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

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

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

*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: At this point in the hearing the Detainee may 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 have some written notes that I took regarding our interview in regards to the unclassified summary and I believe that he would like to make an oral statement as well.

Presiding Officer: Those comments are included on Enclosure (3), EC-B. You can make those comments now.

Assisting Military Officer: My comments are as follows; Detainee received a copy of [a] translated unclassified summary. Regarding his behavior he stated that, "there are some guards here who have provoked me. I am forty-four years old. Would I provoke them? I have been isolated for one year because of this. This happened in the past here and they provoked me so I reacted to them. Sometimes I spat on them and sometimes I spoke loud to them and stated that they had no manners or grew up in the streets". Regarding his

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weapons training at the Bagram front, he stated that he never trained in Afghanistan but he did train in Algeria when he was in the military from 80-82.

**Detainee:** It was between 81-83...in the early eighties.

**Assisting Military Officer:** Regarding the mosque he attended while in England, he stated that he was "new to England and went there to pray. There was no sign on the mosque that said extremist mosque. If I wanted to create trouble I would have gone from Italy to Afghanistan. I went to England for work and higher pay". Regarding the Algerian house in Jalalabad, the house was an Afghani's house but he lived with another Algerian. Regarding the funeral he attended in Kabul and saw Usama bin Laden, he stated that he did not see him himself but that his friend said that "maybe he is here because people were talking about it". Regarding why he was there he said they were driving by the cemetery and stopped because it is traditional in his religion to stop and pay your respects. Regarding the stolen French passport, he stated that he got in Rome and used it to go to England in 2001. He said he could go to France without one and did not need it for that but since you had to cross the water to go to England you had to have one to go there. Regarding his statement that Americans are tyrants he stated that he was referring to the guards and said, "I do not believe all Americans are tyrants." Regarding his being captured while crossing the border into Pakistan, he stated that this was not true. When 9/11 happened in America he heard that the Americans were coming and they wanted to leave the country. They crossed through the mountains and he was already living in Pakistan with a family in the mountains when he was turned over to Pakistani authorities for money. He said that family suggested to him to stay awhile until things cooled down and that this was when he was turned in. Regarding the bus accident he was asleep when the bus rolled and broke his arm. That is all I have sir.

**Presiding Officer:** Thank you. Farhi Saiid, I understand you wish to make a statement under oath?

**Detainee:** What do you mean?

**Presiding Officer:** An oath is a promise to tell the truth. We have prepared a Muslim [oath] if you wish to use it. We do not require an oath.

*The Detainee takes the Muslim oath.*

**Presiding Officer:** Farhi Saiid, you may begin.

**Detainee:** You mean I [can] talk?

**Presiding Officer:** I understand you have some comments you want to make yourself. If not, then I will proceed from there.

**Detainee:** I read (the unclassified summary) and I said that those allegations that they wrote [have] a lot of lies in it. I don't know if the interrogator wrote it on purpose or by

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mistake because, first of all, they knew the reason why I went to Afghanistan. I went to Afghanistan because of marriage. Because the lady I wanted to marry lived in Afghanistan and she is from Europe. I had to go there (Afghanistan) to get all the papers together because I lived in Europe. Before, I was living in Europe illegally so my marriage with this lady would make me legal to live in Europe. That is the reason why I went to Afghanistan. Secondly, [if I wanted] to go to Afghanistan, I would [have gone] from Italy to Afghanistan. If I wanted to fight or Jihad, I would [have done] that in my country, in Algeria because I received military training in Algeria and it was mandatory training. I don't like the military and the two years [of] training that we had to go [through] in Algeria, mandatory military service, for ten years after that I hated it. Since I touched a weapon in the military training in Algeria I haven't touched any weapon in my life, since then until now. How can you say I am [an] enemy combatant? And these allegations that they wrote have lots of lies. For example, the first point. What is the first point?

Presiding Officer: Detainee left England in June to travel to Afghanistan to look for a wife. You agreed with that.

Detainee: Second point.

Presiding Officer: I am not sure which one you are referring to because the next point that I look at that is of interest other than the arguing with the guards and he mentioned in his comments about being provoked [is that] in England the Detainee attended two different mosques, which are known for extremists attending them.

Detainee: I am referring to the second point about the guards. I was here for one year and I never had any problems with the guards before until this group, another rotation, with the logo of Pepsi or something like that...I don't know.

Presiding Officer: Pepsi?

Detainee: Yes, their name is like that but I don't know. That is when I started having trouble with them. They created problems with me and I talked back [to] him. For example, the passport was stolen in Rome in 2000. How can I travel with [that] passport in 1997 from France to Italy?

