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 and DMO-2, the FBI Reduction Certification 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.

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 will be able to 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 written statements prepared on his behalf?

Assisting Military Officer: Yes, the Detainee would like to make an oral statement.

The Presiding Officer gestured to the Assisting Military Officer for the submission of any written documentation on behalf of the Detainee.

Assisting Military Officer: I don't have anything to hand [to] you. I have already handed...[referring to the Enemy Combatant Election Form]

Presiding Officer: Okay, here is what I'd like [for] you to do. [Say] yes, he wants to present an oral statement and whatever else he'll have to say. Then [say that] the detainee provided me these comments and then read those comments. [Read] the stuff that you have here and then that way it's captured on the tape and he can affirm or deny if you've got stuff mistakenly on here [referring to the Enemy Combatant Election Form]

Assisting Military Officer: Okay...All right.

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The Presiding Officer requested the linguist to recap the conversation between the Assisting Military Officer and himself.

Presiding Officer: The Assisting Military Officer will cover [the] comments you made during the interview. If anything is incorrect you are more than welcome to correct him. Okay?

Detainee: Yes.

Presiding Officer: Proceed.

Assisting Military Officer: Okay. Reference 3.A.1. Where it states that the detainee was AWOL from the Royal Saudi Air Defense Forces. He stated that he was on a leave of absence for one month and that he is not in the military, but he's [a] civilian that works for the Air Defense.

Presiding Officer: One moment...and at the end of that sentence you have in parentheses a clerk. Correct.

Assisting Military Officer: A clerk...yes sir.

Detainee: I have my passport...my passport has my profession. [It is] on my passport.

Presiding Officer: Speak up.

Detainee: I have a...[The] U.S. Force[s] has my passport and on my passport it is written [that] I am an employee, [a] clerk...not a...[military personnel].

Presiding Officer: OK! Thank you.

Assisting Military Officer: Statement 3.A.2. The detainee went to Afghanistan to support the fatwa issued by Sheik Hamoud Al Shi'lbi. He stated that was not the main reason [he went to Afghanistan], he also went there to help the poor and with religion.

Detainee: Also in the media....

The Presiding Officer requested a brief pause to eliminate the noise in the room coming from the air conditioner.

Presiding Officer: Thank you, please continue...a recap of 3.A.2. The response was, it was not your main reason for going [there], he went to help the poor and with religion. Go ahead....

Detainee: Also the notification [ads on television, radio and newspaper] played a role in my presence there, which is to help the poor, to help [what he saw in] the media and [on] the TV. In the media I saw the disaster of Afghanistan and it shocked me.

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Presiding Officer: If I may, Khalid, what I would like to do is let the Assisting Military Officer go through what he's typed here. If there does need to be any correcting, since it seems like you may have something to add to each one. We will be more than happy to hear that right after he reads this. We can go back over each one of them and add your comments. That might make it...that might represent your [comments]. Because I have some questions just from what you [have] said in response to him...so...let's do it that way and then we can wrap it all up in maybe a little more orderly fashion.

Detainee: Okay.

The linguist began to translate the Presiding Officer's statement and the linguist stated that the detainee informed him that he understood everything.

Presiding Officer: That's fine. If he understood, he could just tell you that or acknowledge in English and then the record will reflect that you've acknowledged what I have told you.

Detainee: Okay.

Presiding Officer: The only thing that I'll ask you [referring to the detainee] is that you'll just...I know that you may be a little nervous, but if you could speak up then the reporter will be able to capture it.

Detainee: Okay.

Presiding Officer: Thank you.

Assisting Military Officer: 3.B.4. The man that is a member of Harakat Al-Mujahidin has knowledge of moving al Qaida fighters, he believes the man is a smuggler and he dealt with Black Market stuff that the Taliban didn't want, like television[s] and I guess radios and things like that.

Detainee: Yes.

Assisting Military Officer: 3.B.5. The same individual, he said he doesn't know anything about this guy being a Jihadist, with a Jihadist group. 3.D. is not true. 3.D, excuse me 3.B.1, he...

Board Member: I think that should be D.

Assisting Military Officer: D? Okay, I got to read through this...

Board Member: There is no E.

Presiding Officer: There is no E, so let's see, Three Delta One; the detainee initially lied...

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Assisting Military Officer: Okay.

Presiding Officer: Okay so ... I believe....

