

Date: 200211 [redacted] (b)(1)
(b)(3) NatSecAct

#3368

TO: ALEC

FROM: (b)(1)
(b)(3) NatSecAct

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - DETAILS OF [redacted] NOVEMBER 2002 FIRST INTERROGATION SESSION WITH 'ABD AL-RAHIM AL-NASHIRI

----- BODY -----

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TO: IMMEDIATE ALEC INFO [redacted] DIRECTOR.

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SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - DETAILS OF [redacted] NOVEMBER 2002 FIRST INTERROGATION SESSION WITH 'ABD AL-RAHIM AL-NASHIRI

REF: [redacted] (b)(1)
(b)(3) CIAAct
(b)(3) NatSecAct

TEXT:

COMBINE: COMPLETE

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1. ACTION REQUIRED: NONE, FYI ONLY.

2. SUMMARY: ON [redacted] NOVEMBER, [redacted] AGGRESSIVE INTERROGATION PHASE OF SENIOR AL-QA'IDA OPERATIVE 'ABD AL-RAHIM AL- ((NASHIRI)) AKA MULLAH ((BILAL)) (SUBJECT), SUBJECT UNDERWENT TWO SEPARATE

INTERROGATION SESSIONS. THE FIRST SESSION LASTED FROM 1107 - 1252 HOURS [REDACTED] SECOND SESSION LASTED FROM 1655 - 1850 HOURS, AND WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY. IN THIS FIRST INTERROGATION SESSION, SUBJECT WAS AGGRESSIVELY INTERROGATED ON HIS KNOWLEDGE OF, AND INVOLVEMENT IN, REF A PARA TWO B OPERATIONS AGAINST U.S. INTERESTS IN SAUDI ARABIA. INTERROGATION ESCALATED RAPIDLY FROM SUBJECT BEING AGGRESSIVELY DEBRIEFED BY INTERROGATORS WHILE STANDING AT THE WALLING WALL, TO MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS OF THE WALLING TECHNIQUE, AND ULTIMATELY, MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS OF THE WATERING TECHNIQUE. THROUGHOUT THE INTERROGATION SESSION, SUBJECT WAS CHALLENGED ON SEPARATE DETAINEE REPORTING [REDACTED]

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3. THE FIRST INTERROGATION SESSION ON [REDACTED] NOVEMBER 2002 BEGAN AT 1107 HOURS, WHEN SECURITY TEAM ENTERED THE CELL; SUBJECT, HANDCUFFED, AND BACKED AGAINST THE WALLING WALL, WHERE HE WATCHED SECURITY TEAM DRAG THE SMALL BOX BACK INTO THE CELL. INTERROGATORS AND LINGUIST ENTERED THE ROOM, AND THE ROLLED TOWEL/NECK SUPPORT WAS PLACED AROUND SUBJECT'S NECK. INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT ICILY THAT THEY HAD GIVEN HIM THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO PEOPLE NICER THAN THEM ABOUT THE INFORMATION THEY WANTED TO KNOW, BUT SUBJECT HAD NOT TOLD THE TRUTH, AND NOW HAD TO SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS DECEPTION. SUBJECT WAS TOLD THAT THE INTERROGATORS WERE INDIFFERENT ON THE MATTER, BUT IF SUBJECT CHOSE THE HARD WAY, IT WAS NOT GOING TO BE PLEASANT, AND THE OUTCOME WOULD BE THE SAME: SUBJECT WOULD TELL US THE INFORMATION HE POSSESSED, WITHOUT LYING. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] INTERROGATORS

IMMEDIATELY USED AN ATTENTION GRAB FOLLOWED BY MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS OF THE WALLING TECHNIQUE, FORCEFULLY DIRECTING THE SUBJECT NOT TO TELL THEM LIES. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE WALLING TECHNIQUE WAS APPLIED
MULTIPLE TIMES AS INTERROGATORS DIRECTED SUBJECT TO STOP LYING TO
THEM. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] SUBJECT WAS TOLD
HE HAD BETTER PULL HIMSELF TOGETHER AND TALK. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] EARNING HIMSELF ANOTHER APPLICATION OF THE WALLING
TECHNIQUE AS INTERROGATORS AGAIN DEMANDED THAT SUBJECT TELL THEM WHAT
PLANS WERE MADE AND WHAT WAS SAID AT THIS SESSION. SUBJECT MUMBLED
UNINTELLIGIBLY; INTERROGATORS HAD THE SECURITY TEAM BRING IN THE
WATER BOARD.

