SUMMARIZED DETAINEE STATEMENT

PRES: You may examine documents or statements offered into evidence other then classified evidence; however, some documents may be partially masked for security reasons.

DET: I have no unclassified information or nothing to hide.

PRES: Do you understand this process?

DET: Yes.

PRES: Do you have any questions concerning the tribunal process at this time?

DET: No.

PRES: For the record, the summary of unclassified information identifies Assem Matruq Mohammad Al Aasmi as the detainee, but we understand through the Personal Representative that the detainee prefers to use one of his aliases as Walid Ibrahim Mustafa Abu Hijazi.

DET: No, that is my name. Aasmi is the alias name. Since I came to Cuba they call me by this alias name

PRES: Which name would you prefer to be referred to?

DET: Both of them.

PRES: And that is?

DET: Walid Ibrahim Mustafa Abu Hijazi.

PRES: The detainee has elected not to call any witnesses.

DET: There are no witnesses.

PRES: Do you have any evidence to present to this tribunal?

DET: Yes, what kind of evidence do you want?

PRES: You can present a statement or witnesses; you indicated that there are no witnesses, if you have a statement that you wish to make. I believe you have indicated you would like to make an oral statement to the tribunal.

DET: Is it about Afghanistan and all that happened?

PRES: Yes.

DET: The Personal Representative will go through all we talked about in detail. I told him when we sit in the tribunal he will do the talking for me.

PRES: Walid Ibrahim Mustafa Abu Hijazi, you do not desire to make a statement?

DET: I made my statement with all honesty. He will be representing me as far as talking. You can stop him at anytime if you have any questions.

PRES: You indicated that you did not need to take an oath?

DET: I will swear, I am ready to swear. I am truthful in each word I am going say. There is no need for me not to swear; I will swear and I will be truthful.

PRES: Very well, you may begin with the assistance of your Personal Representative.

DET: I want you to start saying everything I told you all together. Starting with the purpose of going to Afghanistan from Saudi Arabia. I wanted to show with all honesty.

Personal Representative states what was relayed to him by the detainee during the two interviews that took place.

DET: I told the interrogators and Personal Representatives that I was not an Enemy Combatant to Americans. I did go to Afghanistan three or four weeks before the events. If I wanted to be an Enemy Combatant to Americans I would have done that in my hometown. We have about thirty thousand Americans visiting every year; they go about having fun. None of the people in my country have any animosity towards them.

I never went from Pakistan to Saudi Arabia and to Afghanistan for Jihad; my intention was not for fighting. If my intentions were for fighting for Jihad then what is more appropriate and more obligated from my side towards my faith to Jihad. My faith does not allow me to go all the way Afghanistan to do Jihad before doing my duty in my home country.

In my hometown I worked in restaurants and other places. I went to Saudi Arabia to find work; it was my only chance. If it were a criminal act for me to go to the camp, I would not have talked in interrogation and admitted that I went to the camp, because I did not know what kind of camp that was. I would not have talked and said that I trained and I was there for two weeks. I trained on this weapon because I know that this kind of weapon was nothing, if I wanted to train on weapons which exist in my hometown that are very much stronger and harder then what I have experienced in Al-Farouq.

When you catch an accused, you just capture them and put them in prison, and you tell them they are killers. You take this person and you interrogate them for the negative things. What are the reasons behind it? Maybe the killer had no intention of killing that person.

I did not go to the camp to get trained, I was there for a short time and I left it.

I have nothing more, I am telling you the truth. I don't want to fight Americans; I don't want to be an Enemy Combatant. I want to be in my home country.

It is very hard to find work and get income and provide for yourself, this was my chance to go and find some work.

PRES: You may continue or does this conclude your statement?

DET: I have a lot to say, but I will give the Personal Representative the chance to speak.

PRES: Does this conclude your statement; would you like to pass any more evidence that might be presented through your Personal Representative?

DET: I will give him a chance to say what I told him about the story that you was saying that I went all the way to Afghanistan just to be a Enemy Combatant against the Americans. If you want to make me an Enemy Combatant then I would understand, but outside of Cuba I was not an enemy for you. And I never thought of hurting any individual American. How can you classify me as an Enemy Combatant? If you conscious allow you to judge me as an Enemy Combatant I have no problem. I have nothing more.

Had I worked where I could make a living and a future, where I could spend on myself and get my expenses covered then the thought of going to Afghanistan would not have come to my mind. If it were not for the work conditions in my country I would have worked for myself. I love carpentry and I was very successful but I had no means to open my own shop. I had no chance, no money or job or anything.

