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Summarized Detainee Statement

When asked by the Tribunal President if he understood the CSRT Process, the Detainee answered, "yes".

When asked if he had any questions concerning the process, the Detainee answered as follows:

Detainee: I hope this hearing looks at the truth and represents true justice. This country has been a symbol of justice for more than two hundred years. I hope these hearings are not just one movie from many movies that have passed by us. I also hope I will be judged by the law and not by politics. Please leave the politics on one side and put the law on the other side.

Others that have been judged were promised they would receive the results of the Tribunal within three weeks. Over a month has passed and they still have not received the results. This causes me to doubt the seriousness of this trial. In spite of that, I shall start but before I do, I would like to comment on the accusations that have been made about me.

Tribunal President to Detainee: You will have time to comment on the accusations in just a few moments. We have a time set aside for that. This Tribunal is here to review the facts and not politics. If someone understood they were to be notified in three weeks, I am not sure where they got that understanding from. We do not control the process by which notifications are returned to the Detainees. I cannot tell you how long it will take. When we are done, we forward our decision to Washington, D.C. They review what we have done. Once they approve it, they will come back and tell you at that time. I do not know how long that process will take. Do you have any questions about the process we are doing today?

Detainee: I don't have any, but if my Personal Representative wants to say anything please go ahead.

Tribunal President: The Personal Representative will present evidence on your behalf in just a moment.

Tribunal President: The Detainee has requested one witness and one document for this Tribunal. The Detainee requested his fellow Detainee (10001) be brought in as a witness to talk about their relationship while in Bosnia. The witness has refused to testify at this Tribunal.

The Detainee also requested a document be presented from Bosnia concerning his court case. We have not been able to locate this document through the Bosnian government. We were not able to find that for you.

When asked if the Detainee wished to make a statement, the Detainee stated:

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Yes, I would like to respond to the accusations that have been presented. I might not respond to the accusations in the correct order, since I don't have the unclassified summary in front of me.

Tribunal President: That is okay, we understand.

When asked by the Tribunal President if he wanted to take an Oath, the Detainee answered:

I don't have a problem either way, but I prefer not to swear. Don't focus on me not swearing. The focus should be on what I say and the accusations. If I swear, it will not help me in any way. What will help me is the presentation of the accusations, and my answers to them. This is how the problem will be solved. In my eyes, the problem cannot be solved by swearing under oath, but by the truth.

Tribunal President: We agree.

The Detainee made the following statement:

[The Personal Representative asked the Detainee if he would like him to present his written statement. The Detainee stated he preferred to talk.]

Detainee: Words are better than a written statement. The hearing is being recorded, so I prefer to speak.

I would like to point out something important. My detention from Sarajevo to Cuba was not legal. There is no current law in the world that allows for my detention from my country to another country. If I am accused of something in a country I was in, I should have been detained in that country. That country is recognized worldwide and therefore it has laws and courts. The court from the country should have tried me.

Let's assume I was guilty of something and received punishment for it. The punishment should have been in that country. I have nothing to do with Cuba. The intimidation from the Americans is what caused my illegal detention from one country to another country.

The Combatant Status Review Tribunal states I am an enemy combatant. Those words in my view are ridiculous and have no meaning. A sane person or a small child would never say anything like. The words 'enemy combatant' means a prisoner that has been arrested on the frontlines of the battlefield holding a weapon. In my case, I was kidnapped from my home by Americans. Therefore, the words enemy combatant doesn't apply to me.

Regarding paragraph 3.a.6, [The Detainee was arrested in October 01 under suspicion of planning to attack the American Embassy in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina.]

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The day I was detained at Sarajevo, I asked the interrogators why? They told me they didn't know anything about it, the Intelligence Department at the Embassy in Sarajevo was responsible. As far as they were concerned, there weren't any accusations against me. The pressure came from the Americans.

From my first day in Cuba, I asked the interrogators to question me regarding the bombing of the Embassy. They tried to avoid asking me questions regarding that matter. On occasion, they told me they knew I didn't attempt to blow up the Embassy; they only brought me to Cuba for information. They told me if I gave them information, they would let me go. I refused to talk to them until they addressed the accusation of the bombing of the Embassy. This lasted for eight months before they gave up on me talking. I was punished and placed in solitary confinement for three months. I was released, and again I was asked to talk. I refused to talk until they interrogated me on the matter regarding the Embassy. Approximately one and a half years passed, when an interrogator named James (who is still here) told me he wanted to be honest with me for the first time. He told me he wanted to tell me things he hadn't told me before. They didn't want to interrogate me about the night of the Embassy, because that information wasn't contained anywhere in my file. He went on to say he'd hope I would forget about the matter. After that, I started talking to them about other things.