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4. SUBJECT WAS TOLD THAT HE WAS GOING TO SUFFER. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] .. INTERROGATORS
USED THE ATTENTION GRAB, TELLING SUBJECT THAT THEY HAD GIVEN HIM A
CHANCE TO TELL HIS STORY THE NICE WAY; NOW IT WAS NOT GOING TO BE SO
NICE. SUBJECT WAS AGAIN TOLD TO START TALKING; HE AGAIN PROTESTED
THAT HE COULD NOT REMEMBER ANYTHING. INTERROGATORS EXPLAINED TO
SUBJECT THAT IF ONE DETAINEE HAD TOLD THEM SOMETHING DIFFERENT FROM
SUBJECT, THEY WOULD QUESTION IT BUT GIVE HIM THE BENEFIT OF THE
DOUBT. [REDACTED]

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THE WALLING TECHNIQUE WAS APPLIED SIMULTANEOUSLY FOR EMPHASIS.
SUBJECT REPEATED HIS LITANY THAT HE WAS NOT LYING, HE WAS TELLING THE
TRUTH AND WAS CONSTANTLY THINKING ABOUT WHAT HE COULD TELL
INTERROGATORS. INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT THAT THEY WERE GOING TO
REPEAT NAMES TO HIM AGAIN, AND THAT HE HAD BETTER COOPERATE.

5. AS INTERROGATORS RAN THROUGH LIST OF NAMES IN REF A PARA TWO
B, SUBJECT CONTINUED TO DENY THAT HE KNEW ANY OF THEM; INTERROGATORS
CONTINUED TO APPLY THE WALLING TECHNIQUE WHILE REPEATING THAT SUBJECT
WAS NOT GIVING THEM THE RESPONSES THEY NEEDED. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] AND THE WALLING TECHNIQUE WAS AGAIN APPLIED. INTERROGATORS,
COMMENTING THAT THIS LINE OF QUESTIONING WAS JUST NOT WORKING, MOVED
SUBJECT ON TO THE WATER BOARD AND HAD HIM RECLINE. WHILE STRAPPING
SUBJECT IN, INTERROGATORS PROVIDED A LITANY OF THE TOPICS SUBJECT
COULD TALK ABOUT TO STOP WHAT WAS ABOUT TO COME: [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT WAS LEFT STRAPPED TO THE WATERBOARD TO CONTEMPLATE HIS FATE AT 1127 HOURS; INTERROGATORS AND LINGUIST DEPARTED THE CELL TO CONSULT WITH THE REMAINDER OF THE INTERROGATION TEAM.

6. AT 1147 HOURS, INTERROGATORS AND LINGUIST RETURNED TO THE CELL, AND TOLD SUBJECT THEY WERE GIVING HIM ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO STOP WHAT WAS TO COME. NO MATTER WHAT SUBJECT THOUGHT MIGHT HAPPEN TO HIM, INTERROGATORS WERE NOT GOING TO LET SUBJECT COME TO GRAVE HARM; INDEED, THEY WERE GOING TO ENSURE THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THEY WOULD POSE TO HIM AGAIN AND AGAIN. SUBJECT ASKED INTERROGATORS TO HELP HIM REMEMBER SO THAT HE COULD RECALL EVERYTHING COMPLETELY,

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INTERROGATORS SPLASHED COLD WATER ON SUBJECT'S CHEST, AND TOLD HIM THAT HIS ANSWER WAS NOT SATISFACTORY. SUBJECT PLEADED THAT HE WAS REALLY TRYING TO RECALL, NOTHING WAS COMING TO HIM, HE COULDN'T REMEMBER ANY ONE SPECIFIC PERSON WHO HE HAD TALKED TO ABOUT THESE THINGS.

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8. INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE HIM, AND DEMANDED HE TELL THEM [REDACTED] SUBJECT DENIED KNOWING ANYTHING AT ALL RELATED TO [REDACTED] AND CONTINUED TO CRY. INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT THEY KNEW HE HELPED TO PLAN OPERATIONS [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT AGAIN PROMISED TO TELL EVERYTHING HE KNEW, BUT ADDED THAT HE
KNEW NOTHING. INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] THE WATER
TREATMENT WAS APPLIED AT 1214 HOURS. INTERROGATORS DEMANDED SUBJECT
TELL THEM ABOUT [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] INTERROGATORS COVERED SUBJECT'S HEAD WITH THE HOOD AND LEFT HIM ON THE WATER BOARD, MOANING, SHAKING AND ASKING GOD TO HELP HIM REPEATEDLY; INTERROGATORS AND LINGUIST DEPARTED THE ROOM TO CONFER AGAIN WITH REMAINDER OF INTERROGATION TEAM AT 1216 HOURS.

