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Summarized Detainee Statement

Tribunal President: Abdur Rahman, 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 wish to present evidence to the Tribunal?

Detainee: Yes, I do. I want the assistance of my Representative. I will also say something.

Tribunal President: All right. Will this statement be written or oral?

Detainee: I can make an oral statement.

Personal Representative: The Detainee would like for me to read a written statement. I will present it to the Tribunal. Then the Detainee will make an oral presentation and answer questions afterwards.

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

Detainee: Yes.

Tribunal President: Recorder will you administer the oath?

The Detainee was sworn using the Muslim oath.

In the following section of the summarized transcript, the Personal Representative reads the detainee's written statement (attached as Exhibit D-B) to the Tribunal. The statement addresses each point on the Unclassified Summary of Evidence in order. Because the statement does not always indicate the text of the point being addressed, the points from the Unclassified Summary of Evidence are provided below in italics to put the detainee's statement into context. Any comments made by the detainee or others while the Personal Representative reads the statement are summarized, as well.

Tribunal President: Personal Representative, would you present the information.

Personal Representative: Detainee Sayid Abdur Rahman dictated the following written statement on 13 September in response to his Unclassified Summary of Evidence dated 4 September 2004.

Tribunal Member: May I just ask one quick question? Are you going to offer the written statement as evidence to us [the Tribunal] afterwards?

Personal Representative: Yes, Sir.

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Tribunal Member: Okay. It just determines how much notes I will take. Thank you.

Personal Representative: I will begin again. Detainee Sayid Abdur Rahman dictated the following written statement on 13 September in response to his Unclassified Summary of Evidence dated 4 September 2004.

3.a. The detainee is a member of the Taliban.

1. The detainee was born in Pishin, Pakistan.

Personal Representative: In response to (A1) of the unclassified summary, this is true. I was born in Pishin, Pakistan.

Detainee: Yes.

2. The detainee joined the Taliban shortly after the Taliban took control of Kabul, Afghanistan in 1992.

Personal Representative: In response to (A2) of the unclassified summary, this is not true. I was never a member of the Taliban and I have never been to Kabul, Afghanistan. I have never worked with the Taliban.

Detainee: Correct.

3. The detainee has been identified as holding a high-ranking position in the Taliban as a military judge.

Personal Representative: In response to (A3) of the unclassified summary, this is not true. Since my incarceration, I have been accused of holding three different positions with the Taliban. Initially I was accused of being a Deputy Foreign Minister in Kandahar by an interrogator who spoke Pashtu.

Detainee: And I was blindfolded.

Personal Representative: This is when the Americans were there. This turned out to be false. One month later, I was accused of being a Taliban Security guard in a prison in Kandahar. A female translator accused me of working in a prison and told me my name was Bacha, a security guard in this prison in Kandahar.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: This was false as well. I have never even heard of the name Bacha.

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Detainee: I have never heard of that name and that was my first time hearing of such accusation.

Personal Representative: Now I am accused of being a military judge for the Taliban. I have no idea why someone would make this accusation, as it is not true. I can only speculate that it was someone from a rival village close to my village in Pakistan.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: However, I have no proof because I am here at GTMO.

Detainee: Correct.

4. In his position with the Taliban, the detainee tortured, maimed, and murdered Afghani nationals who were being held in Taliban jails.

Personal Representative: In response to (A4) of the unclassified summary, this is totally false. The only time I have ever been in Afghanistan was for two days to attend a funeral. A neighbor in my village of Pishin had a relative in Afghanistan who died.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: I went with him to Afghanistan to attend the funeral service.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: I was only there for two days and then I returned home. How could I do all these things in two days? It is simply not possible. During the Taliban's reign I never even talked to them.

Detainee: I never talked or even dealt with them [i.e., the Taliban] on any basis.

