

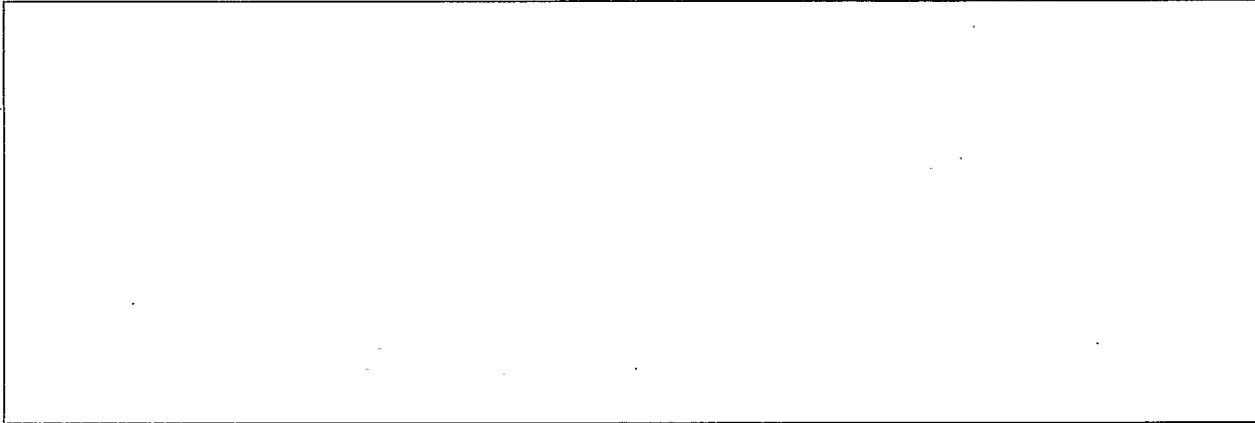
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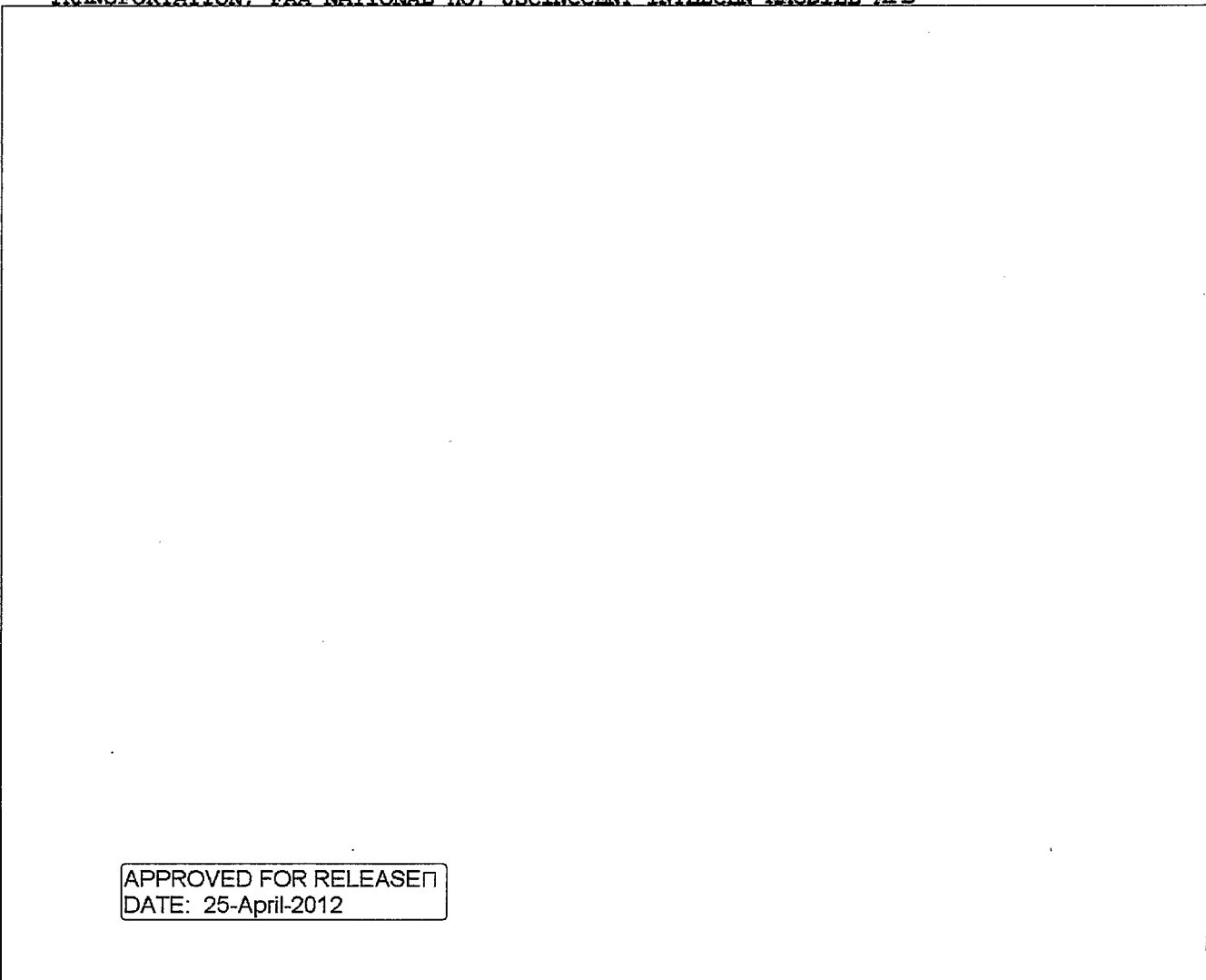
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TOT: 191626Z DEC 96



