## Periodic Review Board: Subsequent Full Review Hearing, ISN 1463 Abd Al Salam Al Hilah

## Hearing Summary:

The 23 March 2021 Periodic Review Board (PRB) subsequent full review hearing for ISN 1463 Abd Al Salam Al Hilah was attended by four observers who represented:

- Judicial Watch, Inc.
- Indiana University
- ARD (German news)
- The Intercept

The government identified ISN 1463 as a former participant in Yemen's political security organization who used his connections to provide Al Qa'eda with safe havens. He may have been involved with plotting the bombing of the USS *Cole*. He was captured in Egypt in 2002 and transferred to GTMO in 2004.

The personal representative stated that the detainee has been continually cooperative with the PRB procedures and made a point of attending all scheduled meetings. According to the personal representative, the detainee is motivated by a desire to reunite with his family. He often advocates peace in daily life and expresses disdain for Al Qa'eda. The detainee was eager to answer all questions.

The government noted that the private counsel's statement would be available for review in the classified session.

## Observations:

ISN 1463 attended the hearing in a white garment that looked like a jalabiya, and he wore a traditional head covering and sash made of camouflage fabric. His appearance suggested someone from Saudi Arabia more than Yemen, which may have been a deliberate attempt to align himself with a seemingly moderate country. He appeared healthy. Though he actively shuffled through papers, the detainee's posture was a relaxed slouch accompanied by an expression of boredom by the end of the open session.

The private counsel's statement was never posted to the PRB website, so arguments in the detainee's favor are unavailable.

Political connections in Yemen may have changed during ISN 1463's confinement at GTMO, but unless they have changed completely, there would be a strong potential for recidivism. Without significantly different information available in the classified session than in the open session, the Board would be unreasonable to determine the detainee to no longer be a threat.