

Summary of Administrative Review Board Proceedings for ISN 574

The Administrative Review Board was called to order.

The Detainee entered the proceedings.

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

The Designated Military Officer (DMO) was sworn.

The Board Reporter, Translator, Assisting Military Officer (AMO) and Board Members were sworn.

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

The Detainee declined 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 Notification of the Decision of an Administrative Review Board 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.

Presiding Officer: Assisting Military Officer please read your comments from the Enemy Combatant Election Form.

Assisting Military Officer: The detainee's ARB interview was conducted on 3 April 2006 and lasted 1 hour and 40 minutes. After reviewing the ARB's purpose and procedures, the Arabic translated Unclassified Summary of Evidence was read to the detainee. 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 stated that he would not attend the ARB and requested to have the AMO present his oral statements on his behalf. The detainee was very cooperative throughout the interview, but appeared openly skeptical of the ARB process. A copy of both the English and Arabic translated version of the Unclassified Summary of Evidence were provided to the detainee upon his request. The detainee's follow-up interview was conducted on 4 April 2006 and lasted 40 minutes. At the conclusion of the follow-up interview, the detainee stated he would like

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 1 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // FOUO

to attend the ARB proceeding. He stated that he would like to have the AMO read his recorded statements made during the initial interview to the ARB and he would be present in case they had any other questions.

The Designated Military Officer presented the Unclassified Summary of Evidence, Exhibit DMO-1, the FBI Redaction Memorandum, DMO-2, and the CITF Redaction Memorandum, DMO-3, to the Administrative Review Board.

The Designated Military Officer stated that a copy of these exhibits had been made available to the Assisting Military Officer and the Detainee.

The Presiding Officer noted from the Enemy Combatant Election Form that the Detainee wanted to respond to each item of information from the Unclassified Summary after it was presented.

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 to assist the Detainee with answering the statements.

Designated Military Officer: (3) The following factors favor continued detention: (3.a) Commitment. (3.a.1) The detainee wanted to fight for jihad in Afghanistan.

Assisting Military Officer (for detainee): This statement is true, there are many kinds of jihad besides fighting; for example, guard duty or assisting the needy. I went to help the needy of Afghanistan nearly a year before the September 11, 2001 attacks.

Detainee (through translator): This allegation is what causes my continued detainment. There is no relationship to 9/11.

Presiding Officer: I agree. The commitment statement only says that you wanted to fight jihad in Afghanistan. You are correct, it does not mention 9/11.

Detainee (through translator): Why do they mention September 11 [in the statement]? I was captured and I had nothing to do with 9/11 before or after it.

Presiding Officer: Again, this statement does not say that you did. In your reply through the AMO you brought up September 11th.

Detainee (through translator): I left a year early. The United States is in the west and I am in the east. I went from Yemen to Afghanistan. I had nothing to do with the United States.

Designated Military Officer: (3.a.2) The detainee had 2,000 United States Dollars of his own money saved for the trip.

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 2 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // FOUO

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UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): This statement is true.

Detainee (through translator): As far as I am concerned, I want to talk because I have spent four years here. I am entering the fifth year. I want to see American justice. Where is it?

Presiding Officer: We are going to try and help you with that today. This is your opportunity to help clear up some of the allegations that have been presented to us. That is why we are here, to listen.

Detainee (through translator): Thank you. The allegations that I traveled with money are not real.

Presiding Officer: Did you have \$2,000 of your own money with you?

Detainee (through translator): Yes, it was my personal money and it could be used for anything.

Presiding Officer: That is true, I agree.

Board Member: How did you make the \$2,000?

Detainee (through translator): I have worked all my life. I do construction, I am married and I have kids. I own a house. It was my own personal money.

Presiding Officer: With the construction job, are you able to take time off to go from Yemen to Afghanistan?

Detainee (through translator): I freelance. I work for myself. It is not as though I am tied up with the government.

Presiding Officer: So, you can afford to take time off to fight for jihad in Afghanistan?

Detainee (through translator): Yes.

Designated Military Officer: (3.a.3) The detainee was recruited to go to Afghanistan by Abu Abdul Rahman at the Hayel Said Mosque in Adan, Yemen. Rahman gave the detainee 500 United States Dollars and travel instructions to go to Afghanistan.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): This statement is not true, but Abu Abdul Rahman was not well known until after I attended his speech on the positive aspects of jihad. After his speech, I asked him a question about the way to Afghanistan or to jihad. I later went to Afghanistan but without pressure from anyone.

