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11:52 PM ET

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U.S. citizen pleads guilty to helping al Qaeda

Syed "Farhad" Hashmi pleaded guilty Tuesday to conspiracy to provide material support to al Qaeda, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York announced.

Hashmi was arrested in June 2006 at London's Heathrow Airport as he prepared to board a flight to Pakistan. He was accused of conspiring to transport "military gear" to al Qaeda forces fighting U.S. troops in Afghanistan, according to a federal indictment issued in 2006.

In 2007, Hashmi became the first American citizen to be extradited from the United Kingdom on terrorism charges. Several human rights organizations in New York, including Educators for Civil Liberties, Theaters Against War and the Center for Constitutional Rights, have protested the conditions of Hashmi's confinement while he awaited trial over the past two years.

Hashmi, a Queens resident who was born in Pakistan, faces a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison.

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Post by: [The CNN Wire](#)

Filed under: [Al Qaeda](#)

soundoff (85 Responses)

**jon**

They have no right to protest his conditions, even if they locked him up in the space of a closet and never let him out or see daylight is to good for him. They should just slaughter that pig and be done with it, it's not like he's a person, he's a parasite. Are tax dollars should not provide for him.

April 28, 2010 at 12:19 am | [Report abuse](#) | [Reply](#)

**KH**

He's right. OUR tax dollars are better spent on education.

April 28, 2010 at 12:24 am | [Report abuse](#) | [Reply](#)

**John**

To some on the left, including some in the present admin, he is considered a hero.

April 28, 2010 at 12:32 am | [Report abuse](#) | [Reply](#)

**bird**

Profiling might have caught this guy don't you think? We need to profile???

April 28, 2010 at 12:34 am | [Report abuse](#) | [Reply](#)

**PP**

Where were those "Human Right Activists" when Hashmi was providing material support to al qaida? What about the human rights of innocent citizens killed in 9/11?

April 28, 2010 at 12:41 am | [Report abuse](#) | [Reply](#)

**Retired Deputy**

If members a certain group are commonly known to be violating the law why is wrong to cloely check members of that group. Call it whatever term you wish, it just makes sense and it makes our country safer..

April 28, 2010 at 12:43 am | [Report abuse](#) | [Reply](#)

**KD**

Why should we need to jail this type of people? It's a waste of tax dollars. Just take him out to the high sea and feed him to the shark. It's good for the ecosystem. One less terrorist on this earth. We are too soft. We need to set example, therefore, these traitors will deter when thinking to do harm to us.

April 28, 2010 at 12:44 am | [Report abuse](#) | [Reply](#)

**Mansoor S**

Hey Jack 'Dumbass' W: Catholic priests are abusing boys left and right, so that makes all Catholics child molesters? You are the bigoted scum that's an insult to humanity.



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