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Former Kuwaiti Gitmo Detainees on Trial

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KUWAIT CITY, April 11 (UPI) -- Lawyers for five former Guantanamo defendants propose that transcripts of their interrogations should not be admissible evidence in a trial underway in Kuwait.

Defense lawyer Ayedh al-Azemi told the court, "The transcripts do not bear signatures of the U.S. officers nor the defendants and thus should not be admissible as legal evidence by the court."

The five men stand accused of fighting against U.S. forces in Afghanistan for the former Taliban regime.

If convicted, the quintet faces a minimum of three years in jail.

The Arab Times reported Monday that defense lawyers argued that the men had not committed or been convicted of any crime in Kuwait and had not transgressed laws.

Azemi told journalists that the interrogation transcripts underpinning the Kuwaiti case were "not a proper investigation," but rather, "simple reports that included neither questions nor answers" against Abdulaziz al-Shimmari, Adel al-Zamel, Mohammad al-Deehani, Saad al-Azemi and Abdullah al-Ajmi.

Kuwaiti Judge Hmoud al-Mutawa abstained from ruling during the April 9 session and observers believe that he will make his opinions public only when delivering his verdict.

The five men were repatriated to Kuwait Nov. 4 after nearly four years in the U.S. holding facility in CampDelta in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.