Presiding Officer: OK. Assisting Military Officer, did you wish to interject? It looked like you were going to say something.

Assisting Military Officer: Sir, all I was going to say is that when he was talking about the Pepsi patch, it was the "MP" (military police) patch. He said that they were wearing something on their arm but he didn't know what it meant.

Presiding Officer: OK. Under intent, using a stolen French passport, the Detainee traveled from France to Italy in 1997 and from Italy to England in January 2001. So a 1999 passport could be used to travel in 2001. What you used to get from France to Italy it doesn't say. It just says a stolen French passport.

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**Detainee:** I understood [it] that way. I didn't travel from France to Italy with a passport. I traveled to England with a passport because this passport [was] stolen in Rome in 2000.

**Presiding Officer:** Correct, and you admit to that. That you got it in Rome and what they are saying here is that you went from Rome/Italy to England in 2001. So a 2000 passport could be used in 2001.

**Detainee:** Yes, I did travel with it to England.

**Presiding Officer:** OK.

**Assisting Military Officer:** Sir, if I may, the only point I know that he brought up in the interview was that he didn't need a passport to travel between France and Italy because they are connected by land but he got a passport later on to travel over to England because he had to go across the water.

**Presiding Officer:** If you (the Detainee) have anything more, please continue.

**Detainee:** Something that I would like to talk about is that they said that I received training in [the] Bagram front. I don't know anything about that. How did they come up with this? Maybe I spoke once with my roommate in Kabul. We went to somebody [he knew] outside of Kabul, through Bagram. Maybe they understood it this way. I said I went with my roommate to see another person and we went through Bagram. Maybe when I told the interrogator that he understood that I received training in Bagram. That is the only thing I heard about Bagram and the first time I find out about Bagram. What is this about Bagram here in the allegations?

**Presiding Officer:** Please continue if there is anything else.

**Detainee:** They said that I lived in an Algerian house in Jalalabad. It is an Afghan house but I lived with an Algerian person, it is true but the house is an Afghans' house not an Algerians' house.

**Presiding Officer:** I think the point they are making here is that it was owned by an Algerian in Jalalabad.

**Detainee:** That is true. Very good. He is an Algerian. He owns that house.

**Presiding Officer:** OK. Please continue.

**Detainee:** They say [that] they captured me in the border. They didn't capture me or anything like that. When the United States invaded Afghanistan, I left Afghanistan. I stayed in Pakistan in a little village with tribe people before Ramadan. [I stayed] until after the end of Ramadan, two or three days, then they gave me to the police. From the police they took me to the *gendar* (French word meaning police station). From there they gave me to the military until they [took] me to Kandahar. I need to think because...yes, they wrote that I went to the (inaudible)...we were in the car with the person I live with until we

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saw people in cemetery. We went inside [the] cemetery. There were a lot of people there. They said [that] maybe Usama bin Laden is here. And even if you see him from far away, you don't recognize him. They wrote here that I went to [the] cemetery and I saw bin Laden. The point of the mosque...they said [that] this mosque is an extremist mosque in England. It [had a] sign of [a] mosque. I went and I prayed. If there was a sign that said extremist, it is true I would not go. And for [the] second mosque on Baker Street, I went there because they cooked over there and it is cheap to eat there and I do my prayer almost everyday around five o'clock and the one around eight o'clock [I do] sometimes. And the mosque at Finsbury Park, I prayed there probably five or six times when I was new in the area. In general, I swear I don't know any Jihad. I went there to (inaudible) my situation and I got captured and I have ended up spending years in the prison, in summary.

Presiding Officer: Where are you referring to when you say, "I went there?"

Detainee: To Afghanistan.

Presiding Officer: OK, continue.

Detainee: That is [it] in summary. I am not an enemy to anybody. I didn't hurt anybody. I lived in Europe, in France, Italy, [and] in England [for] five months. I've been in Algeria, [the rest of] my life. If you can find the least thing about me, I defy you. Try to find the least thing about me [saying] that I am [an] enemy combatant. That is all [of] my summary.

Presiding Officer: Farhid Saïid, does that conclude your statement?

Detainee: That is all I have.

Presiding Officer: Did the Assisting Military Officers' statement provide the information that you wanted us to hear?

Detainee: Yes, he did give the information that I want[ed] but in translation maybe [to some] point by word-by-word, no, but the meaning is there.

Presiding Officer: OK. If there is something you would like (the Assisting Military Officer) to clarify, we can do that but...

Detainee: I mean about my behavior in the prison with the guard...I am saying that when you talk about the guards, they are the ones that provoked me. They were looking for trouble with me.