TO: PRIORITY DIRNSA, SECSTATE WASHDC, DIA WASHINGTON DC, DA
WASHINGTON DC, ONI WASHINGTON DC, CNO WASHINGTON DC, CMC
WASHINGTON DC, CSAF WASHINGTON DC, TREASURY DEPT, SECRET SERVICE,
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASH
DC//OIPR//, WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, ZEN/DEPT OF
TRANSPORTATION, FAA NATIONAL HO, USCINCCENT INTELCEM MACDILL AFB



APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: 25-April-2012

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DIST: 19 DECEMBER 1996

COUNTRY: SUDAN

SUBJ: TERRORISM: ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ISLAMIC
ARMY'S MILITARY COMMITTEE, AND POLITICAL AND SHARIA
COMMITTEE; PROCESS OF APPROVING TERRORIST OPERATIONS

2. AS OF EARLY 1996, THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THE ISLAMIC ARMY'S MILITARY COMMITTEE WAS MILITARY/OPERATIONAL PLANNING AND MAINTAINING USAMA ((BIN LADIN))'S MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT. THE COMMITTEE, HEADED BY ABU 'UBAYDA AL-((BANSHIRI)), MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS TO BIN LADIN, WHO IN TURN MAKES THE MAJOR DECISIONS AND ISSUES ORDERS.

'UBAYDA AL-PANSHIRI,
ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTING FROM JUNE 1996, WAS KILLED IN THE 21 MAY 1996 FERRY DISASTER ON LAKE VICTORIA IN TANZANIA.)

3. AS OF EARLY 1996, THE POLITICAL AND SHARIA COMMITTEE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR ISSUING FATWAS.

ONLY SUNNI MUSLIMS SIT ON THE POLITICAL AND SHARIA COMMITTEE.

4. WHEN AN ISLAMIC ARMY-SPONSORED OPERATION OR POLICY ISSUE IS PROPOSED, THE SUBJECT IS BROUGHT BEFORE THE SHURA COUNCIL. THE SHURA COUNCIL DISCUSSES THE MATTER WITH BIN LADIN PRESENT.

BIN LADIN MAKES HIS DECISION ON THE MATTER.

5. THE POLITICAL AND SHARIA COMMITTEE THEN STUDIES THE DECISION TO ENSURE IT IS IN KEEPING WITH ISLAMIC LAW.

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OVERALL DOCUMENT.
END OF MESSAGE

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