

UNCLASSIFIED / FOUO

Summarized Detainee Statement

When asked by the Tribunal President if the detainee understood the CSRT process, the Detainee answered, "Yes."

When asked by the Tribunal President if the detainee had any questions concerning the Tribunal process, the Detainee answered, "No."

Tribunal President: Do you wish to make a statement to this Tribunal?

Detainee: Yes.

Tribunal President: Would you like to make your statement under oath?

Detainee: What ever I say you will hear.

Tribunal President: The oath is just a statement that you promise to tell the truth.

Detainee: I don't know your oath. When we say it is under god, that is our way of swearing in. I don't know how you do it.

Tribunal President: If you would like to take an oath, we will give you the oath we have.

Detainee: You will not have difficulties to what I have to say.

Tribunal President: Please make your statement.

Detainee: I talk in the name of Allah. First I want to say hello to all of you. I want to talk because we are human beings and we need to communicate. If there are any misunderstandings between us it should be solved through communications. A person usually swears if he has stolen something or told a lie to someone. If that is the case the person will swear on the Koran. I am not lying I am telling the truth. People have told me that I will be sworn to say if I have worked with the Taliban or not. I am saying, yes I have worked with the Taliban. Yes I have worked with the Taliban and interviewed for the Voice of America and the BBC. The reason I worked for the Taliban is because at that time the conditions required me to work for the Taliban. Not only me, whoever was in our country, it was very difficult times and you had to except those conditions. Working for the Taliban had nothing to do with being against the Americans. I worked with the Taliban to make things easy, not to fight against the Americans or make animosity with any country. My only purpose was to make transportation and communication easy for the people and to make bribery go away. This is a general view of me so you can have a general understanding of me. But concerning the specific allegations I would like to talk about them one by one. No one could imagine prior to the Taliban Governments fall what would happen. It was just something that happened and I

UNCLASSIFIED / FOUO

still don't know how it happened. I now want to talk about the specific allegations against me.

3.a.1. (Detainee was appointed the Taliban spokesperson for the BBC and Voice of America.) I was working for the BBC and the Voice of America just to provide information about the situation in the country. It was not to hurt anybody or any side.

3.a.2. (Detainee was appointed the governor of Herat Providence in Afghanistan from 1999 to 2001. Detainee worked for Mullah Omar while serving as governor. The detainee had control over police and military functions in Herat to include the administration of the Taliban's two largest divisions. Detainee was required to route all decisions through Mullah Omar.) When I was governor of Herat I was not working for one person, I was working for the people and the people in the government. I have not worked for the leader of the Taliban. I didn't know him prior to that time and I didn't know him afterwards. When I worked as governor the people benefited from my services. When I was governor of Herat, the military branch was under the Department of Defense. The governor has nothing to do with the military. The Ministry of Defense sent orders to the military for whatever needed to be done. The governor has nothing to do with that. This can be verified by anyone in Afghanistan.

3.a.3. (Detainee was present at a clandestine meeting in October 2001 between Taliban and Iranian officials in which Iran pledged to assist the Taliban in their war with the United States.) Yes, I participated in that meeting with the Iranians. There was a committee that came from Kandahar and I joined them and was just sitting there. They were conducting the meeting. My job was for the security of this committee. I was not the sole representative of this committee to talk with the Iranians. They were responsible; my job was to provide security and safety for the committee. If I were responsible for the meeting, conducting the meeting, and I was the representative then why would the committee come from Kandahar. The security was needed because they were not in a safe building. It was not on a highway where everything would be safe. The meeting took place in an area off the main road where safety and security was necessary. That's the reason I went to the meeting.

Detainee: This is not the only witness I asked for you to provide. The reason I asked for this witness is because he is a very well known person. The government of Afghanistan knows this person and it should be easy for you to find him. There are many other witnesses that could testify for me. Yes, I have worked for the Taliban and do not ignore that. I did this to serve my people and my country. If you say I have done something against Americans or any harm to Americans, I need to see the proof. This is all I had to say. If you have any questions you may ask me at this time. I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to talk.

Tribunal President: Personal Representative do you have any questions for the Detainee?

