Periodic Review Board: Subsequent Full Review Hearing, ISN 708 Ismael Ali Faraj Ali Bakush

Hearing Summary:

The 20 October 2020 Periodic Review Board (PRB) subsequent full review hearing for ISN 708 Ismael Ali Faraj Ali Bakush convened under the watch of four observers who represented:

- Indiana University
- Judicial Watch, Inc.
- The Miami Herald
- The *Intercept*

The government summary held that ISN 708 was the explosives expert for the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group and led explosives training for Al Qa'eda. The summary was functionally identical to previous summary statements that the government has read about this detainee, with the addition that ISN 708 was captured by the Pakistani forces as he traveled from Afghanistan to Pakistan after the events of September 2001 and was only transferred to U.S. Custody a year later in August 2002.

The detainee did not attend this session. The detainee's assigned personal representative stated that he had been assigned to the detainee on 1 October 2020 to replace the former personal representative who had completed a tour of duty. In the new personal representative's meetings with ISN 708, it was determined that the detainee did not want to participate in this PRB hearing. The personal representative thanked the Board for this opportunity for review.

Observations:

ISN 708 has not attended his last several PRBs. He has also fired his private counsel. He appears to be intent on becoming a GTMO martyr, and the Board is unlikely to determine that he is no longer a threat on the basis of his refusal to participate.

The government's inclusion of ISN 708's capture information is an expansion on the released datum recording when the detainee reached GTMO. It is likely included in response to several other PRBs wherein personal representatives and/or private counsel have made a habit of including pre-GTMO time in their tallies of detainee incarceration times.