



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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Contractor Pleads Guilty to Possession of Child Pornography in Baghdad

(Alexandria, Virginia) – Ahmed Hasan Khan, of Woodbridge, Virginia, pled guilty today to a criminal information charging him with possession of child pornography while employed as a civilian contractor accompanying U.S. Armed Forces at the Baghdad Central Confinement Facility, Baghdad. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, made the announcement after the guilty plea was accepted by Senior United States District Judge Claude M. Hilton. Khan will be sentenced on May 11, 2007.

According to court documents, in November 2005, the network administrator at the Baghdad Central Confinement Facility, Abu Ghraib, Iraq, noticed that Ahmed Hasan Khan's personal computer was accessing child pornography on the Internet. Subsequent investigation revealed that Khan had more than 150 images of child pornography stored on his personal computer. The child pornography images included pictures of prepubescent children engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Khan was prosecuted in the Eastern District of Virginia under the authority of the Military Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act.

In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit <http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov>.

The investigation was conducted by the United States Army Criminal Investigations Command, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, and the FBI. Assistant United States Attorney Gerald J. Smagala is prosecuting the case for the United States.

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