

Summarized Unsworn Detainee Statement

Tribunal President asks the Detainee if he would like to present any information or make a statement to the Tribunal.

Detainee: For what reason?

Tribunal President: Would like to answer or respond to the allegations on the Unclassified Summary?

Detainee: Yes.

The Tribunal President asks the Detainee if he would like to do this under oath. The Detainee states it is not necessary to take the oath because he has always told the truth and will continue to tell the truth. The Detainee states that lying is not acceptable as a Muslim. The Tribunal President asks for the assistance of the Personal Representative by reading each allegation and the Detainee can respond to each allegation.

3.a.1. The Detainee traveled to Afghanistan via Pakistan to receive training at a Uighur training camp in Tora Bora.

Detainee: What is the reason you can call me a Uighur fighter?

Tribunal President: Are you saying you're a Uighur fighter or not?

Detainee: Why are you calling me a Uighur fighter?

Tribunal President: Are you a Uighur fighter or not a Uighur fighter?

Detainee: I am not a Uighur fighter. You did not answer my question.

Tribunal President: I am asking you the questions. We need you to respond to our questions first.

Detainee: I ask you a question. If you answer the question, I will answer another question.

Tribunal President: Answer our questions first and then we will go on.

Detainee: I want to talk about the subject. They accuse me of being a Uighur fighter, is there any evidence to prove the allegation?

Tribunal President: The process that we are going through right now is that we read a statement to you and you respond to it. If you don't want to participate in this process, then we can stop the Tribunal right now.

Detainee: The process does not have to be stopped. I just want it explained to me why I am being accused of being a Uighur fighter. If you explain that to me, it will be enough.

The Personal Representative advises the Detainee that as discussed, the statement "The Detainee is a Uighur fighter" is the accusation and the statements following support it. The Personal Representative asks the Detainee if he wants to discuss point number one.

Detainee: Correct. I went to Afghanistan thru Pakistan because there is not a direct border crossing to Afghanistan. The area all around Jalalabad is called Tora Bora, but the place I stayed along the mountainside in a village is called something different. It is the place Muslims call Tora Bora.

Tribunal President: Did you receive any training at a Uighur training camp?

Detainee: That will be answered in accusation number three.

Tribunal President: Can you just answer my question? Did you receive training at a Uighur training camp?

Detainee: No.

3.a.2. The Detainee arrived at the Uighur Tora Bora training camp on 17 June 2001.

Detainee: That's correct. The name Tora Bora is used in the accusation, but it is not correct.

3.a.3. The Detainee received training on the AK-47 while at the Uighur Tora Bora training camp.

Detainee: Correct. I was there. I don't know if it was the AK-47. It was an old rifle, and I trained for a couple of days. I went to the camp to train because the Chinese government was torturing my country, my people, and they could not do anything. I was trying to protect my country, my country's independence and my freedom. From international law, training is not illegal in order to protect your freedom and independence. I did it for my country.

3.a.4. The Detainee was at the Uighur Tora Bora training camp when it was bombed by US/Coalition forces in October.

Detainee: Correct. I went there before the things happened in the U.S. One night while we were sleeping, bombing started. There was fire everywhere. We started to escape. Should we have stayed and been killed by the bombs? We stayed there since before 9/11, and then they came and bombed us. We did not have any problems with the U.S.

Economically, socially, culturally, they are not are enemy. We have nothing against the U.S.

3.a.5. The Detainee evaded in the Tora Bora mountains for two and half months before being captured by Pakistani Security Forces along with a group of other Uighur fighters and Arabs.

Detainee: Correct.

The Tribunal President asks the Detainee if there is anything else he would like to add.

Detainee: I would like to add something about the accusation number five. After the bombings, we ran to the mountainside and stayed for two or three months. We ran out of food, so we had to go somewhere. If we go to Jalalabad, they will kill us. We didn't know the roads to go anywhere else or to Pakistan. We had to stay there. Where else can we go if we don't know the roads? We didn't have anything against the U.S. or coalition. If the bombing stopped within a couple of months, then we can go back to our old place. We didn't have any more food. Then we saw four or five people walking around, and then we asked them where they were going because we didn't know the roads. We said we would like to go to Pakistan. Those people said to follow us. The people left, we discussed it then we followed them. We walked for two or three days until we reached a tribe. It was an Arab tribe and we stayed there for a day. Then they moved us after a day. They told us that they were going to split the group and take us to a safe place in the mountains. They took us to a police compound. We stayed for 15 days and then they turned us in to the U.S. In reference to number five, the Pakistani Security force did not catch us, we went to them.

