

# Alka Pradhan

by Anthony C Heaford

Alka Pradhan is a 9/11 defense attorney who is actively trashing 9/11 trial evidence and protecting Al Qaeda in self promoting media interviews such as this one (picture right) with the New York Times.

Ms Pradhan is a member of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed's nephew's (Ammar al-Baluchi) defense team at the Guantanamo Bay military commission court. Three months after this particular media interview with Pradhan, in March 2018, a US military investigator (Dan Futrell) of Ammar al-Baluchi's defense team contacted me expressing 'great interest' in my published reports. My published reports detail my 1997 meeting with Khalid Sheikh Mohammed in Yemen and my visit to 'the Base' one mile from Al Qa'idah town, also in Yemen.

Pentagon employee Dan Futrell proposed sending a TEAM of investigators to Manchester in June 2018 to interview me, more than three years after I first reported my experiences in Yemen to British security services.



**Futrell Dan** 9 March 2018 at 18:58 

Re: Hello, email of introduction [Hide](#)

To: Heaford Anthony,

Cc: Connell, James G III CIV (US), **Thomas, Sterling R Lt Col USAF (US)** ▾  
Ctr Zitritsch, Amy M

Security: Signed (FUTRELL.DANIEL.BRUNSON.██████████)

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Hello Mr. Heaford,  
Thank you for agreeing to meet and interview with us. As so happens, several members of the defense team of Ammar al Baluchi will attending a meeting in London in June. Unfortunately, not myself. Ms. Zitritsch, a researcher and team member, is attending this trip to London and she would be very happy to travel to Manchester with some other team members of mine to meet you in Manchester. Are you available between the time-period of June 8th to 12th? She is cc on this email and she will coordinate with you concerning the meeting in Manchester, if you are available.  
Again, thank you so much.