Personal Representative: I never had any contacts with the Taliban at all. The two days I was in Afghanistan to attend the funeral were the only two days I spent in Afghanistan in my entire life.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: Many Afghans lived in Pakistan and they traveled back and forth. So rivalries or differences might have occurred on both sides of the border. I was never a judge in Pakistan or Afghanistan, nor was I ever a Deputy Foreign Minister in either of these two countries. Nor was I ever a security guard in either of these two countries.

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Detainee: Yes. I never even held those two positions.

Personal Representative: I am only a chicken farmer in Pakistan. I would also occasionally earn some extra money by helping out at the local school. I would teach children how to pray and how to perform absolution. I would teach them right from wrong.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: However, my main income and occupation was as a chicken farmer.

Detainee: Correct.

5. Pakistani authorities arrested the detainee in Fall 2001.

Personal Representative: In response to (A5) of the unclassified summary, no, it was the end of January 2002.

Detainee: Correct. It was towards the end of January. I don't remember, but it was in January.

Tribunal President: January of what year?

Detainee: 2002.

Personal Representative: I was in my home. I didn't live on the chicken farm, I worked on one.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: The Pakistani authorities knocked on my door and told me that they wanted to search my house.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: I asked them why they wanted to search my house and I was told they were looking for ancient artifacts that were looted.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: I did not know what they were talking about and I had nothing to hide. They did not find any artifacts, as I did not have any to find.

Detainee: I had nothing to hide. I was a poor person. What was I going to hide?

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Personal Representative: They did not find any artifacts, as I did not have any to find.

Detainee: In my house I had nothing. We lived very simply. There were no artifacts or anything.

Personal Representative: However, the Pakistani authorities told me that I had to go with them to the police station.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: I asked them why? They searched my house and found nothing.

Detainee: I said why did they want to take me? They told me they needed me to talk to the leader. So they wanted to have a talk.

Personal Representative: I was told I had to go. At the police station they questioned me more about the ancient artifacts.

Detainee: They were asking me where were the artifacts? They had heard reports.

Personal Representative: I told them you searched my house and you found nothing.

Detainee: I told them they already searched my house and they could search again anywhere. Find the person who was spreading those rumors about me. I am not guilty of anything.

Personal Representative: The police then told me even though they did not find any artifacts, if I did not give them money, a bribe, I was gone.

Detainee: Correct. They wanted a bribe.

Personal Representative: I told them that I didn't have any money to give, but even if I did, I was not going to give it to them.

Detainee: Correct. I told them even if I had any money, I was not going to give it to them. What had I done?

Personal Representative: I asked, "What have I done that I need to pay you for?"

Detainee: Correct. I refused to give them money. There were no charges that I should pay those guys money.

Personal Representative: They said it just did not matter and we just want money.

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Detainee: They said we just want the money. We are not playing any games here.

Personal Representative: Since I had refused to pay the bribe, we never even discussed the amount of money they wanted.

Detainee: I did not know what amount they wanted because I did not allow them to get to that point.

Personal Representative: They told me I'd sit until I paid them. They took me to a cell.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: They kept me in a cell for a few hours, and then blindfolded me and put me in a car with someone else and drove us to another location.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: I was kept in a Pakistani jail for thirty-six days.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: During this time, a Pakistani soldier asked me if there was someone else in my village with the same name as I.

Detainee: They asked me if somebody else's name was my name. I said there could be, but I don't even know. There were a lot of people.

Personal Representative: I told them there could be, but I did not know for sure.

[Both the Detainee and the Translator were speaking simultaneously.]

Tribunal President: What did the Detainee say?

Translator: The Detainee repeated the same answer. The Detainee stated he did not know. There could be but I did not know. That was for them to decide.

Personal Representative: This soldier then told me they were looking for someone else and they had found him.

Translator: I think there might be a correction.

Detainee: They were looking for someone else, and they found me now. Something, I can't remember correctly meaning they were looking for someone else; but now they had me. So they were going to throw me in jail to make the report look right. Or they were going to get me using the other man's name.