Tribunal President asks if there is anything else he would like to say.

Detainee: I would like to say something about number one. I went to Pakistan for more education and language so I could try to help my country and people. Because of my poor education, and my teacher wasn't a Uighur, I could not understand very well. I heard there was a place in Afghanistan where people trained, so I went there to for training to help my country. I went to Afghanistan legally. I did not sneak across the border.

Tribunal President asks if there is anything else he would like to say.

Detainee: No comment for number two.

The Personal Representative asks the Detainee what he did when he learned the Americans were bombing them.

Detainee: I went far away from where I was staying.

The Personal Representative states that in response to number one, the Detainee says he did not receive any training, and then in response to number three, the Detainee states he learned to use the Kalashnikov for a couple of days.

Detainee: Yes, I did say I did not receive training at the camp, and in number three I said I learned how to use the rifle for two or three days; this is not training.

The Personal Representative says he has a final point that needs clarification. How long was the Detainee in Pakistan before he decided to turn himself over to the Pakistani security forces?

Detainee: After I fled from the mountains and went to Pakistan, at that time I went to the Pakistani forces. I reached the tribe and didn't know if they were part of Pakistan or Afghanistan. Then they put us into a truck and took us to another compound. Police were all over the place. Then they took us to another compound, and after 15 days, they turned us over to U.S. forces.

Questions by Tribunal Members

Q: How did you know the U.S. was doing the bombing?

A: After the bombing, I found out. We found out after the bombing that it was the U.S., then we thought that we don't have anything against the U.S. government. There is a distance of 10,000-15,000 kilometers between our country and America. We have nothing against the U.S. economically, religiously, culturally. We thought they would bomb for a couple of days, then go back.

Q: Did you have your passport when you turned yourself in?

A: I didn't turn in myself. I was just trying to find a place. All the documents were left in the camp when the bombing started.

Q: Including the passport?

A: Yes.

Q: What other activities were going on at the camp?

A: There was no typical training, whoever volunteered, once in a while people would run or exercise. I would carry wood, water came from far away, bring stone to build houses.

Q: You said in number two that you arrived at the camp on June 17th 2001. I want to make sure that I understand, you only trained on the rifle for two or three days between the time you arrived and the time you left the camp?

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A: I don't remember the exact date, maybe June 10th or the end of June. One day they showed us an old rusty rifle for about a half hour. Then the second day we shot three to five bullets.

Q: Who was providing the training?

A: There was not a provider for all of the training. There was one person doing some training.

Q: Who was in charge of the camp?

A: I told the interrogators this many times. You might have seen this in my file.

Q: We have not seen the file.

A: I have been here about three years, so my head is not clear about that now.

Q: Was he an Arab?

A: There were only Uighurs in the camp, no Arabs or Afghanis. Only Uighurs in the camp.

Q: When you were captured, did you have any weapons on you?

A: No.

Q: Did you ever carry weapons in Afghanistan or on your way to Pakistan?

A: No. I only had two days training and there were not enough weapons at the camp. All I did was try to collect stones to build a house, toilet. I did not carry any weapons.

Q: What about the people you were with? Did they carry any weapons?

A: Are you asking about the Uighur people?

Q: Whoever you were traveling with. If they were Uighur or anyone?

A: I did not see Arabs during that time, but the Uighurs did not carry any weapons.

Q: What about the guys that you followed into Pakistan? Were they armed?

A: I did not see them carrying rifles in their hands, but they had some kind of back pack, luggage. It was like all their clothing rolled into piece of fabric and carried.

Q: When you were hiding out to stay away from the bombing, were you with only Uighur people or with Afghans or Arabs?

A: There were only Uighur people. No Arabs or Afghans.

Q: Where any Arabs or Afghans nearby?

