

Ismael Ali Faraj Ali Bakush

ISN 708

Photograph unavailable.

Backgrounder

ISN 708 Ismael Ali Faraj Ali Bakush (kunyaas “Abu Al Dhahab Al Khamsi,” “Abu Ali,” “Abu Ali Azzab,” “Abu Munir,” “Al Hajj Ali,” “Al Hajj Munir Al Libi,” “Ali,” “Ali Azab,” “Haj Munir,” “Ismael Al Libi,” “Ismael Ali A'zab,” “Munir,” and “Sabhi Bin Jumah Al Nayli”) is a citizen of Libya aged approximately 52 years. Pakistani forces captured him shortly after September 2001, and he was transferred to U.S. custody in August 2002. Sources have identified ISN 708 as the explosives expert for the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG) and indicated that he also trained Al Qa'eda fighters in the construction and setting of explosives.

During his incarceration at GTMO, ISN 708 has taken many health and life skills classes and regularly uses his cooking skills to prepare meals for other detainees. He seems to be generally disinclined to participate in legal procedures, having fired his private counsel and declined to attend most Periodic Review Board (PRB) sessions beyond his initial review. During his initial review, the Board noted that ISN 708 had made few or no plans to support himself after departing GTMO. He may consider himself a “GTMO Martyr.”

The detainee underwent his initial PRB on 14 July, 2014. It was determined that he remained a threat due to his continued hostility toward other countries in reaction to the Libyan civil war and his refusal to renounce extremist activity. The PRB conducted file reviews on 8 February, 2017; 30 August, 2017; 14 February, 2018; 13 February, 2019; 14 August, 2019; and 13 February, 2020, all concluding that detention remained warranted. His first subsequent full review on 21 August, 2018, was triggered by process requirements, as was his latest subsequent full review on 20 October, 2020.