Very Respectfully,  
Dan Futrell

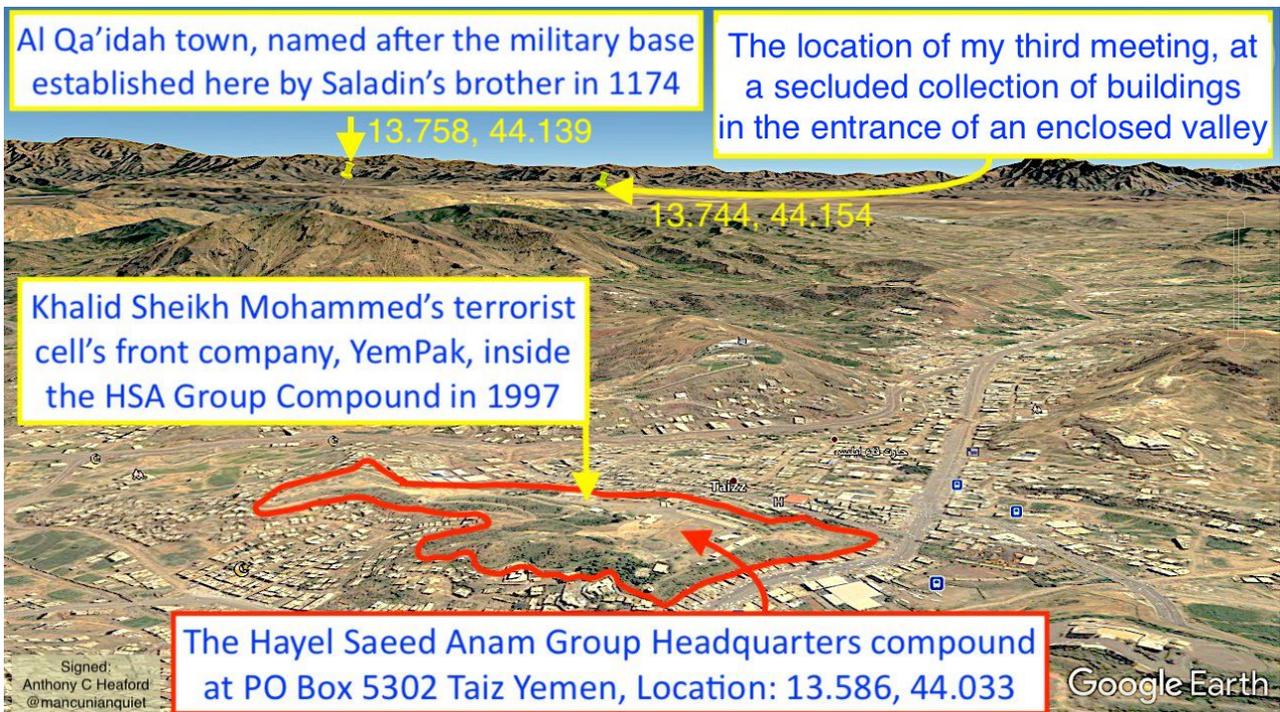
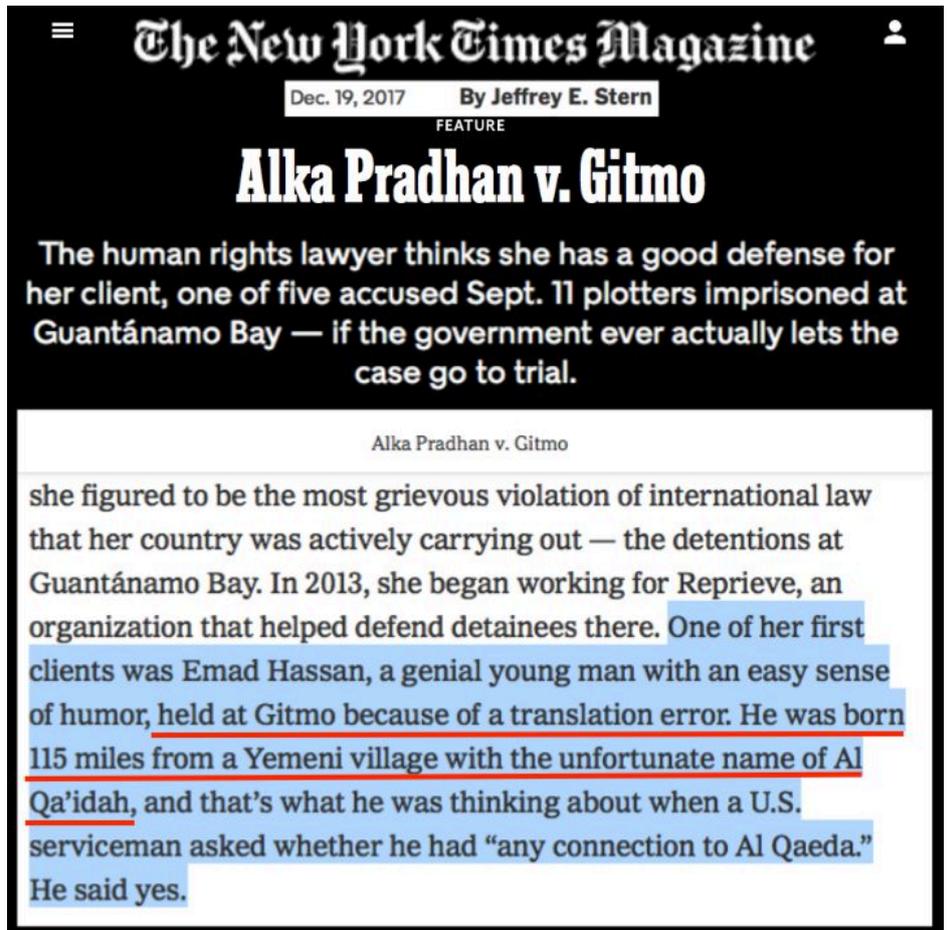
After initially cooperating fully with Ammar al-Baluchi's defense team - sharing all the information I could with them - my instinct told me something wasn't quite right about their request. Firstly, my evidence and testimony is for the 9/11 prosecution teams (who've never contacted me), not the defense. Secondly, given the significance of my claims, I was suspect of their proposing an interview in... three months time.

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Trusting my instinct I withdrew my cooperation and my consent to be interviewed - I've since been proven absolutely correct in trusting my instinct and suspicions about Ammar al-Baluchi's defense team. Not long after declining their invitation to interview I discovered Ms Pradhan's New York Times interview of December 2017 - published three months before I was contacted by her associates. In that interview Pradhan effectively trashes my testimony by claiming (without evidence) that Al Qa'idah town in Yemen has no connection whatsoever to the terrorist group known as Al Qaeda.

