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Summary of Administrative Review Board Proceedings for ISN 940

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 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 Designated Military Officer presented the Unclassified Summary of Evidence, Exhibit DMO-1, and DMO-2 to DMO-3, other unclassified information 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 opened the Administrative Review Board to the Detainee to present information with the assistance of the Assisting Military Officer.

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

The Detainee accepted taking the (Muslim) oath.

The Designated Military Officer read the Unclassified Summary of Evidence to the Administrative Review Board.

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Designated Military Officer: The Detainee related he joined the Muslim Brotherhood in Sudan during the early 1980's. He stated he was a student in school and his friends joined the group, so he did as well.

Detainee: My affiliation with the Brotherhood was in the eighties and the brotherhood had no program calling for violence and killing innocent people. Their program, according to what I had read about them, was achieving governance, through a peaceful, political solution, through parliament and free elections.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee was a member of the Sudanese Muslim Brotherhood until 1986.

Detainee: I left the Brotherhood because of my personal convictions in the early nineties, and that is because I see that groups and coalitions cause a person to become fanatical towards their party and therefore his sight is blinded to the truth and to justice.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee took a teaching job with the Hira Institute in 1986 where he worked until 1999.

Detainee: I worked two jobs, teaching and administrative work, at the Hira Islamic Institute up until the year 1996, and I am proud of that because my students have now graduated from universities like medical school and others.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee worked for the Hira Institute as a teacher at the Jelazee Refugee Camp. The Hira Institute is run by an organization named Lajnat Al-Da'wa al Islamia (LDI).

Detainee: LDI is a Kuwaiti organization that falls under the Kuwait Association for Reform, which is registered with the Ministry of Social Awareness, and it is a quasi-governmental organization that represents humanitarian charity work and has projects in Pakistan and Afghanistan. It is also registered in Pakistan under the Commission for Refugee Affairs. We also got VISAs to Pakistan through this commission.

Designated Military Officer: Lajnat Al-Da'wa al Islamia (LDI) is a non-governmental organization that operates in Afghanistan and may be affiliated with Usama Bin Laden and al Qaida operations.

Detainee: I worked at the LDI's regional office for a period of 4 years in the Public Relations Department; however, the nature of my work was purely administrative, far from public relations work.

Designated Military Officer: In 1996 the Detainee received a promotion and moved from Hira Institute to the LDI office in Peshawar, Pakistan. In 1997 the Detainee was promoted again to the head of the Public Relations Division of LDI in Peshawar, Pakistan.

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Detainee: LDI is a charity organization and does not have any relationship to Usama Bin Laden nor does it have any relationship to terrorism.

Designated Military Officer: After being laid off from LDI in 1999, the Detainee was hired as the Director of the World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY) Hospital in Afghanistan.

Detainee: The reason for me leaving my job was that after the first Gulf War the LDI's financial resources dried up so Lajnat Al Da'wa was forced to cut some employees loose and distribute their duties among the remaining employees to reduce spending.

Designated Military Officer: WAMY is a non-government organization operating in Afghanistan that may be affiliated with Usama Bin Laden and al Qaida operations.

Detainee: I worked at the surgical hospital that falls under the World Assembly for Muslim Youth in Afghanistan in the area of (Shaharnu), Chamkani, on the Pakistani border as an administrative manager and not as a director as you mentioned.

Designated Military Officer: According to top WAMY officials, both the United States and Israel must be destroyed. WAMY provides financial support to the Palestinians fighting against Israel. In addition, WAMY has put forward a proposal that the Palestinians should declare open war on Israel.

Detainee: What WAMY's highest officials said I have never heard of, and if they said that, I have nothing to do with it, for I am an employee; I do my job and earn wages for it.

Designated Military Officer: After the 9/11 attacks, and due to the war and increased violence in the area, the Detainee was told by Afghan government officials to leave Afghanistan.

Detainee: Yes, after the attacks of 9/11 and because of the possibility of a war, the Taliban government announced to all the groups and organizations, governmental and non-governmental, that it would not be able to provide them with protection when the war started and that it would be best for everyone to leave Afghanistan. So I equipped the hospital with everything they needed and left Afghanistan for Pakistan.