Detainee (through translator): This is my answer. I would like for you to understand this person that you mentioned, I did not know [him] before. I was at his speech.

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 3 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

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2426

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

Afterwards, I asked him the way to Afghanistan. He told me how to get [there] through Iran. There is nothing more or less to it.

Presiding Officer: Just how to travel to Afghanistan?

Detainee (through translator): Yes. I asked him how to go to Afghanistan to fight jihad. He said he did not know the way, but the closest way was through Iran. That was the only conversation I had with him.

Presiding Officer: Abu Abdul Rahman did not provide you with any money?

Detainee (through translator): He gave me \$500 and told me it was a gift for me because I wanted to go and fight for jihad. He said, "if you are still here and I have more [money], I will give it to you. If you go now, then God will pay me back."

Board Member: Did you ever fight for jihad before this?

Detainee (through translator): No.

Designated Military Officer: (3.a.4) The detainee was motivated to do jihad after learning that any Muslim who dies for jihad goes straight to Allah and into paradise.

Detainee (through translator): I do not understand this allegation.

Presiding Officer: There is no response under the detainee comments.

Detainee (through translator): I was asked this question a long time ago and I answered it. If you want me to answer it now I can.

Presiding Officer: You do not have to. It is just one of the commitment statements. If you want to provide a response you can, but you do not have to.

Detainee (through translator): I am Muslim and Islam is my religion. Jihad is a duty in our religion. It does not need to be motivated by anyone.

Designated Military Officer: (3.a.5) The detainee served as an assistant officer at Kho Ajagir, at the northern Afghanistan front.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): I was not in northern Afghanistan. I was in Kandahar and later in Karachi, Pakistan.

Board Member: Were you in Kabul?

Detainee (through translator): Yes.

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 4 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

00002427 2427

Board Member: Isn't that in northern Afghanistan on the front?

Detainee (through translator): I believe that Kabul is not in the north. It is in the middle of Afghanistan closer to the south than the north.

Board Member: Was not the front near Kabul?

Detainee (through translator): The front is in Kabul itself, not close.

Designated Military Officer: (3.b.) Training: (3.b.1) The detainee admits he knows how to use the Kalashnikov rifle, but stated he never went to an al Qaida or Taliban training camp.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): This is correct. I sold it because I needed the money. I find this amusing. Just because I knew how to use a weapon should not mean I pose a threat.

Board Member: When did you sell your Kalashnikov?

Detainee (through translator): I sold it before I got married. It has been more than 10 years.

Board Member: We read your responses to the CSRT. You mentioned you did not need to attend a training camp to learn to use a Kalashnikov or go to the front lines.

Detainee (through translator): This is one question I was asked by the interrogator, how did you go to the front if you have not been in training? I told him I knew how to use the Kalashnikov and I did not need training. Then I went to the front.

Board Member: How did you get in? Who did you talk to?

Detainee (through translator): The person going to Kabul asked me to go with him and I said yes. He asked me if I got training and I told him, no. But I know how to use the Kalashnikov.

Board Member: What is the person's name?

Detainee (through translator): It has been four years. I traveled with him once. I do not remember his name.

Designated Military Officer: (3.b.2) The detainee stayed at the Said Center, a military post in the Bagram area, for twenty-five days.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): I was at this center for 20 days not 25 days.

Detainee (through translator): Yes, I stayed at the center. I do not see the relevance between 20 days and 25 days.

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 5 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

Presiding Officer: I do not either. It is a military post?

Detainee (through translator): Yes.

Presiding Officer: What did you do for the 20 days you were there?

Detainee (through translator): I was in the center for the winter. It was calm during the time of the Masoudeyeen. They are the enemy of the Taliban.

Presiding Officer: Is the Masoudeyeen the enemy of the Taliban?

Detainee (through translator): Yes. The center was only for the rear guards, the ones who guard the street.

Presiding Officer: What did you do for the 20 days you were there?

Detainee (through translator): Night guard.

Board Member: What were you guarding?

Detainee (through translator): The road.

Presiding Officer: So it was something like a military police officer?

