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**Summary of Administrative Review Board Proceedings for ISN 555**

*The Administrative Review Board was called to order.*

*The Designated Military Officer (DMO) was sworn.*

*The Board Reporter was sworn.*

*The Translator was sworn.*

*The Detainee entered the proceedings.*

*The Presiding Officer announced the convening authority and purpose of the Administrative Review Board proceedings.*

*The Presiding Officer confirmed that the Detainee understood English and informed him that if he had any questions to refer to the linguist and the linguist would make any clarifications that the Detainee needed.*

*The Administrative Review Board members were sworn.*

*The Assisting Military Officer was sworn.*

*The Presiding Officer asked the Detainee if he wishes to make his statements under oath. (Muslim oath offered).*

Detainee: I am Catholic.

Presiding Officer: We can administer the appropriate oath if you would like.

Detainee: Yes sir.

*The Detainee accepted taking the oath.*

*The Presiding Officer read the hearing instructions to the Detainee and confirmed that he understood.*

*The Assisting Military Officer presented the Enemy Combatant Notification form, Exhibit EC-A, to the Administrative Review Board.*

*The Assisting Military Officer presented the Enemy Combatant Election Form, Exhibit EC-B, to the Administrative Review Board.*

Presiding Officer: Assisting Military Officer please read your comments from the Enemy Combatant Election Form.

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Assisting Military Officer: The Detainee's ARB interview occurred on 16 August 2005 and lasted forty-five minutes. After a review of the ARB's purpose and procedures, the English version of the Unclassified Summary of Evidence was read to the Detainee. English was the language spoken during the interview, but if we ran into difficulties with the language he would defer to the linguist for a translation. When asked if he wanted to attend the ARB, present a written or oral statement, or have the AMO speak on his behalf, he stated he wants to attend the ARB and speak on his own behalf. Afterwards, he stated he wants to respond to each allegation or statement of the Unclassified Summary of Evidence after it is presented. He also expressed a desire to speak openly to the review board. The Detainee was polite and very cooperative throughout the interview. At the conclusion of the interview, he was provided an English and Farsi version of the Unclassified Summary of Evidence.

*The Designated Military Officer presented the Unclassified Summary of Evidence, Exhibit DMO-1, the FBI Redaction Memorandum, DMO-2, and the Terrorist Organization Reference Guide, DMO-3, to the Administrative Review Board.*

*The Designated Military Officer stated that a copy of these exhibits had been previously distributed to the Assisting Military Officer.*

*The Designated Military Officer gave a brief description of the contents of the Unclassified Summary of Evidence, Exhibit DMO-1 to the Administrative Review Board.*

*The Detainee chose to respond line by line to the Unclassified Summary of Evidence. The Designated Military Officer read the Unclassified Summary to assist the Detainee with answering the statements.*

Designated Military Officer: (3) The following factors favor continued detention: (3.a) Commitment (3.a.1) The Detainee worked for a long time as a drug courier between Afghanistan and Iran.

Detainee: I worked for my country for a long time selling drugs. This [is] the first time I came [to] Afghanistan, not all the time. This is the first time. Before, I was selling drugs in my country. This is the first time I [went] from Iran to Afghanistan. This is my first time. I was working in drugs...this for my country...I [am a] seller. I am not a big man. I am a little man and I sell for somebody else for money in my city and in Iran. I never worked [selling drugs] for another country just Iran.

Designated Military Officer: (3.a.2) The Detainee had an Afghani person obtain a letter from the Hezb-e Islami Gulbuddin allowing the Detainee to cross the border from Iran to Afghanistan. The Detainee paid 5,000 in Iranian money (NFI).

Detainee: Yes sir. I had to come to Afghanistan and had to have someone else bring the [paperwork] for me to cross [the border] with the Afghani police. I gave some Afghanistan person 5,000 in Iranian money and he said I was with Hezb-e Islami

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Gulbuddin. I gave him my picture and my name and he brought me the paper for me to cross the border from Iran to Afghanistan. Do you understand me? My English is not very good.

Presiding Officer: Yes, we understand you and we will have some questions for you afterwards. If we don't understand we will ask the linguist to help us out.

