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Guantanamo Trial to Resume

Reuters
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The Pentagon cleared the way yesterday for the resumption of the long-delayed military trial of Guantanamo Bay prisoner David Hicks.

The Defense Department had put the case on hold last year after an unfavorable court ruling. Officials said the hearings in the Hicks trial will resume sometime between Oct. 3 and Oct. 20.

Hicks, an Australian held for 3 1/2 years at the military prison, has pleaded not guilty to charges of aiding the enemy, attempted murder by an unprivileged belligerent and conspiracy to commit war crimes. Captured in Afghanistan in late 2001, Hicks is accused of fighting for the al Qaeda network.

Of about 505 men held at Guantanamo Bay, four have been charged. Only the Hicks case is being resumed.

The announcement of the resumption of Hicks's trial came two months after a federal appeals court reversed a ruling in the case of another Guantanamo Bay prisoner, Yemeni Salim Ahmed Hamdan. The appeals court ruled that the military commission trials are lawful.