

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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



JTF-GTMO-CDR 20 February 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, United States Southern Command, 3511 NW 9lst Avenue, Miami, FL 33172

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD) for Guantanamo Detainee, ISN: US9AF-000006DP (S)

JTF-GTMO Detainee Assessment

1. (S) Personal Information:

- JDIMS/NDRC Reference Name: Mullah-Norullah Nori
- Current/True Name and Aliases: <u>Mullah Norullah Noori</u>, Mullah Nuri, Noor Muhammad, Noorudeen, Hafiz Noorullah
- Place of Birth: Shajoy, Zabul Province, Afghanistan (AF)
- Date of Birth: 1967
- Citizenship: <u>Afghanistan</u>
- Internment Serial Number (ISN): US9AF-000006DP
- 2. (U//FOUO) Health: Detainee is in overall good health.

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 Under DOD Control (CD) 12 December 2006.
- **b.** (S//NF) Executive Summary: Detainee was a senior Taliban military commander in Mazar-e-Sharif during hostilities against US and Coalition forces in late 2001. Detainee was also the Taliban governor for the Balkh and Laghman provinces and is wanted by the United Nations (UN) for possible war crimes including the murder of thousands of Shiite Muslims. Detainee is associated with Supreme Taliban Commander Mullah Muhammad Omar, other senior Taliban officials, senior al-Qaida members and other extremist organizations and has remained a significant figure to Taliban supporters. Detainee's brother is a Taliban

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REASON: E.O. 12958, AS AMENDED, SECTION 1.4(C)

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commander directing operations against US and Coalition forces in Zabul Province where detainee resided. 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 **LOW** threat from a detention perspective.
- Of **HIGH** 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 \triangleright next to the footnote.)
 - Provided further information identifying detainee as a Taliban leader in charge of troops at Mazar-e-Sharif in November 2001.

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 Shajoy, where he learned to read and write at the mosque in his village between 1981 and 1983. Detainee's father was the imam at the mosque,² and detainee's education earned him the title "Mullah." Detainee worked as a farmer on his father's land and as a tailor while living in Zabul, AF.⁴
- **b.** (S//NF) Recruitment and Travel: In March 1999, detained traveled to Kabul, AF to meet with Mullah Yunis, the commander of a Taliban security base. Detainee stated if you wanted to join the Taliban, the security base was where you would go. One month later, detainee traveled to Jalalabad, AF, and began working for Governor Malawi Kabir. Detainee worked for Kabir as a guard and performed housework for six to eight months.⁶ In December 1999, Kabir ordered detainee to Baghlan, AF, and directed detainee to stay with the local governor, Mullah Abdul Bari. After three months, detained requested to move to Mazar-e-Sharif, AF, capital of Balkh Province. In February 2000, detainee arrived in Mazar-

¹ IIR 6 034 0078 03, 000006 KB 11-FEB-2002

² IIR 6 034 0185 05, IIR 6 034 0420 02, 000006 302 31-MAY-2002; Analyst Note: Detainee's father's name is Almullah Din, variants Amruddin, and al-Mullah al-Din.

³ 000006 302 14-FEB-2002; Analyst Note: Detainee's reference and current names include the title Mullah.

^{4 000006 302 31-}MAY-2002, IIR 6 034 0078 03

⁵ IIR 6 034 0175 02

⁶ IIR 6 034 0078 02, IIR 6 034 0175 02

⁷ Analyst Note: On several accounts, detainee omitted the detail of traveling to Jalalabad with Kabir's brother Hafiz Qari. In another account, detainee stated he worked on land owned by Kabir and Qari in Baghlan, harvesting wheat.

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e-Sharif and requested to work for Provincial Governor Mullah Ahktar Muhammad.⁸ Detainee stayed at Mazar-e-Sharif for 18 months, during which time detainee worked with the governor for the first eight months (through October 2000). During the last ten months (through August 2001) at Mazar-e-Sharif, Mullah Muhammad passed the position of Governor to detainee.⁹ Detainee's responsibilities included mediating civil disputes and performing some security duties. Detainee stated his duty was to ensure the government operated as usual and to resolve tribal complaints.¹⁰

c. (S//NF) Training and Activities: Detainee claimed he never received any weapons or military training, ¹¹ and noted he obtained familiarity with the AK-47 during his youth firing the rifle at wooden targets. ¹² As governor, detainee worked with Taliban Minister of Domestic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Razaq, to settle civil water issues. Detainee relied on the Taliban Foreign Relations Office Director, Quasi Fazl Rabbi, to handle the affairs of local non-governmental organizations (NGOs). ¹³ After the Taliban front lines fell (November 2001), detainee traveled to Konduz, AF and contacted Arbab Hashim for advice. Arbab Hashim advised the gathered Taliban military leaders to surrender to Northern Alliance forces. Detainee claimed he met Mullah Muhammad Fazl, ISN US9AF-000007DP (AF-007), for the first time during this meeting. ¹⁴ Taliban military commanders were informed if they surrendered their weapons to General Dostum, they would be allowed to return home. ¹⁵

