UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO

Summary of Administrative Review Board Proceedings for ISN 886

The Administrative Review Board was called to order.

The Detainee entered the proceedings.

Presiding Officer: Good morning, sir. Do you pronounce your name “Nasrullah”?

Detainee (through translator): Yes.

Presiding Officer: Mr. Nasrullah, welcome to this Review Board.

The Presiding Officer announced the convening authority and purpose of the Administrative Review Board proceedings.

The Designated Military Officer (DMO) was sworn.

The Board Reporter, Translator, Assisting Military Officer (AMO), and Board Members were sworn.

The Presiding Officer asked the Detainee if he wishes to make a statement under oath and offered the Muslim oath.

The Detainee took the Muslim Oath.

The Presiding Officer read the hearing instructions to the Detainee and confirmed that he understood.

The Assisting Military Officer presented the Notification of the Decision of the Administrative Review Board Form, Exhibit EC-A, to the Administrative Review Board.

The Assisting Military Officer presented the Enemy Combatant Election Form, Exhibit EC-B, to the Administrative Review Board.

The Assisting Military Officer read the AMO Comments from the Enemy Combatant Election Form, Exhibit EC-B.

Assisting Military Officer: The Detainee’s ARB interview was conducted on 05 October 2006. After reviewing the ARB’s purpose and procedures, the Arabic translated Unclassified Summary of Evidence was read to the Detainee. When asked if he wanted to attend the ARB, present a written or oral statement, or have the AMO speak on his behalf, the Detainee stated he wanted to attend the ARB. The Detainee was very
cooperative, attentive and polite throughout the interview. Copies of both the English and Pashtu translated Unclassified Summary were provided to the Detainee, who accepted the Pashtu version.

*The Designated Military Officer presented the Unclassified Summary of Evidence, Exhibit DMO-1, and DMO-2 to DMO-3 to the Administrative Review Board.*

*The Designated Military Officer stated that a copy of these exhibits had been previously distributed to the Assisting Military Officer.*

*The Presiding Officer noted from the Enemy Combatant Election Form that the Detainee wanted to respond to each item of information from the Unclassified Summary of Evidence as it is presented.*

*The Designated Military Officer gave a brief description of the contents of the Unclassified Summary of Evidence, Exhibit DMO-1, to the Administrative Review Board.*

Designated Military Officer: (3.a.1) The Detainee is identified as joining a 40-man group after the end of the Taliban regime.

Detainee (*through translator*): This is about a year ago that, for the first time, I was asked about the 40-people group. I have never heard of the 40-people group. I have never been with the 40-people group.

Presiding Officer: You have never even heard of the unit?

Detainee (*through translator*): Yes, I have never heard of the unit.

Presiding Officer: Thank you.

Designated Military Officer: (3.a.2) A source identified the Detainee as part of the 40-man unit. The Detainee reports to his cousin, who is a sub-commander in the 40-man unit. The 40-man unit is an organization supported by al Qaida.

Detainee (*through translator*): I have never heard of a unit of 40-people. I cannot give any explanation because I do not know anything about it.

Presiding Officer: Do you know if your cousin belongs to any kind of paramilitary group?

Detainee (*through translator*): I have no cousins, except one, who is here with me. He is a Detainee. If you mean a cousin, like my straight brother’s sons, there is only one. I had
two small children cousins at the time when I was captured. I do not have any cousins in the whole country. I only have two children cousins.

Presiding Officer: Except for the one here? You said your cousin is here?

Detainee (through translator): No, he is not.

Designated Military Officer: (3.b) The Detainee received training on the Kalashnikov rifle and a pistol while he was at Mazar-e-Sharif.

Detainee (through translator): Yes, this is right. In the interrogation, I said that I did learn the use of the Kalashnikov and a pistol. In Afghanistan, almost every man and woman knows how to use a gun or a pistol.

Designated Military Officer: (3.c) The Detainee is identified as having been a member of the Taliban four years before the United States attacked Afghanistan.