Designated Military Officer: A 23 September 2001 copy of "The Brotherhood Letter" published by the Muslim Brotherhood Information Center was found during the capture raid in the Detainee's home.

Detainee: I do not know anything about this "Brotherhood Letter" and I do not know anything about the information center.

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Designated Military Officer: Several identification documents were seized from the Detainee's home at the time of the raid and his arrest, including a U.N. refugee card for his downstairs neighbor.

Detainee: There was not a number of identification documents at my house, nor was there any United Nations Refugee Card, for I am not a refugee. It is true that my neighbor is a refugee but he did not leave his things with me at all.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee initially claimed neither the Muslim Brotherhood newsletter nor copies of his neighbor's United Nations refugee cards reportedly found at his home were his.

Detainee: Yes, I said this before and I say it now.

Designated Military Officer: The Muslim Brotherhood (MB) developed as a fundamentalist Islamic belief community in Egypt. Foundations of organizations under the umbrella of the Egyptian MB were in other Arab countries and started the armed fight by MB activists. They attacked what they considered to be un-Islamic representatives of the government of Egypt based on its cooperation with Russia. The MB developed into an underground organization.

Detainee: What I know from before about the Muslim Brotherhood is that it is a political organization, they do not use violence and weapons to reach their goals and I have not heard of them attacking Egyptian government representatives. It was other Egyptian organizations, like the Egyptian Islamic Jihad, doing that, according to the information that I used to hear on the international news and in the papers.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee stated he did have copies of "The Brotherhood Letter" in his residence, as he was a former member of the Muslim Brotherhood.

Detainee: I did not say that I had a "Brotherhood Letter" at my house and ever since I left the brotherhood organization I have had no relationship with them or their letters.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee met Khalid Sheikh Mohammed at the Jelazee Refugee Camp in 1987. Khalid Sheikh Mohammed operated a "cultural center" located at the camp. The center was used to prepare Afghan people who had been recruited for the jihad against the Russians.

Detainee: I never met Khalid Al Sheikh and I don't have any personal relationship with him. I used to see him from afar and I know that he had a cultural center for some Afghani students to prepare them for fighting the Russian forces in the Afghani jihad against the Russians.

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Designated Military Officer: Khalid Sheikh Mohammed's older brother, Zahid Al-Sheikh, was the director of the Jelazee Refugee Camp and LDI in Peshawar, Pakistan.

Detainee: Zahid Al-Sheikh was a former manager of LDI and not the manager of the camp.

Designated Military Officer: Zahid Al-Sheikh has been identified from other sources as an extremist with terrorism ties.

Detainee: If he is an extremist, my relationship with him was a purely administrative one, but I do not think that he is an extremist.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee stated he was familiar with Shamshatu Refugee Camp. He distributed food to the camp on two occasions. The Detainee stated the camp was run by Gulbiddin Hekmatyar.

Detainee: Shamshatu Camp is a well known camp, known to everyone who works in a charity organization, because it contains poor refugees and homeless people whom the Afghan-Russian war had displaced. I did distribute food there to the poor twice only.

Designated Military Officer: Gulbuddin Hikmatyar (variant of Gulbiddin Hekmatyar) founded Hizb-I Islami Gulbuddin (HIG) as a faction of the Hizb-I Islami party in 1977, and it was one of the major mujahedin groups in the war against the Soviets. HIG has long-established ties with Bin Laden.

Detainee: I do not have any relationship with Hekmatyar at all. I do not know him and he does not know me. He is like any of the other Afghan jihad leaders. Whether he is a person or a ghost, I have no relationship with him.

Designated Military Officer: In the early 1990s, Hikmatyar ran several terrorist training camps in Afghanistan and was a pioneer in sending mercenary fighters to other Islamic conflicts. Hikmatyar offered to shelter Bin Laden after the latter fled Sudan in 1996.

Detainee: Whether Hekmatyar runs a number of the camps or otherwise, I have nothing to do with that.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee took a vacation to Sudan in June 2002. Before he returned to the office, Detainee called his supervisor to find out about the situation of NGOs in Peshawar, Pakistan after hearing about the arrests of the Revival of Islamic Heritage Society workers. He was told that everything was normal, and that they needed him back at work.

