

U.S. urges no bond for terror detainee

by UPI

CHARLESTON, S.C. -- The last remaining enemy combatant held on U.S. territory should remain imprisoned as he awaits trial on terrorism charges, prosecutors say.

The U.S. Justice Department was set to ask a federal judge in Charleston, S.C., to continue holding suspected al-Qaida sleeper agent Ali Saleh Kahlah al-Marri without bond as he awaits trial on charges of conspiracy and material support of terrorism, The Washington Post reported.

Marri had been held without charges as an enemy combatant in a South Carolina U.S. Navy brig from June 2003 until Feb. 27, when a grand jury in Peoria, Ill., delivered a criminal indictment against him.

Wednesday's hearing was expected to reveal details of the government's case against Marri, a Qatari man whom U.S. military intelligence accused in 2004 of obtaining information about cyanide and other poisonous chemicals and of preparing to disrupt U.S. financial networks, the Post said.

None of those allegations, however, appeared in the Illinois indictment, leading civil liberties advocates to question the strength of the government's case, the newspaper reported.

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