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Personal Representative: Okay, so the sentence should read the soldier then told me they were looking for someone else; but they had found him; him meaning the Detainee?

Translator: Correct. Yes.

Tribunal President: Is that a correction that needs to be made in the statement?

Personal Representative: Yes, Ma'am. I will annotate above the word him "referring to the Detainee."

Detainee: They said even though I was not the right person they were looking for, it did not matter. They had me.

Tribunal President: Personal Representative, would you read that statement to the Detainee again to make sure that is exactly what the Detainee wants to say?

Personal Representative: Yes, Ma'am. The soldier then told me that they were looking for some one else, and they had found him, referring to the Detainee.

Detainee: I want to re-iterate the point about how they asked me about if there was another person with same name as I. I told them there could be. But they said now they had me. So that statement is correct.

Tribunal President: So that statement is correct?

Translator: The Detainee repeated the same statement.

Personal Representative: Translator, please explain to the Detainee the clarification of the statement that was read was implied they found another person with the same name as the Detainee, but I made the clarification to the Tribunal that the authorities were looking for someone else but since the Detainee was found and in custody, the authorities decided to keep him.

Detainee: Yes, that is correct.

Personal Representative: That was all he said to me. After thirty-six days in the Pakistani jail, they came and got me one night, tied my hands behind my back, put a hood over my face and put me into a car.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: Although, I could not see anything, there were other prisoners in this car. One was speaking Pashtu and several others were speaking Urdu.

Detainee: Correct.

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Personal Representative: When the car stopped, I could hear airplanes. They took me from the car and put me onto an aircraft. There were Americans on this aircraft.

Detainee: Correct. Then all of a sudden the language changed from Pashtu. I started hearing English.

Personal Representative: I could not see anything because I was blindfolded, but they were speaking English.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: When we landed they asked for my name and I told them Abdur Rahman.

Detainee: Correct. Abdur Rahman.

Personal Representative: The translator who was speaking Pashtu asked me what languages I spoke.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: I answered I only spoke Pashtu.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: I was then told that I was not Abdur Rahman; I was Abdur Zahid Rahman.

Detainee: Correct. I was told my name was not Abdur Rahman Sayed, but my name was Abdur Rahman Zahid.

Personal Representative: That was not correct, my name is Abdur Sayed Rahman. The difference in the two spellings: Zahid is Z-A-H-I-D, and Sayed is S-A-Y-E-D.

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative: Abdur Zahid Rahman was the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Taliban.

Detainee: Correct. That is what I was told. I was told that I was Abdur Rahman Zahid and that I was the Deputy Foreign Minister for the Taliban.

Personal Representative: I was taken to this camp and they began to interrogate me.

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Detainee: Correct. Then an hour later they began to interrogate me.

Personal Representative: An American later told me that I was wrongfully taken and that in a couple of days I would be free.

Detainee: I was told I was very much oppressed and they had the wrong person and I would be released right away.

Personal Representative: I never saw this American again and I am still here.

Detainee: Correct. And I never saw that person again.

Personal Representative: Since then, I have also been accused of being a security guard, which is not true.

Detainee: Right after the first accusation that I was a Deputy Foreign Minister, I was told a month later I was not a Foreign Minister, but I was a security guard for the jail. My name was Bacha. I said if the prison is nearby, can you check up on that and see the evidence for it. They never said anything else about it and it was left at that.

Personal Representative: Now I have this new accusation that I am a military judge of the Taliban.

Detainee: I have never held a judge's post and I never worked as such. Someone made up all these accusations and lies, but what can I do about it?

Personal Representative: This is simply not true. I am innocent.

Detainee: From the first, I have been accused wrongly. I am a Muslim. I did swear by God that I would tell you the truth. I hope you take that into account, that I am telling the truth. I have been very oppressed. Please take all my words into account.

