



S E C R E T // N O F O R N // 20330125

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO
U.S. NAVAL STATION, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
APO AE 09360



JTF-GTMO-CDR

25 January 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, United States Southern Command, 3511 NW 91st Avenue,
Miami, FL 33172

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD) for
Guantanamo Detainee, ISN: US9AJ-000089DP (S)

JTF-GTMO Detainee Assessment

1. (S) Personal Information:

- JDIMS/NDRC Reference Name: Poolad Tsiradzho
- Current/True Name and Aliases: Polad Sabir Oglu Sirajov,
Abdullah al-Qawgazi
- Place of Birth: Baku, Azerbaijan (AJ)
- Date of Birth: 6 May 1975
- Citizenship: Azerbaijan
- Internment Serial Number (ISN): US9AJ-000089DP



2. (U//FOUO) Health: Detainee is in overall good health without any significant medical problems.

3. (U) JTF-GTMO Assessment:

a. (S) Recommendation: JTF-GTMO recommends this detainee for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD). JTF-GTMO previously assessed detainee as Continued Detention on 31 March 2007.

b. (S//NF) Executive Summary: Detainee is assessed to be a member of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) with ties to al-Qaida, the Taliban, and the Azerbaijani-based extremist organization al-Qaida Kavkaz.¹ Detainee's vetting in Afghanistan was directed by

¹ Analyst Note: The IMU is a National Intelligence Priorities Framework (NIPF) counterterrorism (CT) Priority 1B target. Priority 1B targets are defined as terrorist groups, especially those with state support, countries that sponsor

CLASSIFIED BY: MULTIPLE SOURCES
REASON: E.O. 12958, AS AMENDED, SECTION 1.4(C)
DECLASSIFY ON: 20330125

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an al-Qaida financier and his name is included on an al-Qaida affiliated document. Detainee participated in hostilities against US and Coalition forces and is assessed to have served as a fighter in Usama Bin Laden's (UBL) 55th Arab Brigade. Detainee also admitted serving as an armed member of the Taliban front line forces.² Detainee received militant training at al-Qaida's al-Faruq Training Camp and stayed at al-Qaida affiliated guesthouses. Detainee has expressed his continuing threat to US forces. JTF-GTMO determined this detainee to be:

- A **HIGH** risk, as he is likely to pose a threat to the US, its interests, and allies
- A **HIGH** threat from a detention perspective
- Of **MEDIUM** intelligence value

c. (S//NF) Summary of Changes: The following outlines changes to detainee's assessment since the last JTF-GTMO recommendation. (Changes in this assessment will be annotated by ➤ next to the footnote.)

- Added details to detainee's Prior History section
- Additional reporting regarding detainee's participation on the front lines
- Added reporting of detainee's description of a facility in Konduz

4. (U) Detainee's Account of Events:

The following section is based, unless otherwise indicated, on detainee's own account. These statements are included without consideration of veracity, accuracy, or reliability.

a. (S//NF) Prior History: Detainee grew up in Baku and attended the Abu Bakr Mosque. Detainee attended the Institute of Economics in Kayseri, Turkey where he also studied English. Detainee withdrew from the institute after two years because he did not want to study any longer. Detainee translated for a Turkish firm for approximately ten days but was not proficient enough for the job. From 1994 to 1996, detainee lived in Moscow, Russia (RU), working as a translator, common laborer, carpenter, and clothing salesman. In 1997, detainee worked at the Intersun Factory in Baku, AJ. From 1998 to late 2000, detainee claimed he served in a unit of the Azerbaijani Army and was stationed at a base near the city of Karabakh, AJ.³

terrorism or countries that have state organizations involved in terrorism that have demonstrated both intention and capability to attack U.S. persons or interests.

² Analyst Note: The 55th Arab Brigade served as UBL's primary battle formation supporting Taliban objectives, with UBL participating closely in the command and control of the brigade. Nashwan Abd al-Razzaq Abd al-Baqi, aka (Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi), ISN US9IZ-010026DP (IZ-10026), had primary operational command of the Arab Brigade, serving as UBL's military commander in the field.

