

Summarized Sworn Detainee Statement

Personal Representative: The Detainee elected to respond to my reading of each allegation and he will respond.

Detainee: I clarified these points to the Personal Representative earlier, so you can read the allegation and then read what I told you before.

The Personal Representative provided the following responses to the allegations in the Unclassified Summary of Evidence on behalf of the Detainee.

- **3(a)1 The Detainee is associated with the Jama'at al Tabligh.**

I'm not associated at all. When I arrived at the airport in Pakistan, they welcomed me, but I did not go with them. Many groups do this at the airport.

- **3(a)2 Jama'at al Tabligh, a Pakistan based Islamic missionary organization is being used as a cover to mask travel and activities of terrorists, including members of Al Qaeda.**

I was not an associate. There was one guy, Mohammad, who helped me find a place to stay. I don't know if he was with Jama'at al Tabligh. He was helping me. He knew where the poor people were that I would be dealing with.

- **3(a)3 The Detainee's name appeared on a list of Al Qaeda mujahedin seized from an Al Qaeda safehouse in Pakistan.**

This simply is not true.

- **3(a)4 The Detainee was captured with a group of Al Qaeda members.**

When I was going from Afghanistan to Pakistan I ran into Pakistani soldiers. They asked for identification, I had no passport. They brought me into custody and threw me in with another group. That is how I got associated with the group.

Questions to the Detainee by the Tribunal Members

Tribunal Member to Detainee: The only information that we have about you is what we have heard this morning. Therefore, it is necessary for us to ask you a few questions to clarify what you have told us. This will give us a better understanding of what you did and why you said you did it.

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- Q: Are you from Saudi Arabia?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Prior to leaving the country, were you a student or did you have an occupation?
- A: I was with the Chamber of Commerce.
- Q: What were your duties at the Chamber of Commerce?
- A: I worked at the Central location with the telephones.
- Q: What was the highest level of education that you received?
- A: High School.
- Q: Was it after high school that you started working for the Chamber of Commerce?
- A: Yes.
- Q: So, while you were working, at some point you decided you wanted to travel to do missionary work in Pakistan?
- A: Yes, I took a vacation to Dubai. While in Dubai I got the idea to go to Pakistan.
- Q: Were there people there you met who told you about it? How did you come upon this idea?
- A: No, I didn't get much reception to the idea of the Daawa, so I decided to take it to Pakistan.
- Q: Can you please explain to us your understanding of what a Daawa is?
- A: Some Muslims have strayed from the path of righteousness and you bring them back to the right path. You correct their mistakes.
- Q: Is this something you can do on your own, or do you have to be affiliated with an organization to do it? How does it work?
- A: No, just myself. Any person who is a Muslim can do it.
- Q: Is there any particular reason you were interested in going to Pakistan, rather than simply just doing it in your home country?
- A: Yes.

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- Q: What would that reason be?
- A: Pakistan is known for that kind of thing. A lot of people go there and do that in Pakistan.
- Q: Is it because the Pakistanis are thought to have strayed from how they should be acting as Muslims?
- A: No, but because they are very receptive to the idea of the Daawa and they accept it. Mistakes are everywhere.
- Q: Did you organize your group on your own or did you have others to help you?
- A: No, just myself. I would like to clarify a point. This trip was during my summer vacation. I was used to traveling to countries during my summer vacation. This time, I decided to travel in the Gulf countries. So, I traveled to Dubai and Pakistan. To me, this was tourism.
- Q: How long of a summer vacation did your employer give you?
- A: I requested a full month for my vacation but, when I went to Pakistan and saw the extent of their acceptance, I decided to ask for another month.
- Q: Did your employer agree with your request?
- A: No. I was going to call and ask for the extended vacation, but the place I was in didn't have a telephone.
- Q: So, the plan was to go from Saudi Arabia to Dubai to Pakistan and back home to Saudi Arabia all within a month or maybe two months?
- A: My idea was to go to Dubai and then return to Saudi Arabia.
- Q: I guess I misunderstood. I thought you said you had gotten the idea to go to Pakistan when you were in Dubai?
- A: Yes.
- Q: But, the plan was to travel back to Saudi Arabia first and then go to Pakistan from there?
- A: The idea was to go to Dubai and go once again to Saudi Arabia.
- Q: From where did you leave when you went to Pakistan?