My evidence of Al Qa'idah town's connection to Al Qaeda is first-hand, based on my being taken to a clandestine meeting in a secluded valley one mile from Al Qa'idah. I was taken to that meeting about thirty minutes after being introduced to 'the Engineer' - 9/11 accused Khalid Sheikh Mohammed (KSM). I have photographs of myself with KSM inside the former headquarters of the Hayel Saeed Anam Group, located seventeen miles south of Al Qa'idah.



Hayel Saeed Anam Group headquarters location: 13.586, 44.033

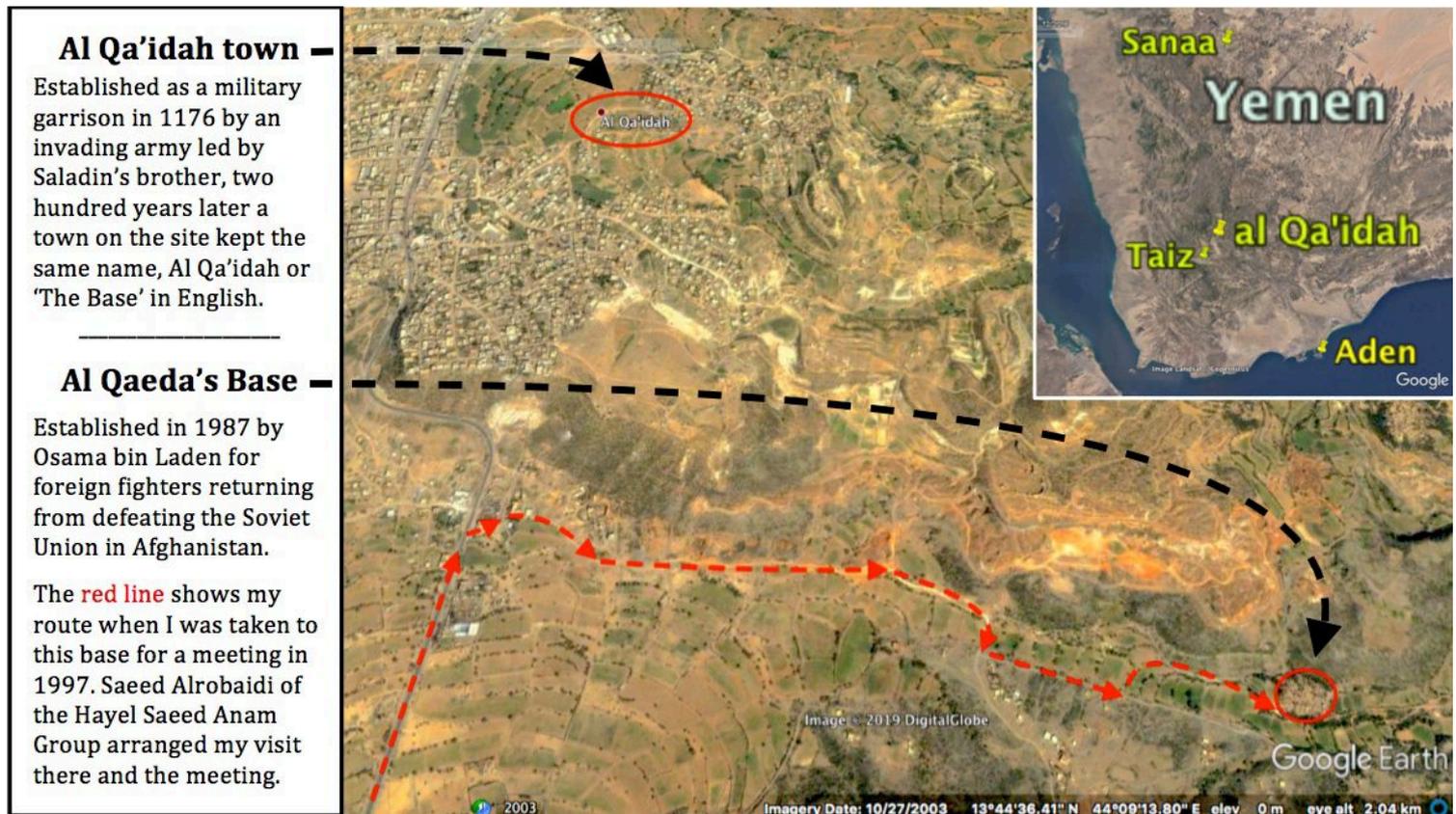
Al Qa'idah town location: 13.758, 44.139

