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Explosives Suspect Has Guantanamo Review

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SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico -- A prisoner who allegedly stockpiled explosives at a police station in Afghanistan was one of three detainees to go before U.S. military review tribunals on Monday in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, an official said.

Also Monday, five former detainees at Guantanamo, including a suspected bodyguard for Osama bin Laden, appeared in a court in Rabat, Morocco.

At the review tribunals on the Cuban island, the military alleged the suspect, 34, was in charge of the police station where a raid by U.S. and Afghan forces netted two truckloads of ammunition and explosives, said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Daryl Borgquist, a Pentagon spokesman.

The ammunition was under the control of the ousted Taliban regime and was being used in operations against U.S. and coalition forces, Borgquist said. "This was a lot of explosives and equipment to be there," he said. "It's a rugged and remote area."

It was unclear, however, what the detainee or his witness said at the hearing, which no media attended. The Associated Press filed a Freedom of Information Act request more than a month ago to obtain transcripts of the testimonies, as well as copies of the men's written statements.

The tribunals also heard from a 31-year-old detainee accused of being a member of a terrorist organization supported by the al-Qaida terror network, the military said. The third detainee to appear was 30-years-old and accused of having links to the Taliban.

The military did not release their name or nationalities.

The Combatant Status Review Tribunals are intended to decide whether the approximately 550 prisoners from more than 40 countries at Guantanamo are properly held as "enemy combatants" or should be released.

The tribunals have reviewed at least 522 cases so far. They have ordered two prisoners released and another 226 to remain in custody.

The suspects in the Moroccan court were turned over to Moroccan authorities in August after spending two years and eight months at the Guantanamo detention camp.

The five Moroccans, arrested in Pakistan and Afghanistan in 2001, face charges of involvement in terrorism and of threatening state security.

The accused include Abdellah Tabarak, suspected by U.S. authorities of having served as a bodyguard for bin Laden, according to Moroccan officials. But a lawyer for Tabarak, denied any connection.

After a one-hour procedural hearing, the court pushed back their trial to Jan. 3.

Morocco, which has an active network of Islamic militants, is one of the United States' most important allies in the Muslim world in fighting terror.