Assisting Military Officer: I'll leave D. out...3.D.1, he was concerned with his safety. He thought he was going to be killed, so he made those statements. Now once he realized that he was pretty much in safe hands, he decided to tell them what he needed to tell them. 3.D.2.

Presiding Officer: Hold on, you [referring to the linguist] need to be translating this to him [the detainee] and you [referring to the Assisting Military Officer] need to pause so he has time to translate. Are you [referring to the detainee] understanding what he [referring to the Assisting Military Officer] said?

Detainee: Yes, yes, I understood.

Presiding Officer: Okay, please just acknowledge for me on the record that you understood what he said up to this point.

Detainee: Okay.

Presiding Officer: Just say, "Yes, I do".

Detainee: Yes, yes [smiling] I do.

Presiding Officer: Do you really understand him?

Detainee: Yeah, yeah.

Presiding Officer: Okay, continue.

Assisting Military Officer: 3.D.2. The detainee was apprehended by Pakistani authorities while crossing into Pakistan. [He] said that's not true. He was already inside the country in one of the small towns and that's where he was apprehended.

Detainee: Yes sir.

Presiding Officer: OK!

Assisting Military Officer: 4.A & B. are true statements.

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

The Detainee takes the Muslim oath.

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Presiding Officer: Khalid, you may begin. Now, I understand [that] you have something written that you are going to either read from or is it a prepared statement?

Detainee: Yes, it is a prepared statement.

Presiding Officer: Okay, then Khalid you may begin in whatever [way you wish]...either reading from your statement [or something] that is a reminder to you or ...

The linguist explained to the Detainee to follow the points [referring to the allegation on the unclassified summary].

Presiding Officer: I think you guys went over point by point what you want to say.

Detainee: Okay. Point by point.

Presiding Officer: Is that how you want to do it?

Detainee: Yes, yes.

Presiding Officer: That's fine, whatever way you want to present your comments, your statement, take your time...the only thing that I'll ask is that you speak up and that you'll give the interpreter time to...if it's a lengthy statement...that you two break it up however he needs to so he can retain it.

Detainee: Okay.

Presiding Officer: Now if you already have it written out, as long as you don't deviate from that...but I understand that you don't so...so just take your time.

Detainee: Okay. Some words and some sentences, I can translate it directly and if I can't, I will ask.

The linguist interjected and said he will translate whatever the Detainee had a problem translating into English.

Presiding Officer: Whatever way you wish, that's fine.

Detainee: The first point, I think is A.1. Yes, I am a clerk for Saudi Air Defense Force. The U.S. Force, they have my passport and it's written on my passport that I am an employee for the government. I took leave for one month from my job. I mentioned this many times to the interrogators, the U.S. interrogators. The fatwa, it's not the main reason for [me] leaving Afghanistan, there were some [other] influences. The media and what was happening in Afghanistan, from seeing the disaster by the TV and the newspaper, influenced me. I was

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Presiding Officer: The disaster you are referencing is September 11th, the Towers?

Detainee: No...no...not the [referring to the Towers]... the disaster in Afghanistan.....

Presiding Officer: Afghanistan...OK!

Detainee:the refugees and the poor people in Afghanistan. They [referring to the media] said [the] Islamic country it's in danger to be invaded by Northern Alliance.

Presiding Officer: OK!

Detainee: I was also influenced by my religious faith and mission.

Presiding Officer: OK! continue.

Detainee: When I was small, I always liked to help poor people, needy people. This point, it should be in my favor, not against me. Because this fatwa mentioned, is to help the people by peaceful ways.

Presiding Officer: Continue.

Detainee: Okay. Contrary to this fatwa, I am convinced that I don't believe [in] any fatwa. I am [totally] convinced by myself [my belief]. This Sheik, I never knew him personally. I never had a relation[ship] with this Sheik. I just read this fatwa on the Internet.

Presiding Officer: OK!

The linguist read: The detainee traveled to Afghanistan to join the Taliban.

Detainee: It's not joined the Taliban, to be a member of Taliban. [It's] just to help this country [referring to Afghanistan]. My leave for one month, that proves my intentions. Second point...

The linguist read: The detainee stayed in a Taliban safe house while in Herat, Afghanistan.

Detaince: This safe house, the taxi man, he took me to this safe house and it was free. I didn't pay any money. I stayed there for twenty-five days because [of] the situation, it was very bad during my stay there. They said we had to stay inside the house. It was very dangerous outside the house because of the problem that was going on outside. From the Afghan's themselves, between them.

