Periodic Review Board: Subsequent Full Review Hearing, ISN 1460 Abdul Rabbani Abu Rahmah

Hearing Summary:

The 26 January 2021 Periodic Review Board (PRB) subsequent full review hearing for ISN 1460 Abdul Rabbani Abu Rahmah convened under the watch of five observers who represented:

- Indiana University
- Judicial Watch
- ARD (German news)
- Al Jazeera
- New York Times

The government summary identified ISN 1460 as a logistics contractor for KSM and stated that he was initially recruited by his own younger brother, detainee Abu Badr. Though the government noted that ISN 1460 probably did not have detailed knowledge of Al Qa'eda and Al Qa'eda's plans, it appeared that due to his logistical and family connections to terrorism, his release would result in recidivism.

The detainee elected not to attend the session, but he had read the summaries of his government and personal representatives. The personal representative reported that he had only recently assumed representation of ISN 1460. Since the detainee had not granted him any requests for meetings, he informed the Board that he had little first-hand knowledge about the detainee but was willing to address the Board's questions. Private counsel for the detainee was not in attendance.

Observations:

The onset of this PRB hearing was delayed by the arrival of the representative from the Department of State and may have been caused by the swearing in of Secretary of State Anthony Blinkin, which occurred on the same day.

This subsequent full review hearing appears to have been a process requirement, rather than triggered by a file review. As a result, ISN 1460 may have chosen not to attend the session because nothing in the available information had changed. However, detainees in the past have elected to attend their first hearings after a change in U.S. government administration to test the process for associated change. That this detainee did not may indicate either an intent to stay at GTMO or a lack of faith in the new administration. However, his decision not to attend this hearing has likely deprived the Board of any other option than to declare him a continuing threat.