Personal Representative: Ma'am, that concludes the Detainee's written statement.

Personal Representative presents the Detainee's written statement marked as Exhibit "D-B" to the Tribunal for evidence.

Tribunal President: Do you mind if we ask you some questions?

Detainee: Yes. That is fine.

The Personal Representative introduces two personal letters from the Detainee's brothers and sons in Pakistan to the Tribunal. The exhibits are marked D-C and D-D.

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Personal Representative: The letters are from the Detainee's family, his brother and his sons. The first letter reads as follows: "From (censored) to (censored) greetings. We are, thank God, doing good. We want your happiness from God. Your school is doing well. Everyone in the family is doing well. Your chicken farm is there, and we check on your school. We are praying for you. Wish you luck."

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative presents the Exhibit "D-C" to the Tribunal for evidence.

Personal Representative: These exhibits are being presented to show that the Detainee was indeed a chicken farmer and he did teach at the school.

Personal Representative: The second letter reads as follows: "From your brothers Abdul Haq Agha, Abdul Salam Agha and the whole family and friends to our brother. Our brother, at home everything is fine. From young to old, thank God everyone is fine. Everyone else is doing good. We want your happiness from God. We want you happiness from God like Abraham when he was in the middle of the fire and God protected him. We tried to release you, but we haven't found any response. We will try, God willing, and we hope you will be released. Your chicken farm is there. (Censored) is also sending his greetings. Your letter you sent to Quetta, you wrote that you wrote us a lot of letters and you haven't sent responses. We've replied to all your letters. I don't know why it hasn't gotten there. We are praying for you and we will pray." The letter is dated 26 September 2002."

Detainee: Correct.

Personal Representative presents the Exhibits "D-D" to the Tribunal for evidence.

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

Personal Representative: Yes. Ma'am, I have a couple.

Personal Representative: The only time you have ever been to Afghanistan was only the two days you attended the funeral?

Detainee: Yes. That was two days for a funeral service.

Personal Representative: Was this during or after the Taliban reign?

Detainee: It was two years prior to my capture.

Personal Representative: Before the Taliban came to power, did you ever go to Afghanistan?

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Detainee: Even when I was there for those two days, I did not do anything wrong. I never even talked. I just walked on the streets and came back home.

Personal Representative: So from the time you were a tiny baby until now, you've only been in Afghanistan for two days?

Detainee: Yes, just those two days.

Personal Representative: Have you ever received any military training?

Detainee: I am an uneducated person. I never got any training.

Personal Representative: No training, never ever at anytime? Not before the Taliban, after the Taliban, not at all?

Detainee: I have not even seen a weapon for fifteen years, if you believe it or not. I am an uneducated person. I have never been to any military training.

Personal Representative: Never ever in your life?

Detainee: No, never.

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

Recorder: Yes, I do.

Detainee: Okay.

Recorder: Did you ever in your life join the Taliban or work with them in any small way?

Detainee: I swear from the smallest dealings I have never dealt with the Taliban or contacted them.

Recorder: Were you ever a judge or an important man that would pass judgment on others?

Detainee: I have to laugh. I am an uneducated man. You are giving me this high position of being a military judge. I don't even have that level of education to be such. I can't even picture that.

Recorder: So the answer is no?

Detainee: I was never a judge, a Foreign Minister or a security guard. I swear upon it.

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Recorder: Did you ever do the act or direct others to torture?

Detainee: I have never even ordered my brother in my house. How can I even order others.

Tribunal President: Excuse me, Translator, but I did not catch everything you were translating. You and the Detainee were talking at the same time.

Translator: What the Detainee was trying to say was that he had never ordered his brother at home to do things. How can he order others. And also the Detainee has never taken part in that accusation.

Tribunal President: Please translate what you have said back to the Detainee.

Detainee: That is correct. [In response to the Translator's translation.]

Recorder: How many years were you a chicken farmer?

Detainee: I don't have the exact dates.