Presiding Officer: In the middle there you said something about it being very bad. I didn't catch the word before that,

Detainee: Situation...

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Presiding Officer: Situation was very bad... OK...continue.

Detainee: Well, my stay in this house is not proof that I am a member of al Qaida or a member of Taliban. If I stayed in this house, it's not ... the fact that I stayed in that house is not proof of [the] allegation that I am [a] member of al Qaida or a member of the Taliban. I [just] stayed there.

Presiding Officer: OK!

Detainee: Third point.....

The linguist read: The detainee paid a man [one] thousand U.S. dollars to take him to Pakistan.

Detainee: It's normal ...this point is in my favor...it's normal because I don't like the war, I don't like to fight. I tried to get out of Afghanistan by any way. The proof [is that] I paid this very high salary for this man. I didn't want to stay there.

The Detainee looked at the reporter and said, "Good".

Presiding Officer: See...you're catching on now; make sure she [referring to the reporter] understands.

(Laughter....linguist stated, "Because if I have to repeat for her, I can, I am sitting close to him."

Presiding Officer: Yes, yes, thank you...that's very good.

The linguist stated, "Do you [referring to the detainee] still want to continue on point three or what to move to...

Detainee: Okay...four and five, they are the same.

The linguist read: Four, the man is [a] member of Harakat Al-Mujahidin, and has knowledge of moving al Qaida fighter[s]. Five, Haraka Al-Mujahideen is [a] Kashmiri jihadist group.

Detainee: I [would like to] ask from the Presiding Officer to investigate on this information. I ask [the] Presiding Officer to investigate, please [investigate] about the Harakat Al-Mujahideen and this information. This is not true. I don't have any knowledge about it. This man, he hasn't knowledge about moving al Qaida members. Because this man, is in fact, he's a simple smuggler. He was Afghani, he didn't...he's not really this man. I saw him, I was with him many days when I [was] moving through Pakistan.

Presiding Officer: You are referring to the taxi man.

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Detainee: I'm referring to...Yeah...yeah...this man, the smuggler man.

Assisting Military Officer: No, not the taxi, sir, the...

Detainee: Four and Five.

Presiding Officer: Oh, the man you paid.

Detainee: Yeah.

Presiding Officer: OK! so you are referring to that man even though I don't believe there's

a name.

Detainee: Yeah.

Presiding Officer: OK!

Detainee: How [does] this information get to here? I ask [that] if they arrested this man [then] ask them about this...(the linguist said that the detainee said) if this is true, they should capture this man and if this man is captured ask him if he knows about this moving [of] al Qaida fighters or just this. Is [there] doubt that you have about his man? I don't know. Even [if] this information is correct, I don't have any relations with this man. I just paid him to get me out of Afghanistan.

Presiding Officer: OK!

Detainee: Okay. Intention.

The linguist read: The detainee, [a] Saudi Arabian citizen, traveled to Herat, Afghanistan on 29 September 2001 to join the Jihad.

Detainee: Not for [a] Jihad. I went to help.

The linguist read: The detainee initially lied to American interviewers about his activities in Afghanistan.

Detainee: It was in the first interview in Pakistan, I was afraid of [them] kill[ing] me because I know myself I don't have any relations with September 11th and any terrorist act in the world. I was afraid that they [would] take me like a member of al Qaida or [a] member of any terrorist group [just] to get me in Afghanistan and kill me. I was very afraid of this. After that, when I went to the camp in Kandahar I told the interrogators by myself, voluntarily, I didn't have any pressure. I told them my story. Okay.

The linguist read: The detainee was apprehended by Pakistani authorities while trying to cross into Pakistan.

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Detainee: I was arrested inside Pakistan. This proves my intention to get out of this. If I want[ed] to fight or get to [a] jihad, why did I get myself outside? It's a point in my favor. When I was arrested in Pakistan, I was alone. I didn't carry any weapon and I was cooperative with the Pakistani government. When they arrested me, I didn't resist. [The] most important thing that the Pakistani wrote about us, it was a lie. Because all they want[ed] is the money. The Pakistani authority lies to us and lied to American Forces in order to get money. This is not good. I have some other things that show that I do not pose [a] threat for the Administrative Review Board.

Presiding Officer: Continue.