Detainee (through translator): Yes, I was recruited by the Taliban four years before the Americans attacked Afghanistan. I was not a member of the Taliban, but I was recruited by them. I did not go with the Taliban like I wanted to go. I was recruited.

Designated Military Officer: (3.d) The Detainee told another individual that, when he got back to Afghanistan, he would get even with the interviewers.

Detainee (through translator): The first time I heard this accusation, it made me laugh because I was surprised; and I am surprised. And then, when I went back to my detention, I told my friends about it and they laughed also. None of you people are the people, who actually captured me and put me in detention; it is other people. Why should I be against you people? It is the will of God that I am here and it will be the will of God that I would be released back.

Member: So you did not say this?

Detainee (through translator): I did not say it.

Designated Military Officer: (3.e.1) The Detainee was conscripted into the Taliban around 1997 or 1998 where he worked for approximately 60 days as a clerk and a guard.

Detainee (through translator): Yes, I was recruited by the Taliban for 60 days. They put me in this service. For the first 10 days, one clerk was on leave and I worked instead of him as a clerk. For the other 50 days, we were exactly like here in detention. We were under the guards of the Taliban. They would not even let us go to Bazaar and buy something. So they kept us there under guard.
Designated Military Officer: (3.e.2) The Detainee claimed that he was a tailor and was conscripted into the Taliban for only two months.

Detainee (through translator): Yes, I am a tailor. I was tailoring and working in my shop. For two months, I was recruited. Not that I was happy; it was compulsory.

Presiding Officer: Two months seems like a very short period of time to be constricted into any military. I mean they drafted you into the Taliban for only 60 days?

Detainee (through translator): They would constrict for only two months. It was for everyone, not only for me. This was according to their law. They would take people for only two months.

Presiding Officer: Earlier in 3b, it mentioned training in Mazar-e-Sharif. Was this part of the Taliban?

Detainee (through translator): In the constriction, they really showed me how to use it, although I did know it before. There was a man, who would show everybody that, “This is a gun and you do it like this.”

Presiding Officer: So part of the 60 days was training?

Detainee (through translator): It was training.

Presiding Officer: But you said your first 10 days was being a clerk?

Detainee (through translator): As a clerk.

Presiding Officer: So were you training or were you a clerk?

Detainee (through translator): The first 10 days as a clerk and then, for 50 days, I was there in the military and they showed me how to use the Kalashnikov and a pistol. We took only like three or four days or a maximum of five days of the 50 days to learn how to use a gun.

Designated Military Officer: (3.e.3) The Detainee told another individual that he lied to his interviewers and actually did fight for the Taliban against United States forces while at Mazar-e-Sharif.

Detainee (through translator): What is the need to say a lie? A Muslim is not supposed to say a lie. I have never fought against the military of the United States. I will never fight against them. I have never told anybody what is stated here.
Designated Military Officer: (3.e.4) The Detainee told another individual he was part of the uprising at the compound that was surrounded by United States and Northern Alliance Forces and later used as a prison.

Detainee (through translator): I have never heard of that compound. I am accused that, four years before the Americans attacked Afghanistan, I was with Taliban, which is not true. This is perfectly not true. I have only been with them for 60 days and that is it.

Designated Military Officer: (3.e.5) The Detainee told another individual he retreated with Taliban forces to the compound and he was able to escape with approximately 80 others after the uprising.

Detainee (through translator): This is the first time I am hearing this accusation. I was not there, I did not escape, I do not know about the 80 persons.

Presiding Officer: From the time you left the Taliban in 1998 until you were arrested, what were you doing to make a living? Were you a tailor? Where were you living?

Detainee (through translator): I am a poor man. I have no land. I do not have any other business, except that I am a tailor. The two months, which I was with the Taliban, my family was borrowing money. I had to borrow a lot of money, so I was working and working very hard as a tailor.

Presiding Officer: Where were you living at that time?

Detainee (through translator): In the province of Uruzgan. I was doing this from my home. I had my sewing machine at home and I worked on it.

