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From: DOLANJA@ms.state.gov
 Sent: Sunday, October 13, 2002 3:35 PM
 To: LeventhalBH2@STATE.GOV; BrinkBA@STATE.GOV
 Subject: FW: CBS News Report on GTMO and potential releases

> In case you missed Friday's CBS Evening News (as I did), you will be
 > interested in this report. [redacted] on impending releases and an
 > "enemy combatant" who is over 90 years old.
 >
 > Innocent Afghan Detainees At Gitmo?
 > Oct. 11, 2002
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 >
 > On April 10th this year, a 21-year-old student earning extra money for his
 > family drove a taxi out of a stand in Kabul.
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 > As CBS News Correspondent Allen Pizzey reports, three hours later he
 > rolled up to a roadblock outside the town of Gardez and then disappeared.
 >
 > A few days later, his father, Sayed Roshan, learned he had been handed
 > over to U.S. troops. And then heard nothing more.
 >
 > Then, Roshan tells Pizzey, "Suddenly I got the first message from Cuba."
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 > So after two months of trying to find out what had happened, he suddenly
 > discovered his son was in Cuba.
 >
 > Abassin Roshan is now Detainee "JJJFGA" at Camp X-Ray, Guantanamo Bay.
 >
 > Apparently, Abassin and another taxi driver were picked up in the middle
 > of clashes between a local warlord and pro-American militiamen and handed
 > over to U.S. Special Forces in the camp.
 >
 > Within days, the Americans were told the two men were innocent, according
 > to the local governor at the time.
 >
 > Taj Mohammed Wardak, Minister of the Interior, claims the two men, one of
 > them being Abassin Sayed Roshan, were not guilty of anything. They were
 > taken by mistake.
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 > Says Wardak bluntly, "They were not guilty."
 >
 > In fact, Guantanamo Bay detention camp appears to host a significant
 > number of people who have no reason to be there.
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 > According to Pentagon sources, Abassin Roshan is one of about 60 detainees
 > whose release is "under consideration".
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 > CBS News has also learned that among those held at Camp X-ray as "enemy
 > combatants" are several men over the age of 66, and one man who is more
 > than 90 years old.
 >
 > Sayed Roshan says he was beaten by the Taliban.
 >
 > He is certain his son hated the fundamentalist regime and has repeatedly
 > asked the U.S. embassy here to discuss his case.
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 > "Please come in from the embassy," Roshan asked them, "You call me. This
 > is my contact, this is my fax, this is my telephone."
 >
 > But no one ever contacted him.

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> Embassy officials have refused to comment, saying all questions on
> detainees are handled by the International Red Cross.
>
> In brief messages Abassin has said he is in good health and well-treated,
> but it doesn't help his father.
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> "Everything is, I think is damaged. My mind also is not normally,
> twenty-four hours I'm thinking about my son," Roshan says.
>
> Amazingly, Sayed Roshan expresses hope that his son will be able to study
> in America. But first, America has to set him free.

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