Detainee (through translator): I do not understand military police. It was just a guard that stopped unauthorized cars from coming into the area.

Board Member: Who was in charge of the camp?

Detainee (through translator): I do not remember his name but I told them before so it should be in the file.

Designated Military Officer: (3.b.3) The Said Center Training Camp was a Taliban run training camp for Arab recruits en route to fight General Dostum's soldiers to the north of Konduz, Afghanistan. The training consisted of small arms familiarization and range qualifications.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): The center was not much of a training facility while I was there. There was mostly guard duty.

Detainee (through translator): I do not have any additional comments.

Presiding Officer: So did you participate at all in the small arms training and familiarization?

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 6 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

00002429 2429

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

Detainee (through translator): The answer was very clear. The center was a center for guards. The only weapon we had was a Kalashnikov. After I finished my guard duty, they took it away from me.

Board Member: How many buildings were at the center?

Detainee (through translator): There were several buildings that had several rooms. One building was for prayer and there was a basketball court outside.

Board Member: Were there bunkers at the center?

Detainee (through translator): There were not bunkers under the ground. There were places built above the ground.

Board Member: Like foxholes?

Detainee (through translator): Yes, like foxholes. The place that was used for prayers was built out of trees.

Designated Military Officer: (3.b.4) The detainee has been identified as an expert in using the SAM-7 missile systems.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): This is not true. I only know how to use the rifle.

Detainee (through translator): Yes. Yes, to the answer, not to being an expert with the SAM-7.

Designated Military Officer: (3.c) Connections/Associations. (3.c.1) The detainee stayed at the Arab guest house in Kandahar; an unidentified guest house in Kabul, Afghanistan; and at a guest house in Karachi, Pakistan where the detainee was detained in a raid before he could leave.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): They should not be called safe houses because it implies I was hiding from the authorities. I stayed at an Arab house in Afghanistan that all the Afghans seemed to know. In Pakistan, I stayed as a guest at the house of a man named Aziz. I have never heard of al Qaida until the Americans arrested me. Since there was an American with the Pakistanis who picked me up, I feel the Americans arrested me.

Detainee (through translator): In reality, I did not know what "safe house" means until I asked one of my interrogators. He explained it was a secret place where you hide. I want to make it clear that this is not a safe house. It is a house that is well known by everyone in Afghanistan. Even the taxi drivers know where it is.

Presiding Officer: When you say well known by everybody, if I were to ask a taxi driver to take me to one of the houses where you stayed, what would you tell them?

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 7 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

00002430

2430

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

Detainee (through translator): For example, if I wanted to go to the mosque I would tell him to take me to mosque so and so. This house was known as [the] house of the Arabs.

Presiding Officer: So you would say, "Take me to the house of the Arabs" in whatever town you were in?

Detainee (through translator): When I went to Kandahar I was accompanied by two other people and they took me to the house. I did not know where it was before arriving. I have told this story before but if you want me to explain again I will.

Presiding Officer: We have it from your previous testimony.

Detainee (through translator): I know you have the files with all the information and you may review it at any time.

Board Member: How many guests were in the Aziz house?

Detainee (through translator): They were guests of the Aziz house, the same as they are guests here. Approximately 15.

Board Member: Do you know the name of the house in Kabul?

Detainee (through translator): Yes, the Arab House.

Board Member: In the Aziz house did you have the proper identification for the Pakistani authorities?

Detainee (through translator): When I left for Pakistan I did not have an entrance visa. I only had a phone number in Karachi and the name of a friend, "Aziz." I did not know Aziz before. The person that gave me the phone number said that if I get into Pakistan to call this person and he will help me get an exit visa to get into Yemen. That is all the information I have about the house and the owner of the house.

Board Member: How long did you stay in the house?

Detainee (through translator): I do not remember exactly, but I think approximately two weeks. I have forgotten during the time that I have stayed here. But around two weeks.

Board Member: So were you hiding in this house?

Detainee (through translator): As far as I am concerned this house was a place for me to stay until I got my exit visa. I was not hiding from anything. Just temporarily waiting for my exit visa. I did not care if the Pakistani authorities captured me because I did not do anything to them. I wanted to exit the country without going to prison.

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 8 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

00002431

2431

Board Member: Why did not you go to the Yemeni Embassy?