Presiding Officer: OK, that is the way I understood what you passed on.

Detainee: Very good.

Presiding Officer: So the Assisting Military Officers' statement did provide the information that you wanted us to hear?

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**Detainee:** Yes. Very good.

**Detainee:** Thank you.

**Presiding Officer:** Assigned Military Officer, do you have any questions for the Detainee?

**Assigned Military Officer:** No, sir.

**Presiding Officer:** Designated Military Officer, do you have any questions for the Detainee?

**Designated Military Officer:** No sir.

**Presiding Officer:** Do any Administrative Review Board members have any questions for the Detainee?

**Board Members:** Yes, sir.

**Questions for the Detainee:**

**Board Member:** When you traveled from Afghanistan to look for a wife, did you know this lady ahead of time?

**Detainee:** No. Is it possible for me to say how I knew [that] that woman exist[ed] over there?

**Board Member:** Yes, it's possible.

**Detainee:** It was a Moroccan guy who worked washing cars. We met at the mosque in England. He is the one who told me about a lady in Afghanistan.

**Presiding Officer:** So, you were going to meet a known person?

**Detainee:** Yes. I asked him how would I meet her and he said not to worry that there were Arab people there that would introduce me to her.

**Presiding Officer:** Now, I had gotten the impression from something he said earlier that he was marrying this woman because she was European and that would make him legal.

**Detainee:** If I were married to her why would I go to Afghanistan before? He told me that she was married and she got divorced and I said I would go get married with her and come back to Europe.

**Board Member:** OK, my next question is, why couldn't he just get an Algerian passport?

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**Detainee:** I used to have an Algerian passport until when I went from Algeria to France, Europe; I threw by passport away...in 1989. And the reason why I threw it away [was] because if they capture you and you are illegal there they will send you back if you have an Algerian passport. If you don't have [a] passport, they can't send you back.

**Board Member:** OK, I understand.

**Presiding Officer:** Is that 1989?

**Detainee:** That is the first time I left Algeria going to France.

**Board Member:** The next question is a clarification type question. Do you think any Americans are tyrants?

**Detainee:** I don't think that. It is impossible. I never knew Americans. The only American I knew is that soldier, the guard I met in the prison.

**Board Member:** So you don't think any Americans are tyrants at all?

**Detainee:** No, I don't think about Americans and I don't speak about them. The only one was that soldier. And even before this group, I never had any problems with them. You can look at my file. I had no problems with anyone before.

**Board Member:** Thank you, that is all my questions.

**Board Member:** Said, how many languages do you speak?

**Detainee:** I speak Bur-bur (ph), Arabic, and French and a little Italian. When I got to Italy I was old and it is hard to learn. And English a little bit [which] I learned here.

**Board Member:** Let me make sure I understand, you have gone to isolation twelve times in three years?

**Detainee:** What do you mean? I don't understand your question?

**Board Member:** You said you were in isolation one year. That would be twelve twenty-nine day periods. Is that correct? You were sent to isolation twelve different times for misbehaving in the prison.

**Detainee:** I went many times but I don't know...

**Board Member:** Many times...

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**Detainee:** When this group started (referring to a new rotation of soldiers/sailors), the problems started. They started provoking me or creating problems and naturally, I couldn't control myself and I responded. [It went] from one problem to another.

**Board Member:** Who did you meet in the mosques in England?

**Detainee:** I met this Moroccan and I met lots of people but the person that I kept in touch with was this Moroccan.

**Board Member:** Do you remember any names?

**Detainee:** Of course, the one I worked with, the Algerian.

**Board Member:** No names, OK.

**Detainee:** Yes, I do, for example this guy...his name is A-beth Ha-tif (ph). If I remembered his phone number I would get in touch with him to help me out...

**Board Member:** I am not worried about phone numbers, I just want names.

**Detainee:** I understand. The reason why I am saying if I remembered his phone number, I would give [it to you] so that you can contact him to have more information about me.

**Board Member:** Do you remember the name of the family you stayed with in Pakistan?

**Detainee:** No, you can't know their last name because they just introduced [themselves] with their first names and that is it.

**Board Member:** What happened on the bus after you broke your arm?

**Detainee:** When the bus rolled over, I was lying like that on the chair (on his side) and I felt like my arm [was] broken. When the Pakistani police came in he took me out and took me to a room close by and he gave me first aid and then they took me.

**Board Member:** How do you plan to work in Europe? How do you plan to get a legal visa to work in Europe?

**Detainee:** Now I don't know. God knows! When I get out ...if I can ask any country in Europe to allow me to live legally there I will go and do that because I [have] always want[ed] to live in Europe from [a] long time [ago].