This is the truth. Keep it in your mind that I am not an Enemy Combatant and I will never be an Enemy Combatant. You cannot be permitted to judge anyone just because they went to Afghanistan or attended the camp in Al Farouq. Again I am telling you that Americans come to my homeland and they do their religious obligations. No one from my hometown kills or kidnaps Americans or harms them; they walk around with no problem at all. If I wanted to be an Enemy Combatant I would have been one in my home country. I know surely it is not a crime to be in Afghanistan.

(To the Recorder after the Recorder declined to ask him any questions): This could be my last proceeding; if you have anything, ask me now. After this is over I might not be

talking to any interrogators. Whether I am classified as an Enemy Combatant or not, I will not be talking to anyone.

QUESTIONS BY THE TRIBUNAL MEMBERS

Q. Walid, you mentioned that you traveled from Saudi Arabia to Afghanistan to help your Muslim brothers, how were you going to help them?

A. I did not say to help my Muslim brothers, this is when the guy I worked for in Saudi Arabia told me to go and make preparations. I would be proud, but the issue was not to help them.

I had Kalashnikovs in my homeland; all of my cousins have such things.

Q. Why did you go to Afghanistan?

A. It was my only chance to find income and a find a job. Allah watches everything that I am saying.

If I had witnesses I would have brought them. [This is like when] A house is being burned and there was a person sitting in front of the house and someone came and burned the house down and left. Then the American authorities come and take the person that was sitting in front of the house away.

Q. The man that you worked for, what did he want you to do when you went to Afghanistan?

A. In his mind it was for preparation purposes.

Q. Preparation for what?

A. If anything came up, you would be aware of how to use weapons. From my homeland I had some kind of preparation.

Q. So you went specifically to Afghanistan to receive military training on weaponry, is that correct?

A. No, that is not true. My intention was not to get trained.

Q. Why did you go?

A. I was forced to go to Afghanistan so this man could give me a job.

Q. When you arrived to Afghanistan, where did you go?

A. I stayed in a guesthouse.

Q. Who ran the guesthouse? Was it an organization?

A. It was run by regular people. When they took us to the camp, I did not know what was going on.

Q. How long were you at the camp?

A. Almost two weeks; after two weeks that is when the events happened.

Q. When you left the camp, where did you go?

A. As to going from the camp there was not a plan, every one was in a group and went in different directions. I had no passport and no money and I did not know about anything because I was new to the camp.

Q. How many people were in your group?

A. We were mixed with people from the camp and people that were not from the camp. Some joined us.

Q. Was everyone in the group armed with Kalashnikovs?

A. Some did, some did not.

Q. What weapons did you have?

A. Kalashnikov.

Q. Did you also have grenades?

A. No, I was not trained on grenades.

Q. Why did you have a Kalashnikov?

A. They gave it to us in the camp. In Afghanistan you have to take care of yourself, there are some hypocrites that work for Massoud.

Q. When you left the camp, you traveled to Khost, is that correct?

A. Yes.

Q. How long were you in Khost before you were injured?

A. No more than three months.

Q. During the three months that you were in Khost, what did you do?

A. We had breakfast and prayers together, but most of the time we were doing nothing.

Q. First, thank you for the statement that you gave to us earlier, but I would like to clarify some things to make sure that we understand.

A. It is very essential for me that you understand everything.

Q. Can you tell us the circumstances surrounding when you were injured?

A. Do you mean after the injury?

Q. First tell us: how did it happen?

A. We were in some houses built like a hiding place. I went on my way for worship and prayers, and I heard a commotion inside the house. One individual had a grenade that blew up, so my leg got hurt. After an hour they were wrapping my leg then they took me to a hospital about four hours later. At the hospital at Khost, I stayed a day and a half until they put a cast on my leg. They told me my condition was difficult and someone had to take me to Afghanistan. In Afghanistan they gave me first aid, I felt faint most of that time. They took me to a military hospital and they treated me well there and then they took me to civilian hospital and they took care of me there. I came over here and they did three to four operations for me.

Q. Earlier in your statement you made comments about hypocrites who worked for Massoud?

A. No, I said that because that is what they called them. I don't know what that they mean by hypocrites. Should I tell you what I think honestly? I know nothing about Massoud and the Taliban until I came here.

Q. We understand from your answer that you had a negative opinion of Massoud and the people that were with him, is that correct?