Detainee (through translator): I did not know where the Yemeni Embassy was in Pakistan. If I get the visa and exit it is better than going to the embassy because they may cause me trouble. They may ask me how I got there without a visa. If I knew I would have been captured by the Americans, I would have gone to the Yemeni Embassy. I think that would have been better for me than being captured by the Americans. I understand that is my embassy.

Designated Military Officer: (3.c.2) The Arab House was a Taliban sponsored safe house for Arab Mujahedin in Kandahar.

Detainee (through translator): This is the first time I have heard this. It was an open house. I have no idea if it was managed by the Taliban or not.

Presiding Officer: Do you know if any of the others staying there were Mujahedin?

Detainee (through translator): Yes, I think they were Mujahedin.

Designated Military Officer: (3.c.3) The detainee made three trips delivering money in Herat, Afghanistan.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): I traveled to Herat, on two occasions. I left because I could not justify fighting fellow Muslims. I attempted to leave Afghanistan but could not get an exit visa. While I was at an Arab house in Kabul, I heard someone preach about how not everyone came to Afghanistan to fight, that some came to help out the needy of Afghanistan. I went to the Kandahar Arab house where I stayed for one month. I met an individual there who asked me to carry some money to Herat for the relief effort because he was married with a wife and children and could not get there himself to deliver it. Abul Hanna was supposed to distribute this money for the needy of Herat, since it was winter and that year it was very cold.

Detainee (through translator): I do not have any comment.

Designated Military Officer: (3.c.4) The detainee was given 2,000 Saudi Riyals, 20,000 Pakistani Rupees and about 10,000 Pakistani Rupees worth of Afghan money to be taken to Herat, Afghanistan. The detainee met the assistant governor of Herat, who directed him to an unidentified Afghan who took the money.

Detainee (through translator): Yes. I said that when I met with you for the first time. The answer is connected to another one.

Board Member: So how much [money] did you take on the second trip?

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

Detainee (through translator): If you add all the money together it does not [equal] more than \$1,000. The detail of the money is in the interrogation.

Presiding Officer: When you say \$1,000 do you mean U.S. dollars?

Detainee (through translator): Yes.

Board Member: Why did not the governor take the money?

Detainee (through translator): I do not understand the question.

Board Member: Why did the assistant governor tell you to give the money to another man?

Detainee (through translator): When I went to the assistant governor he was expecting a large sum of money. He did not want to take a small sum so he sent me to another person. I mentioned all of this at the interrogation.

Presiding Officer: So because it was not a big donation, he sent you to one of his co-workers?

Detainee (through translator): Yes, this was a place for the needy place [people].

Board Member: Did you do anything else in Herat?

Detainee (through translator): No.

Designated Military Officer: (3.c.5) The detainee was identified by another individual (who worked for al Wafa) as having been present at Aziz's Karachi guest house. Aziz is an alias for al Qaida member, "Riyadh" the Facilitator.

Detainee (through translator): You asked me and I have answered you. You have it there. We do not have anybody just the name Aziz that is Arab. Most Arabs would be called Aziz Abdul, the "servant of." It is one of the most beautiful names of God. So only in Pakistan and Afghanistan would someone be called just "Aziz". He is not Arab. I thought this house was Pakistani because I had my family with me. I did not think anything of it. I was dealing with the Pakistani that owns the house. His name was Aziz. If there is another Aziz other than this one, I have no idea.

Designated Military Officer: (3.c.6) The detainee is a Yemeni national who is an al Qaida member who fled Afghanistan and stayed at a guest house in Pakistan.

Detainee (through translator): I was asked this question in the interrogation. I had never heard of al Qaida until I was captured by the United States. I do not believe in what al Qaida believes in. They believe in killing and fighting.

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 10 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

00002433

2433

Presiding Officer: If you have never heard of them then how do you know what they believe in?

Detainee (through translator): I learned about al Qaida from the interrogators. They talk about the things that al Qaida have done. I do not believe in them.

Break for a brief recess.

Session reconvened.

The Assisting Military Officer provides clarification to the board regarding 3.c.1 and states the issue will be revisited.

Designated Military Officer: (3.c.7) The detainee has been identified, as being part of a group of Yemenis that were considered to be dangerous extremists, and were still active in Sanaa in April 2002.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): This is not true. I do not get involved nor am I interested in politics. I was not involved in any politics until I was arrested.

