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(Revised 1 Dec 05)

Summary of Administrative Review Board Proceedings for ISN 743

The Administrative Review Board was called to order.

The Designated Military Officer (DMO) was sworn.

The Board Reporter was sworn.

The Translator was sworn.

The Detainee entered the proceedings.

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

The Administrative Review Board members were sworn.

The Assisting Military Officer was sworn.

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

The Detainee accepted taking the (Muslim) oath.

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

The Assisting Military Officer presented the Enemy Combatant Notification 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 initial interview was conducted on 29 November 2005 and lasted 55 minutes. After reviewing the ARB's purpose and procedures, the Urdu translated Unclassified Summary of Evidence was read to the detainee. The detainee stated he understood the difference between the CSRT and the ARB. 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 was non-committal, opined he was already prejudged, and requested more time to decide. After the ARB process was thoroughly explained, the detainee stated he would attend and would likely respond with both oral and written statements to the Unclassified Summary of Evidence. The detainee

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was responsive, polite, attentive, but very skeptical of the ARB based on his experience with the CSRT. The detainee spoke in both Urdu and English. At the conclusion of the interview, the English and Urdu translated copies of the Unclassified Summary of Evidence, as well as the detainee writing templates, were provided to the detainee, via his guards.

The Designated Military Officer presented the Unclassified Summary of Evidence, Exhibit DMO-1, and Exhibit DMO-2 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 and Detainee.

The Presiding Officer noted from the Enemy Combatant Election Form that the detainee wanted to wait until the entire Unclassified Summary was presented before responding.

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: The detainee asked an unidentified confidant where and with whom a United States government official would be on New Year's Eve.

Designated Military Officer: The detainee wanted to know if there were protective officers with the government official and if they were American.

Designated Military Officer: An acquaintance of the detainee failed an attack on an American commercial airline in 2001.

Designated Military Officer: In mid-December 2001, the detainee speculated that something big was going to happen during a meeting with other al Qaida operatives.

Designated Military Officer: The detainee had visited with members of al Qaida in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Designated Military Officer: A member of the detainee's family was a leader of the female section of the Al Ikhwan Al Muslimoon Group in Indonesia. This group has been identified as an Islamic extremist group in Asia.

Designated Military Officer: The detainee stated that it was better to kill one U.S. Government Official than 100 Americans.

Designated Military Officer: The detainee claimed to be an al Qaida operative.

Designated Military Officer: The detainee admitted traveling to Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Afghanistan and many times to Pakistan.

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The Detainee made the following statement.

Detainee: Before I start responding to this summary, I would like to state some factors to make it easy for you to understand this case. First of all, I don't understand on the basis of what factors I have been called an Enemy Combatant. The paper of ... which was given to me, in that paper... which applies to Enemy Combatant, it does not apply to me. You should know that I was captured from my house without any weapons. At the time of my capture they did not find anything or any weapon that can prove that I am an Enemy Combatant.

Presiding Officer: The purpose of this board is not to question whether or not you are an Enemy Combatant. That decision has been made previously. The purpose of this is to determine whether you should be detained at Guantanamo Bay, to be transferred to the control of another country or to be released.

Detainee: That is why I stated earlier before you started anything, which will help you understand my case. They had not arrested me from the battlefield. They captured me from my house. Second thing I would like to state. I don't expect any justice. For the past four years which I spent here. I expected justice from these people. Neither I received any truth nor [did] I receive any justice. Here it says in number three (*referring to allegation 3.b.3*). You can ask my family [that] wherever I went any airport I stopped [at] or flew from, I can tell you the date and time from there and you can give me proof [of] who you saw me with. I was very much disappointed by these kinds of allegations. My mother always used to advise me, since I am a Qari of Qúran. I memorized the whole Qúran and my mother said [that] whatever I do, right or wrong, I [answer] to God. There is only one God, which everybody has to [answer to]. I was told tell one lie you need 100 lies to support [that] one lie. But if we tell the truth one time we will be safe. If we put one rotten apple among all the ripe apples, it will destroy the whole carton. All my travel expenses came from America. My family lives in America. I went to obtain [a] visa with American Express. You can try to find out from that Airport to the Jakarta Airport who was with me. Either I was alone or someone else was with me. I left Lahore Airport on Saturday, November 18 at 9:00 am with Emirates Airline from Lahore to Dubai. I stayed in Dubai for almost 16 hours. The next day, November 18, the Saturday was 17 November and Sunday was 18 November 2001. The second day, Sunday, [at] three o'clock, early morning I traveled from Dubai to Colombo with same airline, Emirates Airline. I stayed there a half an hour. I traveled with same airline from Colombo to Singapore. I stayed maybe one to two hours. Then I traveled from there to Jakarta. I end in... at the airport on Sunday, November 18 [at] almost 8:00 pm. I went to American Express in Pakistan because the General Manager is my best friend. You can ask him about me, too. I went over there and he sent one person with me to go to [the] Indonesian Embassy in Islamabad, the capital city of Pakistan. I have three passports. I have a diplomatic passport, official passport because my family is a diplomatic family. I have two other citizen passports. One [is] issued from Indonesia and the second one issued from Pakistan. It hurt my feelings when I read [that] I traveled from Pakistan to

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Indonesia with [an] al Qaida member. This is something that you told me I traveled [in the] nighttime. I did not. I traveled [in the] daytime.