³ 000089 KB 11-FEB-2002, 000089 State Dept - BAKU 24-JAN-2003, 000089 ICR 2410-0008 03-JUN-2002, 000089 SIR 7-AUG-2006, 000089 SIR 15-DEC-2005, Analyst Note: The institute may be the Erciyes University

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b. (S//NF) Recruitment and Travel: In February 2001, detainee departed Baku and traveled to Herat, Afghanistan (AF) via Iran to study the Koran and learn Arabic. In Herat, detainee met an unidentified Taliban official who directed him to Abdul Karim in Kandahar, AF. In Kandahar, detainee met Karim, who invited detainee to stay in his guesthouse before traveling to the front lines. Detainee stayed in the house for a while along with Taliban personnel who moved in and out of the house.⁴

c. (S//NF) Training and Activities: Shortly after meeting Taliban members in August 2001 in Khojahar, AF, detainee joined the local Taliban forces led by Ayoob Sultan. Detainee received an AKM 7.62 rifle and ammunition with no instructions on how to operate the weapon or its capability and served as a guard protecting food supplies. Ayoob Sultan led 500-1,000 local ethnic Pakistani men, and some Arabs and Uzbeks serving in units nearby. Detainee noted Sultan's immediate supervisor was Obaidullah.⁵ In September 2001, detainee sustained injuries to his shoulder from a Northern Alliance artillery attack and departed the front lines and traveled to Konduz, AF.⁶

5. (U) Capture Information:

a. (S//NF) Detainee surrendered to Northern Alliance forces near Mazar-e-Sharif, AF in November 2001 and was transported to the Qala-i-Jangi Prison at Mazar-e-Sharif, AF. The following morning (25 November 2001), the prisoners revolted, resulting in a protracted firefight against US and Coalition forces at the prison. Surviving prisoners took cover in the prison's basement. After seven days, the prisoners surrendered and were taken to the Sheberghan Prison. Detainee was then transferred to US custody in Kandahar no later than January 2002.⁷

b. (S) Property Held: None

located in Kayseri where it is mandatory for a student to learn one year of English prior to taking their college curriculum. Karabakh is a regional area of conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia. Detainee reportedly speaks several languages including English, Russian, Farsi and Urdu.

⁴ 000089 302 21-APR-2002, IIR 2 340 6088 02; Analyst Note: Detainee provided conflicting accounts of the house.

⁵ 000089 KB 11-FEB-2002, 000089 MFR 23-MAR-2002, Analyst Note: Khojahar is probably Khwaja Ghar, AF, a front line area near the border with Tajikistan. Mullah Obaidullah Akhund was deputy to Taliban supreme commander Mullah Mohammad Omar, and was captured on 2 March 2007 by Pakistani security forces. All supplies such as money, food, clothing, and ammunition, came from Obaidullah

⁶ 000089 KB 11-FEB-2002, IIR 6 034 0147 02; Analyst Note: AKM is an upgraded version of the standard AK-47.

⁷ 000089 KB 11-FEB-2002, 000089 SIR 15-APR-2005; Analyst Note: Dostum's forces took the prisoners to the Qala-i-Jangi prison located outside Mazar-e-Sharif, AF, on 24 November 2001. After a night in captivity, the prisoners revolted leading to the deaths of a number of soldiers of the Northern Alliance and CIA operative Johnny "Mike" Spann. Prisoners who survived suppression of the revolt hid in the basement until re-captured and transferred to Sheberghan Prison. See IIR 6 034 0382 02, Deception at Qala-i-Jangi Prison – USSOC – May 2005.