Board Member: Did you know anyone that was part of this organization?

Detainee (through translator): If I say I am not involved in politics or any organization that deals with politics, how would I know one of them?

Board Member: It might be someone that you knew.

Presiding Officer: I believe the question refers to maybe the mayor of your town; the governor of your province . . .

Detainee (through translator): This is an extremists group that works against the government. If they are working against the government then why would the governor of the town be involved with the group? I do not believe they would be involved in the group. No.

Board Member: Did any of your friends or family travel to pursue jihad?

Detainee (through translator): No.

Designated Military Officer: (3.d.) Other Relevant Data. (3.d.1) The detainee explained he had traveled to approximately four or five different countries throughout his life, which began when the detainee left Yemen for Saudi Arabia with his father. Other countries the detainee visited include: Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Turkey.

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): I question the relevance of this statement but I did travel to those countries.

Detainee (through translator): If someone travels from here to Saudi Arabia, does this mean they pose a threat? Yes, I traveled to those places for my own personal reasons.

Board Member: Were your passport and visa properly stamped when you traveled to these countries?

Detainee (through translator): Yes, and you have my passport.

Designated Military Officer: (3.d.2) The detainee traveled through Syria on his way to Afghanistan; he also made two other trips to Syria. On the second trip, the detainee flew to Baku, Azerbaijan.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): This statement is true.

Detainee (through translator): Yes, and does this hurt anyone? Does this mean I pose a threat?

Designated Military Officer: (3.d.3) The detainee was detained by Pakistani police with 6,000 United States Dollars, 2,700 Saudi Riyals, 6,000 Pakistani Rupees, a camera, and a new cellular phone.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): This is correct. That was my money and the Americans were there when the Pakistani police took it from me.

Detainee (through translator): I would like to add that it was \$6,300 and here they only mention \$6,000. I am not saying that because I want this money back. I am only saying that this was my personal money. What is wrong with that?

Presiding Officer: Are the Riyals and Rupees correct?

Detainee (through translator): Yes.

Presiding Officer: What about the camera and cell phone?

Detainee (through translator): In the interrogation, I informed them of the sources of all the items. You have everything you need to know about that.

Board Member: Could you briefly explain how you got so much more money?

Detainee (through translator): I do not understand the question.

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 12 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

00002435

2435

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

Board Member: You left Yemen with \$2,000 United States Dollars. You were arrested with \$6,300 United States Dollars. How did you make the additional money?

Detainee (through translator): I am not afraid to answer the question. In the countries of the Gulf, there are rich people that give money to Afghanistan. They give money to help the Mujahedin.

The translator explained the Arabic word for aid and the seasons in which it occurs.

Presiding Officer: When did you gather the extra money? You left with the \$2,000 that you saved. You got \$500 from Abul Abdul Rahmad. You were arrested with \$6,300 United States Dollars. So where and when are you picking up this extra money?

Detainee (through translator): I stayed in the house for one month and I was sick when I came to Afghanistan. During that period people visited and gave me money.

Designated Military Officer: (4) The following primary factors favor release or transfer: (4.a) The detainee stated that he had never received any type of training in Afghanistan because it is well known that Yemeni citizens know how to use weapons. The detainee had sold the only weapon he owned prior to his marriage because he needed the money.

Detainee (through translator): When we were talking before you said that the AMO would have additional information that he would like to clarify, where is this additional information?

[The AMO explained to the Board that the detainee is referring to his answers from another question (3.b.1). The AMO indicated that the detainee accused him of reading the previous years Unclassified Summary. In response, the detainee advised the AMO that his answers were the same as the year before. The AMO explained to the detainee he was only reviewing the previous year's responses. The AMO asserted to the ARB that if he had not reviewed the previous year's Unclassified Summary with the detainee, the detainee probably would not have attended the ARB.]

Detainee (through translator): I was thinking that there was more information you wanted to discuss, such as the weapons because it was mentioned before.

Presiding Officer: [Repeated 4.a and the detainee's response]

Detainee (through translator): After I got married things were calm so I did not need a Kalashnikov at home.

Designated Military Officer: (4.b) The detainee was adamant about the fact that while in Afghanistan he did not fire any weapons, kill any people or fight in any way.

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 13 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

00002436

2436

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): This statement is true and I have never fought the Americans.