Presiding Officer: I would like to read the charge again because the charge does not say that you traveled with al Qaida but you visited with al Qaida.

Detainee: That is what he *(the Translator)* said. The statement I have says that *(detainee was cut off by Presiding Officer)*.

Presiding Officer: The evidence we are considering is the statement. *(Presiding Officer re-reads charge 3.b.3)*.

Detainee: I have wrong thing [in] translation.

Presiding Officer: We are not considering that you traveled with al Qaida. We are only considered whether you visited with al Qaida in Indonesia.

Detainee: No.

Presiding Officer: I understand that you are saying that this allegation is not true.

Detainee: This is not true at all. I don't understand. I am Pakistani. Nothing or nobody can stop me from going to Pakistan. Either I go there every day or I visit there once in ten years. I know because all of my life I [have] spent abroad. What kind of evidence is this that says I traveled to Pakistan many times? I am a Pakistani.

Presiding Officer: One of the things that I consider is your pattern of travel. You and millions of other men have traveled to Pakistan but if people consistently travel back and forth and establish a pattern that is one of the factors we will consider.

Detainee: Please explain to me clearly. I am still confused. I belong to Pakistan. I have family that I go [visit] as many times as I want to. Why [do] you keep alleging that? My factory [is] in Manhattan. I have a company in Manhattan, New York. My aunt is [an] American. She is a U.S. citizen. Now you [asked] me why I traveled to a state? It is my business over there. Nothing can stop me. I go to New York to see my business or I go to New Jersey to see my aunt or my home. I don't understand something specific about Pakistan.

Presiding Officer: At a point later in the proceedings we will have an opportunity to ask you questions. We may ask you about the purpose of your travels to Pakistan, to Egypt, to Saudi Arabia [and] to Afghanistan. At that point we can talk more about it.

Detainee: Thirdly, what also makes me upset. You said in here that I traveled to Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan and Pakistan. When they arrested me or captured me, it is coincidence that I had all those passports with me, on which I traveled all over the world

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my whole life. I have three passports. I have [a] diplomatic [one]; the second one is for all Pakistanis but one [is] issued from Indonesia.

Presiding Officer: What country is your diplomatic passport from?

Detainee: I told you already. All Pakistani passports but [the] diplomatic one is from Saudi Arabia. It is a stamp on [the] diplomatic [one] from Saudi Arabia for when we moved from Saudi Arabia to Indonesia. I never visited Egypt or Afghanistan. I lived in Saudi Arabia [for] 15 years. How did you already have my passports? I never used the fourth passport. I never used another name. My name is on the internet. You can open the internet with my office paper. You can find my name in there, too. Yesterday I got my name from [the] internet. A lot of paper I forget because they [did] not tell me [that] I was going to ARB. They told me they couldn't tell me where I was going. [For] that reason I [did] not bring my papers. There were letters and some papers I got from my interrogator yesterday from [the] internet. It makes me upset [because] I never visit Egypt or Afghanistan. How would they say the found any passports [with] other names [or] anything to show I visit[ed] Egypt. I visit[ed] Singapore. I visit[ed] Dubai, United Arab Emirates then I said in here I lived in Saudi Arabia ten to thirteen years. I lost hope. How can I explain [to] you my case [and] to think from you...? In here they say everything, like when they say it is night. It is not. It is daytime. Now I [will] start to answer about [the] evidence. I will talk about "Other Relevant Data". I [was] born on October 17, 1977 in Lahore, Pakistan. I don't remember what age I left Pakistan and went to Saudi Arabia. When I was able to understand everything I found myself in Medina, Saudi Arabia. From that time until 1990 I never left Saudi Arabia. Maybe [in] June 1990 I went to visit Pakistan [for the] first time in my life. I think I was fourteen years old. I stayed in Pakistan [for] almost two months because the Saudi Government sent my father from Saudi Arabia to Indonesia as a Religious Ambassador. You can look at my passport. I stay two months then I [went] back to Indonesia with Singapore Airline. When I was traveling with my family we traveled on Singapore Airlines. The government used Singapore Airline for diplomatic travel. I go from Lahore to Karachi, Karachi to Singapore, [and] Singapore to Jakarta. That was [the] first time I [was] in Indonesia. The first visit to Indonesia was for six to seven months. Every year we had two months vacation time when I visited Pakistan again. Second time we visited Pakistan [was] in 1991. After staying there for a couple of months we went back to Indonesia. Then I stayed there for one year. After one year, in 1992, I came back to Pakistan. Then from that day until 2001 I never left Pakistan. I think this was in July 1992 until November 18, 2001 [that] I never left Pakistan. I travel within the country because I had diplomatic status there. Third time I left Pakistan was November 18, 2001. It was a Saturday at nine o'clock in the morning. After that I am here. I never traveled to Egypt or Afghanistan. The countries I visited were Saudi Arabia; Pakistan; Kashmir (a region of Pakistan); Dubai; Colombo, Sri Lanka; Singapore; and Indonesia. To prove this you have all my passports. My family is an official government family. I don't think anybody can tell about every day of their life or what they have done. But I can tell you about my daily routine of my life. The second allegation stated that I said I am a member