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c. (S) Transferred to JTF-GTMO: 14 January 2002

d. (S//NF) Reasons for Transfer to JTF-GTMO: To provide information on the following:

- Arab fighters participating in hostilities against US and Coalition forces in Afghanistan

6. (S//NF) Evaluation of Detainee's Account: Detainee's story provides a basic timeline, but he resists revealing full details of his intentions, activities, and associates in Afghanistan. He omitted details of past extremist activities and affiliations with Azerbaijani-based Islamic organizations. He has not been forthcoming about relationships with senior al-Qaida, Taliban, and IMU personnel and training or about his possible involvement in al-Qaida's financial network and his activities in Azerbaijan.

7. (U) Detainee Threat:

a. (S) Assessment: Detainee is assessed to be a **HIGH** risk, as he is likely to pose a threat to the US, its interests, and allies.

b. (S//NF) Reasons for Continued Detention: Detainee is assessed to be a member of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) and an al-Qaida associate. Detainee has ties with Tohir Yuldashev, the leader of the IMU, and Amiraslan Iskenderov, the leader of the al-Qaida Kavkaz. Detainee's vetting in Afghanistan was directed by an al-Qaida financier. Detainee participated in hostilities against US and Coalition forces on the front lines and is assessed to have served as a fighter in UBL's 55th Arab Brigade under IZ-10026. Detainee admitted serving as an armed member of the Taliban. Detainee received militant training at al-Qaida's al-Faruq Training Camp and stayed at al-Qaida affiliated guesthouses. Detainee's name is included on an al-Qaida affiliated document and he has expressed his continuing threat to the US.

- (S//NF) Detainee is assessed to be a member of the IMU.
 - (S//NF) Azerbaijani Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported detainee followed radical Wahabism. In 2000, detainee separated from the military and attended "special training" at the Abu-Bakr Mosque.⁸ Detainee received a new passport 16 December 2000 and informed his family of his intention to perform the *hajj*

⁸ 000089 State Dept - BAKU 24-JAN-2003; TD-314/19379-05, Analyst Note: The Abu Bakr Mosque is the largest mosque in the Caucasus region and was a center of Azerbaijani Sunni-backed radical Islamic activities. Wahabism is a Sunni-based Islamic ideology.

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- (pilgrimage) to Saudi Arabia in 2001. However, detainee secretly departed Azerbaijan and traveled to Kandahar to meet with IMU leadership.⁹
- (S//NF) After arriving in Kandahar in February 2001, the al-Qaida chief financial officer Shaykh Said al-Masri tasked Amiraslan Iskenderov, aka (Khalid), to vet detainee for reliability.¹⁰ Detainee then met with IZ-10026 and Tohir Yuldashev, the leader of the IMU.¹¹
 - (S//NF) Detainee claimed an unidentified elderly Uzbek man escorted detainee to the Makhad Madrassa in Kandahar where detainee met Amiraslan Iskenderov.¹² Detainee reportedly acknowledged meeting Yuldashev.¹³
 - (S//NF) In late February 2001, Amiraslan Iskenderov introduced detainee to IZ-10026. Iskenderov stated IZ-10026 escorted detainee from Kandahar to Kabul for the meeting with Yuldashev. Detainee stayed in a guesthouse where IZ-10026 and individuals associated with the IMU were residing.¹⁴
 - (S//REL USA, AUS AND NATO) Ali Abdul Motalib Awayd Hassan al-Tayeea, US9IZ-000111DP (IZ-111), confirmed detainee knew IZ-10026 as well as Abdul Hamas.¹⁵ (Analyst Note: Abdul Hamas is probably IZ-10026's subordinate, Abdullah Hamas. Hamas was responsible for the storage and distribution of weapons to fighters going and coming from the front lines in Kabul.¹⁶)
 - (S//NF) The Azerbaijani Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated detainee's actions violated provisions stipulated under Paragraph 17, Article 114, on war crimes of the Azerbaijan Republic Criminal Code. Azerbaijani officials stated documents provided by US authorities would be added to the criminal charges against detainee.¹⁷
 - (S//NF) Detainee participated in hostilities against US and Coalition forces on the front lines and is assessed to have served as a fighter in UBL's 55th Arab Brigade.

