

**Detainee's Unworn Statement – ISN 260**

*When the Tribunal President asked the Recorder if he had any witnesses to present, the Detainee stated that he had requested witnesses. The Tribunal President advised that issue would be addressed shortly and the question was directed at the Recorder. After receiving the unclassified evidence from the Recorder, the Tribunal President addressed the Detainee.*

Tribunal President: The Personal Representative indicated that you did not request any witnesses.

Detainee: I told the Personal Representative that I have seventeen people that can be my witnesses if it is necessary and she could pick any one of them. I didn't want to bring them here and have them sit for five or six hours. That's what I told my Personal Representative.

Tribunal President: We understand your request. We do not need any witnesses, as a Tribunal.

Detainee: You mean you don't need my witnesses right now?

Tribunal President: We don't find it necessary to pick any of the seventeen to provide us information. As I mentioned earlier, you have the opportunity to call a witness to provide specific information to us about your case. Prior to this hearing you did not specify a witness and I would like to proceed with the hearing at this point. I'll ask one more time. Do you have a specific person you want to be here today to provide testimony?

Detainee: It doesn't matter. If you pick one of the seventeen people, they can be my witness.

Tribunal President: We don't have a reason to pick any of them. This is your decision and I understand that you do not wish to pick one.

Detainee: If it's not necessary, I don't need one because I'll answer all of the questions truthfully.

Tribunal President: After we receive all of the evidence, we may determine that a witness will be necessary, and we'll decide that later. Additionally, this panel only knows what you know. We have only this information [Unclassified Summary of Evidence]. We have not seen any of your file, but we may see it later. At this time, this is all we know.

Detainee: Okay.

*The Detainee was sworn.*

*At the request of the Detainee, the Personal Representative read each allegation and the Detainee's answers to the Unclassified Summary of Evidence. The Detainee will add information as he deems necessary.*

- **3(a)1 The Detainee traveled to Jalalabad, Afghanistan from Pakistan in 2001.**

Personal Representative: True.

- **3(a)2 The Detainee went to Afghanistan in October 2001 to receive training.**

Personal Representative: No, I did not go for training.

Detainee: When I was in Pakistan, I was trying to do business and make money so I could travel to Canada or another country. That's why I was in Pakistan. In Pakistan, the people are very poor and business is not good. When I was in Pakistan I couldn't make money and other Uighur people said I could go to a place in Afghanistan that would take care of me if I had problems.

Also, I was afraid to go back to China because they would torture and punish me. That's when I decided to go to Afghanistan and stay there. Not for the training.

- **3(a)3 The Detainee traveled from Jalalabad to a Uighur camp in the Tora Bora mountains and stayed there for approximately forty-five days.**

Personal Representative: True.

- **3(a)4 Uighur groups in China's Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (XUAR) have formed ties with Al Qaeda and other Islamic terrorist groups and China's two principal militant Uighur groups are the East Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM) and the East Turkistan Liberation Organization (ETLO).**

Personal Representative: My understanding is that all the Uighurs work toward the movement for East Turkistan independence and I do not believe they are doing anything beside that. I do not believe Uighur groups have the ties to Al Qaeda or any other Muslim terrorist groups.

Detainee: They are blaming us Uighurs for having ties with Al Qaeda or some international terrorist groups those organizations. We shouldn't be accused of this. I don't believe it because our only problem is with the Chinese government. They've been torturing and fighting us for hundreds of years.

In my country some betray the Uighur people and work for the Chinese government. Besides those people, all the Uighurs will try to use their own natural resources so their own people are happy, rich and peaceful. That's all they want.

China, after the U.S., is the second most powerful country in the world. They are using our natural resources to make themselves richer and smarter. All the natural resources we have make the Chinese smarter, richer and more powerful.

I believe all the Uighurs in Turkistan and in other places in the world are trying to do something to get back our country's independence from the Chinese.

The rest of the allegations concerning Al Qaeda; I don't believe the Uighurs are involved in this.

You've been saying Al Qaeda and Taliban are militant, terrorist people, but I don't know about Al Qaeda or the Taliban. I've never heard of them. I heard about them here. I don't understand those people or what they do, but I think you understand those people better than I do. I heard from you and others here that those people like to disturb world peace, try to make trouble, and do bad things to other places.

I heard from you guys that most of the Al Qaeda people are Arabs. Those Arabs have their own country and they can live wherever they want in their own country. They are free to do whatever they want. I do not understand why they are causing trouble and making a mess for the world.

I hear that those people have a little problem in their brain; it doesn't work properly.

All of the Turkistani people's goals are clear and simple. All they want is to get our from the Chinese communist country and we want to live like any other country around the world. We want to live in peace, eat good, live good, dress good and be happy in peace.