My meeting location besides Al Qa'idah town: 13.744, 44.154

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This map shows my route to that clandestine meeting and details the origin of Al Qa'idah town's name:



My speculation that Osama bin Laden (OBL) established a 'Base' besides Al Qa'idah town in 1987 is based on documented records of OBL arranging a visit to Yemen in 1987, just as the war against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan was drawing to a close. OBL has more connections to Yemen than Saudi - his Father was Yemeni; his mentors were Yemeni; most of his Mujahideen recruits were Yemeni too.

Based on my 1997 experiences in Yemen and my subsequent research I have no doubt whatsoever that Al Qa'idah town is the origin of the name Al Qaeda (which is a deliberate misspelling by western media and Intel agencies to hide the group's origin in Yemen).

Alka Pradhan's 'evidence' that there is no connection between the town and the terrorist organisation is nothing more than claiming it was an 'unfortunate coincidence'. So why would Pradhan's associates propose sending a team of investigators to Manchester to interview when one of their team members (Pradhan) had effectively trashed my claims three months before in a New York Times (NYT) interview? There's only one viable reason I've been able to ascertain - Ammar al-Baluchi's defense team, all US Pentagon employees, were engaging in a Machiavellian plot to discredit me and undermine my testimony. They were attempting to protect Al Qaeda by hiding its true origins.

