Subject: FYI — Early Background on Videotapes (Four Cables): EYES ONLY - GUIDANCE ON RETENTION OF VIDEO TAPES OF ABU ZUBAYDHA

CONFIDENTIAL INFO:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: 1) PLEASE DO NOT TAPE OVER OR EDIT VIDEOS OF ABU ZUBAYDHA'S INTERROGATIONS, 2) PLEASE PRESERVE ALL VIDEOS.

2. HQ APPRECIATES REF A COMMENTS AND THANKS FOR WORKING TO OVERCOME THE DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING VIDEO RECORDING OF ABU ZUBAYDHA'S INTERROGATION SESSIONS. WE REITERATE REF B GUIDANCE, HOWEVER, AND ASK THAT RETAIN ALL VIDEOS OF AZ'S INTERROGATIONS, AND LEAVE THOSE VIDEOS UNEDITED. THOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE TAPES MAY BE CUMBERSOME TO STORE, THEY OFFER EVIDENCE OF
AZ's condition/treatment while in care that may be of value in the future (apart from actionable intelligence).

END OF MESSAGE
INTERVIEW REPORT

INTERVIEWEE: [Redacted]

PREPARED BY: [Redacted]

CASE: (U) [Redacted] Review of Interrogations for Counterterrorism Purposes.

(U/AVE) On 17 June 2003, Office of Inspector General interviewed [Redacted] in conjunction with a review of Agency practices regarding the interrogation of individuals for counterterrorism purposes. This interview began at 0930 and concluded at [Redacted].
When asked if it was consistent with GUI, I would have to check guidance before.

5. (TS/SS) said the labeling of the videotapes was spotty, with some tape labels having dates with start/stop times, and others having only start times. I observed that the tapes were numbered, but not sequentially, just about all the tapes had dates or were numbered. In addition, there were some "miscellaneous tapes," and numbered them 1 through 92 with a black magic marker.

I watched the video of the tape in play mode, listening to the audio for the tenor of the session, then watching the balance of the tape in "play/fast forward." I observed "no touching," "no threatening gestures," and "no body language" that would suggest hostility or any untoward activity, "just questions and answers."

6. (TS/SS) said it was consistent with guidance, would have to check guidance before.
When the session was complete, a comparison was made between what had been reported and what was actually on the video. It was acknowledged that there was no time or date stamp on the video and that the tapes do not cover the whole period during which the sessions occurred. The tapes alone would not give you a complete picture. Nevertheless, the description on the tapes was compared with the description in the cable. Everything else about the description is accurate. It tends to confirm the cable.

A second comparison was made between the tapes with the description in the cable. Everything else about the description is accurate. It tends to confirm the cable.

It explained that in some cases there was only one half hour of video recording on a tape. This fact was noted when a taped interrogation session ended or when personnel did not just change the tapes when they ran to the end of the spool. When a taped interrogation session ended on a videocassette tape, fast forward through the remaining static or "blue" screen to the end of the tape. For many of the tapes, on half of the tape "there was nothing." On some tapes it was apparent that the VCR had been turned off and then turned back on right away.

On some tapes, the video quality was poor and on others the tape had been reused (taped over) or not recorded at all. The label on some tapes read "interrogation session," but when viewed there was just snow. The label did not make note of this in the report. It was estimated that a "half dozen" of the videotapes had been taped over or were "snowy.

The audio on some of the tapes was difficult to hear.
detect any mechanical problems with the tapes checked each one visually to see that it was rewound not aware of any tapes that were broken
14. [T/S/DO-00-27] review of the interrogation videotapes saying "all aggressive sessions" were conducted with videotaping, adding, "I'm satisfied I saw tapes of the entire aggressive phase." Everything the cables reported "I can verify. I do verify." Report is accurate and I did not feel pressured to reach a particular conclusion with respect to the tapes.

When asked whether conclusion that the tapes "confirm" the cable traffic was overstated, [redacted] replied that the tapes "tend to confirm what is in the cables," and "do nothing to discredit any of the cables." [redacted] added that [redacted] received no pressure from management to report in a certain way.
DESTRUCTION OF VIDEO TAPES

located the following correspondence relating to the destruction of the videocassettes. (in reverse chronological order)

November (08Nov05) Confirmation that all 92 video tapes were destroyed on 09 access) (08Nov05) DDO approves request to destroy video tapes please check and provide to if you have access) (08Nov05) requests approval to destroy video tapes please check and provide to if you have access) (02Jan03) requests HQS' decision regarding videotapes

