

Summarized Administrative Review Board Detainee Statement

The Presiding Officer read the Hearing Instructions to the Detainee and confirmed that he understood and had no questions.

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

The Detainee interrupted stating that he did not understand what EC-B was. The Presiding Officer explained to the Detainee that it was the Exhibit classification, a name given to that form.

The Designated Military Officer presented Exhibits DMO-1, the Unclassified Summary of Information and DMO-2, the FBI Redaction Certification to the Administrative Review Board.

The Detainee interrupted again saying that he did not understand. The Presiding Officer explained that the Exhibit they were referring to was the Unclassified Summary that was read to him by the Assisting Military Officer. The Assisting Military Officer interjected to further explain that the Exhibit in question had been read to the Detainee the week before. The Detainee concurred that he had read the Unclassified Summary, however, the Detainee stated that some of the information was incorrect on that statement. The Presiding Officer explained to the Detainee that he would be allowed to explain that today.

The Designated Military Officer then gave a brief description of the contents of Exhibit DMO-1. The Detainee interrupted once again while the first allegation was read. The Presiding Officer asked the Detainee if he could wait until the Assisting Military Officer presented his information to the Board. The Detainee stated that he had met with the Assisting Military Officer before and that he did not need him there. The Presiding Officer explained to the Detainee that he would be given the opportunity to speak after he allowed the Designated Military Officer to finish his summary. The Detainee agreed. The Designated Military officer continued reading the Unclassified Summary. The Designated Military Officer confirmed that he had no additional unclassified information to present and requested a closed session to present classified information relevant to the disposition of the Detainee.

The Presiding Officer opened the Administrative Review Board for the Detainee to present information with the assistance of the Assisting Military Officer.

Presiding Officer: The Detainee may now present information to the Administrative Review Board. Assisting Military Officer, does the Detainee want to present any information to this Administrative Review Board including written statements, oral statements, or witness statements prepared on his behalf?

Assisting Military Officer: Sir, I am not aware of any written statements or witness statements that the Detainee has brought with him today, however, I believe it is useful if I read to the Board the comments that the Detainee gave me during our interview. The Detainee provided the following comments in response to the Unclassified Summary of Evidence: Regarding the allegation that he was called to fight Jihad in 1997 and traveled to Kabul to join the Taliban, the Detainee replied that this statement is totally out of context and false. He said that he, like many

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

ISN 008

Enclosure (5)

Page 1 of 6

000863

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

other people, went to Kabul the capital of Afghanistan simply to visit the city. He stated that if he wanted to join the Taliban it would not have been necessary to travel to Kabul because the center of the Taliban was located in Kandahar which is much closer to his home state of Helmand. He stated also that he was not called to fight Jihad and was not aware that any Jihad was declared in 1997. In response to the allegation [that] he stated it would be fine to wage Jihad against Americans, Jews or Israelis if they were invading his country, the Detainee stated [that] he knows nothing about Israelis or Jews and that he has never made any statement regarding Jihad against Americans, Jews or anyone else. He emphasized that during his numerous interrogations people come and go all the time asking questions and make up things he did not say. Regarding his injuries, he explained [that] his injuries occurred in Kabul during the period he visited there with friends and that he was not engaged in any fighting when the bombing occurred. He stated also that he did not go home after being injured in the bombing but went directly to a hospital in Kandahar to receive medical treatment and went home to Helmand after recuperating. He stated that although he traveled through Kandahar on his way to Kabul, he did not go to Kandahar to rejoin the Taliban [and] that Kandahar is simply a city he must pass through on the way to Kabul. Regarding visiting Konduz in September of 2001, he stated that the purpose of his visit was to receive financial recovery so that he can continue his medical treatment and not to join the Taliban. He stated [that] he did, however, ask the Taliban to provide him some money but he received no assistance from them. He stated also [that] he did receive a Kalashnikov rifle in Konduz from the Taliban and accepted the weapon but that he did not have any intention of using it. Sir, he also denied knowing [that] Americans were bombing Afghanistan when he traveled to Konduz. And regarding his capture he stated [that] he was not captured but rather [he] turned himself in to the Northern Alliance because he did not want to fight anyone. Sir, that summarizes the notes I took during my initial interview.

