



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of entry 03/12/2015

On February 28, 2015, United Kingdom citizen MINH QUANG PHAM, also known as (a.k.a) MUHAMMAD AMIN PHAM, a.k.a. AMIN (hereinafter referred to as PHAM), date of birth [REDACTED], place of birth Vietnam, United Kingdom passport number: [REDACTED], was interviewed in [REDACTED], New York. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Special Agents (SA) [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] conducted the interview. After being advised his rights, PHAM read and signed the FD-395 and Waiver of Speedy Presentment, waived those rights, and subsequently provided the following information:

PHAM is willing to plead guilty to the charges for which he has been indicted. He would like to put his time in Yemen in the past and move forward with his life.

**Time with al-Qaeda in Yemen:**

PHAM does not believe the owners of the al-Qaeda safe houses that he stayed in were fully aware of the support that they were providing to al-Qaeda. PHAM does not wish to make statements against the owners of the safe houses as he views them as innocent.

PHAM does not have any information on al-Qaeda members that could carry out attacks in the West or who might inspire others to carry out such attacks. PHAM is not aware of any individuals that ANWAR AL-AULAQI trained in Yemen and sent back to the West to conduct attacks. PHAM is aware that SAMIR KHAN

Investigation on 02/28/2015 at [REDACTED] New York, United States (In Person)  
 File # [REDACTED] Date drafted 03/12/2015  
 by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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and AULAQI are no longer alive and, as a result, are no longer working on Inspire.

PHAM was not aware of any kidnappings in Yemen while he was there.

While PHAM was in Yemen with al-Qaeda, he met a [REDACTED] national named [REDACTED]. PHAM described [REDACTED] as dark skinned, muscular, in his 30's, and with a short goatee. [REDACTED] spoke English and broken Arabic and would wear a scarf around his head. PHAM could not recall if [REDACTED] was married or if he had any children. [REDACTED] never worked on Inspire and PHAM is not sure if [REDACTED] received any weapons training.

PHAM was not aware of any operational plans al-Qaeda had for [REDACTED]. PHAM met [REDACTED] in January 2011 and was with him for about a week or two. PHAM and [REDACTED] then went to separate locations but were co-located again approximately one month later, around February or March 2011. PHAM saw [REDACTED] on and off thereafter until [REDACTED] left Yemen. PHAM could not recall the date of [REDACTED] departure. PHAM did not recall seeing [REDACTED] and AULAQI speaking together. PHAM opined, however, that AULAQI and [REDACTED] had a one-on-one interview at some point. PHAM recalled that [REDACTED] witnessed PHAM and AULAQI speaking.

PHAM thought that a Somali national identified as [REDACTED] had told PHAM that he [REDACTED] was from the [REDACTED]. PHAM believed that [REDACTED] met with mid-level al-Qaeda members while in Yemen. PHAM was not sure why [REDACTED] was in Yemen.

[REDACTED]

AULAQI was the highest ranking member of al-Qaeda that PHAM met. AULAQI did not inform PHAM of who AULAQI reported to in al-Qaeda. PHAM was not sure about the level of formal Islamic education AULAQI had received or what qualified AULAQI to provide Islamic guidance and interpretation of the Koran. PHAM recalled that AULAQI did not believe people residing in the West should live in security while Muslims lived in fear. As a result,

AULAQI sought to bring fear to the West. PHAM never met any of AULAQI's wives.

PHAM did not hear anyone discuss nor did he see any North Africans while he was with al-Qaeda.

PHAM was not aware of where or how al-Qaeda obtained money to buy food for its members or pay the owners of the safe houses that they utilized. PHAM did recall al-Qaeda members discussing al-Qaeda raiding a bank in Zinjibar, Yemen. PHAM thought it was possible that al-Qaeda may have used that money to buy food and pay the owners of the safe houses.

PHAM did not hear any of the brothers discussing training they received, but PHAM believed that any training would have taken place indoors because of drones flying overhead. PHAM recalled that the brothers did have martial arts and Russian wrestling videos available that they watched and that they would practice hand-to-hand techniques in the safe houses.

PHAM recalled hearing drones at various times when he was with al-Qaeda. He described the sound they made as a buzzing that would get louder when the drone was directly overhead. PHAM also noted that the drones could be seen when they were an unknown distance away from a location.

PHAM did not swear bayat to al-Qaeda because bayat is not compulsory to join al-Qaeda. PHAM believed that individuals swore bayat to al-Qaeda to demonstrate they were not a spy. PHAM was not aware of anyone who swore bayat to al-Qaeda.

PHAM believed al-Qaeda had a Sharia council but he never saw the council or heard anyone speak about it.