⁹ 000089 State Dept – BAKU 24-JAN-2003; CIR 316-06030-07; TD-314/03652-05; Analyst Note: In 2001, hajj began on 24 February 2001. Detainee was able to cross the border with assistance from local ethnic Uzbeks.

¹⁰ TD-314/03652-05, TD-314/66170-04, TD-314/65917-04. Analyst Note: Shaykh Said al-Masri is an al-Qaida financier and facilitator with long standing ties to Usama bin Laden. Amiraslan Iskenderov was the leader of the Azerbaijani-based al-Qaida Kavkaz terrorist group. Although not identified as an individual NIPF priority, the Kavkaz may fall under the category of the North Caucasus Islamic Extremists, an NIPF Priority 2B target as a group that maintains a capability or group that has demonstrated capability and intention to attack US interests.

¹¹ TD-314/03652-05, TD-314/65917-04

¹² TD-314/03652-05, TD-314/64691-04

¹³ 000089 SIR 11-Jan-2008

¹⁴ TD-314/03652-05, TD-314/66170-04, TD-314/64691-04

¹⁵ IIR 6 034 0015 04, 000111 MFR 22-JUN-2002

¹⁶ >TD-314/26004-07

¹⁷ 000089 State Dept – BAKU 24-JAN-2003; Analyst Note: Detainee has not been formally charged. In an earlier report, the Azerbaijani Ministry of National Security (MNS) noted his actions fall under Article 114.3 of the criminal code (mercenary service) of the Republic of Azerbaijan and it is highly likely the existing charges against detainee would lead to a conviction.

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- (S//NF) Analyst Note: Detainee carried a weapon and received injuries on the front lines. Detainee retreated to Konduz and was subsequently captured in November 2001. These events coincide with the Taliban retreat from the front lines following US and Coalition action in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. Detainee therefore participated in hostilities against US and Coalition forces. Detainee's secretive departure from Azerbaijan and affiliation with IZ-10026 and Taliban forces indicates detainee traveled to Afghanistan to participate in jihad.
- (S//NF) Detainee admitted service as an armed guard under the command of Ayoob Sultan for the Taliban.¹⁸ Detainee noted when he sustained injuries to his shoulder from a Northern Alliance artillery attack, he left the front lines and traveled to Konduz.¹⁹ Detainee was eventually taken to the prison in Sheberghan for approximately 20 days with other Uzbeks.²⁰ (Analyst Note: The only reporting on Ayoob Sultan comes from detainee indicating he has probably provided a false name for the identity of his commander.)
 - (S//NF) Mahmoud Omar Muhammad Bin Atef, ISN US9YM-000202DP, (YM-202) stated detainee was in Khwaja Ghar. Detainee was wounded in Khwaja Ghar and recuperated in the Konduz area.²¹
 - (S//NF) Al-Qaida member, John Walker Lindh, identified detainee as part of a larger group en route Konduz and he had an injured shoulder.²²
- (S//NF) IZ-111 reported detainee was present the front lines with IZ-10026.²³ (Analyst Note: In 2001, IZ-10026 was the commander of the al-Qaida affiliated forces fighting in UBL's 55th Arab Brigade.)
- (S//NF) The leader of the al-Qaida Kavkaz terrorist group, Amiraslan Iskenderov, stated detainee participated in fighting in Konduz and Herat in November 2001; was imprisoned at Mazar-e-Sharif; and eventually transferred to JTF-GTMO.²⁴
- (S//NF) Tsabit Vokhidov, ISN US9TI-000090DP (TI-090), recognized detainee as an Azerbaijani he saw at Sheberghan Prison. (Analyst Note: Sheberghan Prison served as collection point for fighters captured by the Northern Alliance and Coalition forces.)²⁵
- (S//NF) Detainee received militant training at the al-Qaida al-Faruq Training Camp and stayed at al-Qaida affiliated safe houses.