Presiding Officer: Thank you.

Designated Military Officer: (3.e.6) The Detainee was captured delivering a letter to a former Taliban Brigade Commander. The letter was from a high-ranking Taliban Commander, who requested the Brigade Commander to report to Quetta, Pakistan to fight and avoid capture by the Americans.

Detainee (through translator): My cousin came from Pakistan and had a letter with him. He said he had a taxi and he was going to sell the taxi. I was with him and he said, “If I sell this, I will give you a little bit of money so that you can run your business.” On the way, he showed me a letter and he said, “I brought this letter from Pakistan. Somebody gave it to me to give it to one of the previous Taliban Commanders. Open and read it and see what is written in there.” When I opened the letter, it was only written that, “God bless you. Would you please come at once to Pakistan and see me.” That was it.
Presiding Officer: Was your cousin a member of the Taliban at that time?

Detainee (through translator): There were no Taliban in Afghanistan at this time.

Presiding Officer: How do you explain your cousin having this letter from the Taliban Commander?

Detainee (through translator): My cousin was a Taliban at the time when the Taliban were in Afghanistan but, at this time, he was not because there were no more Taliban. He is here. You can ask him. I do not know what connection he had that he got the letter from that man. One of them, of course, was the Taliban Commander. The one in Pakistan gave the letter and the one that received the letter was in Afghanistan. It was one of the Commanders of the Taliban; both of them were.

Presiding Officer: Were you with your cousin when he received the letter?

Detainee (through translator): I met him in Afghanistan. He came from Pakistan. We were not together.

Presiding Officer: Okay. Thank you.

Designated Military Officer: (4.a) The Detainee denied being involved with any extremist groups.

Detainee (through translator): It is right. I am a poor man. All I was doing was work on my machine as a tailor and that was it.

Designated Military Officer: (4.b) The Detainee denied knowledge of a 40-man unit, that weapons were found at his home, or that he had any further association with the Taliban other than the two months he was a conscript.

Detainee (through translator): Yes, this is right.

Designated Military Officer: (4.c) The Detainee denied that he had ever heard of Jamat-al-Islamia or al Qaida. The Detainee also stated that he had never heard of the al Farouq Training Camp.

Detainee (through translator): I learned these names here. I had heard of them here only. I had never heard of these names like al Qaida, or al Farouq, or Jamat-al-Islamia. I had no idea about these. I do not deny and I am not saying that there would not be al Qaida or Jamat-al-Islamia. It should be, but I do not know anything about them.
Designated Military Officer: (4.d) The Detainee stated he was a soldier and did not know the political or military issues.

Detainee (*through translator*): Yes, I did not know and I do not know now either.

*The Designated Military Officer confirmed that he had no further unclassified information and requested a closed session to present classified information relevant to the disposition of the Detainee.*

*The Presiding Officer acknowledged the request.*

*The Assisting Military Officer did not have further exhibits or information to be presented on behalf of the Detainee to the Administrative Review Board.*

*The Detainee was asked if he would like to make an oral statement to the Administrative Review Board.*

*The Detainee made the following statement:* 

Detainee (*through translator*): All I have to say is that I am a poor man, and I am innocent, and God knows it. All the accusations, which I heard here, are not right. I deny them.

Presiding Officer: Does that conclude your statement?

Detainee (*through translator*): That is all.

*The Assisting Military Officer did not have further information to be presented on behalf of the Detainee.*

*The Assisting Military Officer had the following question for the Detainee:* 

Assisting Military Officer: What are your plans or goals for the future if you are released or transferred?

Detainee (*through translator*): I have a family and I will work hard to earn a living for my family. Whether I will go back to work on that machine or not, it depends. If I get a good chance and find another business or, if somebody would help me, that is in the will of God.

Assisting Military Officer: Why do you consider yourself no longer a threat to the U.S. or their allies?
Detainee (*through translator*): The only reason is that I had never been a source of danger to the Americans. How can I be now? I would never be a source of danger. I was captured with no weapons or any documents so I am an innocent person. I had not been the source of danger and I will not be a source of danger.