Detainee: Yes, I traveled to Sudan in June of 2002 during a vacation from work that lasted for one month and I left my wife and daughters in Sudan for the sake of education. I returned to resume my work at the hospital in Afghanistan after calling the manager and

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hearing his eagerness for me to return and that is proof that I am innocent. If I had anything to do with terrorism, or if I had done anything wrong, I would not have returned from my country to Pakistan, and if I was helping the Taliban or if I had any relationship with the al Qaida organization, I would not have agreed to return to my job at the hospital inside Afghanistan in Karzai's government. That confirms that we do humanitarian relief work that has nothing to do with governments and politics. Our goal is to help the poor of mankind and the people who have been harmed by wars and famines and natural disasters.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee stated Al-Zawahiri and Usama Bin Laden were not Muslims and any acts their groups perpetrated were against the Muslim faith.

Detainee: I have said that what Usama Bin Laden and his organization have done is contradictory to the teachings of our religion Islam, the true religion, that calls for peace and helping people live and not killing innocent people. I did not say that Usama Bin Laden and Zawahiri are not Muslims because someone could be a Muslim but have a wrong understanding of Islam, for I am not a scholar to judge whether a person is not a Muslim or an unbeliever.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee did not know of any connections between WAMY and al Qaida.

Detainee: Yes, there was no relationship between [the al Qaida organization and me].

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee did not like what the al Qaida stood for.

Detainee: Yes, I do not and will not like what the al Qaida organization is doing in terms of inhumane acts.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee believed the al Qaida/WAMY connection to be a false accusation.

Detainee: This is exactly what I think and what I said in point (A) confirms that.
Detainee is referring to his response above of his vacation to Sudan in June 2002.

Designated Military Officer: The Detainee did not know any al Qaida individuals through relationship or just meeting.

Detainee: I have never met any person from Al Qaida, neither through relationship nor meeting and I see that these allegations that favor continued detention cannot be considered allegations because working for charity organizations, or visiting a refuge camp and distributing food in it, or seeing a person, whoever they may be, does not mean that it is a criminal act that a person should be punished for; a punishment that requires his detention for 3 years or more.

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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.

The Assisting Military Officer presented letters from the Detainees family, Exhibit EC-C1 to Exhibit EC-C13, to the Administrative Review Board.

The Assisting Military Officer made the following comments:

Assisting Military Officer: The Detainee's Administrative Review Board interview occurred on 1 August 2005 and lasted 155 minutes. After a review of the Administrative Review Board's purpose and procedures, the Arabic translated Unclassified Summary of Evidence was read to the Detainee. The Detainee elected to attend the Administrative Review Board and respond to the Unclassified Summary of Evidence point by point and make an oral statement. A follow-up interview was held on 3 August 2005 to verify the translation of the Detainee comments to the Unclassified Summary of Evidence and lasted 100 minutes. The Detainee was polite throughout both interviews. The Detainee was provided a copy of the Arabic translated Unclassified Summary of Evidence for review.

The Detainee made the following statement:

Detainee: I implore your board to take my case into consideration, for I have been punished in prison for three years without committing a crime and I have lost my noble job through which I earned a living. I have been taken away from my wife and my family and I do not know what their fate is until now. I have lost my young daughter (Shifaa), who died of disease because of my separation from her and my family's inability to provide her with medicine in my absence. I have suffered psychologically from imprisonment as well as health-wise. I ask our Excellencies to unbind my chains and return me to my job, to live with my family and to earn a legal earning, and to live far away from politics. I will not affiliate with any party or political or jihadist organization I promise you that. I will not assist any organization in any terrorist acts against the United States of America or its allies. Finally, I give to you all respect.