Personal Representative: Yes sir.

ISN #579
Enclosure (3)
Page 2 of 7

UNCLASSIFIED / FOUO

002989

UNCLASSIFIED / FOUO

Summarized Answers in Response to Questions by the Personal Representative

- Q. When you worked for the (inaudible) when you did the BBC and Voice of America, approximately what date did you start that work and what date did you finish that work?
- A. I want to say a small joke. I thought you were on my side now you are asking questions. When the Taliban took over Kandahar that was the beginning of the interviews.
- Q. What year?
- A. I don't remember the year, but it was when the Taliban took over Kandahar. It was at the time I was going to be appointed governor of Herat.
- Q. When you provided security at this meeting with the Iranians, was the security police officers or military? What type of security was it?
- A. There were armed post, they were doing the security. I knew the area and the crossing points, I knew how to get to that area safely, so I was like a guide for them. There were post and they would not let people across the border, this was like a restricted area. I went with them and told the post this was an official meeting and told them to let us cross the area. I didn't have a gun.

Tribunal President: Recorder do you have any questions for the Detainee?

^{RECORDED:}
Personal Representative: I have one sir.

Summarized Answers in Response to Questions by the Recorder

- Q. Regarding the point about your control over the police and military functions, you said that the Department of Defense has that control. As the political leader in Herat what was your relationship with the military leaders?
- A. As the government we have the police as a branch. The military is a different entity. But if there were a danger in Herat, we would inform the military branch and tell them about the dangers, so they could take extra safety measures. There were hardly any in our area because they were busy fighting the Northern Alliance. Most of them were in Konduz and Tehar, which is north.
- Q. Okay for clarification, did you say the Taliban was fighting the regional war, is this correct? And they were not available for the governor for local defense?

ISN #579
Enclosure (3)
Page 3 of 7

UNCLASSIFIED / FOUO

002990

UNCLASSIFIED / FOUO

- A. Herat Providence was relatively safe; there was not much going on as far as fighting. If need be I could inform them and they would send forces to Herat. But there was no need for them.

Tribunal President: Does the board have any questions for the Detainee?

Personal Representative: Yes sir.

Summarized Answers in Response to Questions by the Tribunal Members

Q. Why did you go to Pakistan in early 2002.

A. Is it okay if I take a little time to answer this question?

Tribunal President: Yes.

A. When Herat was taken over I talked to Karzi over the phone. From Herat I went to my home in Kandahar. I asked Karzi if it was okay for me to stay at home, he told me yes. Karzi's brother, (inaudible) Ali, sent a person that told me they had spoken with Americans. They told me to come and talk to them for three days and then I would be freed. At this time I was sick. I told them I would be there but I had to speak to my people first. I told them not to worry I was going there for three days and then I would be back. My village is near Pakistan. Every other day a car goes to Pakistan and returns. There is constant transportation between my village and Pakistan. For most vacations people will go to Pakistan. I went there to get some medications because I wasn't feeling good. I left my family at home I didn't take them with me. If a person had the purpose to leave forever, he would take his family with him. Most people will send there families ahead and then leave. I had my medication with me when I got arrested and it was confiscated. The person's house I was living in, in Pakistan, left and went somewhere. I was then arrested and brought here.

Q. How long were you in Pakistan before you got arrested?

A. One night, I got arrested the next day.

Q. How long were you the governor of the providence?

A. Two years.

Q. You know the United States suspects that there were many Al-Qaida training camps in Afghanistan. Were there any in your providence?