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of al Qaida. I never said that. You [should] know that no extremist or terrorist organization, especially al Qaida, will try to make any connections with diplomatic people. That is in all the world. If [a] person is diplomatic, [then] extremists [or] religious [fanatics]; nobody can touch them. This doesn't make sense to me, also. I was never [a] member of any party or organization neither in Pakistan nor outside of Pakistan. Sometimes I was assisting the political party within Pakistan. I never filled out any form and I have never signed any form that is either political or official government party, or any religious organization. I don't even vote. I either like him or I don't. I don't even vote. I think this affected me before leaving Pakistan I met with Dr. Khan, the Nuclear Scientist of Pakistan. I think the reason they suspected me because I met him during that time when nobody in the world could meet with him. I did not say that killing one American government official is better than killing 100 Americans. This is very obvious [that] I left my country a few days after the war started in Afghanistan. During that time all American and Pakistani government agencies were there. I am talking about only Americans. [The] United States Government started against terrorists in Afghanistan. After a couple of weeks I left Pakistan. There were all agencies [like] FBI, National Security Council, CIA, and other agencies in Pakistan and all Military and Armies and Military Intelligence people. If I had to fight I could have declared war within my country against those American officials. I could go to Afghanistan quick like this *(detainee snaps fingers)*. I traveled from Pakistan to Indonesia. It doesn't make sense to me to say if I need war already I [can] travel from Pakistan to Afghanistan or I [can have] war in Pakistan. But [instead] from Pakistan I go to Indonesia. If I had to fight or go to war I should have done [it]. That was [the] right time because [a] religious organization [had] already declared jihad against America. Why would I have to leave that country when they already had declared war? It is too easy from my house in Pakistan if I need to. It doesn't make sense to anybody if I am hungry and I have food in my house why would I go to another country to eat. I don't understand why these points were put against me and I told you all the facts. The allegation that says my family member was [a] member of Al Ikhwan Al Muslimoon Group in Indonesia for the women's section is not true. My father had second wife in Indonesia. If anybody from that women's family belonged to this group I have no knowledge about that one. I met a lot of people in Jakarta but not because they belonged to this group or al Qaida group or any other group. Allegation number two *(referring to 3.b.2)* says in mid-December 2001 I said that something would happen after meeting with al Qaida member that is not true at all. I don't even have any friend who has any kind of connection or relationship with any party, group or religious organization. I have personal relationship with world leaders since I am a Qari, a recitor of Qúran, so I had to go to every stage. That was the reason I met with Dr. Khan. I met with all the leaders of Pakistani organizations and that is the reason I met with King Fahad of Saudi Arabia. From my knowledge or facts, I never met anyone because that person is a terrorist or [because] he belongs to any terrorist group. It *(referring to allegation 3.b.1)* said that one of my acquaintances attacked a commercial airline. Please tell me his name. I don't think there is such a... In fact one of the interrogators told me about this one and he just told me as news. He did not discuss with me. I think you are talking about the "Shoe Bomb". The flight was from Paris to New

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York and the British guy, Richard Reid. I think so, but I don't know exactly. I think if you don't have name for me that is fine, but I don't know. I don't have any person who I can disclose my secrets [to]. If I had to fight against America [and] Pakistan was the best place to fight against them [then] why would I have to leave Pakistan to go to other country to fight against Americans? That is not absolutely right and this is not true. I told that if I go to another country to find out about Americans. When they captured me in Jakarta, all the papers and documents from my entire life's record were in that briefcase. If I had anything wrong or if I had any dishonesty within my life, why would I have to carry it with me in that briefcase? I met some people in Indonesia and that was purely because of my recitation of [the] Qúran. If you later found out that those people belonged to al Qaida [or] if they had any connections with any terrorist organization I did not even know about that one. I found out here at Guantanamo Bay prison. I don't think [there] is anything else I can say about this. If you have any questions [to] ask me about my life I can tell you day, time and the specific area about that one. If I recall something in this proceeding I will stop and tell you because I had written something back in my cell that I left because they didn't tell me I had to go. They immediately picked me up and I came here.