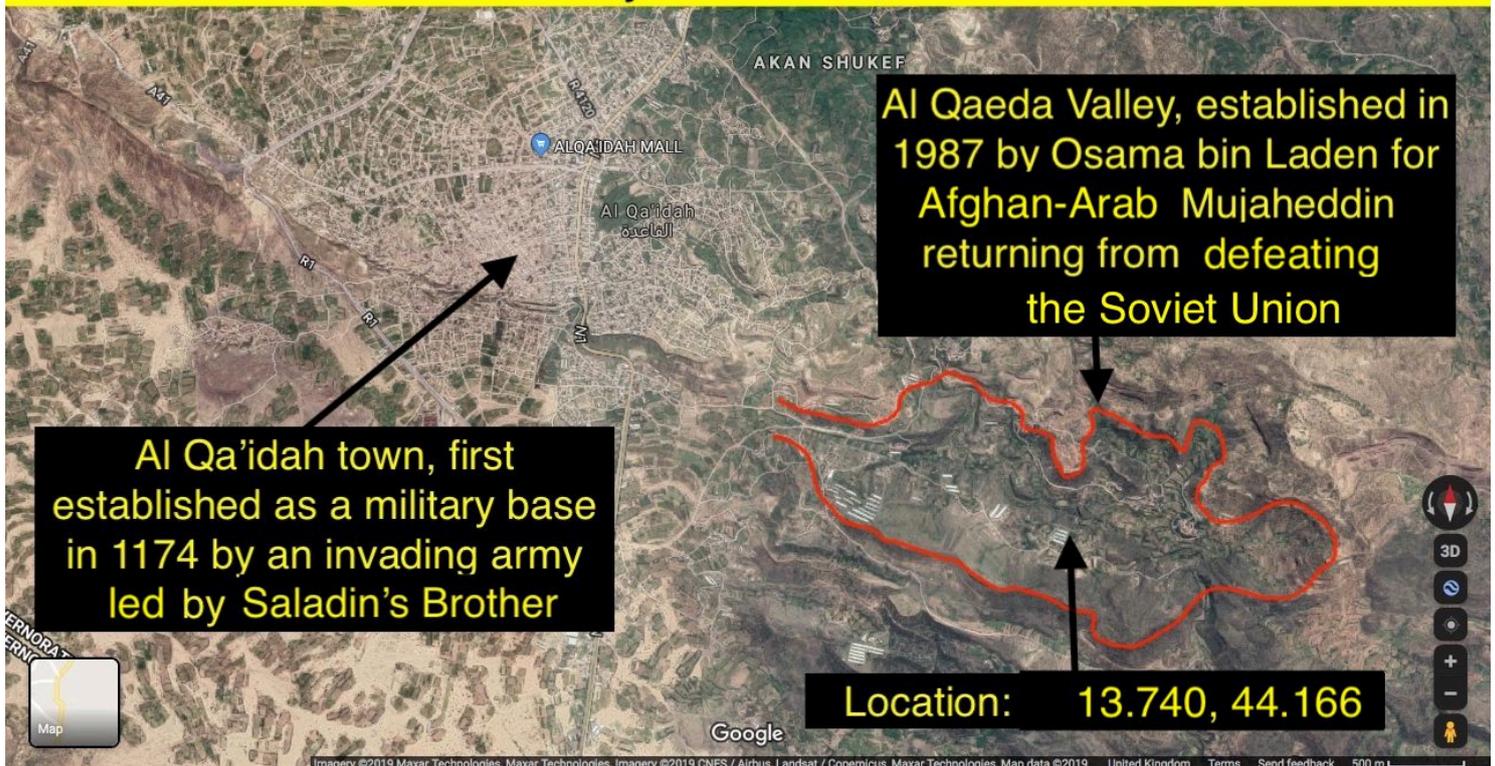
## Timing

The timing of Pradhan's NYT interview is critical in this matter, as detailed in the following chronology. Although I had first reported my suspicions about my meetings in 1997 Yemen to British security services in 2009 (they were very vague suspicions at that time, and I only did so because I was due to swear an oath of allegiance to the British army a few days later), it wasn't until April 2015 that I realised 'the Engineer' I'd been introduced to in Yemen in 1997 was in fact KSM. And it was another three-and-a-half years before I discovered the name of the town - Al Qa'idah - besides my clandestine meeting location.

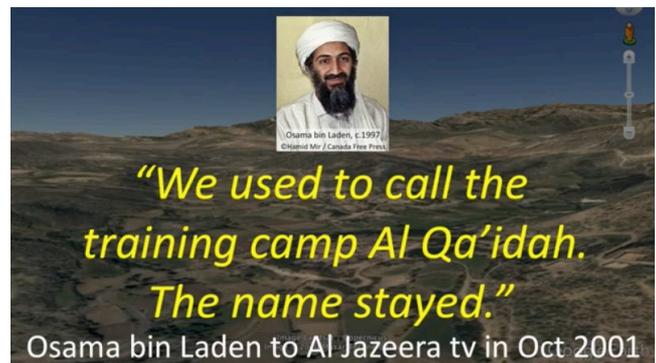
I made that discovery in November 2017, just six weeks before 9/11 defense attorney Alka Pradhan's NYT interview dismissing any connection between Al Qa'idah and Al Qaeda.

## Chronology

### Al Qaeda was a sanctuary in Yemen, besides al Qa'idah town



**26 September 1997** On the last day of a six-day business trip to Yemen I was taken by Mohamad A Salem (the general manager of the Hayel Saeed Anam Group HQ in Taiz) to a clandestine and unscheduled meeting at a secluded base in Yemen. The meeting was terminated at my behest and I left the base within 15-minutes without a word having been said. It was not until November 2017 that I identified the name of the town 1-mile from the base I had visited - it is called al Qa'idah, "The Base".



**February 2009** A day or two before joining the British army I called British Counter Terrorism Command (CTC) to describe my 1997 experiences in Yemen. When I mentioned the name of the company I visited - YemPak - the line clicked and a different person simply said "carry on". I told them of my vague suspicion I had visited an al Qaeda base. They appeared disinterested in my report and they never contacted back.

**April 2015** Over the course of several calls to the CTC I repeated the details of my experiences in Yemen that I'd given them in 2009. **I stated I now strongly suspected this meeting was with members of al Qaeda.** Again CTC expressed no interest in my report and have never contacted me back.