A. I don't understand the truth. Everyone wanted to have control over this land and everyone fights so that they can have control.

Q. Did the people that you were with fight against Massoud and his people?

A. After being kept for three months and sitting, there was no fighting at that time.

Q. You never heard of any fighting, either with the Taliban people or the Arabs to come and help them fight against Massoud?

A. Yes, I did hear about it, but I did not know the intention behind it.

Q. You also said that you were familiar with more powerful weapons then Kalashnikov and grenades, those to you was relatively minor weapons?

A. I know how to use the Kalashnikov and the grenades from back home.

Q. We understand that you were familiar with more powerful weapons from your time in your homeland?

A. Do you mean that after I went to Afghanistan I made more powerful, are you saying power?

Q. In your statement that you gave to us earlier, I understood you to say that the Kalashnikov and the grenades and those other weapons were relatively minor to you?

A. I never took training and if I had I would have told you. I trained on the weaponry I told you I was trained on.

Q. Since you mentioned it in your statement, we were interested to know what other weapons you were familiar with from your time in Palestine.

A. I used to know about the Kalashnikov, because it used to be with other useful guns that I was familiar with. What weapons do you think we would have other then Kalashnikov and the American weapon?

Q. We don't know; that's why we were asking you the question.

A. F-16 and Kalashnikov.

Q. Did you mean M-16?

A. I don't know the American word.

Q. It is a rifle, correct?

A. Yes.

Q. Walid, I have an additional question. Where were you on September 11th?

A. I was in the camp.

Q. In Al Farouq?

A. Yes.

Q. Following that, you traveled to Khost and you were there for three months?

A. Yes.

Q. Walid, do you have any more information to present to this tribunal?

A. I said what I have.

Q. We understand, just in case you thought of anything else that you might like to present to the tribunal?

A. If I had anything else I would say. You want to rule that I am an Enemy Combatant when I am not.

AUTHENTICATION

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

[redacted]

Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Tribunal President

Summarized Detainee Statement

Tribunal President: Muhammed, you may now present any evidence you have to the Tribunal. And you have the assistance of your Personal Representative in doing so. Do you want to present information to this Tribunal?

Detainee: I don't have any evidence, but some of the statements were not true. The accusations were not true.

Tribunal President: Muhammed, would you like to respond to any of the comments you just heard?

Detainee: Yes. If you can repeat it to me one by one, I can answer you back and reply to each one of them.

Tribunal President: Personal Representative, would you like to do that for me please?

Personal Representative: Yes, Ma'am.

Detainee: If you could tell me the first one, and I will answer you for each.

Personal Representative: The Detainee previously informed me that he would like to do his statement under oath. The Muslim oath.

Tribunal President: Recorder, would you please provide the Muslim oath?

The Detainee was sworn using the Muslim oath and testified to the Tribunal in substance as follows:

Tribunal President: Muhammed, you may begin with the use of your Personal Representative.

Personal Representative: Paragraph 3-a-1 [from the Unclassified Summary of Evidence], Detainee traveled from his home in Saudi Arabia to Afghanistan via Kuwait and Pakistan in March 2001.

Detainee: Yes, this is true. But the dates that are used are Islamic months to date things. So I am not sure about the dates of travel.

Personal Representative: 3-a-2 [from the Unclassified Summary of Evidence], Detainee received training in the use of the AK-47 and rocket propelled grenades at the Al-Farouq training camp.

Detainee: Yes, I did go to that camp to train, but I did not train on an RPG. I only trained on the Kalashnikov and a pistol.

Personal Representative: 3-b-1 [from the Unclassified Summary of Evidence], Detainee voluntarily left the training base at Al-Farouq to engage in military operations against the Northern Alliance.

Detainee: That is not true.

Personal Representative: 3-b-2 [from the Unclassified Summary of Evidence], Detainee carried a weapon on the battlefield.

Detainee: That's not true.

Personal Representative: 3-b-3 [from the Unclassified Summary of Evidence], Detainee continued to participate in military operations against United States forces after September 11th, 2001.

Detainee: That's not true. When the war started I was sitting at home. I was not there.

Personal Representative: 3-b-4 [from the Unclassified Summary of Evidence], Detainee retreated from the battlefield to Pakistan where he surrendered, as part of a group of thirty individuals, to Pakistani forces.

Detainee: Yes, I did go to Pakistan. But I went from my house, not a battlefield, to Pakistan. I left from my house.

Tribunal President: Does that conclude your statement?

