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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Alexandria Division

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)	<u>UNDER SEAL</u>
)	
v.)	Crim. No. 01-455-A
)	Hon. Leonie M. Brinkema
ZACARIAS MOUSSAOUI)	

GOVERNMENT'S MOTION FOR
ADDITIONAL TIME TO ADDRESS ACCESS ISSUES

The United States respectfully requests additional time, until Monday, January 13, 2003, to file its response to the defense motions and the Court's orders relating to the question of access [REDACTED]. The United States needs additional time because our response involves coordination at the highest levels with other government entities.

On December 13, 2002, the Court ordered the Government to give its answer by January 9, 2003, on the issues of access [REDACTED]. Our response includes reviewing classified information of [REDACTED] sensitivity and coordinating a response among the highest levels of the Executive Branch, all during a time when the United States is fighting a war overseas -- a war that places extraordinary demands on the time of precisely those officials who must review matters related to this filing. Also, the issues raised are of profound importance and our response is being reviewed at the highest levels of the government. The Government has worked diligently at reviewing classified information, preparing its response, and coordinating with other entities that must clear on any filing that includes classified information. The necessary coordination and review, however, will require a small amount of additional time.

Further, yesterday, the Fourth Circuit announced its decision in Hamdi v. Rumsfeld, No.

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02-7338 (4th Cir. January 8, 2003), portions of which bear directly on issues raised by the defense motions for access in this case. Allowing additional time for us to consider and include that decision may well benefit the Court in its consideration of the access issues.

Accordingly, the United States respectfully requests until Monday January 13, 2003, to file its submission on the access issues.

Respectfully Submitted,

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United States Attorney

By:

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~~SECRET~~CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on January 9, 2003, a copy of the foregoing pleading was served on the Court Security Officer for service on the following counsel:

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