**May 2015** I emailed a seven-page dossier detailing my 1997 experiences in Yemen to multiple media outlets. This dossier contained significant new information that I had found through my own investigation. **That dossier and a list of media outlets I sent it to are copied here.** In the dossier I describe my journey to the base as follows:

*"On the way to the airport (factory car, manager driving) we made an unscheduled detour that I hadn't been told about. We travelled off road to an isolated collection of buildings – one or 2 concrete single story – non descript. A couple of men and a Toyota pick-up truck or two were in a yard area. I was shown in to an unremarkable room with a long table and seating, was told to sit down and wait. c.15mins later c.10 men came in and sat down"*

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## Reprieve NGO Trash 9/11 Trial Evidence

**15 June 2015** Human rights organisation Reprieve refer to al Qa'idah town in connection to a prisoner release from Guantanamo Bay prison, inferring there is no connection between the town and the terrorist organisation of the same name. The report was not signed and has since been deleted but it is very significant that [human rights attorney Alka Pradhan](#) was employed by Reprieve from 2013 to September 2015. In October 2015 Ms Pradhan became an employee of the US Department of Defense, assigned as a defense attorney to the 9/11 military commission trials. Here is the text of that original Reprieve NGO report:

*"A simple mistake led to Emad [Hassan]'s 13-year ordeal. Bounty hunters abducted him while he was studying in Pakistan, and sold him to US forces for \$5,000. In the confusion of interrogation, he told his captors that he knew about 'Al Qa'idah', referring to a small village with that name near his hometown in Yemen. As a result, Emad was taken to Guantánamo Bay."*

## Newsweek Magazine Trash 9/11 Trial Evidence

**18 September 2015** Newsweek magazine repeated the claims made by Reprieve NGO in a report by journalist [Lauren Walker](#). This is the text about al Qa'idah town in Newsweek magazine's report:

*"The town has no connection with the Al Qaeda terrorist organisations"*

## The Velvet Rocket website Trash 9/11 Trial Evidence

**22 January 2016** Justin Ames of *The Velvet Rocket* website visits al Qa'idah town and authors a report stating categorically (but without a shred of evidence) that al Qa'idah town:

*"has absolutely no connection with the Al Qaeda terrorist organisation"*

**09 May 2017** I emailed a revised dossier of eight-pages to the Counter Terrorism Command (CTC) describing my 1997 experiences in Yemen. I describe the location of the base I visited as within ½-hours drive north of Taiz city, and a short drive from the main road. **That dossier is linked here.**

**01 November 2017** I found [my al Qaeda meeting location on google maps](#) - as I zoomed out I saw the name of the nearby town - al Qaidah, "The Base". This is a meeting that I have long suspected may have been with al Qaeda, and had said so to CTC dating back to my original 2009 telephone call to them.

**I emailed this information to the British Counter Terrorism Command (CTC), linked here.**

## US Pentagon Attorney Trashes 9/11 Trial Evidence in the New York Times

**19 December 2017** In a shamelessly self-promoting New York Times interview, the 9/11 trial defense attorney Alka Pradhan, repeated the claims I believe she made via the Reprieve human rights organisation in June 2015, again making the assertion that al Qa'idah town has no connection to the al Qaeda terrorist organisation.

**09 March 2018** US Pentagon based army officer Daniel Futrell contacts me expressing "great interest in my insight and knowledge regarding the subject matter you have researched". Futrell says he is a senior investigator working for 9/11 trial defense attorney [James G Connell](#). It was James G Connell who gave Alka Pradhan her job in the US Department of Defense in October 2015.

**April 2018** The 9/11 military commission investigators who proposed send a team of their people to Manchester to interview me over a five-day period refused to discuss my witness status with me. After having cooperating fully, sending them almost every detail of my experiences in Yemen by email, I declined their invitation to interview. I now believe it was a trap, one intended to discredit me, my evidence and testimony before leaving me hung out to dry.

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**December 2019** Reprive human rights organisation deleted their June 2015 report claiming the was no connection between al Qa'idah town and al Qaeda the terrorist group after I advised them by email of my visit to the al Qaeda base besides al Qa'idah town. They have since republished the report, omitting the spurious claim about al Qa'idah town but have failed to publish a correction to their original report.

After Reprive deleted the original report I discovered a report by Reprives founder, attorney Clive Stafford-Smith. It repeated the assertion of no link between Al Qa'idah and Al Qaeda. That report was dated to before my dossier of May 2015. I believe it was deliberately back dated to further undermine my testimony.

I suspect it was that original report by Reprive, while Pradhan worked there, that got her a job at the US Department of Defense, working with James G Connell - one of the most shameless showmen I've ever witnessed.



This image shows the collection of buildings besides Al Qa'idah town that I visited in 1997; the star marks the location of the meeting I attended. Grid: 13.744, 44.154