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- A: From Saudi Arabia to Dubai from Dubai to Pakistan.
- Q: You mentioned that the Jama'at al Tabligh people welcomed you when you arrived to Pakistan?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Could you please explain to us your understanding of who the Jama'at al Tabligh people are?
- A: I know they are a missionary group that go and spread words and go to mosques. When they go to do their missionary mission they have certain days they do it in, for instance six months or a certain number of days.
- Q: How did you first come to know who they were? Are they active in Saudi Arabia?
- A: No, I didn't know them in Saudi Arabia. They meet people in the Pakistan airport. But Jama'at al Tabligh is known everywhere.
- Q: Prior to leaving Saudi Arabia did you know they were going to meet you at the Pakistani airport, or were you just hoping when you showed up they would be there?
- A: No, I didn't know.
- Q: So, you just had good fortune that they were there to meet you when you arrived?
- A: Yes, but it is known about them that they are always in airports, especially in the Pakistani airport because their main office is located in Pakistan and they know people come there from everywhere. They always meet and greet people at the airport. That is the idea I have about them from a long time ago. But I didn't know if one of them was going to meet me at the airport or not.
- Q: What would you have done if no one had been there to meet you at the airport?
- A: I would have taken a taxi just like anyone who goes to a new place. A taxi can tell you about everything.
- Q: You said when you arrived at the airport they welcomed you. Did they prepare you to do missionary work there?
- A: When they met me they said to go with them to the center and after that I would go out and spread the word. I told myself I didn't want to be tied down to anyone.

I told them if they had anyone that spoke Arabic they could talk to me and tell me where to go and tell me about places.

- Q: If they knew what they were doing and how to more effectively accomplish missionary work, why didn't you want to be with them?
- A: They have certain procedures that they are tied down by and the procedures they follow are wrong in our religion. Their work is good and its correct but they make some mistakes.
- Q: This is somewhat unusual if they are trying to preach Islam and you are a Muslim but you are saying they make mistakes?
- A: There are many Muslims but they make some mistakes. Just because people make mistakes it doesn't mean it takes them out of the Muslim religion. This mistake is usually brought upon by ignorance.
- Q: Is it mistakes of religious faith or something else?
- A: For example, when someone goes out on a mission you are supposed to stay for forty days or three months or six months. They have certain days that you have to go. You have to go to the mosque and you eat and sleep at the mosque. Many things, I can't remember all of them. The fact they do that doesn't take away from them being Muslims. When we do things to spread the word, we do it just how the Prophet Mohammed did it.
- Q: The procedures that you described: does the Koran or some other authority of Islam mandate them, or is it just their personal preference on how they do business?
- A: No. The way that they do things is the way Islam says to do them, but they make some mistakes. You are not able to understand this or get a whole clear picture because you don't have a complete picture of Jama'at al Tabligh. Besides that, you have to know Islam to know what is right and what is wrong.
- Q: If a person wants to conduct missionary work there is more than one way to do it, correct?
- A: The missionary work differs.
- Q: But you believed the way you wanted to conduct it was acceptable within the confines of your religion?
- A: The way that I did the Daawa? Yes, the way I do it, you're not confined or tied down by any specific dates or times. That is what the Prophet did as well.

- Q: You were able to conduct your work in Pakistan?
- A: Yes, after I moved from Dubai to Pakistan, I started working in Pakistan.
- Q: How long were you in Pakistan?
- A: I don't remember exactly but it was about two or three months.
- Q: During that time, did you travel outside of Pakistan at anytime or did you just stay in Pakistan the whole time?
- A: No, I moved around within Pakistan.
- Q: Could you tell us some of the things you did while you were there for two or three months?
- A: Yes, no problem. The main thing was moving to different villages. I would go into a villages and I would find some graves that are raised up from the ground. This is something that isn't right in Islam (that the graves are raised from the ground). There is something that people hang from their necks and I find them. It is something they say protects you from the evil eye. Some people have fields with trees and on every tree they pray two prayers. Some people have the Koran and they read it incorrectly. Many things like that. Every time I see something that is a mistake or is incorrect, I talk to them about it and tell them the correct thing. I didn't just tell people to correct their mistakes, but I also visited people at their homes and talked to them to see if they were in need and buy them rice, wheat, or flour. That is a summary.
- Q: Was the reason you stopped your missionary work because you were arrested by the Pakistanis?
- A: What do you mean stopped working?
- Q: You were doing missionary work all the time you were in Pakistan, correct?
- A: Yes.
- Q: The only reason you stopped was because the Pakistani police arrested you?
- A: They didn't arrest me, after that I went to Afghanistan.
- Q: So, you were in Pakistan for three months and then you traveled to Afghanistan. How long were you in Afghanistan?