The Presiding Officer asks the Detainee if he wishes to make a statement and if so will he take the Muslim oath. The Detainee accepts and takes the Muslim oath.

Detainee: I told this officer before and they blame me [for going] to Kabul to participate in Jihad. If I wanted to join the Jihad, why didn't I go to Kandahar, or Helmand or other places where the Taliban was fighting? Why did I go to Kabul? The reason I went to Kabul with my friends was because I heard a lot of things about Kabul and I wanted to see Kabul with my own eyes. I am a Muslim; I don't fear anything except Allah, except God. They blame me [for fighting] against the Jewish, against Americans, against this and that but that is not true. I just said I don't have anything against Americans. That is all I said even Americans were helping Dostum but Americans were not directly involved. The animosity and the fighting was between Uzbek and Pashtu from centuries and centuries. We don't like each other. Americans had spoken with Dostum and the Taliban decided and I decided to surrender to Americans because Americans had the Red Cross and we respect it and we wanted to surrender ourselves to Americans. They call me Enemy Combatant, I don't understand why. I went and I turned in my weapon and myself on my own. No one forced me to do that. All the persons who want peace they call them Enemy Combatant (inaudible). As you know, when the Taliban was in power in Afghanistan, all of Afghanistan was with them even Pashtu, Uzbek, everybody was with Taliban but it is not right [that] whoever worked there at that time you called them Taliban and enemies. I tell you the truth (Afghani) war commanders sold people for dollars (to Americans) and (labeled) them different names, like he is (Taliban), he is (Al Qaida). That was not true. That was their purpose, to get money. They sold innocent people. I [have] never been America's

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

ISN 008
Enclosure (5)
Page 2 of 6

000864

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

enemy and I never intend to be. If I was America's enemy, why did I go on my own and surrender my weapon? I am not stupid, [the] Americans came to my country and they built our country before. They made a company that built roofs and they helped us in any conceivable way. They helped Afghans. I am not stupid to become the enemy of someone who is helping us. That is not true because [in] the place I lived Americans did a lot of work in a long long time and we are very pleased with Americans. I am not stupid; they did not interfere with my religion. They didn't interfere with my belief. [While in prison now] they even gave me a Koran and we are free to pray and do everything. They [re]built our country. I am not stupid to be their enemy. I have already said these kinds of things. What should I say now? I [have nothing else to say]. This is enough of a good explanation. Whoever was captured in Afghanistan was marked as Taliban and enemies. That is not true. I heard in the prison that a lot of Taliban stayed in Konduz and they didn't surrender themselves and they are living there with no problems. If I was thinking like that why did I surrender myself? I could've stayed with the Taliban there. Why did I surrender myself? That is it. I have nothing [else] to say.

Presiding Officer: Abdullah, does that conclude your statement?

Detainee: Yes

Board Members Questions to the Detainee.

Board Member: Abdullah, did you surrender to the Northern Alliance or to the United States?

Detainee: Well at the time I went to Dostum to surrender myself they were all together.

Board Member: How did you know that the Americans and Dostum had met prior to your surrender?

Detainee: I really don't know much about it but [the] Taliban surrendered themselves to Dostum because they said [that] Dostum and Americans all fought together and the Red Cross was with them.

Board Member: Did somebody tell you to surrender?

Detainee: The leader of Taliban. They talked to him previously.

Board Member: Did the leader of Taliban tell you to surrender?

Detainee: Yes, they told us not to fight or do anything and just surrender.

Board Member: What did you do for school or work prior to 1997?

Detainee: I was very young and I went to school. Then the school system was disrupted in Afghanistan so I was working and doing things in my house in Helmand.

Board Member: What do you plan to do if you are released back to Afghanistan for work?

Detainee: I want to go back home and join my family and work in my land and help my family.

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

ISN 008
Enclosure (5)
Page 3 of 6

000865

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

Board Member: When you went to visit Kabul, was that the first time you had ever gone to the city?

Detainee: That was the first time.

Board Member: Can you tell us what injury exactly you sustained because of the bombing that occurred?