¹⁸ 000089 KB 11-FEB-2002, 000089 MFR 23-MAR-2002

¹⁹ 000089 KB 11-FEB-2002, IIR 6 034 0147 02

²⁰ SIR 15-APR-2005

²¹ >000202 SIR 03-OCT-2007

²² John Walker Lindh FM40 12-SEP-2002

²³ > 000111 MFR 27-JAN-2003, Analyst Note: Additional details of IZ-10026's affiliation to the Arab Brigade are found in footnote 2.

²⁴ TD-314/65917-04, For additional information on Kavkaz, see TD-314/82573-07, DIA JTF-CT S-902-07 JTA-31 16-Nov-07, and TD-314/65127-07.

²⁵ 000090 302 24-MAR-2002

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- (S//NF) Iskenderov stated detainee attended the al-Faruq Training Camp in late March 2001.²⁶
- (S//NF) Corroborating Iskenderov's statement, IZ-111 reported detainee trained at the al-Faruq Training Camp with John Walker Lindh. IZ-111 also saw detainee at the Darul Aman Guesthouse in Kabul.²⁷
- (S//NF) John Walker Lindh reported detainee attended basic training at al-Faruq. Basic training included the advanced topography course.²⁸
- (S//NF) Detainee reported he and a group of Arabs stayed at a Pakistani house in Konduz while recuperating from injuries.²⁹
- (S//NF) Detainee admitted he stayed in the Kabul guesthouse, where individuals associated with the IMU to include IZ-10026, resided.³⁰ (Analyst Note: The Kabul facility was possibly the Darul Aman.)
- (S//NF) A variant of detainee's name was included on an al-Qaida affiliated document recovered during a raid on an al-Qaida safe house in Karachi, PK on 11 September 2002. The document listed the contents of detainee's trust account as an Azerbaijani passport.³¹ (Analyst Note: Such lists are indicative of an individual's residence within al-Qaida, Taliban, and other extremist guesthouses, often for the purpose of training or coordination prior to travel to the front lines or abroad. Trust accounts, also referred to as safety boxes or safety deposit boxes, were simply storage compartments, such as envelopes or folders, which guesthouse administrators used to secure the individual's personal valuables, such as passports and plane tickets. These items were entrusted to the guesthouse until completion of training or other activity.)
- (S//NF) Detainee has expressed his continuing threat to US forces.
 - (S//NF) Detainee stated the US runs the entire world and has corrupted other societies with its blasphemies, citing television and homosexuality as examples. Detainee also stated he believed the 11 September 2001 attacks were justified.³² When asked if he would return to Afghanistan to fight against Americans, detainee's response was "What has America ever done for me?"³³

(S//NF) Detainee's Conduct: Detainee is assessed to be a **HIGH** threat from a detention perspective. Detainee's overall behavior has been non-compliant and hostile to the guard force and staff. Detainee currently has 52 Reports of Disciplinary Infraction listed in DIMS with the most recent occurring on 30 October 2007, when he possessed of a cup of Kidney beans found

²⁶ TD-314/65917-04, Analyst Note: Variants of Faruq include Farouq and Farukh.

²⁷ 00111 MFR 22-JUN-2002, IIR 6 034 0015 04

²⁸ John Walker Lindh FM40 12-SEP-2002

²⁹ 000089 SIR 22-MAY-2007,

³⁰ >000089 SIR 14-DEC-2007, TD-314/03652-05, TD-314/65917-04

³¹ TD-314/40693-02, Analyst Note: Detainee was listed as Boulad (Poulad) Seiragoff, a variant for Polad Sirajov

³² 000089 SIR 31-AUG-2007

³³ 000089 302 21-APR-2002

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underneath his prayer rug. Detainee has seven Reports of Disciplinary Infraction for assault with the most recent occurring on 11 December 2006, when he threw a cup of urine and feces at a guard. Other incidents for which detainee has been disciplined include inciting and participating in mass disturbances, assaults, failure to follow instructions and camp rules, threatening the guard force, damage to government property, provoking words and gestures, and possession of food and non-weapon type contraband. In 2007, detainee had a total of eight Reports of Disciplinary Infraction and none so far in 2008.