Detainee: Yes, that is it, but I want to say one more thing. When I was in Saudi Arabia I met someone from Chechnya. And I wanted to go to Chechnya. So I went to Afghanistan. This person told me to go there and train for six months. Then after six months, I would be going to Chechnya. And that was my reason for leaving home.

Tribunal President: Does that conclude your statement?

Detainee: Yes.

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

Personal Representative: No, Ma'am.

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

Recorder: No, Ma'am.

Tribunal President: Do any Tribunal Members have any questions for the Detainee?

Tribunal Member: Can you tell me where were you when you learned about the September 11th attacks in the United States?

Detainee: I was in Afghanistan when it happened, and I was in the back lines.

Tribunal Member: When did you leave to go to Pakistan after the training?

Detainee: After the training?

Tribunal Member: Yes.

Detainee: I don't know exactly the date, but it was about six to seven months after the training I left. From the date I went to Afghanistan to the day I left.

Tribunal Member: So did you train for six whole months?

Detainee: No, I only trained for a month and a half.

Tribunal Member: What did you do for the rest of the time you were in Afghanistan?

Detainee: I was in the back lines. I wanted to complete my training on weapons. So I waited in the back lines.

Tribunal Member: So did you leave from the back lines to go to Pakistan?

Detainee: Before the war, I tried to go to Pakistan so I could go back to my country, Saudi Arabia through Kabul. But I had problems getting there. And later, I went from Kabul to Khowst, and from Khowst to Pakistan.

Tribunal Member: How much time were you in Pakistan before you heard about the September 11th attacks?

Detainee: I do not remember the time.

Tribunal Member: But sometime after the September 11th attacks, you went back to Afghanistan?

Detainee: When I left to Pakistan, I did not want to go back.

Tribunal Member: Why didn't you return to your home country?

Detainee: Because my passport, tickets and everything else were in a storage area somewhere elsewhere. I could not get to them. That is why everything was delayed.

Tribunal Member: And where was that?

Detainee: It was in Kandahar, in a place where it was kept. I was waiting to go back there to get them.

Tribunal Member: Why did you leave them there?

Detainee: It was like an office. Storage to safe keep the documents. They told me I could put them there for safekeeping before I went to the camp.

Tribunal Member: Just a couple of minutes ago you said that when you left Afghanistan, you were leaving to go to your home country and you had no intention of going back to Afghanistan. Why did you leave your passport and other documents in storage?

Detainee: I was arrested by the military and put in prison.

Tribunal Member: Where?

Detainee: On the borderline.

Tribunal Member: But you said your documents were in Kandahar.

Detainee: Yes.

Tribunal Member: Kandahar is not on the border.

Detainee: But they said all the documentation and all the personnel documents were taken from Kandahar and put in Pakistan.

Tribunal Member: Who said that?

Detainee: The person I was staying with in Kabul.

Tribunal Member: Why didn't you go to Chechnya after you left Afghanistan?

Detainee: Cause I quit. I did not want to go back there anymore. I just wanted to go back home.

Tribunal Member: Did you carry a weapon while you were in Afghanistan?

Detainee: At the camp, yes. Everyone had a weapon.

Tribunal Member: How about after you left the camp?

Detainee: I did not carry my weapon all the time. Only at the camp, at the station.

Tribunal Member: How did you get to Pakistan from Kandahar?

Detainee: I was in Kabul and everyone was living in the house I was staying in. We all went to Khowst, and from Khowst we went to Pakistan.

Tribunal Member: Did you go by yourself or were you traveling with others?

Detainee: I was with others. The people I mentioned before.

Tribunal Member: Were those people armed?

Detainee: No.

Tribunal Member: Were any of the people that you were captured with armed?

Detainee: No.

Tribunal Member: Did you go to Pakistan through Tora Bora?

Detainee: No. From Khowst and then Pakistan.

Tribunal Member: Why did you leave Kabul?

Detainee: I wanted to go to Pakistan. Every person living at the house I was staying in was leaving for Pakistan. So I left with them.

Tribunal Member: Was the United States bombing at the time?

Detainee: There was bombing in Afghanistan, but it was not by us.

Tribunal Member: Did you ever fight against the Northern Alliance?

Detainee: No.

Tribunal Member: Who were the other individuals you were picked up with when you were arrested?

Detainee: The persons?

Tribunal Member: Yes.

Detainee: I didn't know them personally. I just knew them through the travel and staying at the detention facility.