Recorder: Can you speak in shorter phrases.

Detainee: I don't remember the range of time prior to my capture. I remember that I have been on that farm about fifteen years. I am an uneducated person and I can't remember. I did not keep a timetable of the exact dates, so it could be anywhere from twelve to fifteen years I have been on that farm.

Recorder: Earlier in that statement, you said you work on the farm. You don't own it? Is that correct?

Detainee: Yes, that is my farm. I have a share of the land. I have from five hundred to one thousand chickens. I sell the eggs and the chickens. That is how I make my living.

Recorder: What did you do before becoming a chicken farmer fifteen years ago?

Detainee: I did not work. I was at home. My brothers worked. It was like a family thing.

Recorder: That concludes my questions.

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

Tribunal Members: Yes, ma'am. How old are you?

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Detainee: We don't keep records of when we are born. I cannot give you an exact date but I can give you an approximate guess. I am in my late thirties, close to forty years old. They asked me this in Kandahar. I told them I do not know my exact age. No records are kept in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Tribunal President: Please try very hard to translate exactly what the Detainee says. We do not want to miss anything the Detainee wants to present to us. And please tell the Detainee what I just said. (Speaking to the Translator).

Translator: I just told the Detainee and I also asked the Detainee to shorten his answers so I can get the words out to you.

Tribunal President: Thank you.

Tribunal Member: When you were arrested, were you by yourself?

Detainee: I was alone at home.

Tribunal Member: We are asking these questions because we have not seen the evidence.

Detainee: Okay.

Tribunal Member: When you were arrested, you had no weapons around you anywhere.

Detainee: No.

Tribunal Member: When you went to Afghanistan for the funeral, were you doing anything else while there?

Detainee: The two days I was in Afghanistan, I spent the night. The morning we had the funeral service. We spent a second night. Then we left the next day.

Tribunal Member: How did you get to Afghanistan?

Detainee: In a car.

Tribunal Member: Was it an hour's drive or a day-long drive?

Detainee: We left Pakistan in the morning. We got to Afghanistan by the noon prayers. There were different villages in the outskirts. Depended on where the service was being held.

Tribunal Member: In response to one of the questions by the Personal Representative, you said you had not seen a weapon in about fifteen years.

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Detainee: That is correct.

Tribunal Member: Fifteen years ago when you did see the weapon, why did you see the weapon?

Detainee: During the Jihad times when the Afghans were fighting the Soviets, all of the Mujahideen were there and weapons were on the streets in the Pashtu areas.

Tribunal Member: I know you said you have never been a part of or supported the Taliban.

Detainee: Yes, that is correct.

Tribunal Member: Your own actions, or actions you might have directed of others, have you ever been a part of or supported Al Qaida?

Detainee: When I was brought here to Cuba, I never heard of the term Al Qaida. I did not know if they were some animals or some kind of creatures. I did not know what the meaning was. Then they explained to me what Al Qaida meant.

Tribunal Member: After the term Al Qaida was explained to you, do you think you were involved with or supported Al Qaida?

Detainee: No, because I did not even know their name or the details of who they were. No, never.

Tribunal Member: Can you tell me when the funeral was, specifically?

Detainee: I don't know the exact date. They asked me the same question in Kandahar. I don't know what date it was, but it was obviously before I was captured.

Tribunal Member: Was it before the September 11th attacks in the United States?

Detainee: It was two years prior to September when the Americans were attacked.

Tribunal Member: Who was the funeral for?

Detainee: A person I knew from my village, it was one of his relatives that died in Afghanistan.

Tribunal Member: What was his name?

Detainee: Which person?

Tribunal Member: The person that died?

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Detainee: I am trying to remember. It was Muhammad Yusef.

Tribunal Member: Where in Afghanistan was the funeral?

Detainee: In Kandahar province. From the city, there is a village called Zala Kahn. It is about a half hour drive from the city of Kandahar, but in the province of Kandahar.