A: I don't know exactly how long I was there and I have been here for a long time and I forgot the exact times.

Q: If you can roughly estimate, was it a short time or a long time?

Tribunal member clarified to the Translator that the question was how long the Detainee stayed in Afghanistan after he left Pakistan.

A: Maybe a month or a little less. I was there for a full month before the problems started happening.

Q: Why did you decide to go to from Pakistan to Afghanistan?

A: After the war started in Afghanistan, I decided to go to Pakistan.

Q: I understand you were in Pakistan for three months doing your missionary work after that time. Is it correct that you then went to Afghanistan?

A: Yes.

Q: You were there for a full month?

A: Until the events started.

Q: Why was it you chose to travel to Afghanistan?

A: The guide that was with me gave me the idea. He said people in Afghanistan are even more receptive and open to the idea of the Daawa. He proposed the idea to me and I accepted.

Q: This guide was from Pakistan?

A: Yes.

Q: Where did you go when you went to Afghanistan?

A: Kabul.

Q: Did you continue to do the same thing in Afghanistan that you were doing in Pakistan?

A: Yes, but more so in Afghanistan. I bought rice and flour because there were more people in need in Afghanistan. I didn't expect to see so many people in Afghanistan. People were dying of hunger and they didn't have clothes.

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- Q: Did you use your own money to do this that you had brought from home or was there an organization that helped you take care of all these people?
- A: No, it was my money. I had ten thousand riyals, which is about seven hundred dollars.
- Q: Were you doing this on your own, or were you working with other people when you were in Afghanistan?
- A: It was just the guide and I. The guide told me where to go.
- Q: So, you were in Kabul most of the time?
- A: In Kabul and the villages surrounding Kabul.
- Q: Then you knew, of course, there was a war going on at the time?
- A: During that time, there was no war.
- Q: At some point, did the war advance to where you were doing your work?
- A: There was no war or anything at that time. People started saying: 'you should leave, there is a war.'
- Q: It was then when you decided to return to Pakistan?
- A: Yes.
- Q: You mentioned earlier that when you left to go back to Pakistan you did not have your passport with you?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Can you explain why that was?
- A: My passport and some money were in a bag that was stolen.
- Q: In Pakistan or Afghanistan?
- A: In Afghanistan.
- Q: I know that you said earlier you were not at all involved with al Qaida?
- A: Yes.

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- Q: Were you aware that there are some al Qaida members who use Jama'at al Tabligh to conceal their travel and activities?
- A: No, I didn't know.
- Q: One of the other allegations says your name was found on a list of al Qaida members. This list was seized from a safehouse of al Qaida's in Pakistan.
- A: I don't know how my name was found in that place.
- Q: Our concern of course is, if that is true, this means that al Qaida somehow knows who you are.
- A: This is something that is not true.
- Q: So, if we are wondering why al Qaida would care who you are, you say you have no idea?
- Detainee: Can you repeat the question?
- Q: If you were simply doing missionary work in Pakistan, it would seem al Qaida would not care who you are.
- A: I don't know about al Qaida and I don't have a relationship with al Qaida. I didn't know about al Qaida until I came here.
- Q: Had you ever heard of al Qaida before you were arrested?
- A: No, I didn't hear about it until I got here in Cuba.
- Q: I think you said you were originally captured with a group of people but then you were transferred to another group of people?
- A: No, I did not say that. I wasn't captured with anyone. I went up to a Pakistani soldier and I told him what had happened to me. I was told to sit there for a few days and they would take me to the Saudi Embassy. I stayed for about a day or two in a prison. Afterwards, I was told I would be moved with a group to another prison in Peshawar. I told them I didn't have a problem with that; if they wanted me to move, I would move. They moved a group of us to a prison in Peshawar. I did meet with a Saudi Ambassador.
- Q: Did he offer to help you in any way?
- A: The Saudi Ambassador?