8. (U) Detainee Intelligence Value Assessment:

a. (S) Assessment: Detainee is assessed to be of **MEDIUM** intelligence value. Detainee's most recent interrogation session occurred on 14 January 2008.

b. (S//NF) Placement and Access: Detainee was a probable member of Kavkaz from 1996 to 2001. Detainee was part of the Azerbaijani Army from 1998 to 2000. Throughout 2001, detainee had direct access to senior extremist leaders to include Iskenderov (Kavkaz leader), Yuldashev (IMU leader), and IZ-10026 (senior al-Qaida operative). Between February and March 2001, detainee probably stayed at IZ-10026's safe house and possibly received unidentified training. Additionally, between March and November 2001, detainee possibly had access to the inter-workings of the al-Qaida financial network that supported anti-Coalition activities. Detainee attended al-Faruq during the spring of 2001. In late 2001 and early 2002, detainee spent time in the Sheberghan Prison provided him access to multiple detainees including survivors of the Qala-i-Jangi Prison uprising.

c. (S//NF) Intelligence Assessment: Detainee's past history needs extensive research to gain specific information on Azerbaijani-based extremist recruitment, training, and activities. Detainee probably has information related to the Abu Bakr Mosque, the Caucasus's largest and leading radical institute, to include personnel, training programs, and relationships with Islamic movements. Information about detainee's trip from Azerbaijan to Afghanistan may yield important data on recruitment and movement procedures to include Iranian internal support mechanisms, Iranian border crossing procedures, and possible use of the Caspian Sea ingress routes. Detainee has information about al-Qaida recruitment processes including specific relations between al-Qaida, Taliban, IMU, Kavkaz, and Pakistan-based organizations. Detainee's relationships with Amiraslan Iskenderov, Tohir Yuldashev, and Ayoob Sultan require further analysis. Detainee's stay at IZ-10026's safe house needs investigation to determine what type of training IZ-10026 offered and the biographical information on those Taliban members who received such training. Detainee's affiliation with several al-Qaida financial personnel requires an extensive look. Discovery of al-Qaida's processes and procedures for moving money in and around southwest Asia. Detainee's financial affiliation and relationships with Shaykh Said al-Masri, IZ-10026, and Abdullah Hassam need further investigation. In-depth analysis of the recruitment and

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training of foreign fighters entering Afghanistan could provide intelligence applicable to current US counter-terrorism operations. Detainee probably has information pertaining to the 55th Arab Brigade to include infrastructure, recruitment processes, command lines, financial support, and training programs. Detainee requires exposure to photos and stories of Sheberghan prisoners to fully exploit information he has from his time inside the Sheberghan Prison, specifically any details pertaining to the killing of a CIA operative during the Qala-i-Jangi Prison uprising. Detainee has information relating to his timeline lapses to include 1992-1994, 1996-1998, travel time from Azerbaijan to Afghanistan, and two significant time lapses while in Afghanistan.

d. (S//NF) Areas of Potential Exploitation:

- Detainee requirements on training
- Insurgent and terrorist money laundering
- Terrorist biographical/psychological information
 - Caucus, Afghan and Uzbek extremist networks
- Terrorism: Radicalization factors
- Location of military and civilian medical facilities
- Terrorist foreign fighters-finance/funds
 - Azeri military and extremist organization support to Chechen Jihad
 - Al-Qaida's southwest Asia recruitment and financial support in AF
 - Pakistani-based support to Taliban and al-Qaida
- Terrorist/foreign fighters leadership and network

9. (S) **EC Status:** Detainee's enemy combatant status was reassessed on 8 October 2004, and he remains an enemy combatant.

vr,

 MARK H. BUZBY
 Rear Admiral, US Navy
 Commanding

* Definitions for intelligence terms used in the assessment can be found in the Joint Military Intelligence College October 2001 guide *Intelligence Warning Terminology*.