- **3(a)5 The East Turkistan Islamic Movement is listed in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Terrorist Organization Reference Guide, as being one of the most militant groups, and has financial and training ties to Al Qaeda.**

Personal Representative: No, I'm not a part of the East Turkistan Islamic Movement. I left home for business. My understanding is that every single Uighur does something for the movement so they can help their country.

Detainee: This is the first time I'm hearing that there is an Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement, but all the Uighurs are Muslim people. The Uighur people living in the United States are Muslim and so are the Uighurs in Germany and Turkistan.

Myself, I wasn't a member of any party and I don't understand any party or any organizations. Our people, anywhere they stay, are still trying to free all the Uighur people from the Chinese government. It is clear that all they want to do is get rid of the Chinese government and be their own, independent country and live in peace.

I'm hearing all of the accusations that I've been involved in this and that and it's new to me right now. I do not believe the accusations about the organizations and I also believe that the smart Uighur leaders know if they have associations with all of those terrorist organizations, which are against the whole peaceful world, then the whole world would

be against us. They would understand that if we had ties with them that our goals will disappear and will never happen.

- **3(a)6 While in the Tora Bora mountains, the Detainee learned how to “break down” the Kalashnikov.**

Personal Representative: Yes.

Detainee: When I arrived in Afghanistan all of the people had a problem with going back into the country because they are all afraid that the Chinese government will torture or punish them. Nobody wants to travel all over the world and not be able to go back to their home country. Everybody wants to go home because they have their family there, but I can't. That's the reason I can't go back to China.

In Afghanistan, the people were saying that if there was a chance, and as much as we could, we would fight the Chinese government. I decided to participate because it's my country and I want to provide my personal beliefs. Everyone wants to go home and stay with their whole family.

I wanted to back because I want to free my country. I trained on how to use the Kalashnikov so if there was a chance, I could fight back against the Chinese government.

- **3(a)7 The Detainee was in the Tora Bora mountains when the U.S. bombing campaign occurred.**

Personal Representative: True.

Detainee: If I wasn't there, I wouldn't be in this prison and I'd be at my house.

- **3(a)8 Pakistani soldiers, while fleeing Afghanistan into Pakistan, captured the Detainee, along with other Uighurs and Arabs.**

Personal Representative: Yes. We fled into Pakistan and were fed by the local people. They took us to a mosque at night, and there were a lot of people in the mosque. Ten percent of the group would go outside and then would be put into a car.

Detainee: Not ten percent; ten people in each [group]. I told my Personal Representative, but I'd like to tell you this story.

When we passed through the border, the local people came and fed us and then in the middle of the night, they took us to the mosque. At the mosque, there were a lot of people, Uighurs, Arabs and others as well.

There weren't any Pakistani soldiers or anyone with rifles or weapons to capture us. When we were in the mosque, they told us to get out. We went out in groups of ten and we were taken to a car. They drove us for a couple hours and we ended up in the Pakistani prison.

We stayed in the Pakistani prison for a while, and then we were taken back to Kandahar, Afghanistan again. From there we were taken to Cuba, and we've been here almost three years now.

**Tribunal Members' Questions to Detainee**

- Q: When you went to Afghanistan, did you go anywhere besides the Uighur camp?
- A: No.
- Q: When you were at the camp, did you do anything besides learn how to shoot a rifle?
- A: We fixed the old house, helped bring all the rocks, brought the water, and did some construction work.
- Q: You fixed up the camp?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Did you take the rifle with you when you left, after you were bombed?
- A: They showed me a couple times in the camp, but after that, I never saw a rifle. They told me that if I needed to use it, I knew how.
- Q: Did you see any fighting in Afghanistan?
- A: When the bombs started, we were scared and we ran all over. We found a cave in the mountains and were hiding in there. We found out that it was a monkey cave. We didn't see any fighting. We stayed a while and then we decided to go back to Pakistan. We were on the way to Pakistan and we saw some Arabs and we followed them.
- Q: How did you find the camp?
- A: In Jalalabad, a Uighur guy took me to the camp.
- Q: How did you know to look for this particular Uighur guy?
- A: I found this person from information given to me by another Uighur guy in Pakistan.

Q: Do you remember the name of the Uighur in Jalalabad?

A: Abdul Wahab.

**Tribunal President's Questions to Detainee**

Q: You traveled to Afghanistan in October, 2001, from Pakistan. Is that correct.

A: I'm not exactly sure of the date, but it was sometime in August.

Q: Did you travel to Afghanistan before or after the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks?

A: I don't know what was happening in the U.S. I went sometime in August. If it happened in the U.S. before August, I was in Afghanistan after the attack. If it happened after August, I went to Afghanistan before the attack.

**AUTHENTICATION**

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



Colonel, USAF

Tribunal President