AL-QA'IDA Training for Resistance to Interrogation

Types of Interrogations:
1. Police Summons
2. General Detention
3. Private, Unrelated Event
4. Coercive (Torture) Interrogation

Importance of Information to Interrogator
- From small piece of info, complete case is built
- Do not talk, if forced, talk with caution
  - Agree to general points and respond with vague answers
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1. COVER

- Always have cover, maintain at all costs
  - Believable and memorized to smallest detail
  - Stick with even when confronted with evidence and under torture
  - Have group cover legend to explain activity
  - Avoid Western-trap of being told others have confessed
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2. Admit to Lesser Crime
   – Be Prepared to Protect Greater Crime
     • Accept punishment for having false papers
     • Carry instrument for suicide rather than reveal true nature
     • Request political asylum, esp. in Europe
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3. Gain Credibility
   - **Buy Time if Necessary**
     - Expose "10%" of an attack, vague terms
     - Use if interrogator will be satisfied
     - Reveal false or fabricated attack scenarios
     - Establish false bona fides with details of past
   - **All Designed to Hide Knowledge of Actual Attack**
4. Maintain Pleasant Demeanor

- Be Friendly
- Do not aggravate or anger interrogator
- Show no religious fervor or name calling
- Avoids torture and disarms interrogator
- False impression of not being zealot
- Merely 'a simple soldier'
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Additional Guidance

- Collaboration is prohibited
- Gain physical/emotional strength from Koran
- Stale-blunting lies to buy time & regroup
- Feign passing out to avoid torture
- Maintain group integrity (communication and prayers)
- Only a reformed Jihad member will cause a true follower to re-evaluate stance and commitment
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Additional Guidance (cont’d)
- While under torture, permitted to reveal some secrets
- Each word uttered may harm another brother
- Intelligence and Prosecutor coordinate
  - May be tortured repeatedly to compel confession
- When at the Prosecutor’s office:
  - Request to be seen by medical staff to record injuries
  - After interrogation, request his exposure to torture be recorded
  - Request a lawyer be present, mention lawyer’s name clearly
  - Request food
  - Deny any information and claim fabrication by Intell officer
  - Deny any written statement
  - Any confession was due to torture
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Additional Guidance (cont’d)

- When in presence of a Judge or at Trial:
  - Insist on recording that Brother was subjected to torture
  - Complain of bad treatment at prison
  - Memorize name of state security officers who performed torture and mention them to judge
  - Some Brothers may turn state witness (pray for him)
  - Use opportunity to covertly communicate with Brothers on the outside
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- Resisting the Conditioning Process
  - Basic Conscript Level
    - Primitive Refusal
    - Engage in Distracting Behavior (i.e. prayers, emotional outbursts)
    - Complain about treatment
  - Advanced Training for AL-QA'IDA Leadership and Senior Operators
    - Battle of Wills vs. Battle of Wits
    - Pre Coordinated Statements and Resistance Techniques
    - Ask for Legal Counsel and Medical Care
    - Claim Statements were coerced
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**RESISTANCE POSTURE**

- Identified cluster of behaviors related to resistance posture
  - Captivity and interrogation are a "Battle of Wills"
  - Be prayerful
  - Remain steadfast
  - Persevere in the face of adversity
  - Be unresponsive to provocation
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- RESISTANCE POSTURE (Cont’d)
  - Think before responding
  - Pause before speaking
  - Be misleading with the appearance of sincerity
  - Resist complying with directives that shape cooperation
  - Regroup after mistakes and return to the pre-coordinated “Security Plan” (cover story)
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- ADVANCED AL-QA'IDA RESISTANCE TECHNIQUES
  - Outright Denial, if forced - lie
  - Inability to Think – Concentrate – Comprehend
  - Feigning Injuries or Disabilities
  - Diggresing into Irrelevancies
  - Contradiction of Previous Statements or Behavior
  - Misleading, Vague and Inaccurate Statements
  - Stalling and Pausing
Al Qaeda Training for Resistance to Interrogation

- **CASE STUDY**
  - Challenges:
    - Well educated
    - Trained in resistance tactics, security and deception
      - Limits on exploitation tools; including inducements
      - Knowledge of US restrictions
    - Willing, maybe eager, to die as a martyr
      - Deep seated hatred for America
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- **CASE STUDY**
  - General Resistance Posture
    - Apparent sincerity
    - Willing to assist, but does not possess info or cannot recall details
    - Able to quickly process implications
      - Structures responses to provide minimal information
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**CASE STUDY**

Counter-measures used:

- Vague or non-specific information
  - "maybe, I think, could be" or information widely known and not attributed to single individual
- Digress into irrelevancies
  - Dated material, details not related to threat-related query
  - Details on persons dead or known to be captured
- Outright Denial
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- CASE STUDY

- (U) (b)(1)

- (C) (b)(1)

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• CASE STUDY
  
  - Confrontation
    • Changes story in effort to confuse / frustrate
    • Reveals increasingly detailed irrelevant information
    • Attempts to reverse or revise previous disclosures
  
  - Protest
    • Attempts to convince rather than convey
      • "...just a simple man, we don't talk to one another"
    • Uses ploy to digress into irrelevancies
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**CASE STUDY**

- **Lies of Omission**
  - Explains away personal involvement
  - Lack of recall on key details
    - Understates value of "work" and status

- **Innocent Statements**
  - Innocent explanations for incriminating details
    - Codes in date book are "merely shorthand", false passports for personal use for innocent travel
    - "Throw-Away" data
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• CASE STUDY
  - Stalling and Diversion
    • Repeat question, feign lack of understanding
      - “Mukhtar, Mukhtar, where have I heard that name”
      - Feign sudden pain, trouble breathing
      - Shifting in seat, stretching
  - Feign physical problems
    • Confusion, mumbles incoherently
      - Shaking hand, twitching uncontrollably
      - Tactic described in diary with Pakistani interrogators
      - Confronted with tactic, never used again
METAPHOR FOR UNDERSTANDING AL-QA'IDA RESISTANCE

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DEVELOPING COUNTERMEASURES

- Develop solid grasp of Al-Qa'ida resistance techniques
- Thoroughly assess captive for use of techniques
- Identify those using advanced concepts
- Segregate those using techniques from those using primitive resistance tactics
- Craft and employ tactics to exploit vulnerability associated with specific resistance strategies
- Reduce ‘cross-contamination’ communication after exposure to countermeasures