(04Aug03) EYES ONLY - DISPOSITION OF MAGNETIC MEDIA
(04Aug03) EYES ONLY - DISPOSITION OF MAGNETIC MEDIA

PAGE 001
TOT: 042200Z AUG 03

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - DISPOSITION OF MAGNETIC MEDIA

TOP SECRET/<<<ORCON/NOFORN//MR

00063
2007-8808-16001844
1. ACTION REQUIRED: PLEASE SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN PARA 2 BELOW.
2. APPRECIATE MAINTAINING CONTROL OF ALL MAGNETIC MEDIA LISTED IN REF. PLEASE FORWARD INVENTORY DOCUMENT TO AND UPON RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF INVENTORY LIST HQS WILL PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR FINAL DISPOSITION OF MATERIAL. PLEASE NOTE THAT INVENTORY LIST SHOULD ONLY CONTAIN LISTING OF MAGNETIC MEDIA FROM PROJECT AND NOT THE VIDEOTAPE IN POSSESSION. THANKS AND REGARDS.

3. FILE: 

END OF MESSAGE
SLUGS: EYES ONLY - DISPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAGNETIC MEDIA
SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - DISPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAGNETIC MEDIA
REF: NONE

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: PLEASE PROVIDES INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISPOSITION OF HARD DRIVES AND MAGNETIC MEDIA.

2. 

3. FILE: NONE.

CABLETYPE: 

END OF MESSAGE
TOP SECRET/REL//ORCON/NOFORN//MR

TO: IMMEDIATE DIRECTOR INFO IMMEDIATE

FOR:  

SLUGS:  

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - DISPOSITION OF MAGNETIC MEDIA

REF:A.  
B.  

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: NONE. FYI ONLY.

2. PER PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS, PLEASE PROVIDE CABLE FROM THE INSPECTOR GENERAL AUTHORIZING REF ACTION.

3. FILE: NONE.

CABLETYPE:  

END OF MESSAGE  

EYES ONLY - INVENTORY AND REVIEW OF INTERROGATION VIDEOTAPES

TO:  
FOR:  

TOP SECRET/REL//ORCON/NOFORN//MR

000635

2007-8808-1G001847
1. ACTION REQUIRED: NONE; FYI ONLY.

2. ON 03 DEC 02, CONDUCTED AN INVENTORY OF ALL VIDEOTAPES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS CREATED AT DURING THE INTERROGATIONS OF AL-QA'IDA DETAINES ZAYN AL-'ABIDIN MUHAMMAD ((HUSAYN)) AKA ABU ((ZUBAYDAH)) AND 'ABD AL-RAHIM AL-((NASHIRI)) AKA MULLAH ((BILAL)) IN SUMMARY, CURRENTLY POSSESSES A TOTAL OF 92 REPEAT 92 TAPES AND THREE OTHER ITEMS (ONE EACH: OFFICER LOGBOOK; PORTFOLIO OF AZ NOTES AND DRAWINGS; AND ENVELOPE NOTES).
3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF A, COMPLETED HIS REVIEW OF THE VIDEOTAPES AND THE RELATED CABLES IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF D ITINERARY.

4. INVENTORY OF VIDEOTAPES

(ALL DATES ARE 2002)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TAPE</th>
<th>LABEL</th>
<th>DATE/TIME DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1ST SHIPMENT BOX 1 OF 4

DETAINEE #1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TAPE</th>
<th>LABEL</th>
<th>DATE/TIME DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DO NOT TAPE OVER
**TOP SECRET//ORCON//NOFORN//MR**

END BOX 3 OF 4

BEGIN BOX 4 OF 4

DETAINEE #1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TAPE</th>
<th>LABEL</th>
<th>DATE/TIME DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOP SECRET//SI//ORCON//NOFORN//MR**

2007-8808-16001853
NO VIDEO BUT THERE IS SOUND

USE AND REWIND #1
USE AND REWIND #2

DETAINEE #2

TAPE LABEL DATE/TIME DESCRIPTION

TAPE AND REWIND #2
USE AND REWIND #3
FINAL

END BOX 4 OF 4
OTHER MATERIALS

BEGIN OTHER MATERIALS

END OTHER MATERIALS

5. FILE: NONE.

CABLETYPE:

END OF MESSAGE

28Nov02) EYES ONLY

STAFF
TO:

TOP SECRET//SI//ORCON//NOFORN//MR

000643

2007-8808-IG001655
1. ACTION REQUIRED: REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THROUGH ON REF ORIGINAL AUTHORITY TO DESTROY REF VIDEO TAPES.