A: There were no Arabs or Afghans in the place we stayed, but further down in the village there were Afghani houses.

Q: What country are you from?

A: Turkistan.

Q: Where there only Uighur people at the training camp?

A: Yes. Only Uighur people at the camp.

Q: How did you find out about the training camp?

A: I didn't know it was a camp. I heard there were Uighur people there. That is the reason I went there.

Q: If I understand you correctly, you left your country to go to Pakistan/Afghanistan for training. How did you find out there was training at this particular camp?

A: I went to Pakistan to study, and get more education. I studied for three years, but my education did not improve. Then I heard there was a place, a Uighur state, in Afghanistan. So I decided to go there to train, fight for my freedom, independence for my country, and freedom for my own people. I wanted to give some kind of help to my people, big or small. That is why I went to Afghanistan.

Q: Where did you study in Pakistan?

A: I have told everything to interrogators. I don't think it is necessary to tell you about this anymore. If it is important, I will tell.

Q: We have not seen the information that you have given interrogators. That is why we may be asking you some of the same questions, so I apologize for that. So, in order for us to make a good decision, we need to have this information.

A: That is not a problem. It's okay.

Q: Where did you study in Pakistan?

A: Lahore.

Q: Was that a college?

A: Institute, a technical school.

Q: While you were in the mountains, did you have to fight against the U.S. or Northern Alliance or any of the coalition partners?

A: No, I was not involved in any of the fighting against the U.S. or Northern Alliance. I never saw any U.S. soldiers or people in Afghanistan, or Northern Alliance forces. The first time I saw Americans were when they turned us in to the U.S. forces. In Kandahar, I saw U.S. soldiers. In the past, I heard of Americans, but I did not know that Americans were white, black, yellow. That was the first time I saw them.

Q: What was the name of the village you stayed in near the camp? You said it was not the Tora Bora Mountains, but it was a village.

A: I can't remember. I forgot. It was a different name. It is hard to remember the name. I was hard to pronounce. It was a difficult name.

Q: Earlier you said it was your intention to receive additional education and training. Do you feel like you received enough education in Pakistan and in Afghanistan at the camp?

A: Afghanistan or Pakistan?

Q: In Pakistan you said you were attending the institute or technical school. You were there for three years. So did you complete the training that you needed while you were there?

A: I didn't have any education when I was at home. Then I went to Pakistan and Afghanistan. That school was five years, but I dropped out after three years. It was really hard and I had to study really hard. I had to memorize all kinds of things because I did not have a basic education in the past. I could not get my education level up to go back to my country and teach my people language skills. I could not do that. Then I dropped out.

Q: Then you went to Afghanistan to learn military training?

A: I heard there were Uighur people in Afghanistan, so I decided to go over there and get any training I could and try to help my country and my people.

Tribunal President had no more questions.

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Detainee: Thank you.

Tribunal President: Do you speak English?

Detainee: A little bit.

The Tribunal President begins the closing remarks of the Tribunal session. Upon advising the Detainee that if the Tribunal determines that he should not be classified as an enemy combatant, the Detainee shall be released to his home country as soon as arrangements are made. The Detainee advises the Tribunal that he does not want to go back to his home county. The President states that will be documented, and asks the Detainee if there is any particular place he would want to go. The Detainee states he does not have a particular place, but he would like to go to a country where there is not any Chinese influence. The Tribunal President confirms his statement. The Detainee states that if he is sent to Central Asia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, or other places, China has a strong influence. If he is sent to one of those countries today, tomorrow he will be sent back to China. The detainee noted it would be the same case if he were sent to the Middle East.

The Tribunal President advises the Detainee that if the Tribunal confirms his status as an enemy combatant, he is encouraged to contact his family as soon as possible. The Detainee asks if he is found to be an enemy combatant, will he be able to contact his family? The Tribunal President informs the Detainee that if he is found to be an enemy combatant, there will be another board similar to this one. The Detainee will have the opportunity to call his family or anyone else to assist with the Administrative Review Board. The Tribunal President also states that a military officer will be assigned to assist in the Administrative Review Board process. The Detainee asks if he will have another Personal Representative and the President states that is correct.

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. Army
Tribunal President

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