The Detainee made the following additional statement:

Detainee: To the members of the respected board, this is my story from the beginning of my childhood until this day. I say this to you so that you could know who is this person that the days have driven to appear between your hands in this island that I would never

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have thought or dreamed that I would visit or live in for these number of years. My story begins with my birth in a beautiful city in Sudan and it is called Port Sudan or The Mermaid of Sudan. It is a coastal city that overlooks the coast of the Red Sea. I grew up with a kind father and a loving mother, who had instilled in me since my childhood good and virtuous manners, including honesty and forthrightness and being kind to the poor and the needed and generosity and all the good characteristics and good manners that all mankind should have in order to earn the respect of others. I saw with my own eyes how my father performed his humanitarian job with all dedication and his job was a humanitarian one and it is closest to people's hearts and that is medicine. The nature of his job prevented him from having personal rest and personal happiness. All he cared about was making other people happy and comfortable. That brought him great happiness and joy even if it was at the expense of his own happiness. We moved from this city to another city, it was a village, from the villages of Eastern Sudan and in this move was great suffering for my parents. I saw it in front of me and that was because my father had to walk for hours on his feet to treat sick people and sometimes he would have to ride on a donkey when he heard his call to duty whether it was day or night and he would not get sad or down from being woken up at night whether it was night or day. The memory of that was imprinted in my mind from childhood. I learned to love the good for people and I learned that a noble person's happiness can come from his helping other people and making people think well of him. Indeed, my father did love people and I noticed that from the way they spoke highly of him and thanked him in his absence and the presents we use to get from his friends and the other simple families from the village. When I grew up and I moved from the stage of receiving to the stage of giving and I continued my studies past high school in the Arab Republic of Egypt in the central air conditioning trade, my job after graduating did not satisfy my ambitions and it did not satisfy what I had grown up with and learned in terms of pleasing people and helping them. I was very happy when the opportunity came to me to help a group of people, who had been displaced by war from their homes after the oppressive Soviet occupation. I worked with all dedication and I lived with them in their camps and my wife with me as well and we suffered a lot as she also suffered. I would transport the water daily after work from a well that was far away from us. She miscarried twice from her suffering. We lost electricity and it would stay out for two days or more. My daughter, Miriam, suffered from a horrible disease she didn't start walking until she was three years old and she still suffers from disease. My other daughters also suffered socially, because they lived in a place [where] no one spoke their language and no one knew their customs. They were deprived of their cousins and family. After I moved from this organization to another organization and that is the World Assembly for Muslim Youth. I would travel to Afghanistan to work in the hospital and I would stay away from my family for 45 days sometimes, sometimes two months. In these circumstances, they would be alone in Pakistan. No one would visit them and they would not visit anyone, which got me to thinking of taking them to Sudan. When I came upon my annual vacation in June 2002, we decided the family should stay in Sudan and I returned by myself to work in the hospital. My ambition was to send them money so I can build on a piece of land that I bought in 1997. When I returned and resumed my job in the first day I returned home and after dinner I went to sleep. At 1:30 AM a few men burst in on me armed [with

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weapons] they came in and raided the house. I woke up scared and disturbed as if I was in a nightmare. I asked them, "What do you want?" I couldn't believe myself. They told me, "Don't talk!" They put chains on my hands and they asked me, "Where is your passport?" I had it in my shirt pocket and I told them, "It's in my shirt pocket." So they took it. When they saw the passport, they saw that I had an extended VISA for two years. The Pakistanis told them to ask the American man, who was with them, "Should we take this man. He lives here officially." He said, "Yes, take him." They asked him another time; he said to them, "Yes, take him." So they bound my hands and when I was going down the stairs, since I was living on the top floor, I saw my dear neighbor in a state I will never forget in my whole life. I saw his wife screaming and crying and they had entered into his house, into his bedroom and his wife was grabbing him from his hand and they were grabbing him from the other hand. His children were screaming and crying. They grabbed him forcefully from his wife's hands. They placed us in a Pakistani prison for six and a half months in very bad conditions, very bad food. They allowed us to go to the bathroom three times a day. They would give us one jug of water per day. They would give us horrible food. When I entered the prison my weight was 90 kilograms and when I left for the Bagram prison I was 60 kilograms. My head was spinning and I would faint a lot from malnutrition. One of my teeth hurt for a long time, until my right eye was swollen shut from the pressure and they refused to take me to the hospital. In Bagram there was also great suffering for me. They beat me at the airport and threw me to the ground. The dogs would grab at my pants and they would laugh at me. They took me and stripped me naked completely. They laughed a lot in my face. They said look at the American people. They left me for three days not sleeping, standing on my feet. They left me in this state another two weeks by myself. [My hands and legs were bound by chains] until my legs were injured. Even now I suffer from pain in [the left joints of] my feet. I also have suffered here in Cuba. This is the third year of my imprisonment without anything that I have done wrong. My wife is also suffering in Sudan. She is the head of the family and she does not have anyone to spend money or to support her. My four daughters are also suffering now. My oldest daughter Zanub is in college now and she does not have any money for [her] education. My wife lives in a simple neighborhood in Sudan now. After her financial situation had been good they all live in one room and finally I implore your board to understand and appreciate my situation and the unfairness that I have been exposed to. Your accusations against me, which are not real accusations, that I am enemy combatant. I have never carried a weapon for one day against you. I never fought against you. I never had any hostility against you in my heart. I ask you to look into my situation. I hope that you release me this time. Thank you for listening.