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 for a closed session.

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

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

The Assisting Military Officer read the Detainee Comments from the Enemy Combatant Election Form.

Assisting Military Officer: After the Unclassified Summary of Evidence was read; the detainee summarized his response by stating, "Even the children would laugh at these things." The detainee also opined on the Unclassified Summary and the ARB, "I have been explaining this for over four years. Am I to expect them (the ARB board) to understand in just four hours? Tell me, who should better understand this...the people I have met with for over the past four years, or these people I will meet with for just four hours?" The detainee initially declined to attend his ARB and stated the problem was his experience with the CSRT, "I won't discuss this because it [is] not important to me...these are [the] same words that I heard in my CSRT. The ARB is just a play shown to the world." The detainee later stated, "Over the past four years, I haven't seen any justice. I don't expect any happiness of release, that's the most agonizing...I haven't received justice from the United States, the world's super power." After the AMO again

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explained the differences between the CSRT and the ARB, as well as the positive results from previous ARBs, the detainee acknowledged by stating, "Yes, I will go to the ARB...the importance is the truth." When the AMO repeatedly asked if he would respond point-by-point to the Unclassified Summary, the detainee replied, "I will go to the ARB and decide what I want to do...don't ask me this again." When the AMO inquired if he would provide a written statement, the detainee replied, "For the last time, I will decide when I come to the board!" The AMO then explained the written statement must be provided prior to the ARB for translation and proper formatting. The detainee then stated, "I will write it in English. I am a professor. I know nine languages. I am only 25 years old, but I am the smartest person on this island." When the AMO explained that normal procedure was scheduling a follow-up interview to collect any written statements, the detainee commented, "Don't bother...I will bring it to the ARB."

The Detainee made his oral statement immediately following the presentation of the Unclassified Summary.

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

The Designated Military Officer had no further questions for the Detainee.

Administrative Review Board Member's questions:

Board Member: How are things going for you?

Detainee: I am still [on] hunger strike for now.

Board Member: How long?

Detainee: The past five days. I was very, very sick but when I heard that they...I think maybe for ARB because Military Officer said maybe day after tomorrow you will go to there (the ARB). I was really happy to see [him] because when they took me six to seven months ago I had lost hope from you guys really. I have no hope. I'm telling the truth. Not because I get something from you or [am] afraid of you. I am afraid of God only. Because my mom told me when I don't do anything wrong I don't have to say sorry. Why did I say sorry because I never did anything bad? I think maybe I go over there [and] maybe something positive [is] going to happen. Every hand has five different fingers [and] even to blame one hand for five totally different things.

Board Member: Who is your family in America and where do they live?

Detainee: They live in New Jersey.

Board Member: You said you have a business, a company?

Detainee: A family business in Manhattan, New York.

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Board Member: What is the name of it?

Detainee: It's a pharmaceutical.

Board Member: Do you know the name?

Detainee: Fezeldine (phonetic spelling) and Sons. He is my paternal uncle. My father's younger brother and he is married to an American lady.

Board Member: He lives in New Jersey. It's his company and he runs the company?

Detainee: He is [a] doctor and his wife is [a] doctor. They run that business.

Board Member: Do you have business elsewhere in the world as well?

Detainee: We have business of ready-made garments in Indonesia. We have a leather shoe factory in Pakistan. We have 300 plazas and we have a lot more.

Board Member: So you come from a very wealthy family?

Detainee: Everything is given to us by God.

Board Member: I think you mentioned [that] your father was a religious scholar that went from Saudi Arabia to Indonesia?

Detainee: In city of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia there is a university. The name of the University is Imam Mohammed Bin Soud al Islamia University. They have a branch in Jakarta, Indonesia. My father was [the] Dean of Islamic Studies there. In Pakistan [the] Embassy had given honorary diplomatic status. The current Indonesian Government, the Ministry of Religious Affairs had given him honorary status.

Board member: Is your father's second wife in Indonesia Indonesian?

Detainee: Yes.

Board Member: You mentioned something about one of these allegations that a member of your family was a member of Al Ikhwan Al Muslimoon Group. Is that who you were referring to?