The accusation I tried to bomb the Embassy is merely a move cooked up by the intelligence people in Sarajevo. The intelligence community advertises to the terrorist media in Sarajevo. The news reported some people wanted to bomb the Embassy in Sarajevo. The people accused of the bombing were free at that time, they were in (inaudible). They should have been detained before the information was released. (I for example could have fled anywhere and they wouldn't have been able to catch me), I was arrested five days after the release of this information. If that were my intention, it wouldn't have made sense to stay in my house.

I want the judge to ask the intelligence people, who were working at that time, the truth behind my detention. From my first day in Cuba until now, I have not been interrogated on this matter. How can I be accused of something I haven't been interrogated on? Is that justice?

I am not asking to be presented with evidence on this matter. I challenge you to come up with any proof that I planned to bomb this Embassy. I have a witness who can testify I am innocent. I was detained in Sarajevo, tried and acquitted. But, Americans are Americans.

Paragraph 3.a.8, [The Detainee is a member of the Algerian Armed Islamic Group and attempted to assume leadership in the organization in November 2000.]

I left Algeria approximately fifteen years ago, in 1992. I met an Islamic group in the city. My whole life consisted of studying, until I graduated from the University. I then went to Bosnia where I worked for a charitable organization. After which, I was detained and brought to Cuba. If someone wants to become a leader in an armed Islamic organization

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in Algeria, that person should have lived in Algeria, not outside of Algeria. A leader is supposed to live with his group. It doesn't make sense if a group lives on one continent and their leader lives on another continent for several years.

The Algerian Embassy in Saudi Arabia, kept records of my time spent studying at the Islamic University. I have identification from the Embassy. The Algerian Embassy in Italy has a record of when I moved to Bosnia (Bosnia doesn't have an Algerian Embassy). If I had been a leader of an armed Islamic group and this group was considered dangerous to the Algerian government, I wouldn't have registered at the Algerian Embassy, because it would have been stupid. The government would have known where I was and they would have immediately arrested me and taken me to jail.

My passport was issued by the Algerian Embassy. If I were leader, as you have said, I wouldn't have gone to the Embassy for the passport. Algeria looks for everyone with any connection to this group. More importantly, the day I applied for the passport, the Ambassador told me over the phone he wasn't able to issue me a passport until certain procedures were met. The Ambassador told me he had to get in contact with the interior ministry in Algeria to verify the Algerian government wasn't looking for me. I was told it would take approximately four months. After four months, I was contacted by the Embassy and they said they were able to verify I didn't have any problems in Algeria. If I still wanted to apply for a passport, I would have to pay a fee. I received the passport and you have it with you.

I am not asking you for truth, but I challenge you to find proof or anything that looks like proof that I had anything to do with this group.

Paragraph 3.a.7, [The Detainee advocated attacking U.S. forces and supported the Fatwa issued by Usama Bin Laden.]

First, I am not a scholar or sheik to support Usama Bin Laden. I am not considered someone with great weight or great consideration. He wouldn't make me a leader, and I'm not a leader. I am just an employee who works in the Higher Saudi Arabia Charitable Organization. I was a professor who taught children Arabic in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

If you assume I am a scholar, Bin Laden is not a scholar. He is nothing more than a military man and I wouldn't help him. It might make sense if I helped him in military operations. However, I am not a soldier, my whole life has been related to books.

I did not go with Usama Bin Laden until after the events of 11 September.

I ask you and once again challenge you to find any proof that I aided Bin Laden in any of those Fatwas.

Paragraph 3.a.8, [The Detainee is a member of the Algerian Armed Islamic Group and attempted to assume leadership in the organization in November 2000.] [The translator

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referred to this paragraph after relaying the name Bensayah Belkecem. The response given by the Detainee could have actually been for paragraph 3.b.2, {Bensayah Belkecem, alias Mejd jis the apparent leader of the Algerian cell and has a direct link to Usama Bin Laden.}}

I do not carry the status of others. For example, you can say this man who was this man's son is a member of this group. This is not my crime. Whoever wrote this accusation may have been drunk. I have only seen him twice in my life. I don't remember the exact time between each visit, because they were many years apart.

[Tribunal member asked Detainee to clarify with whom he was referring.]

Detainee: Bensayah Belkecem.