Q: Yes.

A: I told him what happened and he said God willing everything will be okay. He talked to me one more time and told me there was some trouble with my case and it was now a matter between countries. He told me to go through the procedures and God willing everything will be okay. He told me he couldn't do anything for me.

Q: How long were you in Pakistan, adding up the time you were in both jails?

A: In prison?

Q: Yes.

A: I really don't remember the time I spent. The thieves when we were in Kandahar, all the stuff that happened to us, made me forget everything.

Q: You went from Peshawar to Kandahar?

A: Yes, to Kandahar.

Q: When you left Afghanistan to go to Pakistan, did you just travel with your guide or were you by yourself or were you with a group of others?

A: No, there were several people that were going to Pakistan and there were guides as well. There were women and children, several people. There was a guide that was responsible for all those people. There were two or three, but I only saw one.

Q: When you turned yourself in, were there others along with you that did the same or only you yourself?

A: No, people took a different way. I saw the soldier so I directly went to him.

Q: You were by yourself at the time?

A: Yes, I was alone. There were Pakistanis and people that lived in that village that witnessed these events.

Q: So, this is after you had already crossed the border and gotten in to Pakistan?

A: Yes, I was completely inside Pakistan. I went between people and the villages. I even asked where the soldiers were, but I couldn't speak their language so they didn't understand me.

Q: How long were you in Pakistan before you went up to the soldiers and told them your problem?

A: Maybe half an hour to forty-five minutes, less than an hour.

The Detainee excused himself and explained his throat was dry because of the dust from riding over to the Tribunal. The Tribunal President asked the Detainee if he would like some water, but the Detainee refused since he was fasting because of Ramadan.

Q: Were you over in Pakistan before, or was this the first time in Pakistan?

A: This was the first time.

Q: You don't speak the language?

A: Yes, correct. I don't speak it.

Q: Part of your mission was going to help people and part of that was to teach the Koran?

A: No, I wasn't going to teach the Koran.

Q: I guess in my words, it was to help people get back on the path again?

A: Yes.

Q: In accordance with what? What path would that be?

A: It's not exactly the right path. People are always going to make mistakes. You can't think within a day and night you will suddenly be free of all the mistakes you have made. You give them the idea and they look for the right thing to do. That is it.

Q: I would think you would need someone to help translate for you to get the message across to correct the errors of their ways?

A: I told you a little while ago that Jama'at al Tabligh introduced me to a man whose name was Mohammed and he helped me with the translations. He was the guide. He had been doing this for a long time.

Q: So, there was no charge. You didn't have to pay him for this service?

A: He didn't want anything; his work was for God. But I would sometimes give him something.

- Q: When you went from Pakistan to Afghanistan, how did you travel? What mode of transportation did you use?
- A: From Pakistan to Afghanistan?
- Q: Correct.
- A: By the guide's car; he had his own vehicle. We used it to travel around Pakistan and then to go to Afghanistan.
- Q: So, you were basically picking up the charges: gasoline and food and anything else that was required?
- A: Yes, everything. Of course, he would offer to pay but I would never let him.
- Q: You had ten thousand riyals, which I believe you said was about eight hundred in U.S. currency?
- A: I asked one of the people here, and they told me it could be about twenty seven hundred dollars. I think approximately.
- Q: I think you're right, about one quarter.
- A: What do you mean?
- Q: Twenty seven hundred dollars U.S. is about a quarter of the value of the riyals.
- A: Yes, correct.
- Q: Was anybody back in Saudi Arabia sending you more money if you needed it?
- A: No, there wasn't. But I had an account in the bank. If I needed money, I could have withdrawn some.
- Q: Did you have to withdraw more money?
- A: No, I didn't.
- Q: You spent two to three months in Pakistan, another month in Afghanistan?
- A: Yes.
- Q: And then you ran into problems with the Pakistani authorities?