5. (U) Capture Information:

a. (S//NF) On 17 November 2001, Obaidullah Akhund advised AF-007 to surrender to Northern Alliance Commander General Dostum. Following negotiations with General Dostum, a group comprised of Taliban leadership, including detainee, AF-007; and Abdullah Gulam Rasoul, ISN US9AF-00008DP (AF-008), turned themselves over to General Dostum. ¹⁶ Dostum then moved the group to Mazar-e-Sharif and the forces they commanded

13 000006 302 24-FEB-2002

⁸ 000006 302 14-FEB-2002, IIR 6 034 0175 02; Analyst Note: Mullah Ahktar Muhammad was the II Corp commander located in Kandahar, AF, and a possible successor to Supreme Taliban Leader Mullah Omar.

^{9 000006 302 31-}MAY-2002, 000006 302 14-FEB-2002

^{10 000006 302 14-}FEB-2002, 000006 302 01-OCT-2002

^{11 000006 302 01-}OCT-2002

¹² IIR 6 034 0450 03

¹⁴ 000006 302 01-OCT-2002; Analyst Note: Arbab Hashim is a former commander from the Afghan-Soviet War, a mediator between the Northern Alliance and Taliban, and operated a safe house in Konduz, AF.

¹⁵ 000006 302 01-OCT-2002, IIR 6 034 0847 02; Analyst Note: General Dostum was the senior Northern Alliance officer at Mazar-e-Sharif when Taliban elements surrendered.

¹⁶ IIR 2 341 6004 02, IIR 7 721 0162 02, Deception at Qala-I Jangi Prison – USSOC – May 2005; Analyst Note: There are conflicting reports of the identities of other members of the group that surrendered. One such member of the group was Mullah Berader, a Tier 1 target on the USCENTCOM High Value Individual (HVI) list. Obaidullah

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to the Qala-I-Jangi fortress.¹⁷ In early December 2001, Dostum transported detainee, AF-007, and AF-008 to a jail in Sheberghan, AF, where they were transferred to US custody.¹⁸

b. (S) Property Held:

- Various personal items including three watches, grooming items, and prayer beads
- c. (S) Transferred to JTF-GTMO: 11 January 2002
- **d.** (S//NF) Reasons for Transfer to JTF-GTMO: To provide information on the following:
 - Biographical information on Taliban leaders
- **6.** (S//NF) Evaluation of Detainee's Account: Detainee continues to deny his role, importance, and level of access to Taliban officials while serving as a senior Taliban commander in Northern Afghanistan. Detainee's account omitted his association with Mullah Omar and other senior Taliban members, and failed to explain his long-term relationship with several extremist groups and associated personnel. Detainee remains deceptive and continues to deny any military or weapons training, despite being a military commander.

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 an admitted senior member of the Taliban and led troops against US and Coalition forces. Detainee was directly subordinate to Taliban Supreme Leader Mullah Omar, commanded Taliban forces in northern Afghanistan, and in late 2001, he was in charge of Taliban troops positioned near Mazar-e-Sharif. Detainee is wanted by the UN for possible war crimes including the murder of thousands of Shiites. Detainee is also associated with members of al-Qaida, Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG) and the Hezb-E-Islami Gulbuddin (HIG). ¹⁹ Detainee continues to be a significant figure encouraging acts of

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Akhund is Mullah Obaidullah Akhund, the former Taliban Minister of Defense. See BIO - Berader Akhund - CJTF-180-CI, and CJTF-180 BIO-Mullah Obaidullah Akhund 26-Oct-2003.

¹⁷ 000006 302 24-NOV-2002

¹⁸ IIR 2 341 6004 02

¹⁹ Analyst Note: The LIFG is a National Intelligence Priorities Framework (NIPF) Counterterrorism (CT) Priority 1 target. Priority 1 targets are defined as issues, opportunities, or threats that rise to, or are expected to rise to, the

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aggression and his brother is currently a Taliban commander conducting operations against US and Coalition forces.

