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What is your reaction to 9/11 confession?

How big a threat is terrorism?

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the man accused of masterminding the 9/11 attacks, appeared before a closed hearing at Guantanamo Bay where he is said to have confessed involvement in the September attacks.

He also confessed to playing a leading role in 30 other terrorist plots including attacks on Heathrow airport, Big Ben and Canary Wharf.

The lawyer representing British detainees in Guantanamo has said the confession lacked any credibility because of the way the situation has been handled.

What is your reaction to this confession? How big a threat is al-Qaeda? Send us your views.

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Published: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 11:18 GMT 11:18 UK

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:10 GMT 12:10 UK

I especially liked the due process he got, his defense attorney and the lucid judge. Yet another victory for democracy and open society in the face of The Evil Terrorists.

[[Spironline](#)], Denmark

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:10 GMT 12:10 UK

A "confession" given to a secret tribunal by a man held illegally and probably been abused.

Dave, Warrington

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:09 GMT 12:09 UK

I think it's likely that he is guilty of some involvement in some terrorist plot, somewhere. For all we poke fun at the US "intelligence" services, they are pretty effective.

However, the fact that he has been tortured - practically if not technically - raises doubts over whether he was the kingpin or simply a little cog in a bigger machine. As Tarantino once put it, "You beat on this guy enough, he'll tell ya he started the Chicago fire."

fred bloggs, falkirk

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:09 GMT 12:09 UK

Isn't torture brilliant!?

Without it the Spanish Inquisition would never have found all those witches, and the US would not have got all these targets that conveniently keep the War on Terror fresh in the minds of the gullible.

I think the blacked out part must have been a confession to being Jack the Ripper!

Simon Ward, Watford, United Kingdom

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:09 GMT 12:09 UK

America has about as much credibility as Zimbabwe in its treatment of prisoners.

Gully, UK

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:09 GMT 12:09 UK

THIS MAN HAS BEEN IN GUANTANAMO FOR SO LONG HE JUST WANTS THE TORTURE TO STOP, SO HE MUST HAVE CONFESSED, ANOTHER COVER UP BY THE BUSY ADMIN

kamran akhtar, midlands, United Kingdom

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:08 GMT 12:08 UK

The long string of terrorist plots, and the tone of the whole confession reminds me of the confessions at the Russian show trials held by Stalin.

It is also awfully convenient coming at a time when even many Americans are starting to lose faith in Guantanamo Bay.

I agree it lacks credibility and I sincerely hope it is not used as justification for continuing to detain people without trial.

Caroline G, Stuttgart, Germany

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:08 GMT 12:08 UK

I expect the conspiracy theorists to instantly jump on the bandwagon with this little gem - they must think all their Christmasses have come at once!

The trial was closed for very real and legitimate security reasons, but I expect most people will not understand or appreciate this.

The confession is valid, the guilty verdict stands and the man should now be put to death.

Topsy Turvy, England, United Kingdom

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:08 GMT 12:08 UK

How can one know whether to believe anything that comes out of these military courts. All is in secret, no one but the military can report on the going ons and the people charged are imprisoned in concentration camps with many allegations of torture. It seems like a trial with a venier of legality but with no mean to really know except through blind faith. So I guess it will be OK for those who believe whatever the american government says and totally debunked for those with minimum skepticism.

Henry, Niagara Falls

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:08 GMT 12:08 UK

Looking at his photo, he hardly looks capable of getting out of bed.

Theodore, Spain

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:07 GMT 12:07 UK

Let us not forget that this all started when THEY flew the planes into the towers.

Throw the book at them - then hopefully they make think twice before killing innocent people.

[So There](#), South of England, United Kingdom

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:07 GMT 12:07 UK

The BBC asks how big a threat is terrorism? Well, clearly, very big indeed. Terrorists feed off injustice. By illegally invading Iraq and allowing Israel to illegally annex and occupy Palestinian land we are aiding and abetting the terrorists in their recruitment drive. I fully agree with the Arab leader who said that the Iraq invasion created 1000 Bin Ladens. They must be loving our "response" to their actions.

Maxwell, London, UK

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:07 GMT 12:07 UK

Interrogate someone in captivity long enough and they will confess to anything. We've all seen the conditions at Guantanamo, I think the confession lacks all credibility.

Ian, Ilford

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:06 GMT 12:06 UK

A confession obtained behind closed doors, from a suspect who has been tortured by beatings, sleep deprivation, isolation, starvation, and the nastier elements of psychological warfare. And this can all be forgotten because the suspect states he didn't make his statement 'under duress', Yeah, right. No wonder the US wish a military tribunal - a proper court of law would throw out the case at the first hearing. Terrorism is both vile and abhorrent. As are we for sanctioning torture.

Mike, London

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Added: Thursday, 15 March, 2007, 12:06 GMT 12:06 UK

All you have to do is look at the man's 'before' and 'after' photos to check if his claim was 'under duress'.

The first question that came to my head when I saw the headline and his pic was "what the hell happened to this guy?"?

Good question.

[Daniel UK](#)

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