Detainee: I did not say that I know. I said that I don't have any idea. If there is somebody it would be from her family.

Board Member: But it is not her. Is that what you are saying?

Detainee: My stepmother I already met.

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Board Member: You met her when you went from Pakistan to Indonesia?

Detainee: Yes. I have one stepbrother, also.

Board Member: The son of your father and your stepmother.

Detainee: Yes.

Board Member: Do you have any other family in Indonesia?

Detainee: From second wife?

Board Member: Either directly or step family.

Detainee: My second mother, who is [my] stepmother, her whole family belongs to Indonesia.

Board Member: What about your father and your mother?

Detainee: On my father's side, my real relatives, they are in rest of the world but not in Indonesia.

Board Member: Where is your mother?

Detainee: She died [on] December 3, 1998.

Board Member: You have good mind for numbers. How old are you? You said you were born in 1977.

Detainee: Twenty-seven years old. My birth date is October 17, 1977.

Board Member: So you would be twenty-eight?

Detainee: Twenty-seven. I have family in Canada, Britain, United States, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, UAE (*United Arab Emirates*), Pakistan, and Kashmir.

Board Member: All over the place. That is why you have traveled all over the place?

Detainee: Diplomatic.

Board Member: I understand Qari is an honorary title [because] you recite the Qúran?

Detainee: The person who memorizes the whole Qúran is called Hafez, which I already am. After completion of memorizing Qúran there is another course [that] takes two to four years [on] how to sing or read [the] Qúran properly. That is why I am given this title as Qari. In 1992 I won the World Championship for the recitation of the Qúran. I got

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that reward in Jakarta, Indonesia. In 1996 I won [a] Gold Medal from government of Pakistan. In 1998 I won [the] King Fahad Award.

Board Member: Do you have favorite passage in the Qúran that you would like to recite?

Detainee: Yes. It will be better at the conclusion of the session out of respect for the Qúran.

Board Member: You mentioned a couple of times about hope and justice. What is your perception of justice in your case anyway?

Detainee: Justice comes after the truth. First is the truth. If there is no truth then you don't have to explain about justice. For the last four years they can check my behavioral record where I have never lied to anybody. That is why Intelligence knows [and] in [the] computer they mention that I am a truthful person. I have never taken any step against my religion. I know there is a lot going on here, but in four years I have never done anything wrong. I have never violated any rules or regulations of [the] law. I was always cooperative, but the treatment I received was just [the] opposite. [Just] like you call in [the] United States "give and take;" I give and not take anything.

Board Member: You mentioned that there is a statement in here that you claimed to be an al Qaida operative but said that you never did say that. Is that what you are telling us today?

Detainee: Yes.

Board Member: Tell me what you think about al Qaida in terms of justice. Do you think what al Qaida stands for and what they are doing is just?

Detainee: I don't have any knowledge about al Qaida. The first time I heard about al Qaida [was] when they attacked the United States. At that time I was sitting in [the] Minister of Education's house in Pakistan. [That is the] first time I heard that the attack was from al Qaida and Usama Bin Laden. After that whatever I heard or read through the news. I don't have any interest with al Qaida anyway. I believe in God completely. If anybody does anything wrong against me I won't take my revenge back I will just leave it up to God. God will take care of it. If I take my revenge with that person that means that I don't believe in God or [that] God can't do anything so I am doing something. This is what I tell [the] rest of the people here in the camp that you have to leave everything to God if there is something going on against you. And if somebody does something wrong God will never forgive them. The man should not take [the] law into his hands. For this matter I have written a whole chapter and when I get [an] opportunity I will write and I will publish in the world.

Presiding Officer: Did I understand you to say that you had not heard of al Qaida until the attack on the United States?

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Detainee: Yes.

Presiding Officer: How can that be true? I am an American not a Muslim and I have heard of al Qaida many times before the attack on the United States.

Detainee: Because I don't belong to such a society who has connections with parties or organizations. Most of the time I spent in Pakistan was with government officials. They don't like such things. All my personal friends don't even like such things. When the environment is like this and doesn't even talk about this then how am I supposed to know this?

Presiding Officer: I want you to understand that I did not mean to imply that all Muslims would know all about al Qaida. What I meant to say was that because you live in that part of the world that I would expect most people who live there to have heard of al Qaida.

Detainee: I was busy attending the events because I was going to those programs and functions I did not have enough time to take interests in such things. I didn't have time to think about anything else.

Board Member: You also mentioned that you, your friends or people you associated with were not really into political parties or organizations in Pakistan but that you did assist some political parties in Pakistan.

