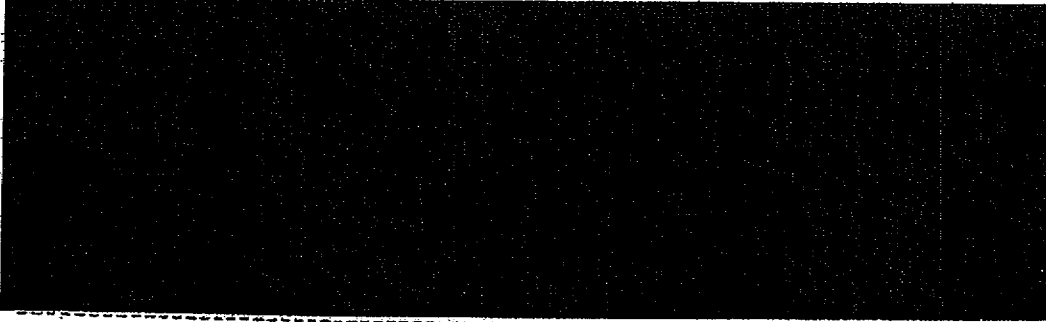


EXHIBIT 15

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ROUTE COMMENTS:



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STAFF

TO: IMMEDIATE [REDACTED] INFO [REDACTED] DIRECTOR.

FROM: DDO INFO [REDACTED]

SLUGS: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - DISPOSITION OF VIDEOTAPES [REDACTED]

REF: A. [REDACTED]

B. [REDACTED]

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: PLEASE REVIEW BELOW GUIDANCE.

2. THIS CABLE HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ON 05 SEPTEMBER 2002, HQS ELEMENTS DISCUSSED THE DISPOSITION OF THE VIDEOTAPES DOCUMENTING INTERROGATION SESSIONS WITH ((ABU ZUBAYDAH)) THAT ARE CURRENTLY BEING STORED AT [REDACTED] WITH PARTICULAR CONSIDERATION TO THE MATTERS DESCRIBED IN REF A PARAS 2 AND 3 AND REF B PARA 4. AS REFLECTED IN REFS, THE PARTICIPANTS OF THIS MEETING CONCLUDED THAT THE CONTINUED RETENTION OF THESE TAPES, WHICH IS NOT/NOT REQUIRED BY LAW, REPRESENTS A SERIOUS SECURITY RISK FOR [REDACTED] OFFICERS RECORDED ON THEM, AND FOR ALL [REDACTED] OFFICERS PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING IN [REDACTED] OPERATIONS; THEY ALSO RECOGNIZED THE ADDITIONAL CONCERNS DESCRIBED IN REFS, SUCH AS THE DANGER TO ALL AMERICANS SHOULD THE TAPES BE COMPROMISED. IN THIS POSSIBLE CIRCUMSTANCE, THERE ALSO EXISTS A CLEAR DANGER THAT THE OFFICERS PICTURED ON THE TAPES COULD BE SUBJECT TO RETRIBUTION FROM AL-QA'IDA ELEMENTS. ACCORDINGLY, THE PARTICIPANTS DETERMINED THAT THE BEST ALTERNATIVE TO ELIMINATE THOSE SECURITY AND ADDITIONAL RISKS IS TO DESTROY THESE TAPES [REDACTED] THE BEST MECHANISM FOR DESTROYING THE TAPES FOLLOWS:

A. DEPLOYMENT OF [REDACTED] A

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(12/28/07) TCG: 00392

TCG-0004853-3972

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[REDACTED] WILL BE DEPLOYED [REDACTED] AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO BE PRESENT AND ASSIST IN DESTROYING THE TAPES COMPLETELY.

B. POLICY ON USAGE OF TAPES: STARTING IMMEDIATELY, IT IS NOW HQS POLICY THAT [REDACTED] RECORD ONE DAY'S WORTH OF SESSIONS ON ONE VIDEOTAPE FOR OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS, UTILIZE THE TAPE WITHIN THAT SAME DAY FOR PURPOSES OF REVIEW AND NOTE TAKING, AND RECORD THE NEXT DAY'S SESSIONS ON THE SAME TAPE. THUS, IN EFFECT, THE SINGLE TAPE IN USE [REDACTED] WILL CONTAIN ONLY ONE DAY'S WORTH OF INTERROGATION SESSIONS. (A SPECIFIC EXCEPTION TO THIS TIMETABLE MAY BE MADE WHERE REQUIRED IN THE CASE OF A PARTICULAR DAY'S SESSION.)

C. [REDACTED]

3. HQS IS CONFIDENT THAT [REDACTED] UNDERSTANDS THE REASONING BEHIND ABOVE POLICY FOR THE VIDEOTAPES. THIS WILL ENSURE THE PROTECTION AND SAFETY OF [REDACTED] OFFICERS AT [REDACTED] HQS WILL ADVISE DETAILS OF THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE [REDACTED] SEPARATELY. THANK YOU AND BEST REGARDS.

4. [REDACTED]

END OF MESSAGE

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(12/28/07) TCG: 00393