

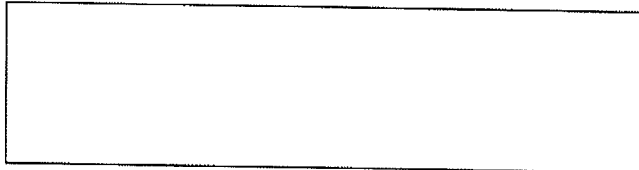
Exhibit HH

28 January 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Operations

VIA: Associate Deputy Director for Operations/Counterintelligence

FROM:



SUBJECT: Death Investigation - Gul RAHMAN

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION

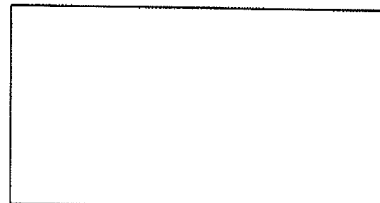
1. (S) The scope of this investigation was to determine the cause of the [redacted] November 2002 death of Gul RAHMAN, a member of Hezbi Islami, who was being detained at an [redacted] prison facility [redacted] known to CIA personnel as [redacted] RAHMAN had been undergoing interrogation by CIA personnel, [redacted]

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[redacted] Information contained in this report regarding the background of [redacted] as well as the treatment of detainees at [redacted] is provided for background and context as it relates to the investigation of the death of Gul RAHMAN. It is not intended to be a comprehensive review, survey or inspection of the operational procedures at [redacted]

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duties as [redacted] "site manager," [redacted] was responsible for devising the operating procedures for [redacted]. These procedures concerned the handling and treatment of prisoners and the operation of the facility.⁴³ COBALT

15. (S) John B. Jessen (known by the name Bruce), a Psychologist who works for CIA as an independent contractor, and is involved in the use of enhanced interrogation techniques with high value targets, spent two and a half weeks at [redacted] from early to mid-

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November 2002. Jessen worked directly with [redacted] on RAHMAN and other detainees at [redacted]. Jessen has a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, and spent 20 years on active duty with the US Air Force as a Psychologist. After his retirement from the Air Force, Jessen spent eight years as a DOD civilian Psychologist. During his tenure with the Air Force and DOD, Jessen worked on captivity related issues. While on active duty, he served as a Psychologist with the Joint Personnel Recovery Agency. While employed as a civilian with DOD, Jessen was the Senior Psychologist for the SERE program. Jessen was able to observe operations at [redacted] and had discussions with [redacted] regarding methods of handling, treating, and interrogating prisoners. Jessen also made some recommendations to [redacted] to improve operations at the facility. Jessen stated [redacted] did a great job setting up [redacted]. Jessen described [redacted] as being very bright, motivated, and possessing good intuition. Jessen said [redacted] was doing a great job with the guard force. [redacted] was very level headed and acted in a measured manner. Jessen said the atmosphere of the facility was excellent for the type of prisoners kept there - "nasty, but safe." Jessen commented that although [redacted] had never worked in this line of business prior to arriving in [redacted] he did not see any "hiccups" in security or prisoner safety. Jessen commented that he would be pleased to work with [redacted] in the future, and believed that [redacted] should be a member of [redacted].

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⁴³ Interview of [redacted] Dec 2002 (Attachment 15)

⁴⁴ Interview of John B. Jessen, 9 Jan 2003 (Attachment 30)

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17. (S) Prior to the guards' departure from the cell, the hood, blindfold, and ear plugs are taken from the prisoner. Prisoners are housed in total darkness. [redacted] stated that this is done for a couple of reasons. [redacted] stated that he wanted to disorient prisoners so they didn't know if it was day or night. [redacted]

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Additionally, music is played in the prisoner housing area 24 hours a day. This is done to prevent prisoners from communicating with each other.⁴⁶

18. (S) Sleep deprivation is also used to enhance successful interrogation. The decision to use sleep deprivation is made by the individual CIA officer who is working with a particular prisoner. When sleep deprivation is utilized, the prisoner is chained by one or both wrists to a bar running across the ceiling of the cell. This forces the prisoner to stand. [redacted] stated that he consulted with Jessen and was told that no prisoner should undergo more than 72 hours of sleep deprivation because lucidity begins to decline and questioning become ineffective.⁴⁷ During our interview with Jessen, he stated that sleep deprivation could be used indefinitely without harming the prisoner; however, you could not chain him overhead indefinitely.