Designated Military Officer: (3.a.3) Hezb-e Islami Gulbuddin (HIG) has long established ties with Usama Bin Ladin. (HIG) founder Gulbuddin Hikmatyar offered to shelter Bin Ladin after the latter fled Sudan in 1996. HIG has staged small attacks in its attempt to force U.S. troops to withdraw from Afghanistan, overthrow the Afghan Transitional Administration (ATA), and establish a fundamentalist state.

Detainee: I have never heard of this stuff. I don't know whom Hikmatayar was working for. I don't understand. I don't know who he was and I don't know who he is now. Hezb-e Islami is everywhere even in Iran and they exist in all cities in Iran. Even the Afghans that come to the border have to have some type of card, like an identification card. Coming from Iran to Afghanistan you have to have an I.D. card. I found out about this three days ago and prior to that I did not have any knowledge of it.

Presiding Officer: Found out about what?

Detainee: About HIG and the commander.

Designated Military Officer: (3.b.) Training: The Detainee was in the Iranian army in the 3-4 years before he went to Afghanistan. While in the military he was trained in basic drill and the AK-47.

Detainee: Yes, I worked for the Iranian Navy before, but not the Army, and not for 3-4 years. I worked for the Iranian Navy for 1 year and 6 months. In basic training the Iranians taught me the AK-47. In Iran you serve in the military for 2 years and I served 1 year and a half and then I [ran] away. I don't like the military.

Designated Military Officer: (4) the following factors favor release or transfer: (4.a) The Detainee has been diagnosed with a severe borderline personality disorder.

Detainee: Yes.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee answered no to questions about belonging to anti U.S. groups, attacking coalition forces, or plans to attack coalition forces if released.

Detainee: Yes sir, that is correct.

Presiding Officer: Thank you.

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*The Designated Military Officer confirmed that he had no further unclassified information and requested a closed session to present classified information relevant to the disposition of the Detainee.*

*The Presiding Officer acknowledged the request.*

*The Presiding Officer opened the Administrative Review Board to the Detainee to present information with the assistance of the Assisting Military Officer.*

Assisting Military Officer: The Detainee would like to make an oral statement.

Presiding Officer: Abdul Majid Muhammed you may begin your statement.

*The Detainee made the following statement:*

Detainee: I am here and I understand that before I was working in bad stuff, working with drugs. I was working with bad people in my country and now I almost...3 years and 9 months here and I have [not given] any problems for the U.S. Before I did not give any problems to anybody. I like peace for everybody and I like honor for everybody. After 3 years and 9 months here I don't have any detainee friends and that is because I am from Iran...I am Iranian...I am catholic I believe in Jesus, the Rosary Cross and the Holy Mary. Here [everyone] is Muslim and I don't like to disrespect any religion, Muslims, Catholics, Christians, or Jewish [people] are all human. In the 3 years and 9 months here the Detainees [have] thrown bad stuff on me, spit on me, and cursed me. Before I tried to kill myself and when I was in Camp 4, this Detainee said he had to kill me because I was not Muslim and because I was Iranian. I said to him if you need to kill me no problem. I am clear and when I die and go in the ground I know I will wake up and go beside God. For this I hold my life...for 32 years I never had any cares or had any fights...just all my love, peace, and a smile on my face. I needed to be a friend for everybody, young or old, man or woman, all of them. I look at everybody like [a] brother, sister, or mother. Yes, you guys are Americans and I am Iranian, but enemies, I say no. You are human and I am human. All of us are from one father and one mother, all one family. I have never killed anybody. Please sir, help me go home. Two months ago I got a letter from my home and one drug dealer killed my daughter. I have two kids. One is 8 years and one is 7 years old. Two months ago the one drug dealer that I have to give \$4,000,000 or I have to work in drugs. This is why I went to Afghanistan to find the \$4,000,000 and give it to him so I can take care of my family. I promised to God that I would stop drugs and everything and never go near any nicotine, any morphine, or any alcohol. I went to Afghanistan, this new government in Afghanistan, caught me and gave me to the U.S. for five bucks. Now, after 3 years and 9 months here, I [have not been] a problem for the U.S. and don't understand al Qaida, Taliban, or Usama bin Laden. Now I don't understand and don't want to understand. I just want to go home and take care of my family and take a clear job. Now after 3 years and 9 months here I understand everything. I understand drugs are not good...drugs are stopping my life...drugs are stopping...I lost my family...drugs...for this I lost my family. For 3 years and 9 months