Detainee: First I don't hold any information [that is] important to America. Any intelligence value, I don't have any intelligence value for [the] American government. I [have] never been a member of any group, Islamic group or any other groups in my life. The period I was in the safe house, it was twenty-five days and I told the interrogator all what I saw in the safe house. The other period was with the families when I was moving through Pakistan. Now, it has been three years since our capture, it's a long time to remember details. Fourth, many details I saw, I told it to the interrogators. Now I forget many things because [of] my life here in the prison. Many things happened in my life during these three years. It makes me forget many things. I mentioned that I am not a member of al Qaida or any other group, terrorist group or anything. Lastly, some times here in the jail it takes sometimes five, six [or] seven months without interrogating me or asking me any question[s]. That's proof that I have no value or no information. That's it. I do not cause any threat on [the] United States of America or it's interest. [Consider] my good behavior during my presence here [and that I have] never had any problem[s] with the guard. The opposite is that I have [had] good relations with the guard. One time I found [a] saw that some worker left. I let the guard know about it. That prove[s] that I don't want to hurt anybody. Second, the American[s] helped us in the Gulf War and we are grateful to them. That [is how] my father raised me up or taught me. In the past [I] never [have been] arrested or had any problem with the law in my country, in Saudi. I was very cooperative with the interrogator until the border. I was cooperative with the interrogator through every point. Contrary, we had great respect, mutual respect. I feel sorry for what happened to America in nine eleven and we understand your mission against terrorism. I let the interrogator know many times that I am ready and I promised myself I will sign on some document that I am willing to answer any question they have, even though if I am free and I am in my country. I [will] sign a commitment to you. This is of course through the authorities, Saudis' authority. Also, I am ready [to] sign. I'll be like a resident surveillance ... surveillance resident.

Presiding Officer: A civilian?

Detainee: Surveillance.

Presiding Officer: Surveillance? All right, could you repeat that [be]cause I could not put this sentence together?

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Detainee: Okay. I am ready. I mean to be at the disposition of the America. Even though I am in my country they will know where I am living. Surveillance residence, until they get all the information they need between the Saudi and the American government.

The linguist said, "He is willing to sign [a] paper even if he is free and they need him.

Presiding Officer: ... Surveillance on his residence.

Detainee: Yes sir!

Presiding Officer: Is that what you are trying to say?

Detainee: Yes sir!

Presiding Officer: OK! thank you.

Detainee: I am ready also, willing not to travel outside Saudi Arabia. This is all [to] show that I don't pose [a] threat or any threats. I am [the] father of five kids and I am the only son to my father. I know the value of fatherhood and the affection of the family. My father is sick and he has Cancer...no...[a] Stroke.

The linguist and the detainee were discussing the interpretation of the illness.

Presiding Officer: What's that? [referring to the linguist and detainee's conversation]

The linguist explained to the Administrative Review Board the similarities between the Arabic pronunciation of the word Cancer and Stroke.

Presiding Officer: OK! Just keep me informed [of the conversation].

The linguist agreed to keep the Presiding Officer informed.

Detainee: My father needs somebody to help him take care of him. Also my mother is sick and she has Diabetes. Also my son, Abdu Arrahman is sick and he has [a] sickness of the kidney. Nephrotic Syndrome.

Presiding Officer: OK!

Detainee: Also my daughter has no hips, her hips is displacing.

Presiding Officer: Replacement hip?

Detainee: Yeah.

Presiding Officer: Replacement hip!

