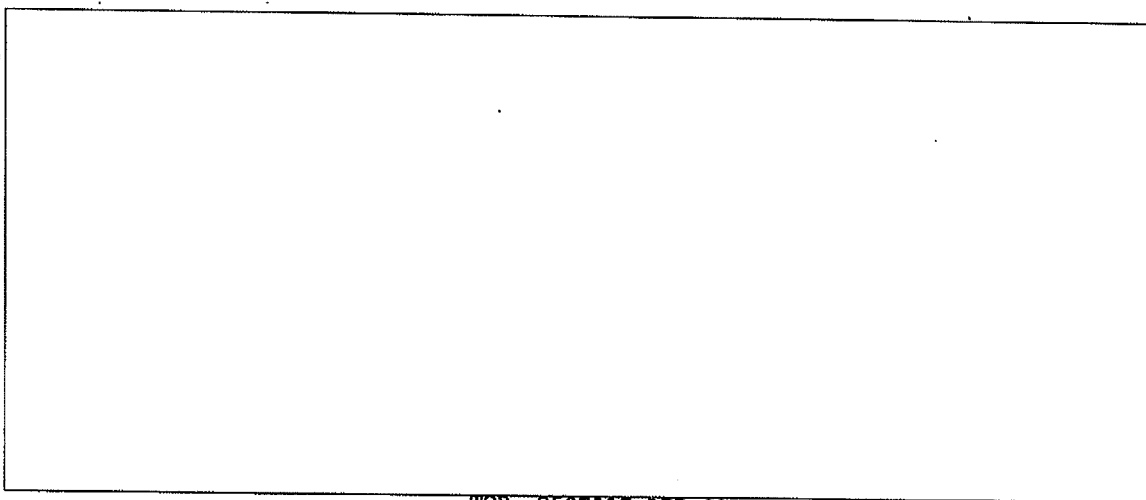


Exhibit 53



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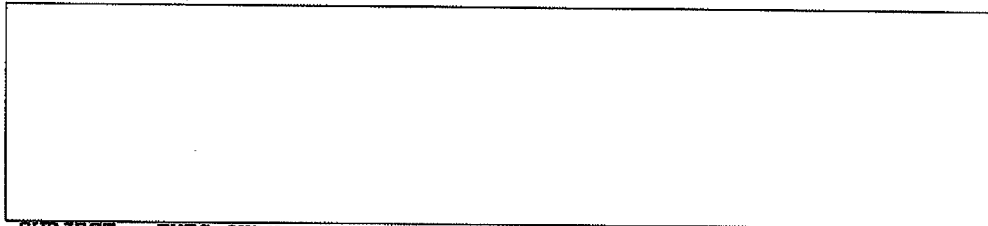
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CITE: [redacted] 10116



SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - UPDATED INTERROGATION PLAN FOR ABU ZUBAYDAH

REF: A. DIRECTOR 219371 [redacted]
B. [redacted] 10014 [redacted]

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: THE FOLLOWING IS AN UPDATED INTERROGATION PLAN FOR ABU ZUBAYDAH AS OF 24 APRIL 2002. THIS UPDATE IS TO BRING ADDEES UP TO DATE ON THE CURRENT PROCESS AND PROCEDURES THAT ARE IN PLACE HERE AT [redacted]

2. [redacted] HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE FULL PHASE INTERROGATION OF ABU ZUDAYDAH (SUBJECT) FOR THE PAST 8 DAYS AND HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE PLAN THAT WAS OUTLINED IN REF B. THIS CABLE IS TO UPDATE AND AFFIRM THE CURRENT STRATEGIC INTERROGATION PROCESS AND PROCEDURES THAT ARE IN EFFECT.

3. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT: THE SUBJECT HAS SPENT THE ENTIRE 8 DAYS IN THE WHITE CELL THAT HAS NO NATURAL LIGHTING NOR WINDOWS. THE CELL HAS FOUR BRIGHT HALOGEN LIGHTS THAT HANG OUTSIDE OF THE BARS AND POINT IN TOWARD THE CELL. THERE IS AN AIR CONDITIONER UNIT IN THE INTERROGATION ROOM THAT IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BARS THAT IS USED TO MAINTAIN ROOM TEMPERATURE. THERE IS A WHITE CURTAIN THAT MOVES ON A CURTAIN TRACK IN THE INTERROGATION ROOM THAT PROHIBITS THE SUBJECT FROM SEEING THE INTERROGATION ROOM BEYOND THE BARS IN HIS CELL. ENTRY INTO THE CELL [redacted] IS THROUGH A [redacted]

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[REDACTED] DOOR THAT HAS PAD LOCKS [REDACTED]
THE CELL CURRENTLY HAS A HOSPITAL GURNEY THAT HAS WHEELS AND WILL EVENTUALLY BE MOVED OUT ONCE THE SUBJECT NO LONGER NEEDS EXTENSIVE MEDICAL CARE. THE SUBJECT SITS IN ONE OF TWO CHAIRS THAT ARE ROTATED DEPENDING UPON HIS COOPERATION. WHEN THE SUBJECT IS WILLING TO TALK AND IS MORE OR LESS COOPERATIVE A MORE COMFORTABLE CHAIR THAT IS PADDED, HAS ARM RESTS AND A MOVEABLE BACK IS BROUGHT INTO THE ROOM. WHEN THE SUBJECT IS LESS COOPERATIVE, A GRAY LAWN CHAIR IS BROUGHT INTO THE ROOM AND REPLACES THE MORE COMFORTABLE CHAIR.

4. ENTRY INTO THE INTERROGATION ROOM FROM THE LARGER BUILDING IS THROUGH A TWO DOOR VESTIBULE THAT IS APPROXIMATELY 3 FEET IN DEPTH FOLLOWED BY TWO OTHER DOORS THAT OPEN INTO THE INTERROGATION ROOM. THE BUILDING HAS TWO ROOMS ON THE FIRST FLOOR THAT ARE USED AS OBSERVATION ROOMS. ONE ROOM IS USED FOR THE INTERROGATION ROOM AND HAS THREE MONITORS AND THREE VIDEO TAPE MACHINES. THE SECOND ROOM IS USED BY THE SECURITY OFFICERS AND HAS ONE MONITOR CAPABLE OF SWITCHING CAMERA VIEWS. THE HALLWAY, WHICH IS RATHER WIDE AND LONG IS USED AS THE MEDICAL SUPPLY AND MEDICAL PREPARATION ROOM WHERE THE MEDICAL CREW HAVE ORGANIZED INTO A MINI-CLINIC FORMAT THAT COULD BE USED IN CASE THE SUBJECT HAS SOME SERIOUS MEDICAL CONDITION THAT REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.

5. THE UPSTAIRS HAS ONE LARGE ROOM THAT HAS BEEN DIVIDED BY TEMPORARY MOVEABLE WALLS INTO 6 DIFFERENT SUB-OFFICES THAT EACH TEAM, INCLUDING COMMO, USES AS THEIR STAGING EFFORTS.

6. SECURITY: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE SECURITY OFFICERS [REDACTED] HAVE [REDACTED] ALL BLACK UNIFORMS, INCLUDING BOOTS, GLOVES, BALACLAVAS AND GOGGLES TO KEEP THE SUBJECT FROM IDENTIFYING THE SECURITY OFFICERS AS WELL AS KEEPING THE SUBJECT FROM SEEING THE SECURITY OFFICERS AS INDIVIDUALS WHO HE MAY ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH A RELATIONSHIP OR DIALOGUE WITH. THE OFFICERS HAVE DEVELOPED HAND SIGNALS TO COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER WHEN THEY ARE IN THE CELL OR THE INTERROGATION ROOM.

[REDACTED]

7. SECURITY HAS USED HAND-CUFFS AND LEG SHACKLES TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OVER THE SUBJECT AS WELL AS THREE LOCKS ON THE CELL DOOR [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

9. INTERROGATION PROCESS: THE SUBJECT HAS BEEN PLACED INTO AN ENVIRONMENT THAT DOES NOT ALLOW HIM TO EASILY DETECT THE TIME OF DAY

[REDACTED] THE BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT THAT IS NOT PHYSICALLY HARMFUL AND THE USE OF WHITE NOISE WILL BE USED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE SUBJECT HAS BEEN PLACED INTO A LIMITED SLEEP CONDITION THAT HAS INCLUDED PERIODS OF NO SLEEP. THE NO SLEEP PERIODS WERE THE BY PRODUCT OF 24 HOUR A DAY OF INTERROGATION [REDACTED]