Designated Military Officer: (4.c) The detainee denied having any knowledge of the attacks in the United States prior to their execution on 11 September 2001 and also denied knowledge of any rumors or plans of future attacks on the United States or its interests.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): This statement is true.

Designated Military Officer: (4.d) The detainee never received permission from anyone to leave the front lines. The detainee felt it was wrong to fight against his Muslim brothers so he returned to Kabul on his own.

Assisting Military Officer (*for detainee*): I felt it was wrong to fight against other Muslims and so I returned to Kabul on my own. I was never in the front lines but served on guard duty in the rear area.

Presiding Officer: Did you serve as an assistant officer in Khvajeh Ghar?

Detainee (through translator): I answered the question before and the answer was no.

Presiding Officer: Yes, you said you were never in northern Afghanistan, but did you ever serve as an assistant officer in Khvajeh Ghar?

Detainee (through translator): This statement is against me. It says I was in northern Afghanistan working as an assistant officer. I said that I have never been in northern Afghanistan. So how can I be an assistant officer and not have been in northern Afghanistan?

Board Member: Were you an assistant officer in Kabul?

Detainee (through translator): I was a night guard.

Board Member: Can a man just walk away from the Taliban without any discussion or consequence?

Detainee (through translator): I went on my own. I volunteered to leave. Jihad is not jihad for the Taliban. It was jihad for God. So when I found out that I was fighting other Muslims I left on my own and I was free to do so.

Board Member: Is it okay to fight jihad against non-Muslims?

Detainee (through translator): Jihad is only to fight and defend yourself, your interest and your country. It is not to attack innocent people. It is self defense.

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 14 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

00002437

2437

Presiding Officer: In your first response, you indicated that you did go to Afghanistan to fight jihad. You also said that there are different kinds of jihad other than fighting. None of those things applied to you. Afghanistan is not your country; your family was not there; and you were not being offended. How does jihad apply?

Detainee (through translator): I was defending my religion. My brother Muslims were attacked by socialists just as they were in Yemen. I went to help. After I found out they were Muslims I left.

Presiding Officer: You fought jihad in defense of your religion.

Board Member: Did you fight the socialists in Yemen?

Detainee (through translator): No. I did not know anything about politics until I got captured. Once I was captured and detained, I learned a lot of things about the organization of other countries, their rules, and laws. It was not my job to interfere in the relations of other countries, but it was ignorance on my part. I learned this lesson here after I was captured.

Designated Military Officer: (4.e) The detainee claims that while at the Aziz guest house he did not see any weapons and did not associate with anyone there.

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

The Detainee made the following statement:

First of all, the allegations that cause me to be here in Cuba, such as I had a certain amount of money, I have been to certain places, does not cause me to be a threat to the United States. These are normal things that normal people do in their normal lives. I do not know how I harm America by doing these things. I am not one of the people that attack Americans. So why are they keeping me here and not sending me home? Second, I was asked by the AMO, "What will you do if you are released?" I told him I would live a normal life like any other human being. I have a family and a house. I would sacrifice my life for my family. I would find a job that would help me to provide for my family and myself. I know a lot of things because I worked in construction and in commerce, so it would be easy for me to make a living. I hope the American judges will know that I never posed a threat. I was just in the wrong place at the wrong time. If the AMO has anything to add that will help me, I hope he will do it.

ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 15 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

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

The Assisting Military Officer had no additional information to present.

Administrative Review Board Member's questions:

Board Member: Were you following a fatwa when you traveled for jihad?

Detainee (through translator): No, it was just something that I learned from my religion.

Board Member: Would you follow a fatwa if one was issued against the United States?

Detainee (through translator): I am not responsible for or to the United States or the world; however, if you attack my country I will fight and defend it.

Presiding Officer: You said you did not know anything about al Qaida, do you consider yourself Mujahedin?

Detainee (through translator): I did consider myself Mujahedin before I left. Now I am not Mujahedin, I am a detainee. When I leave I won't follow that path. I will care for my family. I hope that you are people of justice because you swore an oath. I understand that you must defend your country, but how do I pose a threat? I was never against the United States.

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.

AUTHENTICATION

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



ISN 574
Enclosure (4)
Page 16 of 16

UNCLASSIFIED // ~~FOUO~~

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