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Detainee: Yes, replacement hip. This information is on all [the] letters that I receive[d]. They send me letters to let me know about their condition[s]. How they are doing. If you would like to confirm [this], you are welcomed to go back to the letters that [I] received. The letters, there are some letters from my family and there are some points here on the letters that my family says, we need you. [We are] in need for you and we miss you. This is [a] letter from my little daughter, her name [is] Asmaa that says, "I have the best Dad, very good, very good. I have the best Dad in the world. He's [the] sweetest Dad in the world". Another letter from my son, Abdu Arrahman, I always dreamed that you are here with us in the home...at home, and you will come back home soon. Also his Mother said [that] he saved some money, [so] if when my father comes I will have [a] big party. They always said, "I saw my Dad in my dream and I am thankful to God, thankful to God that at least he let me see my Dad in my dreams". Some letters for example, this letter from my little cousin, he said that your Aunt is missing you a lot and [that when] you went to Afghanistan you didn't go to [fight] ...even the young kids they say you went to Afghanistan for [a] Daawah, which means like a Fatwa (The linguist explained that a Fatwa means relief; to help with relief) and that shows that you are a good person not [a bad person]...even the young kids, they know. Even the young kids, they know that I am very, very peaceful...very peaceful. Also during my presence in Cuba, in the camp here, I didn't raise anything, any slogan against America or problems against Americans. Also, now I know the meaning of prisoner, of [a] human being in prison and the value of freedom. I don't want to have this experience in the future. Also my country observed that I am [a] good citizen and I don't pose [a] threat on America. Also, I don't have any relation with nine eleven from the past or from now. Now, I would like to talk about my future. I would like to recompose my family about what they lost while I was away from them and also to apologize to my father and my family and my wife for what I did. I will promise them [that] I will not go back to that. Also, I will be looking for [a] job. I want [a] new life and I want to change the place, the home. I dream about a big house with [a] big yard and I will be very busy with raising up my kids. I mean education, giving education to my kids, taking good care of them. To pay back my father, my mother, the sick ones [and] to be there for them, to help them. Also, I am trying to finish my university study in Poetry and Art. I have my Bachelor Degree in Sociology and I tried to finish my school in Poetry and Art. Also, I tried to get married again. In reality, I was captured in [a] place [that was] very dangerous. The purpose of prison in the world is to discipline. During my presence here in the prison, I [have] learned a lot, however, I was not grateful to the right[s] of my parents, also my wife and my kids. I am also victim to the media, what they were...propaganda of the media on the TV and newspaper. They say something and they are not true...propaganda. The extremist, religious extremist and that's the primary factor in the world that exist now. Unfortunately, those extremists are the one[s] who will represent religion. Most of the world is result[s] of those groups and problem[s] [with] the civilian[s], the innocent civilian[s], they are the victim[s]. If there were not those extremist groups, religious extremist groups [like] the Jewish, the Muslim[s] and the Christian[s] will live in peace. One thing that I [have] learned is [that it is] not [a] mistake to make [a] mistake but it's [a] mistake if [you] keep doing that mistake. My hope from the Board is to look at my case with a justice and [as a] human and [be] just. That I am [a] father to five kids and my presence here far away from my kids and my family and my wife, that makes them live day and night in pain of being away from each

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other and deprived. When they look at the other kids that they are with, their families, their parents and when they look for him [the detainee], he's not there. Imagine this traumatic situation, painful. When little kids ask, "Where is my father?" and "When is he coming back?", this is for sure [that] it did happen and happened a lot in the last two years. I ask the Board to promote freedom and [a] make smile on the face of those kids. No doubt, God, [a] grateful God, likes that and he encourage[s] people to do that. I ask the Board to take into consideration the fact that I have been here three years and five months. This period would be enough, even if I were wrong. With the knowledge that I didn't know [that] going to travel to Afghanistan that [it] will result [in] all this. At the end, the most important things, the most important proof [is] that I do not pose a threat. [There is a] witness of the Saudi government about that. I ask the Board [to] please review those two things. The allegation that request my continuous detention, they are not...they are little and doesn't prove that I am a real threat to America. [In] fact if you decide that I pose [a] threat on United States that will cost me [a] nother three years of my life. This is from experience, I say that from experience of the previous Administration (referring to CSRT). It took three years to have this one here. I thank the Presiding Officer, the member, the recorder, the translator and the gentlemen for listening to me and for their patience.

The linguist stated to the Detainee, "Did you mention to the Administrative Review Board what you mentioned to us about your father working with the...?"

Detainee: My father in [the] Gulf War...he, my father he's a General in...retired... he worked in [the] U.S...in Saudi's Army during the Gulf War. The Saudi's Army and the U.S. Army, they worked together.

The linguist stated, "His father is [a] General [in the] Army with Saudi's Forces and he worked with the U.S. Forces during the Gulf War when the United States helped in nineteen ninety-one in the Gulf War. They worked side by side.

Detainee: That's proves the good relations that we had with America and my family...

Presiding Officer: That wasn't mentioned anywhere.

The linguist stated, "He mentioned [it] to us in the interview, not today, [but the] last time when we had the interview".

Presiding Officer: No...I am glad [that] you brought that [up]. That's not anywhere in front of us...so...

The linguist stated, "Yeah, it was...this is how I know it...in the interview".

Presiding Officer: Khalid, does that conclude your statement?

Detainee: Yes, yes.