Assisting Military Officer: That is all, sir.

*The Assisting Military Officer had no further questions for the Detainee.*

*The Administrative Review Board members had the following question for the Detainee:*

Member: Mr. Nasrullah, can you clarify your purpose for accompanying your cousin to deliver a letter to a Taliban leader?

Detainee (*through translator*): At first, I did not know about the letter at all. My cousin told me that, "I am going to sell my taxi," and I accompanied him. On the way, he showed me that letter and he said, "Read this for me." I read the letter and it was written that, "Please come to Quetta and see me."

Member: Mr. Nasrullah, I understand you were made a clerk and that the other clerk was on leave. Why would they single you out to be the clerk from a group of conscripts?

Detainee (*through translator*): The people that were conscripted were asked, "Who can write and read?" I said, "I can write a little bit." They said, "We need another person because one person is on leave. Can you write simple Pashtu?" I said, "Yes, I can do it." That was why they put me there for 10 days to do that job.

Member: And what type of work did you do as a clerk?

Detainee (*through translator*): Some people would come and say that, "I need clothes," and then he would say to write him a letter to the related officer to give him this much money for these clothes. Another would come to say that, "The tracks needs to be repaired," and then I would write that his tracks needed to be repaired. That kind of a job.

Presiding Officer: Were you and your cousin able to successfully deliver the letter?

Detainee (*through translator*): I do not know because, after we spent the night, in the morning, he had left.

Presiding Officer: Who arrested you?

Detainee (*through translator*): The governor of the province.
Presiding Officer: Did he tell you why you were being detained?

Detainee (through translator): They did not even ask me one question. I was arrested and, after two nights, they sent me here. No interrogations, no questions at all. We had thieves there also. They would tell other people, and accuse people, and give them to the Americans, saying that, "This one is with Taliban." A lot of lies of course.

Presiding Officer: Who else were you arrested with?

Detainee (through translator): Actually, there were three people, me, my cousin, and another person by the name of Abdul Jalil. But later, I heard that Abdul Jalil was a relative of the governor, so he was released. And the two of us are here.

Presiding Officer: Did any of you have weapons?

Detainee (through translator): I did not, but I do not remember if either of them have it.

Presiding Officer: You lived under the Taliban. What are your feelings concerning the Taliban?

Detainee (through translator): The Taliban was very cruel to me. When I was conscripted, it was not even according to their rules because I was one person and I had a wife. I was working all day long and making a little bit of money, eating at night. They should not have even recruited me in the first place. So, with me, they were very cruel. They are cruel people.

Presiding Officer: If you are transferred, how do you think you will be received by the current Afghan government?

Detainee (through translator): I have no problems with the governors at all. Some ignorant vagabond-type people said lies against me. If I go, I do not feel I would have any problems unless if you write something bad about me that I do not know.

Presiding Officer: Are you in contact with your family?

Detainee (through translator): I received letters. It has been about 10 months now that I have not received letters. Before, I would receive some letters.

Presiding Officer: And if released, you plan on returning to your family?

Detainee (through translator): Yes, of course, I would go back home. God knows in what poor they would be there.

Presiding Officer: Will you be able to support your family?
Detainee (through translator): I hope to go and work with that sewing machine. That will give me a little bit of earnings but, the four years that I have been here, I do not know how much it has put us in debt. It will take a long time for me to work hard and pay back all the debts. I hope that you will help me for giving you these. You have kept me here for four years and now my family has gotten into big debts there.

Presiding Officer: Understand. Thank you, sir.

The Presiding Officer read the post-Administrative Review Board instructions to the Detainee and adjourned the open session of the Administrative Review Board.

The Presiding Officer opened the classified portion of the session.

The Presiding Officer adjourned the classified portion of the session and the Administrative Review Board was closed for deliberation and voting.

AUTHENTICATION

I certify the material contained in this transcript is a true and accurate summary of the testimony given during the proceedings.

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Enclosure (4)
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