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19. (S) Often, prisoners who possess significant or imminent threat information are stripped to their diapers during interrogation and placed back into their cells wearing only diapers. This is done solely to humiliate the prisoner for interrogation purposes. When the prisoner soils a diaper, they are changed by the guards. Sometimes the guards run out of diapers and the prisoners are placed back in their cells in a handcrafted diaper secured by duct tape. If the guards don't have any available diapers, the prisoners are rendered to their cell nude.⁴⁸

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⁴⁶ Interview of [redacted]
⁴⁷ Interview of [redacted]
⁴⁸ Interview of [redacted]

Dec 2002 (Attachment 15)
Dec 2002 (Attachment 15)
Dec 2002 (Attachment 15)

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SUBJECT: (S) Death Investigation - Gul RAHMAN

20. (S) Prisoners' cells are austere. A prisoner begins his confinement with nothing in his cell except a bucket used for human waste. Prisoners are given rewards for cooperation. Rewards can consist of a light, "foamies" for the prisoners' ears (blocks out the music), a mat to sleep on, extra blankets, etc. Additionally, a luxury room has been built which has a light, a rocking chair, a table, and carpeting on the floor. Prisoners are not punished for lack of cooperation. Instead, rewards that they have received for cooperation are taken from them if they become uncooperative.⁴⁹

21. (S) When guards move prisoners from their cell to the interrogation room, usually [redacted] guards enter the cell with a flashlight. A hood is placed over the prisoner's head and he is lead to the interrogation room in shackles. The guards do not speak to the prisoners and all communication between the guards is completed with hand signals. Once the detainee is placed in the interrogation room the guards depart, and the hood is removed by [redacted] personnel. Every effort is made to ensure that the only person a detainee communicates with is his CIA interrogator.⁵⁰

DEATH OF GUL RAHMAN

22. (S) Gul RAHMAN was a Hezbi Islami official from Wardak province, Afghanistan, who was known to interact with and support Al Qa'ida. He was known to be a close associate of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and Abu Abd Al-RAHMAN Al-Najdi.

[redacted]

Jessen stated that [redacted]

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- ⁴⁹ Interview of [redacted] Dec 2002 (Attachment 15)
- ⁵⁰ Interview of [redacted] Dec 2002 (Attachment 15)
- ⁵¹ Alec 189493, [redacted] Oct 2002 (Attachment 31)
- ⁵² Alec 191539, [redacted] Nov 2002 (Attachment 32)
- ⁵³ [redacted] 29520, [redacted] Nov 2002 (Attachment 33)

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treatment." [redacted] stated that they occasionally pushed and shoved RAHMAN while he had a hood over his head to disorient him and scare him. Jessen described witnessing what he termed "a rough takedown." Jessen stated that when a detainee is strong and resilient, you have to establish control or you are not going to get anywhere. So you try different techniques to try to get him to open up. One of them is rough threatening treatment. The treatment is never to the point that you hurt the prisoner physically, you simply want to instill fear and despair in the prisoner. [redacted] came up with the idea of the hard takedown and asked Jessen for his thoughts. While Jessen has not used this technique at facilities at which he has worked, and had never seen one conducted, he thought it was worth trying. According to Jessen, there were approximately [redacted] CIA officers from the [redacted] team. Each one had a role during the takedown and it was thoroughly planned and rehearsed. They opened the door of RAHMAN's cell and rushed in screaming and yelling for him to "get down." They dragged him outside, cut off his clothes and secured him with Mylar tape. They covered his head with a hood and ran him up and down a long corridor adjacent to his cell. They slapped him and punched him several times. Jessen stated that although it was obvious they were not trying to hit him as hard as they could, a couple of times the punches were forceful. As they ran him along the corridor, a couple of times he fell and they dragged him through the dirt (the floor outside of the cells is dirt). RAHMAN did acquire a number of abrasions on his face, legs, and hands, but nothing that required medical attention. (This may account for the abrasions found on RAHMAN's body after his death. RAHMAN had a number of surface abrasions on his shoulders, pelvis, arms, legs, and face.) At this point, RAHMAN was returned to his cell and secured. Jessen stated that [redacted] may have spoken to RAHMAN for a few moments, but he did not know what [redacted] said. Jessen stated that after something like this is done, interrogators should speak to the prisoner to "give them something to think about."^{71 72}

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Officer⁷¹ Interview of [redacted] Dec 2002 (Attachment 15)⁷² Interview of John B. Jessen, 9 Jan 2003 (Attachment 30)~~TOP SECRET//XI~~

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