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Presiding Officer: Did the Assisting Military Officer's statement provide the information

[that] you wanted us to hear, the information that he earlier mentioned?

Detainee: Yes sir!

Presiding Officer: ...with the corrections that you provided.

Detainee: Yeah, okay.

Presiding Officer: OK! Assisting 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: Yes sir. Khalid, in regards to 3.A.1. the detainee went AWOL from the Royal Saudi Air Defense Forces, you stated that you were a civilian, yet we normally associate the term A-W-O-L with [the] military. Khalid, at any time have you ever worn a uniform or held military rank or rate in Saudi Forces?

Detainee: No. I didn't wear any [uniform]...I didn't have a service...military service...we didn't have any service.

Designated Military Officer: Okay. My other question, in regards to 3.B.3. You paid a man one thousand dollars to take you to Pakistan. Okay, how did you come to meet this man?

Detainee: When I was in [the] safe house, it was an Afghani guy who speak[s] Arabic very good. He came three or four times and I asked this Afghan, I told him [that] I want[ed] to get out of Afghanistan. He went to search and he came back to me with this man.

Designated Military Officer: Okay, thank you. Sir, that's all I have.

Presiding Officer: Do any of the Administrative Review Board Members have any questions for the Detainee?

Board Members: Yes sir!

Administrative Review Board Member's questions:

Board Member: What type of clerk were you, as a civilian worker, what did you do daily?

Detainee: Secretary, like secretarial.

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Board Member: For who?

Detainee: In [the] office of training [for the] Air Force Defense. The way it works, [is] we get the names of the people who want to go to get trained and [I] take care of the schedule and planning for them. According to the condition we sent them.

Board Member: Did your degree in Sociology help you with that job?

Detainee: No this job, my father was the intermediate. I mean the mediator for [them] to give my Dad this job because he was [a] General in the Army.

Board Member: Okay, that saves me one question then. Do you intend to get a similar type [of] job again, if released?

Detainee: I don't think now my job is still available for me. But, I will do any job, I mean to survive.

Board Member: Has your father written you while you have been detained here?

Detainee: Yes, I have [a] letter here.

The Detainee points towards a pile of papers on the floor.

Board Member: I don't need to see them. I just wanted to know. Is your father still connected with the government and able to help you get a job?

Detainee: I swear [that] my Dad now, his health condition [is] very, very poor. But he can still help me, with the laws help.

Board Member: Who is taking care of your family financially while you are here?

Detainee: My father.

Board Member: Thank you, I don't have any more questions.

Board Member: Khalid, did you know about the September 11th attacks against the United States when you went to Afghanistan?

Detainee: Yes, of course. Everybody knew about it.

Board Member: And your family knew about them?

Detainee: Yes, my family knew.

Board Member: Did your family support you going to Afghanistan?

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Detainee: I didn't tell them.

Board Member: You didn't tell them. What did you do for twenty-five days in that

guesthouse?

Detainee: First days I went to see how to help the people there. Next week it becomes trouble. I was obligated and everybody in the safe house [was] obligated to be inside this

house.

The linguist interjected and said, "to stay inside".

Board Member: Did you meet any people in the guesthouse?

Detainee: Yes, I met [some people].

Board Member: Can you tell us their names?

Detainee: There's one that is in charge there.

Board Member: What was his name?

Detainee: His name [is] Amir.

Presiding Officer: Spell that please.

Detainee: A-M-I-R!

Presiding Officer: Amir... OK!

Detainee: The other guy, A-B-D-E-L, M-A-G-I-D.

Presiding Officer: Magid.

Board Member: Do you remember the name of the person [that] you paid the thousand

dollars to, to take you to Pakistan?

Detainee: Yeah.

Board Member: What was his name?

Detainee: His name is F-A-D-E-L, A-R-R-A-H-M-A-N.

Board Member: Did he take you all the way to Pakistan?

Detainee: Yes, yes all the way.

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Board Member: Do you know what region you passed through between Afghanistan and

Pakistan?

Detainee: Yeah, yeah.

Board Member: What region was that?

Detainee: I spent... he put me in a house with a family in Khost for seventeen days. He went to get me a Visa for Pakistan and after that he, I understood that he couldn't have a Visa from there and he took me to another place, in a small town on the frontier, it's called Boldeq and he put me there for ten days and he got me my passport and I crossed the border.

Presiding Officer: Boldeq, could you spell that?

Detainee: B-O-L-D-E-Q.