**Inspire Magazine:**

PHAM advised that the goal of the Inspire magazine was to inspire people to conduct attacks in the West. AULAQI preferred that the individuals who

[REDACTED]

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wished to join al-Qaeda stay in their home country because it was less risky than traveling to Yemen. However, if someone desired to migrate to Yemen, they would still be accepted by al-Qaeda.

AULAQI and KHAN were the driving force behind Inspire. PHAM did not believe Inspire would have existed if it was not for KHAN and AULAQI. PHAM recalled that the production process of Inspire would generally consist of KHAN obtaining the photographs and articles for the magazine and putting them in the template for Inspire, which was on his computer. Once KHAN finalized an edition of Inspire, he would provide it to AULAQI to review and approve. After AULAQI approved the Inspire edition, it would be downloaded onto a memory stick and provided to a courier. The courier would take the memory stick to a location with internet access so that it could be uploaded. PHAM assumed AULAQI, KHAN, or members of the Arabic media wing of al-Qaeda would conduct interviews of senior al-Qaeda members for the articles that appeared in Inspire.

**Instructions from Aulqai/Departure from Yemen:**

Approximately two months before his July 2011 return to the United Kingdom (UK), PHAM and AULAQI discussed PHAM returning to the UK to make contact with like minded jihadists who wanted to travel to Yemen to join al-Qaeda and fight. AULAQI mentioned that jihadists aspiring to join al-Qaeda in Yemen should utilize routes [REDACTED]. Eventually, AULAQI advised PHAM to return to the UK to find individuals who wanted to migrate to Yemen to fight for al-Qaeda. PHAM only spoke to AULAQI about returning to the UK and not about jihadist operations in the UK.

AULAQI asked PHAM what he needed for his trip back to the UK and PHAM told him he needed 4000 Euros. AULAQI provided PHAM more than the 4000 Euros, though PHAM did not remember the exact amount of money AULAQI provided him. PHAM recalled that the authorities [REDACTED] counted the money and should know the exact amount that he had in his possession. PHAM did not know where AULAQI obtained the money that he provided to him.

[REDACTED]

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PHAM never created an e-mail account or any other account for PHAM and AULAQI to communicate through when PHAM returned to the UK. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PHAM registered the computer by entering his name and his personal e-mail address: [REDACTED]@gmail.com. However, PHAM also stated that he did not have an internet connection while he was with al-Qaeda. PHAM did not use or save anything to the [REDACTED]

The only forms of communication PHAM had established with AULAQI were the telephone number and e-mail address that AULAQI provided him while PHAM was in Yemen. AULAQI's e-mail address was written on paper in PHAM's possession at the time, but PHAM could not recall on what specific paper it was written. PHAM destroyed whatever the e-mail address was written on during his flight from Bahrain to the UK. The e-mail address was only to be used by individuals in the United Kingdom who wanted to go to Yemen to join al-Qaeda.

PHAM saved AULAQI's phone number [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PHAM recalled that he transferred the number to some paper at some point. PHAM called AULAQI's phone number approximately one month after his return to the United Kingdom. PHAM was instructed by AULAQI to call and say "hi jumayah" to confirm PHAM was okay.

Approximately one month after his return to the United Kingdom, PHAM used an old cell phone with a new sim card to call AULAQI using the telephone number that AULAQI had provided him.

PHAM was shown a photograph containing an image of a piece paper with a number and Arabic writing on it. PHAM advised that he did not recognize the number or the writing. In addition, the writing was not in his handwriting.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PHAM was shown a second photograph of a notepad with handwritten notes, including phone number [REDACTED]. PHAM identified the number as either his wife's or AULAQI's telephone number. PHAM could not recall the significance of the date written above the number. He indicated that it was not a date by which he was told to call AULAQI. PHAM confirmed that the handwriting in which the number and date were written were his writing and PHAM signed the photo confirming the handwriting as his own. PHAM could not remember anything about the number [REDACTED] that was also contained in this photo.

[REDACTED]

PHAM learned that AULAQI was killed from the news and that SAMIR KHAN may have also been killed in the same attack.

**Return to the United Kingdom:**

Upon his return to the UK, PHAM only spoke to one individual about his time with al-Qaeda in Yemen and AULAQI. This individual was identified as [REDACTED], who was of [REDACTED] decent.

PHAM never met the Charlie Hebdo attackers in Yemen. He did not believe the Charlie Hebdo attackers received specific instructions in Yemen for the attack. However, he believed that they may have gained experience in Yemen and took that back to France to carry out the attack.

PHAM stated that he had never heard of [REDACTED]. PHAM did not know the UK citizen named [REDACTED] who attacked and killed a soldier with a hatchet in the UK.

PHAM did not plan on using the video editing software AfterEffects upon his

FD-302a (Rev. 05-08-10)



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return to the UK.