Tribunal Member: Since you have been captured and brought here to Cuba, have you always told this same story?

Detainee: This is my story, but more details could have been said in the interrogation. I was not asked about the funeral that you just asked about, or the guy's name or where the village. I was only asked if I went to a funeral.

Tribunal Member: In your interrogations, have you always said that you have been to Afghanistan for only two days in your life?

Detainee: Yes. And in the Taliban's time, only two days.

Tribunal Member: But before the Taliban's time, you were in Afghanistan?

Detainee: During the Soviet war, I might have helped out the refugees in the camp or something.

Tribunal Member: In Afghanistan?

Detainee: On the border. I was at a camp in Pakistan where all the Afghans were. So if I have crossed the border, it is the occasion. We have relatives and they just cross back and forth. But that was during that time.

Tribunal Member: How far from the Pakistan/Afghanistan border is your hometown?

Detainee: The town I am from?

Tribunal Member: Yes.

Detainee: It is three or four hours to Chaman, which is a border town.

Tribunal Member: Can you estimate how many kilometers?

Detainee: I don't even know about the hours correctly. I have no idea about the kilometers.

Tribunal Member: When you say three or four hours, is that by car?

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Detainee: Some cars go fast, some cars go slow, some go very slow and then they go five hours.

Tribunal Member to the Personal Representative: On Exhibit D-C, is there a date on this letter?

Personal Representative: No.

Translator: No, there is no date, but it is received in Kandahar in Afghanistan.

The Personal Representative and the Translator inspect Exhibit D-C, and both conclude there was no date annotated on the letter.

Tribunal Member: So there is no date that we can see on the letter?

Translator: No, Sir. I could not find it. Actually I tried looking for it. The only thing I could see was referring to the Detainee's imprisonment in Kandahar.

Tribunal President: On your statement, you said you were questioned by the police and a soldier.

Detainee: I was not interrogated. I went to the police station. Two of the officers were speaking Urdu and one officer was speaking Pashtu. The Pashtu officer told me to give him money, otherwise I was going to be taken away. He also told me whatever treasure I was hiding, I needed to give it to him. I told the officer to check my house because there was nothing.

Tribunal President: Your statement said a soldier told you they were looking for someone else and they had found you.

Detainee: The only thing I remember is the people worked for the Government and they spoke Pashtu.

Tribunal President: So you don't know for sure if they were police or soldiers?

Detainee: No. All I knew was these people were Government officials and they were wearing uniforms. I don't know the details of the rank or anything.

Tribunal Member: If you were blindfolded how could you know they were Government officials?

Detainee: The official was undercover in civilian clothing. He was a Government official. I was not blindfolded at that time. That same person would always help me when I wanted to pray. That is how I knew he was a Government official.

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Tribunal President: Did the Government official ask you for money or the police?

Detainee: In the police station, I was told by the police officers to give them bribes. After that, no one ever mentioned anything about money. I was told charges would be made against me.

Tribunal President: Who asked you about the name of the other person in your village?

Detainee: All I know is the person was a Government official and that person was wearing civilian clothing. I do not know the rest.

Tribunal President: You also said a translator asked you about another man. Was that the Government official?

Detainee: No. This person was speaking Pashtu. There was no translation necessary.

Tribunal President: Did you know the people at the funeral?

Detainee: The only reason I went was because my friend in Pakistan invited me. I did not know the other people in Kandahar.

Tribunal President: Did you know if any of the people at the funeral were Taliban?

Detainee: A funeral service is usually three days. After that funeral service, I went to pay my respects of the service (sic). I was not at the official service.

Tribunal President: You did not attend the funeral? You just went to pay respects after the funeral?

Detainee: That is correct. I paid my respects by visiting them. But the official ceremony was over.

Tribunal President: Did you go to someone's house after the funeral to pay respects?

Detainee: Yes, I went to the person's house.