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

The Designated Military Officer had the following questions for the Detainee.

Designated Military Officer: Sorry about the loss of your daughter. Can you tell me when she passed, please?

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Detainee: I received a letter about a year ago. I have the letter; I just did not bring it with me.

Designated Military Officer: What was your daughter's name, sir?

Detainee: Shifaa.

Designated Military Officer: I would like to cover the timeline, which you mention sir, because it doesn't match up with our timeline, if you don't mind. When did you leave the Muslim Brotherhood?

Detainee: In the early 90s...in the beginning of the 90s.

Designated Military Officer: When did you work for the Hira Institute?

Detainee: From 86 to 96.

Designated Military Officer: You worked for LDI from 96 to 99?

Detainee: Yes

Designated Military Officer: You mention that you were laid off from LDI, because of the Gulf War?

Detainee: The reduction of financial resources after the war.

Designated Military Officer: Are you referring to the U.S. Gulf War or a different Gulf War?

Detainee: The first war...when Saddam entered Kuwait.

Designated Military Officer: Okay, but you were laid off in 1999?

Detainee: Yes, the financial resources started decreasing at that time and day-by-day it was getting less and less until finally it reached that point.

Designated Military Officer: I also just want to confirm that you were on vacation in Sudan in June 2002, correct?

Detainee: Yes.

Designated Military Officer: Upon your return you were arrested nearly immediately?

Detainee: Immediately...right after my return.

Designated Military Officer: You spent six and half months in a Pakistani prison?

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Detainee: Yes

Designated Military Officer: You then spent time in Bagram, how long were you in Bagram?

Detainee: About two months in Bagram.

Designated Military Officer: You say that you've been here three years now?

Detainee: No, the whole thing was three years. All of it, I've been imprisoned...I mean I didn't leave at all.

Designated Military Officer: Okay, when you say three years you're referring to the time from when you were arrested until today?

Detainee: Yes, until this day...

Designated Military Officer: Thank you for answering my questions.

Detainee: They arrested me...18 July 2002, I was arrested and now July has passed in 2005 we're in August now. So more than three years...three years and a month.

Designated Military Officer: Thank you for clarifying that for me.

Administrative Review Board Member's questions:

Board Member: Mr. Hussein I appreciate the statement that you have made. I have some questions from the Unclassified Summary that we were provided. How old were you when you became a member of the Muslim Brotherhood?

Detainee: I was a student at the beginning of high school. I don't remember exactly. I am now 46 years old and I graduated from high school in 81 and I studied in Egypt until 83. I worked in Sudan for two years and 86 I went to Pakistan. I don't remember the date exactly.

Board Member: Were you a member of the Muslim Brotherhood when Anwar Sadat was assassinated?

Detainee: Yes, I was in Egypt at the time.

Board Member: How did you feel about that?

Detainee: I did not help them in anyway in that action and it's not the Muslim Brotherhood that did that.

Board Member: When you worked for the Hira...you were the director of public relations?

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Detainee: Do you mean the Hira Institute or LDI?

Board Member: When were you the director of public relations?