Detainee: Like Blood Donation groups. I donated blood. The Ja'amat-al-Tablighi is like [a] motivation [group] for religion. My grandfather, my mother's father, was one of the leaders. They have no problem to get a visa from the United States. They go all over.

Board Member: What is the nature of their work?

Detainee: Motivation. That is the only organization, which goes all over the world easily. I went and I recited the Qúran [at] every event of every organization because of my status as Qari. Even if they have some kind of secret meeting they bring me for recitation of [the] Qúran. I go and recite Qúran.

Board Member: What do you mean by secret meeting?

Detainee: Like any party [they] have their closed sessions. I will explain to you. Once I was Secretary General to a party but I never filled out any forms. It was like 1994 or 1995 [that] I was Secretary General in all Pakistan for one group. It was [a] religious schoolboys group.

Board Member: What was the nature of your responsibilities?

Detainee: That was just my rank Secretary General.

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Board Member: You didn't actually do anything as Secretary General?

Detainee: To celebrate [the] Prophet Mohammed's birthday or death day or to celebrate other companions of prophets. [Also], religious contests like debates or sing religious songs.

Board Member: What was the name of the organization you were Secretary General for?

Detainee: Soldier of Islam of Pakistan.

Board Member: The reason you think you are here is because you had a meeting with Dr. Khan, the Nuclear Scientist. Why would you be meeting with Dr. Khan and why would that cause you to be here?

Detainee: The interrogators told me here that Dr. Khan was providing nuclear information to Usama Bin Laden. There was a program at the time when this chaos started. I met with him because of the program. I went there to recite [the] Qúran. Everybody in the world would like to take picture with him because he is a hero. For me he is a hero. Second thing I met a person in Indonesia. His name is Hany Yahyah al-Saqqaf. He is from Yemen but he lives in Indonesia. He is a journalist. He worked as a Secretary General for an extremist group in Indonesia called IDF: Islamic Defense Front. The intelligence interrogator said that I am in here because he gave information to [the] intelligence [that] I have relation. The interrogator told me all this that he belonged to that [group] and because I met with him the interrogator told me that is why I am here.

Presiding Officer: I'm glad you said that because I was wondering why you would be arrested in Indonesia for meeting with Dr. Khan. Why do you think Saqqaf would provide your name to Indonesia for them to arrest you?

Detainee: The interrogators asked me in Egypt about this and some other [stuff]. When I went to Egypt the interrogator there told me that is why I am sent here.

Presiding Officer: For what reason would Mr. Saqqaf betray you to the Indonesian Police?

Detainee: The United States Government wanted Mr. Saqqaf. I don't know why he gave them my name but I know he gave them my name. I just told you I went to Egypt because they arrested me and sent me to Egypt.

Presiding Officer: Why did they send you to Egypt?

Detainee: You should ask your government why they sent me [to] Egypt. Why you ask me?

Presiding Officer: I don't know why Indonesia would send you to Egypt.

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Detainee: The media in the entire world said globalization. Mr. Madni captured from Indonesia, they investigated in Egypt and now I am in Guantanamo. Plus I read some newspapers from Paris [and what] the journalist says about me. They captured me January 9, 2002 [around] 4: 15 am from my house in Jakarta. It was a Wednesday. Thursday night they sent me to Egypt. On January 11, Friday, [around] 11:24 I went to Cairo, Egypt. I stayed there ninety-two days. [On] Friday, April 13, 2002 [around] 7:30 pm they sent me to Bagram Airbase by Pakistan. I went to Cairo to Islamabad, Islamabad to Bagram. I stay over there one year and [on] Sunday, March 23, 2003 [around] 11:00 am I came to Guantanamo.

Board Member: Were you by yourself in your home when you were arrested/captured?

Detainee: Yes I was alone.

Board Member: Part of what we are doing here is trying to see your situation through your eyes. In turn I hope that I can show you how your situation looks through our eyes. Reading this Unclassified Summary, I agree with you [that] there are some parts that are not very well expressed. But, even so there are things that are problems from the way that we look at the war on terrorism. One of those problems has to do with associations and people that you know or had contact with. [Like] the Ja'amat-al-Tablighi for example. That's partly a charitable, inspirational organization. However, al Qaida members have also used that organization.

Detainee: I think all the parties who are declaring this kind of jihad are against [the] Tablighi party. Especially [the] people here are against the Ja'amat-al-Tablighi. I don't believe this is fact what you are saying. The whole world knows that the Ja'amat-al-Tablighi has nothing from [the] government nor [has] any relationship with the government or other organization. Their purpose is to take message of God to the people.

Board Member: That's a good purpose. As you know it's possible for an organization to be sick in the same way a good person can still be infected.