Tribunal President: Were there other people there besides yourself and your friend?

Detainee: No, just the people of the house and that was it.

Tribunal President: Who were the people of the house?

Detainee: It was the father and the brothers of the person who died.

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Tribunal President: Do you know if those people were members of the Taliban?

Detainee: They were poor people, they never associated with the Taliban.

Tribunal President: Do you know that for sure?

Detainee: Yes. I am very sure about that.

Tribunal President: You said you heard someone speaking English on the plane?

Detainee: They were talking like you.

Tribunal President: How do you know they were Americans?

Detainee: When I landed in Kandahar, I asked what language they were speaking. They told me they were speaking the language you are speaking to me.

Tribunal President: Is that the same plane you traveled from Kandahar to Cuba?

Detainee: I do not know because I was blindfolded.

Tribunal President: Did you travel on more than one plane?

Detainee: First from Pakistan to Kandahar.

Tribunal President: On one plane?

Detainee: Yes. I don't know who was there because I was blindfolded.

Tribunal President: Do you know whom you traveled with from Pakistan to Kandahar?

Detainee: My eyes were blindfolded. I could not even see light. I saw light when I got to Kandahar. Then I asked one of the people where I was and they told me Kandahar.

Tribunal President: Was there anyone on the plane from Pakistan to Kandahar speaking English?

Detainee: What I heard sounded like a foreign language. That is all I knew and I asked later what language that was.

Tribunal President: So it was the plane from Kandahar to Cuba you heard people speaking English?

Detainee: I heard English when I was in Kandahar.

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Tribunal President: On the plane or off the plane?

Detainee: Just in the camp I heard English. Not in the airplane. What I heard in the airplane, the military personnel were speaking a foreign language.

Tribunal President: Did you hear another foreign language other than English on the plane?

Detainee: I heard it was foreign tongue, but I did not understand what they were saying.

Tribunal President: Was it English?

Detainee: It was the same thing as you are speaking.

Tribunal President: Who said you were Abdur Rahman Zahid?

Detainee: Once I departed the plane and they started asking me questions, I was asked if I was Abdur Rahman Zahid.

Tribunal President: Where was that?

Detainee: I was in Kandahar at the international airport.

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

Detainee: Where can I get more proof from? I have been here for two years. Where am I going to get all that information from?

Tribunal President: I understand you have no more information you would like to present?

Detainee: Where can I get information from?

Tribunal President: Is that a no?

Detainee: No, I do not have anymore.

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. I have no further evidence or witnesses, but I do have a few more questions to clarify a point that was made earlier.

Tribunal President: Okay.

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Personal Representative: Earlier you had said you had not seen a weapon for fifteen years, not until the Jihad. Was this during the Soviet occupation?

Detainee: Yes, it was during the Soviet communist regime.

Personal Representative: You had indicated you did help on the border, but was it on the Pakistani side of the border?

Detainee: During the Soviet time, the Kandahar province, I had been in there. That is about it.

Personal Representative: The type of help you did it, was it related...

Detainee started speaking before the Personal Representative was able to complete his question.

Detainee: No, it was just friends. There was not battles all the time. We had family and tribes on both sides.

Personal Representative: Did you participate in Jihad and shoot with a weapon against the Soviets?

Detainee: No.

Personal Representative: So you never were a combatant against the Jihad or the Soviets?

Detainee: No. I was just with friends. There were Pashtus on both sides of the border. There were not always battles. Family would go across on both sides.

Personal Representative: What did you do when you were helping?

Detainee: I would see my family or travel with friends.

Personal Representative: But you were not a soldier?

Detainee: No. Never. The Pakistan/Afghanistan border has never been. It's always been the Pashtu people, the tribes. The tribes still keep our families in them. It has always been the same people.

Personal Representative: Thank you Ma'am. I have no further questions.

Tribunal President: Do any of the Tribunal Members have any final questions?

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