I asked him to come here as a witness, but he refused because he thought my Personal Representative was lying to him. He told me if I wanted him to appear as a witness, to have my Personal Representative ask him again. He would appear. I refused. I told the Personal Representative I only wanted him to testify that I didn't have a relationship with him and he didn't have one with me. I have only seen him twice. His testimony is in his file. I am sure he was asked if he knew me; and he answered the question.

Regarding the word 'apparent' in paragraph 3.a.2, [Bensayah Belkecem is the apparent leader of the Algerian cell] in matters of law, the word apparent isn't useful in any way. In law, either you did it or you didn't. I am being tried on a word that is not used in a court of law. 'Apparent' is not based on facts.

The accusation should be made against Bensayah Belkecem, not me. It would be humorous if I were accused as being a member of al Qaida just because my Personal Representative was a member. If he were a member of al Qaida, it had nothing to do with me.

Paragraph 3.a.1, [The Detainee is associated with a known al Qaida facilitator.]

I don't know anything about al Qaida or (inaudible) except after the surprising events of 11 September. In matters of law, you cannot say that I associated with a person; you have to tell me the name of this person. Who is it? Up until now, this man is imaginary. He doesn't exist. Also, assuming this person did exist, prove he is a member of al Qaida, and I am associated with this person. If you prove this person really is a member of al Qaida, it doesn't mean I am a member. I believe I have made a reasonable point.

I ask and challenge you to find one person or something that proves I had a relationship, or anything close to a relationship, with a man from al Qaida. You can look in Bosnia, the Earth, and the moon. If you find a man on the moon from al Qaida, tell me.

Paragraph 3.a.6, [The Detainee was arrested in October 01, under suspicion of planning to attack the American Embassy in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina.]

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When I was detained for attempting to bomb the American Embassy in Sarajevo, I sat in the police station for forty-eight hours being interrogated. Shortly before the end of the forty-eight hours, the interrogator told me they were waiting for replies, regarding me, from all police stations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. After an hour, they were able to verify the police didn't have any issues with me in any city. The head of the police department provided me with a piece paper that allowed me to leave. He said they no longer had a right to keep me there.

Shortly thereafter, The State Head of the police department apologized to me. He told me he was under pressure to keep me detained. He said he didn't want to go into details, but maybe I had an idea who the pressure was coming from. I was put in prison for three months before I was acquitted in court. I was then detained by the Americans and brought to Cuba. I believe it is important for the judge to get this document from the Sarajevo police department.

If I had problems in Bosnia-Herzegovina, I should have been tried there. Therefore, this accusation is not valid. There is a quote that states, "a chicken lays an egg and the rooster head hurts." The chicken's head should hurt, not the rooster's head. If all my problems were in Bosnia, then Bosnia's head should have hurt, not Americas.

I have not committed any criminal acts inside or outside of Bosnia.

Paragraph 3.a.10, [The Detainee applied for a Visa in Sarajevo for travel to Afghanistan on 27 September 2001.]

How could I apply for a Visa in Bosnia-Herzegovina for Afghanistan, when there isn't an Afghani Embassy in Bosnia? To my knowledge, I have never known of an Afghani Embassy in Bosnia.

I would also like to point out, not everyone that travels to Afghanistan is a terrorist. Everyone has there own personal reasons for traveling to Afghanistan. Some travel to study, some travel for charitable organizations.

I would like you to provide me proof that I applied for a Visa from the Afghani Embassy, if there is such an Embassy.

Paragraph 3.a.5, [The Detainee had charges filed against him by the Bosnia-Herzegovina government for International terrorism.]

I don't support or advocate any terrorist acts whether they are local or worldwide.

I would like you to show me proof that I advocated terrorism. Provide me with one witness that will say I encouraged them to perform terrorist attacks.

Paragraph 3.a.11, [The Detainee was jailed in late 1997, for robbing a U.S. Citizen.]

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I was accused of that accusation in Bosnia-Herzegovina. After spending time in prison, I was acquitted by the court and released. Lets assume I did this, I served my time. I don't understand why it was presented again. This happened in Bosnia-Herzegovina and not in America. I have been punished for this, and I served my time. I considered the matter closed. You don't have the right to bring up this accusation, unless you want to be laughed at.

Tribunal President to Detainee: That is one thing we agree on. That point has no bearing on this case.

Detainee: God knows I have answered all the accusations. The last thing I would like to say is I hope this trial is fair. I am ready if you find anything on me then punish me as you see fit. I hope there is no political pressure on these trials. I also hope, there are no invisible hands playing (inaudible) regarding the trials of these people. I hope, that I am tried according to the law and nothing else. Regarding my Personal Representative, do you have anything? Thank you for listening to me.