- (S//NF) Detainee is an admitted senior member of the Taliban and led troops against US and Coalition forces. Detainee was directly subordinate to Taliban Supreme Leader Mullah Omar, commanded Taliban forces in northern Afghanistan, and in late 2001, he was in charge of Taliban troops positioned near Mazar-e-Sharif.
 - (S//NF) AF-007 identified detainee as a Taliban leader in charge of Mazar Bal.²¹
 Detainee had a close association with Taliban Supreme Leader Mullah Muhammad Omar.²²
 - (S//NF) Detainee and AF-007 were both part of Mullah Omar's 1999 major reorganization. AF-007 was the Taliban Chief of Staff and a senior military commander.²³
 - (S//NF) Abbas Abed Romi al-Naely, ISN US9IZ-000758DP (IZ-758), reported detainee was directly subordinate to Supreme Taliban Leader Mullah Omar.²⁴
 - (S//NF) Detainee was the Director of the Northern Zone. The Northern Zone included the Afghan provinces of Balkh, Faryab, Jowzjan, Samangan, Konduz, and Baghlan. Mullah Omar likely assisted detainee in gaining power in the Northern Zone.²⁵
 - (S//NF) On 2 November 2001, in preparations for attacks by US and Coalition forces, most of the senior Taliban leadership were in Mazar-e-Sharif including detainee as the Governor of Balkh Province. At the time there were up to 4,000 troops in Mazar-e-Sharif.²⁶
 - (S//NF) On 8 November 2001, detained commanded 150 troops and one helicopter on the front line north of Mazar-e-Sharif. 27

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level of interest of the President, Vice President, DNI, and NSC/HSC Principals and Deputies. This includes terrorist groups that pose a clear and immediate danger to U.S. persons or interests. This includes those preparing to employ Weapons of Mass Destruction. The IMU and the HIG are NIPF Priority 2 targets. Priority 2 targets are defined as issues, opportunities, or threats that rise to, or are expected to rise to, the level of interest of the Combatant Commanders or DNI EXCOM Principals, not already identified as Priority 1. This includes terrorist groups that have demonstrated both intention and capability to attack U.S. persons or interests. 20 000006 302 15-SEP-2002, TD-314/42869-01, IIR 6 034 0853 02

²¹ IIR 6 034 0847 02, IIR 5 360 0709 02, See IIR 6 034 0404 03 for example of detainee's comments of AF-007.

²² TD-314/10356-00, CENTCOM 1 Dec 99 – "Afghan National Military Overview"

²³ HR 6 034 0404 03, HR 6 034 0847 02, HR 5 360 0709 02

²⁴ 000758 SIR 08-JAN-2007

²⁵ TD-314/10356-00, CENTCOM 1 Dec 99 – "Afghan National Military Overview"

²⁶ ➤TD-314/41984-01

²⁷ TD-314/42869-01

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- (S//NF) IZ-758 reported detainee was the Taliban leader in command of the northern portion of Afghanistan. IZ-758 also identified detainee's subordinate Sharif Muhammad al-Din as head of the Estekhbarat (Taliban Intelligence Directorate) in Mazar-e-Sharif. Al-Din was in charge of providing security to madrassas, embassies, and government buildings.²⁸
- (S//NF) Detainee admitted having a close association with Taliban Deputy Minister of Intelligence Abdul Haq Wasiq, US9AF-000004DP (AF-004), from "operations" in Konduz, AF.²⁹ (Analyst Note: The operations were likely the hostilities against the Northern Alliance ending in November 2001.)
- o (S//NF) In November 1999, detainee, who served as Governor of Laghman Province, AF, from 1996 to 1999, was promoted to the position of Governor of the Balkh Province. 30 (Analyst Note: Mazar-e-Sharif is the capital of the Balkh Province. The term Governor of Mazar-e-Sharif is used interchangeably with the term Governor of Balkh Province.)
 - (S//NF) Jawad Jabber Sadkhan, ISN US9IZ-000433DP (IZ-433), identified detainee as the Governor of Mazar-e-Sharif. IZ-433 was a Taliban group commander directly subordinate to Nashwan Abd al-Razzaq Abd al-Baqi, aka (Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi), ISN US9IZ-010026DP (IZ-10026), and an interrogator in the Mazar-e-Sharif police department. IZ-433 stated he had a letter from detainee which effectively granted IZ-433 immunity from arrest.³¹
- (S//NF) In a report listing the order of seniority for senior Taliban military leadership in November 2000, detainee was identified as the ninth senior officer and was the commander of the Number 70 Rank located in Jowzjan Province. 32
- (S/NF) Detainee is wanted by the UN for possible war crimes while serving as a Taliban commander.33
 - o (S//NF) Detainee was implicated in the murder of thousands of Shiites in northern Afghanistan during the Taliban reign. When asked about the murders, detainee and AF-007 did not express any regret and stated they did what they needed to do in their struggle to establish their ideal state.³⁴ Detainee's willingness to support the Taliban objectives was also reported by the Pakistani Military Inter-