THE SUBJECT HAS BEEN MONITORED 24 HOURS A DAY BY A PSYCHOLOGIST TO ENSURE THAT THE SLEEPLESS PERIODS HAVE NOT CAUSED ANY PERMANENT PERSONALITY CHANGES NOR SEVERE EMOTIONAL DISTRESS. THE SUBJECT WAS CAREFULLY AND PURPOSEFULLY [REDACTED] EVALUATED FOR SIGNS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS. NO SIGNS OF DISTRESS, AGITATION, VIOLENCE, HALLUCINATIONS, NOR DELUSIONS WAS EVER OBSERVED. THE INTERROGATORS DID NOT REPORT ANY APPARENT MIS-PERCEPTIONS NOR COGNITIVE DIFFICULTY FOLLOWING THE INTERROGATION. IN FACT, ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION, THE SUBJECT WOULD JOKE WITH THE INTERROGATORS. HIS RESILIENCE IS WITHOUT QUESTION REMARKABLE. THE SUBJECT OFTEN TOOK BRIEF CAT NAPS BETWEEN INTERROGATORS AND AFTER 76 HOURS OF NO SUSTAINED SLEEP, WE MADE THE DECISION TO LET HIM SLEEP FOR 3 HOURS. LIKE MANY MEDICAL STUDENTS, THE SUBJECT APPEARS TO HANDLE 76 PLUS HOURS OF LIMITED SLEEP WITH FEW PROBLEMS.

10. [REDACTED] WE HAVE RECENTLY SUBSTITUTED A STEREO TO PLAY LOUD ROCK MUSIC TO ENHANCE HIS SENSE OF HOPELESSNESS. [REDACTED]

12. THE USE OF A CONFINEMENT BOX HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED BY ALEC/HQS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PER HQS GUIDANCE THE CONFINEMENT BOX WILL BE USED NO MORE THAN 3 TIMES AND WILL BE LIMITED IN HOURS TO 3 HOURS PER TIME. [REDACTED]

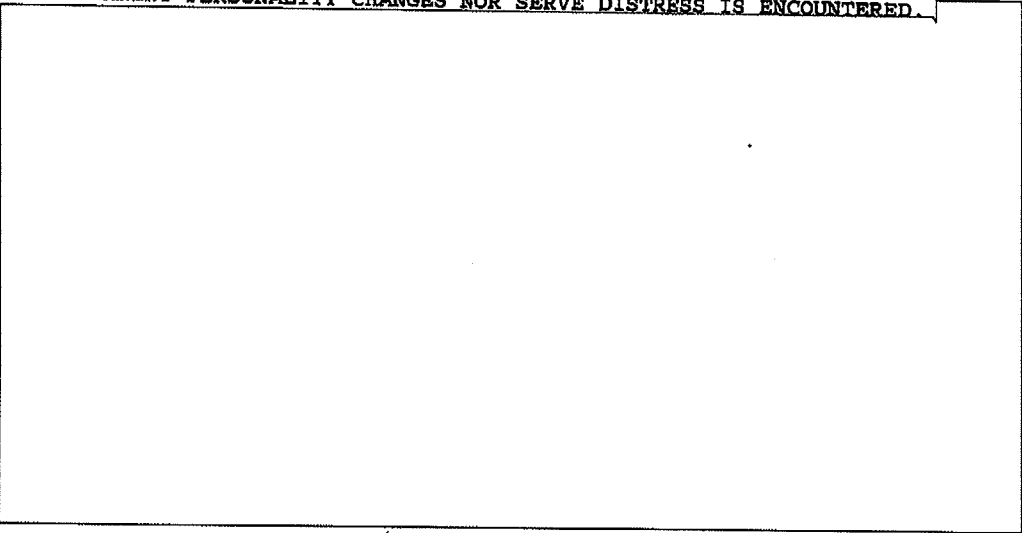
[REDACTED] DURING THE CONFINEMENT BOX

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PHASE, AS WITH ALL PHASES OF THE INTERROGATION, CAREFUL EVALUATION OF
THE SUBJECT BY THE PSYCHOLOGISTS WILL BE IN FULL EMPLOY TO ENSURE NO
PERMANENT PERSONALITY CHANGES NOR SERVE DISTRESS IS ENCOUNTERED.



END OF MESSAGE

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CSB-54