Tribunal Member: When you addressed the information from the unclassified summary, when asked on exhibit 3-b-3, which says "the Detainee continued to participate in military operations against the United States forces after September 11th, 2001." You stated you were at home when the war began?

Detainee: Yes.

Tribunal Member: And home was Saudi Arabia?

Detainee: No. It was the house I had in Kabul.

Tribunal Member: And after you said you left Al Farouq. Why did you leave Al Farouq?

Detainee: Because there was a problem between me and the trainer. We had an argument.

Tribunal Member: What is the trainer's name?

Detainee: Abu Haraya.

Tribunal Member: And because of this disagreement, is that why you left?

Detainee: We had problems with each other and I just left.

Tribunal Member: Did you leave by yourself?

Detainee: I left with another person.

Tribunal Member: Who was that?

Detainee: His name was Omar.

Tribunal Member: Was Omar arrested with you?

Detainee: No. Possibly he went back home.

Tribunal President: Did you go to Afghanistan to fight?

Detainee: No. I would not fight Muslims.

Tribunal President: Did you go to fight the Northern Alliance or its coalition partners?

Detainee: No, they are Muslims and I would not fight them.

Tribunal President: Explain to me why you needed the training at the Al Farouq training camp?

Detainee: Like I mentioned before and I am saying this under oath and swearing to God, I went there and I did not even know where I was going. I was told by someone to go train there and I was hoping to go to Chechnya. So I went there to get some training and go to Chechnya. I did not know what I was doing at the time.

Tribunal President: Could you have received military training on the same weapons in Saudi Arabia?

Detainee: I don't think so.

Tribunal President: How did you know who to meet in Afghanistan to take you to the training camp?

Detainee: The person that told me prepared everything for me. He made the calls and he had someone there waiting for me to take me there.

Tribunal President: Who is that person?

Detainee: The person who was in Chechnya before. He was in Saudi Arabia.

Tribunal President: What is the person's name.

Detainee: His name was Saleh.

Tribunal President: Spell that for me.

Translator: S-A-L-E-H.

Tribunal President: Is that a first name or last name?

Detainee: That is his first name.

Tribunal President: Do you know the last name?

Detainee: Tribal name, his last name is Saleh Al Harbi.

Tribunal President: What arrangements did Saleh Al Harbi make for you?

Detainee: He made a phone call from Riyadh to another person in Afghanistan and he told him I will send you this person.

Tribunal President: Did he arrange for your travel?

Detainee: No, I paid for it.

Tribunal President: How did you travel to Afghanistan?

Detainee: Like I mentioned before, I traveled by airplane from Saudi Arabia to Kuwait and from Kuwait to Pakistan.

Tribunal President: And then from Pakistan to Afghanistan?

Detainee: Yes.

Tribunal President: How did you travel from Pakistan to Afghanistan?

Detainee: By car.

Tribunal President: Did you drive the car or did you have someone to drive you?

Detainee: No, it was another driver. Everything was prepared for me.

Tribunal President: How did you support yourself while you were in Afghanistan?

Detainee: Like normal. Everything was simple.

Tribunal President: Did you pay for anything involved in your trip? How did you eat while you were in Afghanistan? Did you have to pay for the hotels or guesthouses?

Detainee: I went to a guesthouse because it had food and shelter.

Tribunal President: Was it free or did you have to pay?

Detainee: Free. It was free.

Tribunal President: Did you know anyone in Afghanistan?

Detainee: No.

Tribunal President: Did you join the Taliban or Al Qaida while you were in Afghanistan?

Detainee: No.

Tribunal President: Were any of the people you met in Afghanistan soldiers or fighters?

Detainee: No.

Tribunal President: You didn't meet any soldiers or fighters in the Al Farouq training camp?

Detainee: They were all like me. They were training.

Tribunal President: So the people that trained you at the Al Farouq training camp, were they soldiers or were they just trainers?

Detainee: We could not tell if they were military because they all had Afghani wear - Afghani clothing.

Tribunal President: Did you see any fighting in Afghanistan on your way to Pakistan?

Detainee: No.

Tribunal President: Any of the Tribunal Members have any more questions?

Tribunal Members: No, Ma'am.

Tribunal President: Muhammed, do you have any other evidence to present to this Tribunal?

Detainee: No.

Tribunal President: Personal Representative, do you have any other evidence or does the Detainee have any previously approved witnesses to present to the Tribunal?

Personal Representative: No, Ma'am.

Tribunal President: All evidence having been provided to this Tribunal, this concludes this Tribunal session.

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