²⁸ 000758 SIR 08-JAN-2007

²⁹ IIR 6 034 0853 02

³⁰ JICCENT Afghan Biography web page; Analyst Note: This extends detainee involvement with the Taliban by nearly three years, explaining a more reasonable progression through Taliban ranks; TD-314/10356-00, CENTCOM 1 Dec 99 - "Afghan National Military Overview"

³¹ IIR 6 034 0880 02(b), IIR 6 034 0490 04; Analyst Note: This letter undermines detainee's claim that he had no official authority as acting Governor of Mazar-e-Sharif.

³² TD-314/41572-00

³³ IIR 6 873 0201 02, SECSTATE 098588 22-May-2002

³⁴ IIR 7 721 0162 02

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Services Intelligence Directorate (ISID) which assessed detainee to be a hardliner in his support of the Taliban philosophy.³⁵

- (S) The UN added detainee to the financial "freeze list" pursuant to UN Security Council Regulation (UNSCR) 1267. UNSCR 1267 requires member states to freeze financial resources of suspected Taliban members.³⁶
 - (S//NF) Possibly related, detainee's close friend Muhammad Razaq was a money exchanger. Detainee transferred Razaq to Kandahar to work in the money exchange shop they operated. In early November 2003, Razaq was the Deputy Director of the Afghan National Bank in Kandahar and owned money exchange shops in Kandahar, Jalalabad, Kabul, and Peshawar, Pakistan. Razaq brought narcotics from eastern Afghanistan to western Afghanistan with assistance from Commander Zemarylai. 37
- (S//NF) Detainee is also associated with members of al-Qaida, IMU, LIFG and the HIG.
 - o (S//NF) IZ-758 stated in September 1995, Usama bin Laden (UBL) personally tasked IZ-758 to assist detainee in participating in hostilities against General Dostum. IZ-758 said detainee was responsible for the defensive line near Herat, AF.³⁸
 - (S//NF) Detainee invited Jumaboy Namangani, deceased leader of the IMU, to Jowzjan Province to encourage elders and businessmen to donate to the jihad in Uzbekistan in November 2000.³⁹
 - (C//REL USA AND GCTF) Detainee, the Taliban and members of the LIFG participated in hostilities against the Northern Alliance prior to the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks. LIFG member Omar Khalif Muhammad Abu Baker Mahjoub, ISN US9LY-000695DP (LY-695), participated in hostilities along with detainee. LY-695 was also an explosives trainer at al-Faruq Training Camp. 40
 - (C) Detainee is an associate of the HIG dating from the Soviet Jihad in Afghanistan and continuing until late 2001.⁴¹
 - (S//REL TO USA AND ISAF) While Governor of Mazar-e-Sharif, detainee (along with other Taliban leaders) provided weapons to Hamidullah Tokhi, the Governor of Zabul Province, AF. Tokhi later delivered the weapons to Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of the HIG. 42

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³⁵ IIR 6 873 0122 02

³⁶ SECSTATE 098588 22-May-2002

³⁷ TD-314/63970-03

³⁸ IIR 2 340 7543 02

³⁹ TD-314/40494-00; Analyst Note: Jumaboy was killed during US bombing in 2001.