Detainee: If the person doesn't know if he infected or not...like when the holy prophet said to clean the curse from somebody you have to travel with them, you have to live with them after 40 days you can find out how that person is.

Board Member: Another example [is] the IDF. What to you know about them?

Detainee: I know that this is a jihadi and religious group in Indonesia. The Indonesian government is afraid of that group and the President of the group is Al Habib Mohammad Shihab and he is originally from Yemen. He has been living in and married in Indonesia. He was studying in the same university my father was sent to from that university to Indonesia. That group is against New Year's Eve events in Indonesia and they want to eliminate those events in Indonesia. The neighborhood where I was staying in Indonesia he once saw me with Hany. In small areas they have a president called Area President or

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something like that. One time he saw me with Hany Saqqaf when he visited me in my house and he asked me why I was with him. I am a Qari. I have to go with this person and that person because it doesn't matter [to] me. I have to go to read the Qúran. I have to know...to judge a person. I asked if it is all right to go over there. He said no he is a bad person. I asked why and he said when we arranged New Year's parties he blew up and broke whiskey bottles and stuff like that. That President warned me that this person is a bad guy and he is a wanted person in a lot of other countries. He is against the New Year's events. I would like to say further about these things that this person has a lot of expectations from me. When he did not see any hope he turned me down and turned me against Americans. I would like to talk on three points. First, I have an aunt (mother's sister) who lives in America in San Diego. They ran away from San Diego after September's attack. American government wanted to arrest them. She was married to a Pakistani named Zaheer Khan. When they were running away to their next destination they called Hany Saqqaf in Indonesia. They called [him] on his cell phone and they told him they are running from America because American government is looking for us to arrest us. They were looking for a person who lives in America and who produce us American documents. They wanted to live in America for a small period of time so they could collect a lot of money then they will come back to the area. They asked me to talk to my uncle in America, the uncle I already stated, and his wife so they can give him some papers to guarantee his stay in America. So when I suspected [that] something was wrong with him I did not give him [the] address of my uncle and aunt. I stopped talking to him. That is why he agreed. He wanted something from me that's why he wanted to meet with me. His father had some training camps in Indonesia and he wanted some charity money from me for those camps. Since I had knowledge and relationships with [a] lot of businessmen in the world he wanted me to introduce him to those people so they can give him financial assistance. I could not fulfill his requirement that is why he was hopeless with me. [There are] a lot of things, which I never discussed with anybody in Indonesia. I only spoke with him. The interrogator here at GTMO asked me the same questions. That is why I noticed that when I was being used by him he gave my name to the interrogators. He wanted me to buy the air[line] tickets for those people that wanted to travel to Afghanistan for jihad purpose. I did not do that either. There are a lot of other things, but these are the main factors.

Board Member: Why didn't you do it?

Detainee: Once I met with the President of IDF. [In] my opinion what problem can be solved through the weapons that cannot be solved by negotiations and by peaceful manners. There are verses in [the] Qúran that says that you have to solve your dispute by wisdom not by fighting. I told them that instead of weapons and tools if you want to take their attention to Tablighi, which is motivation and inspiration; that would be better. According to my point of view, Islam is not a terrorist religion but a lot of people they messed it up through their bad actions. Islam does not teach about terrorism.

Presiding Officer: According to our point of view, Islam is not a terrorist religion either.

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Detainee: If there is one rotten apple put in the carton of ripe apples it will mess up the whole carton. Due to a bunch of peoples bad acts the Islam image came into people's minds as a bad religion. I told that group that I would financially support them only if they give up the weapons and come and give your message through Tablighi, through motivation and inspiration. I told them instead of going to Afghanistan you have to first start jihad from your own house. You have to clean your own house from Indonesia through inspiration. That is my point of view, which I presented to them and they disagreed with that. [In] that meeting the media publicized it a lot more. I heard that the leader of this group he had relationship with al Qaida. I believe he is the caretaker of al Qaida in Indonesia. Hany Saqqaf was personally arrested and was in prison in Australia. Then he escaped from Australian prison. Those people do not like Americans. This is my limited knowledge about IDF. There is a lot about IDF on the internet.

Board Member: If you were released, where would you go?

Detainee: That's obvious. I would go to my country.

Board Member: Which country?

Detainee: Pakistan.

Board Member: Do you expect there will be any sort of problem with the government of Pakistan?

Detainee: I don't think I have done anything personally against anybody in my life. Even if you send me to Indonesia I will have no problem. People will have no problems with me. When I was in Pakistan, my government has given me a lot of respect out of Saudi Arabia. I earned a lot of words in that tiny age in Pakistan. I was alone in my country at the age of seventeen as a diplomatic person. I am a regular member of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporations.

Board Member: How would you support yourself?