11. INTERROGATORS AND LINGUIST RETURNED TO THE CELL AT 1229 HOURS, AND ADJUSTED SUBJECT'S HEAD RESTRAINT WHILE TELLING HIM THAT ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS TELL THEM EVERYTHING. SUBJECT SAID THAT HE WOULD, AND ADDED THAT [REDACTED]

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12. [REDACTED] (b)(1)
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[REDACTED] SUBJECT WAS TOLD TO EXPLAIN THIS TO INTERROGATORS; HE SAID THAT HE WOULD COOPERATE WELL WITH INTERROGATORS, AND THAT HE WAS ABLE TO PROVIDE THEM WITH INFORMATION CAUSE WHAT THEY TOLD HIM REMINDED HIM. SUBJECT ALSO STATED THAT HE KNEW [REDACTED]. INTERROGATORS DEMANDED SUBJECT TELL THEM MORE ABOUT [REDACTED] HE SAID HE DIDN'T REMEMBER THE DETAILS INTERROGATORS HAD JUST PROVIDED HIM, NOTING THAT [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] SUBJECT PLEADED WITH INTERROGATORS THAT IN THE NAME OF GOD, HE WOULD TELL THEM EVERYTING. INTERROGATORS REMINDED SUBJECT THAT THEY DIDN'T CARE HOW THEY ACQUIRED INFORMATION FROM SUBJECT, HE WAS GOING TO PROVIDE THEM WITH ADDITIONAL DETAILS. SUBJECT ASKED INTERROGATORS TO LET HIM REMEMBER IF THERE WAS ANY OTHER INFORMATION

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INTERROGATORS STATED THAT SUBJECT KNEW MUCH MORE THAN THAT; AS SUBJECT PROTESTED TO THE CONTRARY, INTERROGATORS APPLIED THE WATER TREATMENT AT 1340 HOURS. INTERROGATORS REPEATED TO SUBJECT THAT THEY WANTED TO KNOW OF OPERATIONS AGAINST THE U.S. SUBJECT WAS NOT BEING HONEST WITH THEM, AND THEY WERE WILLING TO CONTINUE TO GIVE SUBJECT THE SAME TREATMENT, DAY IN AND DAY OUT, FOR MONTHS IF NEED BE, UNTIL SUBJECT DECIDED TO COOPERATE. SUBJECT CRIED THAT ANYTHING HE KNEW, HE WOULD TELL THEM, AND BEGAN TO SPEAK OF THE HORMUZ OPERATION. INTERROGATORS CUT HIM OFF, TELLING SUBJECT THAT THAT THEY WANTED TO

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HEAR ABOUT OTHER TARGETS, [REDACTED] SUBJECT AGAIN SAID THAT THERE WERE NO OPERATIONS, THEY WEREN'T TALKING OPERATIONS, AND BEGGED INTERROGATORS TO TELL HIM MORE SO THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO REMEMBER WHAT THEY WANTED.

13. INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT THEY WERE NOT GOING TO GIVE HIM INFORMATION -- HE WAS TO PROVIDE ALL THE INFORMATION. THEY TOLD SUBJECT HE WAS GOING INTO THE SMALL BOX, WHICH WAS GOING TO BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SUBJECT TO THINK AGAIN ABOUT WHAT INTERROGATORS WANTED. INTERROGATORS TOLD SUBJECT THAT HE HAD BETTER EMERGE FROM THE SMALL BOX WITH SOMETHING NEW TO TELL THEM. SUBJECT CRIED THAT HE WISHED HE COULD REMEMBER, AND PLEADED THAT HE WAS NOT LYING TO THEM. INTERROGATOR STATED THAT WHEN THEY CAME BACK, THEY WANTED TO HEAR ALL

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SUBJECT WAS UNSTRAPPED FROM THE WATER BOARD, SAT UP, AND AT INTERROGATOR DIRECTION, MOVED TO THE SMALL BOX TREMBLING INVOLUNTARILY AND GOT IN. INTERROGATORS REMINDED SUBJECT THAT THEY COULD DO THIS DAY AND NIGHT, FOR AS LONG AS IT TOOK. SUBJECT CRAWLED INTO THE SMALL BOX, AND WAS LOCKED IN IT AT 1246. AT 1250, SECURITY TEAM UNLOCKED THE SMALL BOX, REMOVED SUBJECT AND REMOVED THE REMAINDER OF SUBJECT'S CLOTHING. SUBJECT WAS RETURNED TO THE SMALL BOX AT 1252 HOURS.

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END OF MESSAGE

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