally since our last welfare visit. He told me that while he was in camp 5 and 6 he experienced joint problems. Since he has been in Camp 4 however, the joint pain problems have subsided. He believes that this is a result of having more access to natural sunlight and physical activities. His stomach ailments are much better. He told me that the food in Camp 4 is more diverse. He is also permitted to share or exchange his food with other detainees.
- 9. Omar stated that he had twisted his ankle during a recreation activity. He was prescribed Motrin IB but he did not take the medication due to his dislike of drugs. He did not take it as he doesn't like to take any medication. He presented at the welfare visit with a rash on his left shoulder and chest, which appeared to be acne and heat pimples. He showed the rash to me and stated that it is itchy at times.
- 10. Omar has had some problems with head dander and dry skin. He was provided Head & Shoulders shampoo to help control the head dander. During my visit with Omar he appeared to no longer have a head dander issue. For his dry skin problem Omar was supplied with a lotion to moisturize his skin. The rash appears to be a minor superficial problem that can be corrected with a moisturizing lotion. His lotion supply has been depleted.
- 11. Mr. Khadr told me that he had injured his knee while running. Sometimes, he reported, his knee fails to comply with his wishes. He stated that his bones are flexible. He pulled the tendon and believes that the ligament cracked or is broken. He has complained to the medical staff about his knee injury. Omar was offered the option of having an Arthroscopic surgery performed. He does not want the knee surgery at this time. Before Omar does any sports activity, he does a few exercises with his knee to warm up.
- 12. Omar's vision difficulties persist. He recently had an ophthalmic examination and was informed by the doctor that there is nothing further that can be done to improve or resolve the problems with his left eye. He is currently taking eye drops to decrease the pressure caused by the 'traumatic glaucoma.' The eye ball pressure may possibly be affecting the optic nerve.
- 13. There is still shrapnel inside Omar's right eye which has caused a cataract to form. This vision problem can continue for some time. Omar will eventually require a surgical repair attempt. The facility Ophthalmologist informed Omar about the risks and benefits of surgery on his right eye. Omar is not willing to have the surgery at this time because there is a risk of bilateral blindness.

#### Dental:

14. He told me that he has not seen a dentist since our last meeting back in 2005. Omar stated that he may see a dentist upon request. He has not requested any dental services to date. His teeth are still white and appear to be in good condition. He brushes almost every day.

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# Psychological:

- 15. Omar has been sleeping well since he has been doing more activities. He is actually tired now at night. He did say that the nightmares are returning. The nightmares are identical as before: Captivity, running, trauma of Afghanistan. He dreams of his father as well.
- 16. Omar reported that he slept more due to boredom in Camps 5 & 6, The nightmares were more frequent and severe than those he is experiencing now. Omar complained that his headaches, although in frequent, are preventing him from sleeping. He said that they come and go but he doesn't report the problem to anyone. Omar knows that he has access to Tylenol for his headaches.
- 17. Omar said that he is trying not to have any interaction with the facility guards. He is envious of the other detainees who are being interrogated. They seem to get all kinds of stuff.
- 18. For relaxation Omar plays soccer, basketball, volleyball, ping-pong, which is difficult to play with just one eye. He also plays chess, dominos, cards and watches TV once a week. He wants to watch DVDs and regular movies instead of old programs that are currently aired in the camp.
- 19. According to Omar, mail sent by regular post is not received. He told me that the mail that his mother is sending to him by regular post is being returned to her. Letters sent through ICRC however are delivered. Omar informed me that he had written a letter to his mother earlier that week and had provided it to his US attorney.

#### **Comfort Items:**

- 20. Omar has requested the following items: Most of these comfort items were purchased in GBay and have since been delivered to Mr. Khadr.
- Moisturizer Lotion, moisturizer (Aveno)
- Shampoo (head and shoulders)
- Crayons
- Drawing paper
- Flexible pens
- Long socks (not allowed) Short socks are permitted
- Word games (sudoku, crossword puzzles, etc.) this is to keep his mind working
- 2008 calendar (not yet purchased)
- Powdered juices
- Sunflower seeds
- Snacks, candies
- Soap (zest)
- Toothpaste (Colgate)
- Toothbrush, Coloured Pencils, Combs (not allowed potential weapon threat)
- Deodorant stick

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- Running shoes (running shoes that were purchased are not acceptable as they have to be velcro and no laces)
- Olive oil
- Dried mint leaves to make tea
- Honey
- Dictionary English-Arabic Arabic-English (not yet purchased)
- White T-shirts that are soft (not yet purchased)

The GOC has since been given the right to send periodic shipments of the consumables (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, skin lotion, olive oil) and food items to Mr. Khadr by mail.