Detainee: When I was at the main office at LDI.

Board Member: Did you work for Zahid Al-Sheikh?

Detainee: When I first started working Zahid Al-Sheikh was the general manager. When he was the general manager I worked in the educational department. I was a teacher at that time at the Hira Institute...so it was very far away from me.

Board Member: Did you know him personally?

Detainee: Of course, he was our manager. I had to know him personally, but my relationship with him was purely administrative.

Board Member: What about your affiliation with the World Assembly for Muslim Youth? What did you do for them?

Detainee: I was an administrative manager at the hospital.

Board Member: Did you know of any leaders of the organization that were in favor of the United States and Israel being destroyed?

Detainee: No, I don't know anything about that. On the contrary when we were with that organization we had a relationship with the WHO (World Health Organization) and WFP. WHO would give us a package of medicine every year. We had an agreement with them. Every year they would provide us with medicine and WFP (World Food Program). They would give us food and we would distribute food at United Nations camps and we had a relationship with them and worked with them in relief work. The policy of our office would allow for that.

Board Member: The workers for the WHO and WFP, were they Americans?

Detainee: Yes, yes World Food Program is American. World Health Organization is an American government organization. Even the United Nations were American and we'd go there to their camps and distribute food and cooperate with them.

Board Member: Did you know of any connection between any of the organizations that you worked for and terrorist organization?

Detainee: No, no nothing. We did not have any relationship at that time with anybody with al Qaida and we never approved of what al Qaida was doing or what was going on.

Board Member: Do you speak English?

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Detainee: A little bit not much.

Board Member: A little bit?

Detainee: Yes

Board Member: Do you understand English better than speak it?

Detainee: Both weak.

Board Member: You have gone through a lot through the last three years, what do you think of Americans?

Detainee: Before my idea of America was better than now, because I know that America is a democratic nation and I know that there's justice. I know they have respect for appointments and I know that they have fairness among themselves and their nations. After the first board...after I had answered all the allegations that you presented to me at the first board, there were only five allegations, and after all the interrogations that I've been through for the past couple of years here and at Bagram also. I have [given] my complete cooperation. [I have never caused a problem with anyone, not the soldiers, not the interrogators, not anyone]. [My neighbor and I]...same thing. We would cooperate with the guards at the cellblock and even make sure that the other brothers would not cause any problems. The first shock that came to us was the shock of them classified us as enemy combatants. Both [my neighbor and I] were shocked. We have also noticed some inconsistencies. For example, we noticed some of the brothers that were working in the revival of Islamic heritage...five of their people left from here including one Sudani, who left here a few days ago. One of them is still left here and he is a small time teacher. The ones that left were division managers, they didn't really have anything against them...they left...they didn't really have anything against them. They left and they were declared innocent. So we ask ourselves, why did they leave this one guy, who was caught at the same time and in the same situation and they let the others go. Also, there are five Uigher brothers they were innocent the five of them. The Uigher group there were about thirty people that came here. They were all captured in the North. Their case is won...why did some of them leave innocent and these people are not innocent. Also the Red Crescent organization in Saudi Arabia and it is a government organization, they captured three people from that organization. One of them is a Syrian and he left and one is Algerian...they just told him he's innocent. One is a Somali, an old guy, and he's thrown over here and they told him he's an enemy combatant. All this makes a person think and wonder how does it work. Is it just luck or is it justice and fairness.

Presiding Officer: I will answer that in just a few moments. There is very often a lot of information that we consider. Today we want to focus on you. You were already determined to be an enemy combatant. Today we want to look at your future and what

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your future holds and what kind of threat you are to America. There are many other people in Guantanamo and we are not worried about them right now.

Detainee: Okay.

Board Member: When you operated in Afghanistan, did you operate with the support of the Taliban?

Detainee: You mean [did the Taliban support me] or did I support the Taliban?

Board Member: No, did the Taliban allow you free access to the camps and did they support you, did they protect you...did they keep away from you?

Detainee: I did not work in any camps inside Afghanistan. All the camps I worked at were in Pakistan, but on the Afghani border. My work inside Afghanistan was only in the hospital and for one year only. That was before September and after September I left there.

