OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1640 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1640

APPOINTING AUTHORITY FOR
MILITARY COMMISSIONS

December 10, 2004

APPOINTING AUTHORITY DIRECTIVE

IN THE MATTERS OF
UNITED STATES V. IBRAHIM AHMED MAHMOUD AL QOSI
UNITED STATS V. SALIM AHMED HAMDAN
UNITED STATES V. DAVID M. HICKS
UNITED STATES V. ALI HAMZA AHMAD SULAYMAN AL BAHLUL

Pursuant to my authority under MCO No. 1, 6(B)(4), I direct that proceedings in the above styled military commission cases be held in abeyance pending the outcome of the appeal in the case of Hamdan v. Rumsfeld, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, No. 04-5393. Oral argument in that case is presently scheduled for March 8, 2005.

The presiding officer is authorized to issue discovery orders in the commissions, hold pre-trial conferences, and/or attend to other matters that do not require convening the full commission.

This order remains in effect until revoked.

John D. Altenburg, Jr.
Appointing Authority for Military Commissions