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I have not seen my family. Before, when I went to prison in Iran 3 times, every week 2-3 times my family would come and visit me there and I did not understand anything, but I was happy. Now I understand drugs are not good. First, drugs make you lose your family and secondly drugs kill all the people. The drugs make you just...the drugs make young people come for heroin, cocaine, and hashish. For this I promise to my God and I promise to my son God, Jesus, if I go home I will never go around any nicotine, any morphine, or beside any alcohol. Why...because I need to be a clear man, a clear Catholic. Why? I don't know. Maybe because I walked in the past and I died and made God mad at me. I am here in this detention camp...not U.S. punishment for me...no, I am not thinking U.S. punishment for me, I am thinking this is God's punishment for me. I am here maybe for some reason...for my reason...maybe drugs. Now I understand drugs are not good and this [is] God's punishment for me. Give me a chance God...I am thinking God just give me a chance I am thinking...I will go lead another life. When I go home I will serve God and never sell any bad stuff. Thank you sir.

Presiding Officer: Thank you. Does that conclude your statement?

Detainee: Yes sir.

*The Assisting Military Officer had no questions for the Detainee.*

*The Designated Military Officer had the following questions for the Detainee.*

Designated Military Officer: If you went back home what would you do, what would you plan to do?

Detainee: If I have the chance to go home...if I go home from here I know I will have a good life. I am sure ninety to ninety five percent sure the government will kill me because I ran away from the military and I ran away from my country. I [set] fire to the Iranian flag because I want freedom and I don't like Iran. I set fire to the flag of Iran and my military uniform. The government [was] on my back telling me I took an oath and I promised to work for the military. I told them I did not want to work for the military. Also, I worked [with] drugs and I went to prison three times in Iran and I signed [papers] that said I would never [deal with] drugs. A friend told me drugs were good [and I could] make money. If I go home I will take a nice job [making] a little money. I think I will be an engineer or [a] mechanic on cars.

Designated Military Officer: Sir, no further questions.

*Administrative Review Board Member's questions:*

Board Member: How did you become a Roman Catholic?

Detainee: From my mother...my mother is Armenian.

Board Member: Where were you captured and by whom?

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Detainee: [I was captured in] Afghanistan.

Board Member: Who captured you?

Detainee: Afghani, Afghani...new government...police...the new government in Afghanistan.

Board member: Where?

Detainee: Ghazni.

Board Member: Were there other people around when you were captured? Were you by yourself when you were captured?

Detainee: I was by myself. I was near a small creek cleaning my clothes. I took a shower and was smoking a cigarette. I was just in Afghanistan with my head down, smoking, sitting and happy. I [went there] to find \$4,000,000 to give to this guy [so] I could go take care of my family. I saw 4 or 5 cars and all the people had AK-47 and RPGs. I was in a muscle t-shirt. They all ran up to me and said wake up, wake up. They said I was Arabic and I told them I was not Arabic. I showed them my passport and [told] them I was Iranian. They said no and broke my passport and hit me in the lip with an AK-47. After that [they took me by the arms], and for one week they did not give me anything but a little water. They said I was Arabic and that I was not good. I told them I [was not] Arabic and I [don't] understand or speak Arabic I speak Farsi and I am from Iran. After that I went to a big house and another five or six guys showed up. One guy said he understood Iranian people. He [told them] I was Iranian and that I was speaking Farsi. I told him I was from Shiraz Iran. They gave me food and stuff and said they would take me to Kandahar and then you can go to Iran. I said no let me go and then I will go home. He said I will take you to Kandahar and my boss will give you money and then you can go to Iran. They took me to Kandahar and kept me in a room with two Afghani guards with AK-47s. After a few hours in this room their boss came in and they took me to a back room and gave me to Americans. I saw a civilian [American] guy give them \$5 for me. The Americans put plastic shackles on me and took a picture of my head. After that they said I would go to the detention camp for a few days and then go home then I came here for 3 years and 9 months. They never asked questions about al Qaida or the Taliban just about drugs. I told them I did not have time to sit here [and have] conversation I have a short time, 3-4 months, to find \$4,000,000 to give to another guy and if I don't he is going to kill all of my family. They said O.K. and I [got sent] here and I have been here for 3 years and 9 months and I have not given U.S. people any problems. I told all the guards that they are my brothers and sisters. I like all of my sisters and brothers. I like all humans and we are all family. Muslim people may say that I am not good because America is not my family they are my enemy. I say no because American, Muslim, Afghani, or Iranian all come from one father and one mother, Adam and Eve.