A. I have been asked this question previously. There were no camps in that area.

UNCLASSIFIED / FOUO

- Q. Was there any other sort of Al-Qaida presents that you were aware of in your providence?
- A. There were some Arabs, but not to many of them. Prior to that time I had not heard of Al-Qaida. I first heard of Al-Qaida on the radio. But I saw some Arabs and they were with them.
- Q. Can you clarify about the Arabs.
- A. There was an assistance governor after Herat, (inaudible) Heran was his name. He was the governor before I went to Herat. After I got to Herat he was the assistant governor. These people were with him.
- Q. The Arabs were?
- A. Yes. I have said this in previous interrogations.
- Q. What is the significance of that? That the Arabs were with him? What are you saying?
- A. What is your question? Ask me again?
- Q. When you say that the Arabs were with the assistant governor, are you saying that they were Al-Qaida? What do mean by that?
- A. As far as foreigners, they were the only ones I saw there.
- Q. So you have no knowledge of any Al-Qaida presence in your providence?
- A. After the United States entered Afghanistan we heard that Al-Qaida was a party, a big organization. Before that we didn't know. We had heard that Usama was in Afghanistan, but that was about it.
- Q. The United States has accused the Taliban of harboring some Al-Qaida fugitives to include Usama, but you have no knowledge of that?
- A. Please do not accuse any of the Taliban as being Al-Qaida. In Afghanistan we had a different system of government. We had one Amir or the leader of the nation. We didn't have a parliament or representatives, whatever Amir said the people obeyed. We all lived under those rules. But we would not do anything for Al-Qaida. I had to work for that government because the government required it. If I didn't they probably would of hurt me. I now hear that there is an election in Afghanistan and people are allowed to vote. Before we had an oppressive type of government. All the governments in Afghanistan have been that way.

UNCLASSIFIED / FOUO

- Q. So at the time that you were governor the Amir would give orders to the Taliban members or the governors and you had to do what the Amir said?
- A. Yes, people would give you orders and you would have to do it. It was not the type of government where people would come together and come to an agreement on important decisions. It was not that way. You were told what to do and you did it. These events went on throughout the country. I had some say to what happened in providence. But beyond that, those events were out of my control.
- Q. How did they come to choose you to be governor, had you had previous experience as a politician or a governor?
- A. I was doing the interviews with BBC and Voice of America to help my people and to inform the people of the world about the situation in Afghanistan. That was the way I served my country. I didn't know about my appointment. The first time I heard it was over the radio. People told me I was the governor, it was true, I became the governor. The radio of Kabul announced this. I was not alone it happened to other people to.
- Q. So first you were the radio voice and because of that you were appointed governor?
- A. Yes I was doing that job for a while and then I was appointed governor along with other people. I then went to Herat to do my job.
- Q. Now I am going to change the subject a little bit. You mentioned that there were other witnesses that you would call, what would those witnesses testify to?
- A. A lot of witnesses can be found to confirm that the military branch is not working under the governor. The military branch is working under the Department of Defense.
- Q. Is there anything else that they would testify to?
- A. Just to clarify that the military branch was separate from the governor's authority.
- Q. In your statement you said the Ministry of Defense would send orders to the military. Did they send those directly to the military leaders or did they send them to you and then you gave them to the military leaders.
- A. They have their own military (inaudible) and they have their own communication systems, they would contact each other that way.
- Q. As governor did you work directly for the Amir?

UNCLASSIFIED / FOUO

- A. My only relation with the Amir was a financial relation. Herat was producing a lot of money because people were paying a sort of tax. This money was not to be given to the banks. This money was to be sent directly to the Amir. It was documented and the documents were sent to Amir. Some of the documents were above my authority so I had to send them. I had my own share and the rest of it would go to the central government and it was shared with other providences.

Tribunal President: Do you have any other evidence you wish to present to this Tribunal?

Detainee: The meeting with the Iranians, it was designed and conducted by the committee that came from Kandahar, which was the central government at the time. I was just a security member. If you have any questions about that, or do you believe me on that? I would like to know.

Tribunal President: I have no questions about your statement concerning that at this time.

Detainee: If I were the only person to talk to the Iranians, then there would have been no reason for the committee to come from Kandahar. I could speak directly to Iranians but I don't have that authority. In the past I have not worked for one person. I have worked for the people and I have worked for my country. In the future if I ever work it will not be for one person it will be for my people and my country. I say that to confirm that I did not just work for the leader of the Taliban, I worked for my country. I don't have anything else to say.

AUTHENTICATION

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



Col, USAF

Tribunal President

ISN #579
Enclosure (3)
Page 7 of 7

UNCLASSIFIED / FOUO

002994