⁴⁰ IIR 6 034 0364 05

⁴¹ CENTCOM Afghan Biography

⁴² IIR 6 044 0783 03

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- (S//NF) Arbab Hashim, deceased senior Taliban tribal leader and former HIG commander, provided assistance to detainee during detainee's attempted escape from Mazar-e-Sharif.⁴³
- (S//REL TO NATO//INDIA) Analyst Note: As recently as December 2007, the HIG is reported coordinating military and logistical efforts with al-Qaida to conduct Improvised Explosives Devices (IED) attacks against US and Coalition forces and property.⁴⁴
- (S//NF) Detainee continues to be significant to Taliban supporters in northern Afghanistan. Detainee's brother is currently a Taliban commander conducting operations against US and Coalition forces.
 - o (S//NF) Abdullah Hekmat, ISN US9AF-000670DP (AF-670), stated Taliban radio announcements provided daily descriptions of the great things detainee accomplished for Mazar-e-Sharif as Governor. (Analyst Note: These announcements were probably prior to detainee's capture.)
 - (S//NF) In May 2002, Taliban leaflets were posted in the Muhammad Ghul Mosque in Kandahar, AF. The leaflets identified detainee and AF-007 by name, describing them as famed commanders and leaders.
 - (S//NF) In early November 2004, a group of Taliban members planned to kidnap a high ranking official. The purpose of this operation was to exchange the official for the release of detainee.⁴⁷
 - (S//NF) Detainee's brother has remained active in anti-Coalition activities.
 - (S//NF) In late July 2003, al-Qaida tasked Mullah Lutfullah, detainee's brother, and former Taliban Minister of Education Amir Khan Mutaqi, to destabilize the Afghan Transitional Administration (ATA) in Zabul Province. Operations included burning schools, guerilla attacks against ATA workers, and distribution of night letters stating that jihad was inevitable. 48
 - (S//NF) In 2004, Zabul Province al-Qaida commander Fahid Muhammad Ali Msalam, aka (Abu Usama al-Kini), stayed with detainee's brother, Mullah Lutfullah, in Zabul. Al-Kini is participated in the attacks on US Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998.
 - (S//NF) In early 2007, detainee's brother Mullah Lutfullah, now a Taliban commander in Shajoy, has reportedly planned attacks against US and Coalition forces. Mullah Lutfullah prepared three groups of fighters that will carry out

⁴⁶ NOBLE EAGLE HIGHLIGHTS – MAY 02

⁴³ 000006 302 1-OCT-2002, IIR 6 034 0847 02, TD-314/59861-06, TD-314/13856-03; Analyst Note: Arbab Hashim was killed in a helicopter crash in 2001. His son, Mullah Hakim, was appointed Taliban leader in Konduz.

⁴⁴ TD-314/000767-08 ⁴⁵ IIR 6 034 0416 03

⁴⁷ TD-314/61250-04

⁴⁸ TD-314/41357-03; Analyst Note: A variant of Lutfullah is Lotfullah.

⁴⁹ IIR 7 399 0650 05, TD-314/25380-04

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attacks on the highway and secondary communication routes in the area of Shajoy.⁵⁰ (Analyst Note: Detainee would likely join his brother if released.)

c. (S//NF) Detainee's Conduct: Detainee is assessed to be a LOW threat from a detention perspective. His overall behavior has been mostly compliant and rarely hostile toward the guard force and staff. He currently has 12 Reports of Disciplinary Infraction listed in DIMS with the most recent occurring on 30 July 2007, when he had his shirt hanging from the rack. He has two Reports of Disciplinary Infraction for assault with the most recent occurring on 23 January 2004, when he threw milk on a guard. Other incidents for which he has been disciplined include failure to follow guard instructions/camp rules and minor assaults. In 2007, he had a total of two 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 **HIGH** intelligence value. Detainee's most recent interrogation session occurred on 8 January 2008.
- **b.** (S//NF) Placement and Access: Detainee was a member of the Taliban from its inception, to their fall from power in November 2001. Detainee has held high-level positions which have allowed detainee access to sensitive information. Detainee held an important position providing direct access to tactical, operational, and strategic planning with senior officials. Detainee probably had access to information concerning weapons, opium trade, money networks, and other extremist activities. Detainee was directly connected to al-Qaida, HIG, and programs supporting the Taliban. Detainee was present at the meeting of high-ranking Taliban officials to discuss surrender to General Dostum. Detainee was present near the Mazar-e-Sharif prison uprising.
- c. (S//NF) Intelligence Assessment: Detainee is considered one of the most significant, former Taliban officials detained at JTF-GTMO. Detainee's placement and access provided him with significant knowledge of many key members, decisions, and activities during the Taliban regime to include direct access to Taliban Supreme leader Mullah Omar. Detainee is assessed to have specific information on the Taliban hierarchical networks, biographical data, operations planning, and logistics support systems. Detainee is assessed to have specific information relating to several extremist organizations' support to the Taliban. Detainee probably has information on Taliban's association with Afghani opium production and distribution networks. Detainee probably has significant information on Taliban and al-Qaida personnel still actively engaged in hostilities against US and Coalition forces.

ď	(S//NF)	Areas	of Pot	ential	Explo	itation:

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⁵⁰ IIR 7 100 0158 07

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- Biographical data on several active Taliban and al-Qaida senior personnel
- · Taliban associations with extremist organizations to include al-Qaida
- Biographical data on early stages of the Taliban
- Information on the Mazar-e-Sharif prison uprising
- Information on global opium/heroin network
- Information on NGO-Taliban relationships

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

Mak & By By 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*.