Detainee: As what?

Board Member: To have a place to live, food to eat, to support your family.

Detainee: I have three houses in Lahore that personally belong to me. I am a professor in the university. I am a permanent member of Management Sciences in Lahore...I am affiliated with...university in Karachi, Pakistan. I have [a] personal business as well. God had given me a lot.

Board Member: I've seen your name as an instructor on the website and I was wondering what do they pay you?

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Detainee: It was good money. It was more than enough. If I don't work I stay home. I have three houses. I don't work because I need money. I work because I love to teach. The knowledge that God has granted me I want to distribute to the world. Even if I don't work I trade houses, which are bungalows. If I rent I get enough rent from them as well as I can make enough money through the rent. I have a government vehicle.

Presiding Officer: I am very impressed that you are a Hafez. How many years did it take you to become a Hafez?

Detainee: Four to five years. It's not important to memorize Qúran [but] more important to do good as [the] Qúran says. God wanted you to memorize. If you don't do that then you have to answer when you go to God. You should do right thing in your life.

Presiding Officer: If I ask you to for a verse in the Qúran do you still know it well enough to tell me what the verse is?

Detainee: Yes.

Presiding Officer: From the Ash-shu'ara, Chapter 26, verses 151 and 183.

The Detainee recites the verse from the Qúran.

Presiding Officer: Can you tell me in English what that means to you?

Detainee: The prophet went to that nation and told them to follow not the truth extravagant. They said no you are a magician. Then that nation asked the prophet if you are truthful and if you are a prophet of God then show us any signs. Then the whole story starts about animals.

Presiding Officer: Earlier you stated that the US Government started the war in Afghanistan. Is that true?

Detainee: I was in Pakistan.

Presiding Officer: Talking to us today you said the US Government started the war in Afghanistan.

Detainee: Against terrorists.

Presiding Officer: Do you consider that a just war for the United States?

Detainee: Can you define your question?

Presiding Officer: Did the United States have cause to make war against the terrorists in Afghanistan?

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Detainee: As for my knowledge, I think America went to Afghanistan to capture Mullah Omar and Usama Bin Laden. But they could not find them. That is the question. The war is against terrorists and where are those terrorists? Where have Usama Bin Laden and Mullah Omar gone? Either the earth has swallowed them or the sky taken them. After that I have never taken any personal interests because I have been in prison. I could not even know [and] I could not find out anything else. As a military point of view to chop somebody's head off is not right. The aim of the Army is to chop somebody's head off. Some genius people are needed to solve this problem that can take a needle and pinpoint those kind of people and take them out.

Presiding Officer: You said that it would be easy for you to go to Pakistan to fight but you did not do this? I mean to Afghanistan. You could continue, you could fight in Indonesia?

Detainee: What do you mean I could fight in Indonesia?

Presiding Officer: I fight the Global War on Terror but I do my job in Cuba. I do not pull a trigger on a rifle in Afghanistan. So you can make war many places you don't have to be the man who pulls the trigger. Do you understand that?

Detainee: Yes.

Presiding Officer: Is your family very proud of you for being a Hafez Qari?

Detainee: Yes obviously.

Presiding Officer: Your father is in Pakistan?

Detainee: He died on February 17, 2001.

Presiding Officer: I'm sorry. Are you the oldest brother?

Detainee: I am the head of the family now.

Presiding Officer: Are you married?

Detainee: No.

Presiding Officer: Do you want to go back to Pakistan and have a family?

Detainee: Yes.

Presiding Officer: Do you feel that you have been honest and truthful with the interrogators while you have been here?

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Detainee: That is why I told you if you check the computer under my detainee's special notes the intelligence written says that I am a truthful person. You can check my behavior. I have no problem with any guards because I think I am an ambassador for my religion. Most people here deal with Muslims for the first time. I know more than five million Muslims live in the United States but the Navy and guards in here they have no contact with Muslim people. I have to be good in behavior because they think one Muslim is a good Muslim.

Presiding Officer: You are wearing a brown uniform and not a white uniform.

Detainee: Whatever is given to me I will put it on. I like being alone. I don't want to go where they wear white uniforms at Camp 4. I like being alone.

Assisting Military Officer had questions for the Detainee.

Assisting Military Officer: I was wondering if you get financially compensated for speaking at these events?

Detainee: Yes.

Assisting Military Officer: How much per event?

Detainee: The government events I usually get less. The other private companies they give me air[line] tickets round trip and they pay more.

Assisting Military Officer: Since you have become a speaker how many events do you think you spoke at?

Detainee: Countless. More than 100 less than 1,000.

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.

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AUTHENTICATION

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

[REDACTED]

Captain, USN
Presiding Officer

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