Summarized Answers in Response to Questions by the Personal Representative

Q. When you were talking about Usama Bin Laden, the translation came out that you did not know him until after 11 September. I believe he meant he did not know of him until 11 September.

A. I did not know him or anything about him.

Q. Would you like me to give the Tribunal your written words that you provided me the other day to remind the Tribunal of your testimony?

A. Yes. I hope when you review the facts, you will pay more attention to what I said then what I wrote because there were things I remembered that were not on the paper.

Tribunal member to Detainee: The reporter will provide a transcript of your statement, and we will review that.

Detainee: Excellent.

[Translator clarified she made a mistake when the Detainee talked about studying in a city in Saudi Arabia. The Detainee said Medina. Medina can be referred to as a city or a place. In this case, Medina was the city in Saudi Arabia {not a city}.]

Summarized Answers in Response to Questions by the Tribunal Members

Q. Did you have any plans to, or ever want to travel to Afghanistan?

A. Never. I have never seen Afghanistan, and I never had any intentions of going there.

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Q. You stated when you left Algeria you went to work for a charitable organization?

A. When I left Algeria, I went to Medina to study. After I graduated from the university, I went to Bosnia.

Q. In Bosnia you worked for the charity organization?

A. I was a teacher at the Arab college. I taught children Arabic.

Q. What was the name of that organization?

A. The Higher Saudi Organization.

Q. Were you ever a member of the Algerian Armed Islamic Group?

A. I was never part of it. I was very young when this organization was formed. I left Algeria when I was twenty or twenty-one years old. Since I left, I have not returned to Algeria. When I wasn't studying at the Islamic University in Medina, I was in Bosnia-Herzegovina. That was from 1996 until I was detained and brought here.

Q. When you were captured in Bosnia, where were you?

A. I was leaving prison. Please repeat the question.

Q. When you were captured by the Americans, where were you?

A. I left prison and was headed for my house. It was nighttime, around 9:00 p.m., when I received my acquittal paperwork. The American forces and the United Nations, with the help of the Bosnian police, captured me.

Q. You never reached your home?

A. No.

Q. Who else was with you when you were captured?

A. There were five people. The day I was captured?

Tribunal President: Yes

A. When I was captured I was alone. They came to my house. The first to arrive was the Bosnian police (intelligence police). They came by at 8:00 p.m. and told me they wanted to search my house. I told them no problem, come in. I asked them, what was the problem? I was told there wasn't a problem they just wanted to search the house. For four hours they searched my house, from 8:00 p.m. until midnight. After they searched

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my house, they told me to come with them to search my car. They searched my car for an hour, before I was asked to go to the police station. I was interrogated for forty-eight hours I was transferred to the higher court. The judge ruled I would be detained for three months. After serving three months, I was acquitted. I was then kidnapped, as you know the story.

Q. When the Bosnian police came to your home, was there anyone else there?

A. Two individuals from the United Nations and the Bosnian police.

Q. Who did you have at your house before the police came?

A. My wife.

Q. No one else?

A. No.

Q. Personal Representative do you have any other evidence to present to this Tribunal?

A. No.

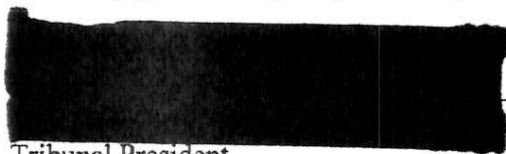
The Tribunal President asked the Detainee if he had any other evidence to present to this Tribunal. The Detainee stated, "no."

Detainee: I see the biggest problem regarding me is the bombing of the Embassy. I ask that you ask the intelligence authorities who were during that time in Sarajevo for the real reason I was detained. Then, you will know the truth.

Tribunal President: It is our objective to discover the truth. And we will do everything we can to find that truth.

AUTHENTICATION

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



Tribunal President

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These are my detailed responses to the accusations that are facing Sabir Alahmar - from the side of the concerned authorities .

As for that I say :

As for me being an enemy combatant (EC), this is basically wrong .I have been kidnapped, a kidnapping from the prisons of Bosnia and Hercegovina in Europe accordingly I have nothing to do with being an EC. As the EC is the one who had been arrested from the front line and in the fighting arena, with a gun at hand .

As for me having been associated with one of Al Qaida operatives This is all purely bull shit. This is an allegation that needs evidence, but evidences I also need to say : who is that person? Then you have to prove that he is AlQaida associate. Then get me his testimony that testifies that I have a relation with him. That you need to prove beyond doubt that this person is also a member of AlQaida .