Detainee: I was close to Kabul and there was a place where everybody would gather to play and do things. I was playing an Afghani game and there were a lot of Taliban there. An airplane came and bombed that area.

Board Member: What injuries did you sustain?

Detainee: My hands, my legs and my upper body.

Board Member: In 2001 when you went to the city of Konduz, whom did you think was doing the bombing? You said you didn't think it was the United States.

Detainee: At the time I went to Konduz there was no bombing. I had never heard of a bomb. The last three or two months before surrendering people to the Northern Alliance, there was some bombing in Konduz, not before.

Board Member: Do you like what the United States is doing in Afghanistan now?

Detainee: Yes, I am very happy. I am very pleased like I told you before. They are [re]building my country.

Board Member: Have you ever tried to get your friends back in Afghanistan to write statements of support for you saying that you are just like all of them that are back there?

Detainee: I wrote so many letters and I asked them to pray for me and I told them to try to send children to school system. And I didn't write anything and they didn't write me anything. If I am a criminal I would be proved criminal in Afghanistan because they know me and they know criminals over there. Except some educated people, the war leaders have no interest in [re]building Afghanistan. They have no interest in helping people. They are only interested in dollars. That is all. I know those people that worked in the current government of Afghanistan they are still in (inaudible).

Board Member: What kind of medical attention did you think you could get with the Taliban that you weren't getting previously?

Detainee: I was in Kandahar in [a] Chinese hospital. It is a very big hospital and I was there for several months.

Assisting Military Officer: Can I interject one thing sir? I believe that when he spoke to me he said that he went to the Taliban to get financial aid after he had been released from the hospital. He was seeking financial assistance so he could use that money to receive additional treatment.

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

ISN 008
Enclosure (5)
Page 4 of 6

000866

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

Detainee: When I was in the Chinese hospital, definitely the Taliban brought me some medicine.

Board Member: Are you Taliban or not? Initially you stated that you weren't Taliban, because "why did you go all the way to Kabul if you were just going to join the Taliban" but on the other hand when the Taliban was told to surrender, you surrendered with them so are you Taliban or not?

Detainee: That was the government of Taliban at that time. It didn't matter. It doesn't mean that you are a Talib or not but if you are in school and you get aid from the government, they call you Taliban. I went to school for two years then the school system was disrupted and I my father was helping me [by] teaching me [from] books. [He would] read me books and religious things.

Board Member: It sounds like if you surrendered with the rest of the Taliban then you thought you were affiliated with the Taliban. Is that correct?

Detainee: While everybody was there in the other side, not the Northern Alliance, they were obeying [the] Taliban's rules. So they said surrender [and] everybody surrendered. It doesn't matter who you were Talib or not. You were under the Taliban government.

Board Member: So everyone in the government surrendered?

Detainee: I don't know about the entire country but when I was in Konduz, I heard [that] some people didn't. Some people stayed there under [the] Taliban's rules but the majority of people did (surrender). A few people didn't surrender but the majority did. Maybe at the most a hundred people didn't surrender.

Board Member: Why did you accept the Kalashnikov rifle?

Detainee: We were not permitted to walk around without a gun so when I went there [and] they gave me a Kalashnikov and I accepted it.

Board Member: What was in your possession when you surrendered?

Detainee: The Kalashnikov.

Board Member: Nothing else?

Detainee: No.

Board Member: I noticed you are wearing orange. Orange is usually reserved for people who are having some problems in the detention center. Why do you think you are wearing orange?

Detainee: I have nothing to do with the guards and anybody else but I was trying to get permission to take a shower daily. Right now I am taking one within every three days. Sometimes when I verbally argued with guard because they disrespected my Koran. I am in confinement and the people that interrogated me asked me why I was there and I said that I was happy here because I don't want to hear anybody's voice and I don't want anybody to harass me. I don't want anybody to talk to me. I am happy here.

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

ISN 008
Enclosure (5)
Page 5 of 6

000867

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

The Presiding Officer reads the post-Administrative Board instructions to the Detainee and adjourns the open session of the Board.

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. Marine Corps
Presiding Officer

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

ISN 008
Enclosure (5)
Page 6 of 6
000868