2. FOR THE REASONS CITED IN REF, THE FACT THAT THE INSPECTOR GENERAL HAD ADVISED THAT REF VIDEO TAPES WERE NO LONGER REQUIRED FOR HIS INVESTIGATION AND THE DETERMINATION BY THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL THAT THE CABLE TRAFFIC ACCURATELY DOCUMENTED ACTIVITIES RECORDED ON VIDEO TAPE; REQUESTS HQS AUTHORIZATION FOR TO DESTROY REF VIDEO TAPES. PENDING HQS APPROVAL, WILL OVERSEE DESTRUCTION OF VIDEO TAPES. ON COMPLETION OF THE DESTRUCTION, A CABLE WILL BE FORWARDED TO HQS NOTING THE DATE/TIME OF THE VIDEO TAPE DESTRUCTION.

3. FILE: NONE.

CABLETYPE:  

END OF MESSAGE
SECRET

STAFF 081855ZNOV05

TO: 

FROM: DDO 

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY FOR DDO APPROVAL TO DESTROY VIDEO TAPES

REF: 

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: RESPONSE TO REF A.

2. DDO APPROVES REF A REQUEST TO DESTROY VIDEO TAPES AS PROPOSED REF A AND FOR THE REASONS CITED THEREIN (THERE IS NO LEGAL OR OIG REQUIREMENT TO CONTINUE TO RETAIN THE TAPES.) REQUEST THAT ADVISE WHEN DESTRUCTION HAS BEEN COMPLETED. APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE.

3. FILE: 

CABLETYPE: 

END OF MESSAGE
ACTION: REQUEST APPROVAL TO DESTROY VIDEO TAPES

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THE INSPECTOR GENERAL TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON REF ORIGINAL AUTHORITY TO DESTROY REF VIDEO TAPES.


3. FILE: NONE.

CABELTYPE: 

END OF MESSAGE
ROUTE COMMENTS:

ACTION: [reddedacted]

080304Z NOV 05

080304Z NOV 05

CITE [reddedacted]

TO: IMMEDIATE DIRECTOR

FOR: [reddedacted]

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY FOR - REQUEST APPROVAL TO DESTROY VIDEO TAPES

REF: [reddedacted]

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: REQUEST APPROVAL TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON REF ORIGINAL AUTHORITY TO DESTROY REF VIDEO TAPES.

2. FOR THE REASONS CITED IN REF, THE FACT THAT THE INSPECTOR GENERAL HAD ADVISED THAT REF VIDEO TAPES WERE NO LONGER REQUIRED FOR HIS INVESTIGATION AND THE DETERMINATION BY THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL THAT THE CABLE TRAFFIC ACCURATELY DOCUMENTED ACTIVITIES RECORDED ON VIDEO TAPE; REQUESTS HQS AUTHORIZATION FOR PENDING HQS APPROVAL, WILL OVERSEE DESTRUCTION OF ALL VIDEO TAPES. ON COMPLETION OF THE DESTRUCTION, A CABLE WILL BE FORWARDED TO HQS NOTING THE DATE/TIME OF VIDEO TAPE DESTRUCTION.

3. FILE: NONE.

CABLETYPE: [reddedacted]

END OF MESSAGE
To: Sir, FYI.

—

Forwarded b

Edit cable

Reply To Cable

Categorize cable

Print this cable

CATEGORIES:

ROUTE SUBJECT: EYES ONLY FOR DESTRUCTION OF VIDEO TAPES

ROUTE COMMENTS:

ACTION:

090627Z NOV 05

CITE

TO: PRIORITY DIRECTOR.

FOR:

TOP-SECRET/ /NOFORN//MR
SLUGS: [Redacted]

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY FOR [Redacted] - DESTRUCTION OF [Redacted] VIDEO TAPES

REF: A. [Redacted]
B. [Redacted]

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: FYI

2. PER REF A, ALL 92 [Redacted] VIDEO TAPES WERE DESTROYED ON 09 NOVEMBER. DESTRUCTION ACTIVITY WAS INITIATED AT 0910HRS AND COMPLETED AT 1230HRS.

3. FILE: [Redacted]

CABLETYPE: [Redacted]

END OF MESSAGE
TO: PRIORITY DIRECTOR.

FOR:

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY FOR DESTRUCTION OF VIDEO TAPES

1. ACTION REQUIRED: FYI

2. PER REF A, all video tapes were destroyed on 09 November. Destruction activity was initiated at 0910hrs and completed at 1230hrs.

3. FILE:

CABLETYPE:

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET