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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO
GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
APO AE 09360

JTF GTMO-CG

30 August 2003

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

SUBJECT: (S) Recommendation to Retain under DoD Control for Guantanamo Detainee, Ahmad Abd Al Rahman Ahmad, ISN: US9SP-000267DP

1. (S) **Personal Information:** Ahmad Abd Al Rahman Ahmad is a Spanish national, born in 1974 (age 29) in Cueta, Spain. He has been diagnosed with latent Tuberculosis and Primary Insomnia, but is otherwise in good health.

2. (S) **Detention Information:** Subject detainee stated that from 1990-1995 he worked doing building construction, when he could find work, otherwise he was a small time thief and a drug dealer. In 1993 he was inducted in the Spanish Army for one year where he was a private and a cook. Detainee stated that after being discharged from the army he went back to Ceuta, Spain and worked in a fish market and along with his brothers, continued to sell drugs. In 1999, he and his brothers became involved in the Jamaat Tablighi and he traveled to Morocco at the invitation of an extremist recruiter. While in Morocco he became interested in the Chechnya Jihad and he was recruited by a man named "Naiz". Detainee stated that Naiz showed them videos of Jihad in Chechnya and convinced him to join them. Naiz took the detainee to the United Kingdom (UK) and paid for his trip. After arriving in the UK in May 2001 he started worshiping at the Nor mosque in London. He supplemented the income he received from his brother by selling drugs at a disco where he worked. In July 2001 the detainee traveled with Naiz to France, then onto Spain where they parted company. Naiz gave the detainee a \$1000 USD and instructed him to travel to Afghanistan via Iran to begin his military/terrorist training. [Field note: Travel through Iran is a known modus operandi for Al-Qaida operatives to get into Afghanistan via a chain of Al-Qaida safehouses and operatives.] Prior to departing for Afghanistan, the detainee was told that once he completed his training he would return to Spain and await further instructions. The detainee departed for Afghanistan via Tehran, Iran in early August 2001. After arriving in Afghanistan he contacted a man named Abu Mundir, a Moroccan, and under the direction of Naiz, Abu Mundir facilitated detainee's entry into the training camp. After arriving in a training camp

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outside of Kabul, the detainee claims he was only instructed on the use of AK-47's. [Field note: Detainee's description of his training is fabricated in order to minimize his involvement and it's assessed that he has had several layers of advanced weapons training to include the use of explosives]. Detainee claims that after the events of September 11th 2001, he was given a choice either to leave or stay and fight. His choice was to leave. He traveled with a group of Arabs as they attempted to flee across the Pakistan border, however they were all arrested by Pakistani soldiers. [Field note: Detainee was involved in the incident in which one of the transport buses was hijacked by Arab detainees and the Pakistan guards were murdered.] Detainee was turned over to American custody in early January 2002. Detainee was subsequently transported to Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba on 11 February 2002 because of his knowledge of information on the issue of illegal Iranian travel visas from an unidentified person in the Iranian Embassy in Madrid, Spain, and suspicion of being affiliated with Al-Qaida.

3. (S) **Reasons for Detention:** Detainee is assessed as an Al-Qaida recruit and operative who was recruited to complete advance schools, specializing in weapons, explosives, and tactics, who would then returned to Spain and became part of the European Al-Qaida terrorist network. Sensitive reporting indicates the detainee and his brothers are key individuals in the Spanish network of Islamic extremists. He has been indirectly linked to Barakat Yarkas, an associate of UBL in Spain. Detainee was recruited because of his extremist views and dedication to its goals and has continued to espouse his extremist views. He remains dedicated to the cause of Jihad against the US.

4. (S) **Assessment:** Based on information collected and available to Joint Task Force Guantanamo as of 15 August 2003, detainee ISN: US9SP-000267DP is assessed as being a member of Al-Qaida. Moreover, based on the detainee's folder, the knowledgeability brief, and subsequent interrogations by JTF Guantanamo, the detainee is of moderate intelligence value to the United States. Based on the above, detainee poses a high threat to the U.S., its interests and its allies.

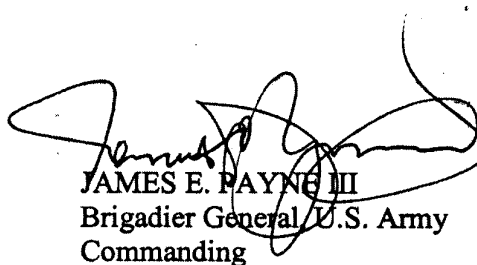
5. (S) **Recommendation:** In view of the foregoing, I recommend subject detainee be retained under DoD control.

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6. (C) **Coordination:** JTF Guantanamo notified the Criminal Investigative Task Force of this recommendation on 23 August 2003, who previously disapproved the detainee's transfer on 11 April 2003.



JAMES E. PAYNE III
Brigadier General U.S. Army
Commanding

CF: CITF-GTMO

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