Summarized Unsworn Detainee Statement

The Tribunal President read the Hearing Instructions to the Detainee, and confirmed that he understood the Tribunal process.

Tribunal President: (addressing the Detainee) Do you understand this process?

Detainee: Some I do; some I don’t.

Tribunal President: Do you have any questions concerning this Tribunal process?

Detainee: I have a memory problem, so could you please repeat the allegations again?

Tribunal President: We haven’t gotten to that yet, but we will; the Recorder will actually read them one time through, and a little later in the process, your Personal Representative will read them and allow you to give us your statement about them. In general, if you have any questions as we go along, please feel free to ask them.

The Recorder presented the Unclassified Summary of Evidence (Exhibit R-1), and Exhibit R-2 to the Tribunal.

The Recorder read in full the Unclassified Summary of Evidence (Exhibit R-1).

The Tribunal President then addressed the Detainee regarding the Detainee Election Form (Exhibit D-A).

Tribunal President: I see by the Detainee Election Form that you have elected to participate, as evidenced by your being here. I see that the Personal Representative indicates that you’ll speak to each piece of evidence, and as I indicated earlier, she’ll help you to do that.

The Tribunal President then informed the Detainee he could present a statement to the Tribunal, along with the assistance of his Personal Representative. The Detainee was also advised that he could make his statement under oath or not under oath; the Detainee elected not to take the Muslim oath.


Detainee: No.

3-2. The Detainee provided false identification upon his capture.

Detainee: No.
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Personal Representative: At our session, he also indicated this was wrong; he said he had a French passport on him at that time, and had $10,000; he stated he’d been attacked, and they took it from him.

Detainee: Yes.

3-3. A visiting delegation from Saudi Arabia verified that the Detainee was not of the Saudi Nationality.

Detainee: Yes; at the time of my arrest, they had beaten me up and threatened to kill me unless I said I was a Saudi. At that time, I said I was Saudi. Due to that beating and striking of my head and chest, I have a memory problem and still suffer pains in my chest, and I’m going to the doctor.

3-4. The Detainee even changed his story after his capture.

Detainee: I said I was Saudi at the time because of those threats; they said they’d kill me. I kept that statement for a long time until I found that now I am safe to tell the truth.

3-5. The Detainee was apprehended in Afghanistan.

Detainee: Yes.

Tribunal President: (addressing the Detainee) Is there anything else you’d like to share with us at this time?

Detainee: Actually this is because of all the beatings and abuse by those criminals who hurt me; otherwise, I don’t belong to these allegations.

Tribunal President: At this time, we may have some questions we’d like to ask you; would you be willing to answer our questions?

Detainee: Yes, I see.

Tribunal Member Questions to Detainee

Q: What is your nationality?

A: French.

Q: Why were you in Afghanistan?

A: Just to visit.

Q: When did you go there?

Q: Weren't you worried about it being dangerous?

A: No.

Q: Did you know there was fighting going on then?

A: I knew that, but when I found out the battle would be over, then I'd visit.

Q: How was it you came to be captured?

A: I went through Iran, across the Iran border.

Q: You were captured trying to go into Iran?

A: No; I was entering Afghanistan.

Q: Were you traveling with anyone?

A: No.

Q: What was your reason for visiting?

A: There is no reason; just to visit.

Q: I'm sorry to go into this subject, but I'd like to know about the torture, being hit in the head and chest.

A: Yes; on my head and chest I was beaten.

Q: Was it by the Iranian police?

A: No; they were Afghani. One of them was a government official, and one just normal.

Q: Did the Afghan government give you medical care?

A: No.

Q: Do you know how you got to be here? Could you give me the chronology from Afghanistan, etc.?

A: After my capture, they detained me in different places. First, they took me to Herat and they didn't ask me or do anything in there, because they were the same government
who arrested me at that place. Then they took me to Kozni. Over there, they forced me to say that I was a Saudi national, and that I had no parents and I had nobody.

Q: When did the Americans get custody of you?
A: I don’t know exactly; possibly in February.

Q: Has anyone ever struck you while you’ve been in the custody of the Americans?
A: No, not at all.

Q: Are your parents French?
A: No.

Q: Are your parents still alive?
A: Yes.

Q: Do they live in France?
A: They live in India.

Q: Are you married?
A: Yes.

Q: Does your wife live in France?
A: Yes.

Q: What is your occupation?
A: I am a teacher.

Q: Do you teach in France?
A: Yes.

Q: How long were you going to go to Afghanistan?
A: Just a few days, that’s all.

Q: Wouldn’t school be in session during November when you were planning on going?
A: I don’t know.

Q: Were you not working at that time?

A: No.

Q: Does your wife work?

A: No. She sews on the sewing machine at home.

Q: Was your wife worried about you going to Afghanistan?

A: No.

Q: Is there any reason anyone would say that you’re al Qaida?

A: There is no reason; I don’t even belong to al Qaida. I didn’t even know until I heard it here about al Qaida.

Q: You said you traveled from Iran to Afghanistan; how did you get to Iran, and what were you doing there?

A: Iran I had gone to visit.

Q: And you flew or drove?

A: I drove there by car.

Q: You drove from France to Iran?

A: I arrived to Iran by car.

Q: The Personal Representative indicated you had a French passport and $10,000 on you when you were captured?

A: Yes.

Q: If you weren’t working, then where did you get $10,000?

A: When I traveling in Germany, I lost my handbag. I reported this to authorities, and they announced my lost bag, and somebody handed me this bag and there was money in it.

Q: It wasn’t your bag?
A: No.

Q: But you kept the money?

A: Yes.

Q: What kind of education do you have?

A: Religious.

Q: And you understand or speak some English?

A: Very little.

Q: Have ever had any military training?

A: Never.

Q: You said you were a teacher; what subject do you teach?

A: Religious education.

Q: I just want to ask you a personal question. What are your thoughts on jihad for military purposes; just to fight someone because of a religious difference?

A: I don’t think like that.

The Tribunal President thanked the Detainee for his testimony and participation, and asked if he had any additional information for the Tribunal at this time.

Detainee: I just want to say that I want to go home, and please set me free. I have nothing to do with this; there’s nothing more they could’ve written badly about me, except that I lied.

The Tribunal President then confirmed there was no other information or Witnesses to be presented at this time.
The Tribunal President explained the remainder of the Tribunal process, and adjourned the open session.

AUTHENTICATION

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

Colonel, U.S. Army
Tribunal President