Board Member: Did you agree with what the Taliban stood for?

Detainee: No, I did not. I was not convinced by the Taliban nor was I convinced of their agenda or their government...nothing that they represented. I really looked down on them a lot. Their views of Islam were a very fundamentalist view.

Board Member: Is your view of Islam a very fundamentalist view?

Detainee: No, not at all. No, I say that the Taliban had a fundamentalist view of Islam but I don't.

Board Member: If you were to go back to Sudan, what would you tell your friends about Americans...would it be...would you encourage them to join a jihad?

Detainee: In the first place, I never joined any jihad against the United States. I never had any jihadist thoughts in my mind. I don't think about that.

Board Member: Where is your daughter in college?

Detainee: She is in a city called Ordurman (Sudan) in a college of science.

Board Member: Khalid Sheikh Mohammed in the Jelazee Refugee Camp, he started a cultural center, what was that like?

Detainee: I never visited the cultural center. I never went inside, but I did know from my students...I knew that they had many cultural activities the students had to attend lectures and they were taught about religion and religious studies. In order when they would fight against the Russians...join the jihad against the Russians. I do know that Khalid Sheikh Mohammed supported jihad against the Russians.

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Board Member: Thank you for coming today.

Detainee: Thank you.

Presiding Officer: I only have a few questions, but a few things I'd like to discuss. Is your father still alive?

Detainee: No, he passed away.

Presiding Officer: Do you hear often from your wife?

Detainee: What do you mean?

Presiding Officer: Do you get many letters from your wife?

Detainee: No, I get letters but very few.

Presiding Officer: How is her health?

Detainee: She always tries to lift my spirits up. She always tells me we're fine...we don't need anything...we're doing okay. But I know that she doesn't have anyone. She is on her own. Her father has also passed away. She tries not to show me the rough times that she's going through.

Board Member: Why do you think the came to your house to arrest you?

Detainee: Until now I really don't know. If I knew I would have never returned there from Sudan. I really don't know.

Presiding Officer: Mr. Hussein, you've done much good work...much charitable work over the years. Many of the organizations that you've been part of have an extremist part to them.

Detainee: What do you mean with extremist?

Presiding Officer: Some of the teachings of these organizations say it is good to kill Americans. The WAMY leaders have said it is good to kill Americans. You have been associated with these groups for many years.

Detainee: Only three years I worked for WAMY. Of course, I have nothing to do with the leaders of the organization. Why wouldn't you arrest the leaders of the organization? Why arrest a low level employee like myself?

Presiding Officer: How do you feel about those thoughts?

Detainee: These are not good thoughts. I really don't think anyone would say something like that...a rational human being would not say something like that.

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Presiding Officer: I'm grateful to see you wearing a white uniform. That indicates that your behavior here has been good.

Detainee: Without a doubt, if you look at my file I have not caused any problems here. I never had a problem small or big.

Presiding Officer: That is consistent with what you've said and we appreciate that. Here at Guantanamo there are many members of the Taliban/al Qaida. Do you hear any thoughts here on al Qaida and Taliban?

Detainee: I cannot really confirm or deny that there are people from al Qaida or Taliban here. There may be, but I do not know for sure. I do not deal a lot with people here.

Presiding Officer: What is your future plans if you go back...will you go back to Sudan?

Detainee: Of course, I would like to return to my country, to my wife, to my kids.

Presiding Officer: Will you travel to countries...will you associate with organizations again...and travel to other countries?

Detainee: Right now I just have plans to stay in my country, with my family, but if there was an organization that did good deeds, that did not have any ties to terrorism or any bad actions or a job that was available in another country then maybe...I'm just looking for an honest and noble source of income so I can support my family.

Presiding Officer: What type of work do you think you'll do?

Detainee: I really don't know what fate has in store for me as of now, but I do know that I plan to go back to my specialty, which is central air conditioning...I haven't worked in it for many years, but that is what I plan to do as of now.

Presiding Officer: Mr. Hussein thank you very much for the information you have provided for us today. It will be very helpful for us to help make a decision.

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.


Captain, USN
Presiding Officer

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