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- A: It was a long time after the events that I was able to find a guide to take me back to Pakistan.
- Q: To your knowledge, did you still have a job with the Chamber of Commerce before you were detained by the Pakistanis? You were going to go for one month, maybe two months. That led to almost four months before you ran into problems with the Pakistanis. Did you quit your job or did the Chamber of Commerce say it was okay to stay away that long?
- A: Do you mean now?
- Q: Well, you were going to go just for summer vacation, right?
- A: Yes, that is what I thought it was just going to be for the summer vacation. Then I would return.
- Q: Then the situation looked bad in Pakistan and you decided to stay for another month?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Then you called back to Saudi Arabia to the Chamber of Commerce to see if you could extend your vacation?
- A: I tried to make a telephone call but the line wouldn't go through. I decided to postpone that until I went to Afghanistan. When I got to Afghanistan and I saw the people there in need and the graves that were on top of the ground, I decided to stay for another month and then I would return. After that, the events happened.
- Q: I guess your employer would be very understanding and forgiving and you could get your job back. It seems unusual that you could just forget about work for up to two months or you just didn't care for the job?
- A: Of course I would have been able to explain and talk about this with my manager. He knew I was very diligent in my work. I told him I might get delayed. I traveled a lot and I told him that.
- Q: Did you ever do missionary work in another location besides Pakistan or Afghanistan?
- A: Yes, I did a lot in Saudi Arabia. I traveled a lot during my vacations and did this work.
- Q: Mainly in Saudi Arabia?

- A: Yes, I didn't leave Saudi Arabia. During the weekly breaks, it would be to areas I was close to.
- Q: In your travels, did you ever stay in houses that had multiple people staying for the night or extended periods of time?
- A: No.
- Q: You would stay in private hotels?
- A: Once in a hotel, once in a house, once I slept in a mosque. It depended on what was available. Sometimes, in the stations, there would be a room you could stay in. It depended on the area I was in at the time.
- Q: When you traveled from Pakistan to Afghanistan, you indicated that your guide drove you. Or did you travel with your guide Mohammed?
- A: Yes, he was the guide.
- Q: How long did he stay with you while you were in Afghanistan?
- A: Until about one day before the events. He knew people in different places and sometimes he would go and visit them and return the next day. When the events happened in Afghanistan, I waited for him for about two days but I couldn't find him, so I left.
- Q: He was Pakistani?
- A: He had Pakistani citizenship but I'm not sure of his origin. I think he might have been Afghani.
- Q: He spoke Arabic?
- A: Yes, he spoke Arabic very well.
- Q: Could he speak Farsi?
- A: I don't know if he spoke the Pakistani language and I don't know if he was Farsi, Urdu.
- Q: Could he speak Pashtu?
- A: Is that the Afghan language?

- Q: You were in Afghanistan, isn't that the Pashtu language?
- A: He would translate the Pakistani language and the Afghan language.
- Q: So, he was able to act as your guide in Afghanistan as well because he spoke the language?
- A: Yes, he knew the language and several of the places. He knew the place where the graves were. He had been doing this type of work for a very long time.
- Q: You indicated he would go and meet friends and then come back?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Did you ever go with him and meet some of his friends?
- A: No, I never went with him.
- Q: Why not?
- A: I wanted him to be comfortable and to take his time. How could I go somewhere when I hadn't been invited?
- Q: Where would you stay in Afghanistan?
- A: In Kabul.
- Q: Where in Kabul? What type of accommodations?
- A: I don't know the names, the ways, or the streets. I know the area was Kabul.
- Q: You stayed in a house or a hotel?
- A: In Afghanistan, we stayed in apartments.
- Q: You paid rent or were you guests of residents of Kabul?
- A: No, I had rented the apartment.
- Q: You planned to stay for an extended time?
- A: No, maybe a month or less is what I had in mind. Such a long trip as this was, you should stay for a while.
- Q: Had you ever traveled such distances and time away from home before?