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Board Member: You had a passport as well as the HIG document. Was the HIG document a document with a picture with some writing?

Detainee: Yes. For the HIG document I had one paper...

Board Member: Why wouldn't the passport get you into Afghanistan?

Detainee: I always kept it in my pocket. You don't use a passport. In Afghanistan you have to use the [HIG] paper.

Board Member: Did you know that there was a war in Afghanistan when you went there?

Detainee: No I did not. I never watched the T.V. or radio. I don't like T.V. and radio.

Board Member: \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000 is a lot of money. Did you really think you could get that much money in Afghanistan?

Detainee: Yes. An Afghani friend told me...I told him I did not want to work in drugs anymore. He said if I go to Afghanistan they have this drug and if you cut the poppy seeds you will make double that in one month. I was ignorant I believe everybody because I don't have any older brothers, I am the oldest in my family. I have two younger brothers and two younger sisters and I don't have a mother.

*The Presiding Officer read the post-Administrative Review Board instructions to the Detainee and adjourned the open session of the Administrative Review Board.*

*The Presiding Officer opened the classified portion of the session.*

*The Presiding Officer adjourned the classified portion of the session and the Administrative Review Board was closed for deliberation and voting.*

*(The Detainee interrupts with the following statement.)*

Detainee: How long should I wait? I don't have any problems with anybody here, so in your opinion how long should I wait for an answer? I don't have a lawyer; most prisoners have lawyers and are being represented by somebody. I am just here by myself and if you could give me an answer...I don't have any detainee friends I just stay in one room for 24 hours a day and they open it for 3 times to give me dinner then I just go to bed.

Presiding Officer: The Designated Civilian Official in Washington, D.C., once he makes a decision, a date will be set and you will be notified. We do not know an exact date to be able to give you that information.

Detainee: Will I have to wait for a year?

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Presiding Officer: The date has not been determined and once he comes up with a decision you will be notified.

Detainee: I promise when I go home I will not give any problems to anyone.

Presiding Officer: We understand and the board did get that message from you today and once we do our deliberation that information will be in our report to the civilian official.

Detainee: When I go home I will not sell drugs and go to another prison. I understand everything...I will go a smarter way. I understand drugs are not good and I will not sell any nicotine or morphine. I swear to Jesus and God.

Presiding Officer: We understand that and everything you have said will be in our report for their review and it will be taken into consideration when we do our writing. That is the best answer I can give you.

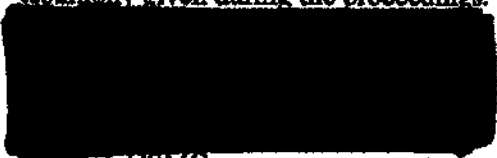
Detainee: Thank you sir. Two months ago I lost my daughter and this guy said if I don't give him money maybe next it will be my son, my sister, or my brother. That is why I don't want to sit here and [lose] my family. If I did not have a family, any brothers and sisters or kids, I would sit here with no problem.

Presiding Officer: The only thing I can think of right now is for you to get in touch with the International Red Cross to see what they can do for you in regards to your family.

Detainee: Thank you sir.

#### AUTHENTICATION

I certify the material contained in this transcript is a true and accurate summary of the testimony given during the proceedings.

  
Colonel, USMC  
Presiding Officer

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