As for the one named - Ben Sayeh Belgacem. Who may be as the committee of revision claims is one of the leaders of some Algerian cells, that is directly connected to Usama Ben Laden (UBL). I say: if that person is as such then what is my crime? I am not responsible for other's mistakes, and they being criminals. If they were so ..Every one is responsible for what he does, he himself no one else ..This is the conventional thing in all international tribunals.

Let us suppose I am responsible for what others did. Then the revising committee is not sure that Mr. Ben Sayeh Belgacem is the one leading this Algerian cell that is so close to UBL , as the committee says, maybe and maybe means doubt and you can not build anything on doubt .

AS for the fact that Mr. Sayeh Belgacem had contacted by phone ...etc.
I say : This accusation is supposed to face no one but Ben Sayeh Belgacem, not Sabir Alahmar, as I am not supposed to be punished for someone else's mistake .

-As for my being arrested on suspicion of being related to terrorism .
I say:

That this is a plot cooked by hidden guys well known to the Americans for sure. I have been arrested in Bosnia and Hercegovina for three months. All interrogations were done with me. Then I was charged by the Bosnian Justice. The result -that is- the judge's decision was -I am innocent and no authority, anywhere, has the right to follow me any more. But the American plot insisted to arrest me and to bring me to Cuba . . Then I say the day I was arrested the police authority in Sarajevo, the capital, has investigated me thoroughly, all through Bosnia police centers and Hercegovina. Accordingly they inquired about my situation in Bosnia, the answer from their side was I have no problem with any body at all and no one is looking for me all through the cities of that country for anything. The police director himself gave me a paper that proves that. This you can request from them or from my attorney in Sarajevo.

-AS for the accusation that I tried to blow the American Embassy in Sarajevo .This is all bull shit and plain wrong for the following reasons:

Since the day I was arrested and up to this people's day No one had interrogated me on

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this subject .. Yet so many times have I asked the interrogators to interrogate me for that but they were evading this each time. They even said to me about a year back, we do not want to talk to you about the Embassy subject because it is not at all in your file. Interrogator James said this to me, he is in this island now. We brought you here to give us information only. Accordingly I say that how can I face such an allegation that I have not been interrogated for, they even deny it .

- As for the allegation that I encourage fighting the USA and I am in favor of UBL (fatwas.) I say that this is base-less talk and is not true .This is an allegation that necessitates proof and you have not a single evidence for that. I hereby request the revision committee to give me one single proof or give me one word that I said in this line to encourage fighting the USA.

As for being in favor of any of UBL fatwas. I say that this UBL in fact I only knew him after September 11th events. Then again this man is not a scholar so that I should favor his fatwas. He is in my opinion nothing but a military man and who ever is like that can not be favored nor can he give fatwas. I request the revising committee to give me one single evidence that I support this man.

- As for my being a member of the Algerian Islamic Armed Group(AIAG), and that I tried to lead the group sometime in 2000. This is a belated mistake and a wrong allegation. My evidence against this is that you can inquire about me in the Algerian emabassy in Jeddah In Saudi Arabia where I used to live as a resident or the Algerian Embassy in Italy whence I used to live in Bosnia and Hescovia, where I was officially registered with them and hold a consulate card ..If I were a member of the AIAG I would not have gone to the Embassy of my home and registered myself with them also the same thing applies for Italy. Since in that case I will be arrested on the spot.

I say that because in around the year 2000 I renewed my passport in the Algerian Embassy in Italy. Before renewal they told me that they have to wait for response from the home affairs department in Algeria (Ministry of interior) for the permission to renew it. Four months later the response came as OK, permitted to renew my passport as there is no search for me as I have no problem with any body at all. What is meant here is that If I were a memeber of the (AIA G) then I would have been arrested and my passport would not have been renewed And If I were a memeber of the (AIAG) I would not have registered myself in the Embassy as it makes my arrest easy and I would have uncovered myself.

- As for the allegation that I applied for a visa to enter Afghanistan in Sarajevo this is also plain lying as there is absolutely no embassy in Bosnia or Hescovia that gives Afghanistani entry visas.

As for my being imprisoned in Bosnia for stealing from some American This according to my knowledge occurred in 1996 in Bosnia and Hescovia. I spent some time in prison and went out free as there was a review of my case and I was declared innocent of that charge.

Then suppose that was true If ever it was that I stole from an American this stealing must have occurred a long time back, and I spent the prison punishment I had to and the Bosnian Justuice took course. Why is this case reopened?

These are my responses to the allegations that I am facing. I hope you will be considerate in looking at it in depth.