

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

INFO MEMO

DSD _____
USD(P) _____

FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: Ryan Henry, PD Under Secretary of Defense for Policy

SUBJECT: Detainee Deaths at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba ~~(S)~~

- ~~(S)~~ 3 detainees at GTMO died of apparent suicide from asphyxiation early Saturday morning, June 10, 2006.
 - ~~(S)~~ The detainees involved were 2 Saudis and 1 Yemeni national, all detained in (b)(1) Sec 1.4(a) Tab A).
 - All three detainees were hunger strikers. The Yemeni detainee had been enterally fed until May 2006.
 - (b)(1),(b)(5)
 - ~~(S//NF)~~ All 3 detainees left suicide notes.
- ~~(S)~~ Current operations follow the contingency plan for handling a detainee death at Guantanamo (Tab B).
 - ~~(S)~~ ~~(S)~~ DASD Cully Stimson has been in close contact with Rear Admiral Harry Harris and is monitoring the situation.
 - ~~(S)~~ The pathology team and NCIS Response team arrives at GTMO on or around 1400 today in accordance with the approved procedures.
 - ~~(S)~~ The Muslim chaplain on call for emergencies but has a family emergency and cannot come to GTMO. USSOUTHCOM is looking for a replacement Muslim chaplain to oversee handling of the bodies.

Prepared by: (b)(6) Office of Detainee Affairs, (b)(2)

Derived from: Multiple Sources
Reason or Reasons: 1.4 (b,c,d)
Declassify On: 10 June 2016

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- ~~(S)~~

(b)(1)

- ~~(S)~~ OSD(DA) is coordinating DoD response efforts.
 - ~~(S)~~ OSD, USSOUTHCOM, and JTF-GTMO are coordinating medical response efforts and plans to handle remains in accordance with Muslim customs.
 - ~~(S)~~ OSD(PA) is coordinating the press release with USSOUTHCOM, which will be released later this morning and refer further inquiries to GTMO.
 - The Press release will be provided to White House and DoS.
 - ~~(S)~~ OSD(DA) is coordinating plans to notify the ICRC per the Geneva Conventions.
- ~~(S)~~ We are working with the interagency to coordinate the USG response.
 - ~~(S)~~ OSD(LA) has notified White House, OVP, NSC, DNI, and appropriate Hill offices.
 - ~~(S)~~ DoS will notify the Governments of Saudi Arabia and Yemen
- ~~(S)~~ We are working to answer key questions that remain, including the appropriate approach to afford the appropriate religious customs, when possible.

COORDINATION: OGC
JS

Attachment: As stated.

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SUBJECT: Detainee Deaths at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba ~~(S)~~

- ~~(S)~~ 3 detainees at GTMO died of apparent suicide from asphyxiation early Saturday morning, June 10, 2006.
 - ~~(S)~~ The detainees involved were 2 Saudis and 1 Yemeni national, all detained in (b)(1) Sec 1.4 (Tab A).
 - All three detainees were hunger strikers in 2005 and 2006. The two Saudi detainees were enterally fed in 2005. One Saudi detainee was also enterally fed twice in 2006. The Yemeni detainee had been enterally fed until May 2006.
 - (b)(1),(b)(5)
 - ~~(S//NF)~~ All 3 detainees left suicide notes.
- ~~(S)~~ Current operations follow the contingency plan for handling a detainee death at Guantanamo (Tab B).
 - ~~(S)~~ ~~(S)~~ DASD Cully Stimson has been in close contact with Rear Admiral Harry Harris and is monitoring the situation.
 - ~~(S)~~ The pathology team and NCIS Response team arrives at GTMO at or about 1400 today, in accordance with the approved procedures.
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cannot come to GTMO. USSOUTHCOM has identified and arranged travel for a USAF Chaplain as a replacement Muslim chaplain to oversee handling of the bodies.

- ~~(S)~~

(b)(1)

- ~~(S)~~ OSD(DA) is coordinating DoD response efforts.
 - ~~(S)~~ OSD, USSOUTHCOM, and JTF-GTMO are coordinating medical response efforts and plans to handle remains in accordance with Muslim customs.
 - ~~(S)~~ OSD(PA) is coordinating the press release with USSOUTHCOM, which will be released later this afternoon and refer further inquiries to GTMO.
 - The Press release will be provided to White House and DoS.
 - ~~(S)~~ OSD(DA) has notified the ICRC, consistent with Geneva Conventions provisions and our existing practices that permit the ICRC to undertake its humanitarian activities in regard to persons detained during armed conflict.
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- ~~(S)~~ We are working with the interagency to coordinate the USG response.
 - ~~(S)~~ OSD(LA) has notified White House, OVP, NSC, DNI, and appropriate Hill offices.
 - ~~(S)~~ DoS has notified the Governments of Saudi Arabia and Yemen
- ~~(S)~~ We are working to answer key questions that remain, including the appropriate approach to afford the appropriate religious customs, when possible.

COORDINATION: OGC
JS

Attachment: As stated.

SUMMARY INFO ON DETAINEES : YM 693, SA 588, SA 093

They were all in (b)(1) Sec 1.4(a)

- 3 habeas attorneys and 1 defense counsel aboard GTMO ... none of these for the suicides.

1. YM693/Ahmed Ali ABDULLAH/26 YRS OLD

- Country of origin: Yemen
- Long term hunger striker; enteral feeder; came off enteral feeding May 2006
- ARB status: (b)(5)
- Involved in (b)(1) Sec 1.4(a) No
- Prior suicide attempts: None, other than hunger strike
- Preliminary cause of death: Asphyxiation
- Habeas Atty: No
- Commissions Candidate: No
- Suicide note found: Yes – You did not like the tube in my nose. . . Now accept the rope on my neck.”

Assessment:

(b)(1),(b)(5)

Additional Details:

(b)(1)

Further information available at the TS(SCI) level.

2. SA588/Mana Shaman Allabardi AL-TABI/30 YRS OLD

- Country of origin: Saudi Arabia
- 2006 Hunger Striker: yes
- 2005 Hunger Striker TBD
- ARB Status: (b)(1),(b)(5)
(b)(1),(b)(5)
- Involved in (b)(1) Sec No
- Prior suicide attempts: None, other than hunger strike
- Preliminary cause of death: Asphyxiation
- Habeas Atty: Yes
- Commissions Candidate: No
- Suicide note found: Yes – “I have left the cage despite you. You going to give me a punishment on this action. Put me in the cells (b)(1) Sec 1.4 a forever.””

Circumstance of capture:

(b)(1),(b)(6)

Background Information (summary):

- (b)(1)
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-

(b)(1),(b)(5)

3. SA093/Yasser Talal AL ZAHRANI/23 YRS OLD

- Country of origin: Saudi Arabia
- 2006 Hunger Striker: yes
- 2005 Hunger Striker: TBD
- ARB Status: (b)(5)
- Involved in (b)(1) Sec 1.4 (a): No
- Prior suicide attempts: None, other than hunger strike
- Preliminary cause of death: Asphyxiation
- Habeas Atty: No
- Commissions Candidate: No
- Suicide note found: Yes -- "I have turned in my Koran so you would not insult it. Now I am turning in my body and sacred area so you would not insult it."

(b)(1),(b)(5)

Circumstance of capture: (b)(1)

(b)(1)

Background Information (summary):

• (b)(1)

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Assessment (b)(5)