# **Questions from Omar:**

- 21. The following questions were asked during the welfare visit:
- A). Does his family have passports? His attorneys are telling him that they do have it but his mother wrote to him complaining that the GOC won't give them passports and that they are treated like war criminals and that since they have not been charged with anything, they should be able to be free to do whatever they want and leave the country on a Canadian Passport. He said that the GOC should be angry at his father and no one else. Why???
- B). Phone call: He wants to have another humanitarian phone call with his family member(s). He did not have any preference as to whom he wants to talk.
- C). Canadian doctor for a checkup: He was told that the GOC has been requesting for an independent medical evaluation and continues to make requests. This time, we will be making our request in conjunction with his legal team.
- D). Western food: He wants the same food at the MP's. When asked why and for a justification, he did not have any. He just said that David Hicks, the Australian had it when he was in GBay. Asked him what would he eat if he is served pork or meat that he doesn't like or want to eat. He said that if he cannot choose his meat, he would opt for salad instead. No other reasons provided for this request other than David Hicks had it and so should he. Mr. Khadr later on told me that he cannot eat any of the 'curried' meals that are being served since it flares up his Acid Reflux. Thus, based on this information, representation has been made with the SJA's office to have Mr. Khadr on a different diet (same as the guards and vegetarian meal(s) when pork is being served).

#### Education:

- 21. Omar has graduated from grade 8. He has requested books on biology because he wants to be a doctor. Additionally Omar would like a dictionary (English-Arabic and Arabic-English)
- 22. The following educational material and books were brought to Mr. Khadr. The reading materials were handed over to Mr. Khadr at the end of my second visit.

Compl. Mathsmart Grade 7

Compl. Mathsmart Grade 8

Compl. Englishsmart Grade 7

Compl. Englishsmart Grade 8

Canada: Pacific to Atlantic

Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows (book 7)

Sudoku

Crossword puzzles

Various magazines (cars, etc...)

## Religion:

- 23. The worship schedule and material available remains unchanged since the last report. There are a few books in the library. There are no Imams in Camp 4 but there is a leader in every block. Detainees are allowed to pray freely. Has never had any restriction on prayers.
- 24. Omar told me that the leader in his block said that he used to be his school teacher. He doesn't remember which grade but he did say that it was a long time ago. It was the leader in Omar's block that reminded him that he was Omar's teacher. Omar does not remember him at all from his school days.

# Legal Issues:

25. Omar has fired his first legal team. His new legal team is comprised of LCDR Kuebler, Rebecca Snyder and his two Canadian attorneys. He told me that they were okay for now.

## The following items were raised with the SJA's office:

- 26. Mail sent by Omar's mother through regular mail was returned to sender. They are looking into this matter. I have been informed that if the mother used any non-acceptable language/profanity the letter would have been returned to her.
- 27. Dictionary: I asked if it would be possible to purchase a dictionary for Mr. Khadr's personal usage since there is only one available in the library. I was informed that Mr. Khadr had already had one in his possession. That dictionary however was the one available in the library. It was ordered that the dictionary in the library be given to Mr. Khadr for his personal use.
- 28. Knee brace: Given that Mr. Khadr has a knee problem, it was requested if he could be issued with an elasticized knee brace. A request has since been sent to the medical department. It did not

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appear that there would any objections for Mr. Khadr to receive an elasticized knee brace.

- 29. Comfort items: A lists of these items was submitted to the SJA's office. A request was also submitted for the GOC to be able to send periodical shipments of consumables and other food items for Mr. Khadr by mail given that Consular Officer, Nancy Collins will be leaving shortly for maternity leave. This request was immediately approved by the SJA's office and by himself.
- 30. Courtesy phone call: A request was placed for another phone call to be placed with Mr. Khadr and his family of humanitarian and compassionate grounds for sometime in November. Arrangements are to be done shortly for this phone call to take place in the very near future. More details to follow by e-mail.
- 31. Diet: Given that Mr. Khadr is suffering from Acid Reflux Disease and his current diet consists of curried food items. Representation has been made for Mr. Khadr to be given a different diet of other proteins and vegetables just like the guards are being served in the camps. This request has been actioned by the SJA's office that same day for Mr. Khadr's diet to be changed immediately.
- 32. Dental: Given that it has been since March 2005 that Mr. Khadr had last seen the dentist, a request has been made for a follow-up appointment to be scheduled with the dentist.

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