**Board Member:** Those are all the questions I have, sir.

**Presiding Officer:** Let me get back to your reasons for going to Afghanistan to get married. You mentioned you were living in Europe illegally. So my question is, by

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marrying somebody in Afghanistan, how would that make it legal for you to go back to Europe?

**Detainee:** It is easy! It is easy because if she decides [to] marry me I would return to England and she comes to England. We would get married in England. After she is my wife, (because) she is European; I will [have the] right to be legal. They would give me the residency and after that the passport.

**Presiding Officer:** OK, then let me ask you officially, then the woman is European not Afghani?

**Detainee:** Yes, she is European. She is Swedish.

**Presiding Officer:** Again, [it states] here that you received weapons training in Bagram. My question is, what weapons were you trained on?

**Detainee:** How can you ask me a question like that? I told you already [that] I haven't touched a weapon since I left the military in Algeria!

**Presiding Officer:** OK, I just wanted to hear you say it again!

**Detainee:** I'll say it to you...I'll say it to you!

**Presiding Officer:** The Algerian house you stayed at in Jalalabad, did you know the owners of that house?

**Detainee:** What owners? It was only one person by himself?

**Presiding Officer:** Did you know him?

**Detainee:** What do you mean do I know him? Before?

**Presiding Officer:** Do you know his name? How did you know to go there?

**Detainee:** Yes, I know his name. Adbel Hafid, [is] his name. After the invasion happened I don't know whether he lived. From the beginning of the invasion I told him I wanted to leave and he told me [to] wait a little bit. After one week he didn't show up [and] I [didn't] see him. After that I left.

**Presiding Officer:** So he wasn't there when you stayed at the house?

**Detainee:** Before, he was there before but when the invasion started I [told] him that I wanted to leave...he said, "just wait...wait a little" and after that he left for a week. I haven't seen him.

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Presiding Officer: And you said the name was Abdel...and I missed the last name.

Detainee: A-B-D-E-L H-A-F-I-D

Presiding Officer: You made mention of...you brought up Jihad and nowhere in the unclassified summary did we mention you [had] been involved in any Jihad, so I am curious why you brought that up.

Detainee: They said from the beginning even in the interrogation room, they told us that we came here [because of] Jihad. And they said we were lying and making [up] stories.

Presiding Officer: OK, that is good enough. And just for clarification, you threw away your Algerian passport? So, you were in France and Italy illegally that is why you needed to get a stolen passport.

Detainee: Yes.

Presiding Officer: And the family you stayed with in this little village, they turned you in?

Detainee: Yes. In this village, they don't put you in with one family [only] they move you from one family to another. Everyone takes turns taking care of you. They don't speak your language only some may speak a little Arabic. And they let me stay for the month of Ramadan and then we will see.

Presiding Officer: Who is 'they' that puts them from house to house?

Detainee: [The] people that live in that little village.

Presiding Officer: And you described al Qaida as a platform or foundation. What do you mean by that?

Detainee: Al Qaida in Arabic is the base of a house or a foundation.

Presiding Officer: OK, I understand. You say you want to live a good life and get a job and live in Europe. Where specifically in Europe do you wish to do this?

Detainee: Italy, France or Britain. That (Britain) would be my last choice because I know a little...Italy, France...anywhere in Europe. If I had [a] choice I would chose Italy or France.

Presiding: So, Italy, France or Great Britain.

*The linguist reiterates "Italy, France or Great Britain."*

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Presiding Officer: The reason I ask is because I think you have already expressed an interest not to go back to Algeria and if released to your home country Algeria is what I have down as your home country.

Detainee: I mean yes, I didn't want to live in Algeria from the beginning, this is why I went to Europe but if I had to live in prison or [I had a choice] to live in Algeria free...I would go to Algeria...but I prefer to go live in Europe.

Presiding Officer: So you have no objection if we were to release you to your home country of Algeria.

Detainee: No objections.

*The Designated Military Officer and the Assigned Military Officer have no other information to present to this Administrative Review Board.*

*The Presiding Officer reads the post Administrative Review Board instructions to the Detainee and attempts to adjourn the open session of the Board; the Detainee interrupts stating the following:*

Detainee: I have a question. The fact that I have been in Afghanistan and if you decide to release me and they transfer me to Algeria, will Algeria put me in jail? Because we don't know about the situation in Algeria.

Presiding Officer: I cannot honestly answer that.

Detainee: Thank you. That is all I have.

*The Presiding Officer re-adjourned 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, USMC  
Administrative Review Board Presiding Officer

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