Presiding Officer: Boldeq, OK. Something like that, thank you.

Board Member: So you had a passport when you entered Pakistan?

Detainee: Yes...yes, I have...

Board Member: So why were you arrested?

Detainee: I don't know, I think I was arrested for the money.

Board Member: For the money?

Detainee: ... by the Pakistani people, they did it..

Board Member: Why does the Saudi Arabia Air Force say you were AWOL, absent

without leave?

Detainee: I left with permission.

Board Member: Did you stay longer than thirty days, could that be the reason?

Detainee: Yeah, maybe it is because of this reason.

Board Member: All right. Did you ever see any weapons or did you ever carry any

weapons when you were in Afghanistan?

Detainee: No, I didn't carry any weapons.

Board Member: Did you see any weapons in the safe house?

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Detainee: I saw [weapons]...no not in the safe house [but] when I was on the road.

Board Members: On the road?

Detainee: ...on the road, yes I saw some gangs.

Board Member: Okay, I think that is all the questions.

Presiding Officer: I'm sorry did you say some gangs?

Detainee: Yeah, the situation was like this, disorder. It was very chaotic.

Board Member: Finally, I thought Daawah was missionary work, not welfare work.

Detainee: Yes, it's missionary work.

Board Member: You didn't go there to do missionary work, did you, no?

Detainee: No...no...the small man in the letter he wrote Daawah.

Board Member: Okay, that's all the questions I have sir.

Presiding Officer: So in the letter, someone referred to missionary work.

Board Member: Missionary work and it wasn't missionary work.

Detainee: Is wasn't missionary work, yeah. This prove[s] that I didn't have any jihadist work.

Board Member: Okay, they're all converted.

Presiding Officer: OK. Question, you had mentioned something about or I believe you said something along the lines of you had made a...you realize you [had] made a mistake and that you wouldn't do this again. But, I also think you said that you went, your jihad or fatwa was to do...to help the poor. So I am not sure how that's a mistake, please explain if I am misunderstanding something?

Detainee: In regard to help[ing] the poor, it's not [a] mistake. Mistake is first, I went there without letting my family know. For the Afghan it is forbidden for the Saudi to go to Afghan and that was not a mistake for my country I did. Also, I was wrong because I didn't understand [the] situation. The situation that was around Afghanistan, especially I left after the events of nine-eleven. The period in which when I was in Saudi after nine eleven, they were saying and talking about the people who were in charge of this event, nine-eleven is the Red Army, Japanese Red Army and after that they said al Qaida, and after this they said some terrorist group in America and also they said some fanatic

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Catholic in America, they're the one's who did that and the picture wasn't clear. To me, I didn't expect America will go to Afghanistan and will fight over there. This is where I was wrong. I put myself in [a] delicate situation and trouble without knowing it, mislead. The poor people are everywhere, they are in other countries [but] the propaganda was only on that region, which is Afghanistan. The media was forced on Afghanistan. You understand [referring to the Presiding Officer]?

Presiding Officer: If he's saying what you're saying, I understand what he's saying. At the safe house, you said it was free. Who do you think was paying for this if you didn't have to pay for it, so that you could stay there free?

Detainee: Yeah, I think it was paid by the Taliban government.

Presiding Officer: OK. But...and again in Connection [referring to the Unclassified Summary] it said the detainee travel to Afghanistan to join the Taliban and now you're saying that the Taliban paid for you to stay at a house [for] free, but you're also saying you're not a member of the Taliban.

Detainee: Yes, I'm not a member but I am a guest.

Presiding Officer: A guest, okay. And you did provide the name of the man that you paid [the one] thousand dollars too?

Detainee: Fadel Arrahman.

Presiding Officer: Right.

Detainee: ...without the 'e', Fadl!

Presiding Officer: Okay and you're not sure what job you would go back to. You also mentioned that you're not a threat to the United States, but how about...are there any countries you are a threat to because that's not our only concern here?

Detainee: I don't even pose a threat on my neighbor. I mean...of my nature I respect people and I respect their opinion. There is no problem, I mean.

Presiding Officer: Okay, thank you. Assisting Military Officer do you have any other information the Detainee wants to present?

Assisting Military Officer: No sir.

Presiding Officer: I'm adlibbing...[directs the linguist to the correct place on the script]. [Do] you [referring to the detainee] understand me...Do you understand?

Detainee: Yes.

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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, USMC

Administrative Review Board Presiding Officer

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