- A: No, never before that much distance; but inside the Kingdom (of Saudi Arabia), yes.
- Q: When you were you in Afghanistan, did you observe any religious or military training?
- A: No.
- Q: So, you never took part in any religious training?
- A: No.
- Q: You never took part in any military training?
- A: No.
- Q: Have you ever had any military training in your life?
- A: No, not in my life.
- Q: Would this be the same for your time spent in Pakistan?
- A: What do you mean?
- Q: As far as religious training, did you observe any religious training in Pakistan?
- A: No.
- Q: Did you participate in any religious training in Pakistan?
- A: No.
- Q: Could you explain the details of how your money and passport were stolen in Afghanistan?
- A: Yes, of course. This was after the events happened. People told me at the time, because I was a stranger, that I should leave and go back to my country. I said I would go, but I needed a guide. Sometimes I would try and find someone who spoke Arabic. It was hard for me to tell people I wanted to go to Pakistan. One day, when I was going to look for this guide, it took me a long time. I returned home late. The bag was in the apartment. I looked for it but couldn't find it. That is the story on how my bag was stolen.
- Q: It was stolen from your apartment while you were gone?

A: Yes.

Q: Do you think Mohammed came back while you were gone and took your possessions?

A: I don't think so. The only person that had keys was the person I rented the apartment from. I went back to the apartment to find that person I rented the apartment from, but I couldn't find him. He owned a little store. I told him, by using sign language, that I was going to look for a guide. Sometimes I would ask him to try and find a guide for me. He said we would both look for a guide. It may have been him. I don't want to falsely accuse him, but he was the closest one to it.

Q: When you left Kabul to work your way to the Pakistani border, how long did it take you? Could you describe that travel back to Pakistan? What mode of transportation?

A: In the beginning, many different things happened to me. First, when I finally found a guide, I would stop cars and tell them "Pakistan." Most would just leave me there. There was one car, a Hilux (ph), the driver stopped and, from what I understood, he would take me. I asked him to wait a few moments so I could go back to the apartment. That was when I went to find my briefcase, but I couldn't find it. After I realized it was gone, we left. We got about halfway out of Kabul before he told me to get out of the car. All around me was desert. There was nothing there. I asked him to take me to the nearest village but he forcefully told me to get out of the car. I tried to stay in the car. I told him he had to take me somewhere or back to where he found me. He forcefully made me get out of the car. I walked a long the street in the desert until nightfall. I slept in the open desert. In the morning, I woke up and started walking for a long time until I found a village. I found a young man and tried to explain to him. The young man took me into his place. I stayed for a while, and then he told me I had to leave. I told him I wanted this and that and he said he was poor and that he couldn't help me. I asked him to give me directions to another village so I could get to Pakistan. He moved me out of his house and took me to another house. The place was near by. I stayed there for a long time. After that, I got a guide and we left.

Q: When you were staying in Afghanistan, before the events occurred, did any of the Taliban approach you to try and recruit you?"

A: No.

Q: Did you see any of the Taliban forces in Kabul?

A: I didn't know about the Taliban until I came here.

- Q: You were in Afghanistan for a month and you didn't know the Taliban?
- A: I was busy with my work, the Daawa, I didn't know the Taliban and I didn't ask about the Taliban.
- Q: No government officials ever asked you for your documents, your passport?
- A: No, never. I didn't see any police cars or anything.
- Q: In Afghanistan, did you have your beard?
- A: Yes, but it was shorter.
- Q: There was no problem with not having a full beard in Afghanistan?
- A: No, but now I have gotten older and my beard has gotten fuller.

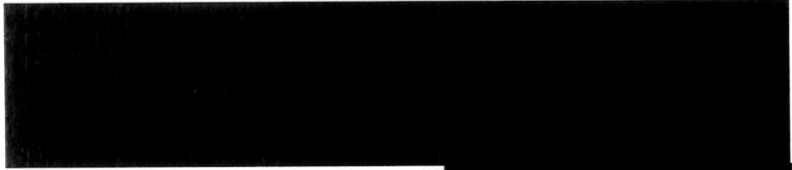
Tribunal Member: When you first started the Tribunal, there was a statement that we made letting you know we hadn't seen any of your information until this morning. The statement should have been this afternoon. We didn't see any information on you this morning.

- Q: It was when you were in Dubai that someone gave you the idea to travel to Pakistan?
- A: No, no one told me. I told you before about this.
- Q: I thought you said, when I asked you why you chose to go to Pakistan, that Pakistanis are known to be receptive to people like yourself?
- A: Yes, they welcome the Daawa.
- Q: It wasn't someone in Dubai who encouraged you to do this?
- A: No.
- Q: Was it your own idea, or someone else's?
- A: No, it was my idea. But this idea was well known from before in Saudi Arabia.

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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.



Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Tribunal President

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