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[The detainee session opened at 1016, 03 March 2015.]

PM: Mashhoor, during this hearing you have an opportunity to make a personal statement or answer questions.

You are not required to make a statement and you will not be compelled to answer questions. The choice of whether to make a statement or answer any questions is up to you. Your representatives may assist you in deciding whether to make a statement or answer questions and may assist you in making a statement.

TRANS 1: [Translation of the above.]

PM: Mashhoor, do you understand my explanation of your opportunity to make a statement and answer questions?

TRANS 1: [Translation of above.]

[Personal representative conferring with private counsel and translator two.]

DET: Yes. Yes, I do.

PM: Okay.

DET: Yes, I do.

PM: Thank you.

Personal representatives and private counsel, does Mashhoor desire to make an oral or written statement?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of the above.]**

PR 1: Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am, Mashhoor does intend to make an oral statement.

TRANS 2: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: All right. Thank you.

Mashhoor, you may now make a statement to the Board.

TRANS 2: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: Good Morning. I am Mashhoor Al-Sabri. Thank you for hearing my case. I am hoping to start a new life after Guantanamo. My wish is to get married, raise a family and live a peaceful life. I have learned some English but now I would like to speak in Arabic.

[Speaking in Arabic.]

Thank you for your comments for, for listening to me.

TRANS 2: I was born and raised in Saudi Arabia. I have seven brothers and nine sisters. I am the oldest child. My father, God bless his soul, passed away last year. My mother is still alive but has high blood pressure and other health problems. I don't pose any danger to the United States. I am against violence. I have lost many years of my life in prison and don't have any intention to do any acts that would lead to more loss. I have normal hopes for the future just like any other man. I want to have a job, get married and support my family. I would like to raise children and feel the happiness of

having them around me. I want to be with my family and build a future for myself.

As you know, I was imprisoned when I was 24 years old and now I am 37. I want to return to life outside of Guantanamo and put this experience behind me to start a new life. I don't have any political goals and will never get involved in political activities. I am against violence. I don't have the least intention to spend any more time with other detainees.

I was young before my imprisonment and I was not responsible towards any obligation at that time. But now, I have major obligations. I have many brothers and sisters and I am supposed to be responsible for every one of them since I am the oldest son. I will be responsible to find them wives and husbands. I will also be responsible for dividing the inheritance of my father. Furthermore, I hope to be with my brother to serve her -- with my mother, excuse me -- to serve her and keep away any worries she has about me. I don't want her and the rest of my family to go through pains and worries because of my -- of me anymore.

My first choice would be to return to my home in Saudi Arabia but I am willing to go to any country that will accept me. If I am sent to some other country, I understand and know that integrating into society will require hard work for [sic] me. I have taken classes, here at Guantanamo to prepare for my life after

release. This has included classes studying agriculture, business, computers, health, and nutrition. My instructor told me that my score on the final exam in my nutrition course was the highest in the camp. My family will help to support me wherever I am able to find a job. If it was not an Arabic speaking country, I would work hard to learn the language there even before I leave Guantanamo. My hope is that my mother will come to live with me. Of course, I will accept any condition to be imposed on me for my release.

That was all I wanted to say. If the Honorable Board members have any questions, I will do my best to answer them.

Thank you.

PM: Thank you. The Board members may have some questions for the detainee. He is not obligated to answer any questions posed by the Board members.

Personal representatives and private counsel, does Mashhoor want to answer the questions posed by the Board?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PC: Yes, ma'am, Mashhour does want to answer, answer the questions posed by the Board members.

TRANS 2: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: All right. I'll open up to my colleagues.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of the above.]**

BM: Good morning, Mashhoor.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

BM: Thank you for your statement.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

BM: I know we are going to be viewing the videos in a little while, although I think most of us have already viewed them, and looking at the videos, it appears that your family in Saudi Arabia has done fairly well.

TRANS 1: Fairly well?

BM: Financially, monetarily.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

BM: What type of jobs do your brothers have in Saudi Arabia?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I have a lot of brothers and sisters. Five of them are working.

BM: And what type of work do your brothers do?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: My brother, Mohammed, work in a communication company.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: And my brother, Majid and Mazen ----

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: ---- they work -- they have some companies and they do

have in addition a limousine company.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Majid and Mazen, both of them have a limousine company.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Marwan too; he works in another company.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: He used to work in a communication company and now he works in a different company -- he transfer to a different company.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Also, Marwan has an extra different business that he is conducting.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: He works in a supermarket for food provision.

DET: Mahoud.

TRANS 2: Mahoud. Mahoud. Correction, my brother, Mahoud, work in a supermarket.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I have Majid, Mazen, Mohammed, Mahoud and Marwan; five brothers.

BM: So when you -- or I think when your private counsel said that if you were to be released you could work as a driver, that would be then in one of your brothers' limousine companies?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I have several opportunities, in fact. My brother Mohammed who works in a communication company promised me that the engineer in the company told him that they will hire me upon my release.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS: He works at this company for nine years now.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I received a letter confirming they have promises to me that the lawyer has it in his possession.

PR 1: Your brother. What about your brothers driving?

TRANS 2: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: My brother, Mohammed, who owns a limousine company, also promised me that I will be working for him as a driver is -- if I choose so.

BM: Thank you.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: Could you talk a little bit more about what the job would be in the communications company?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

TRANS 2: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: In the communication company, I was told I can work as a security guard or as the driver.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Also my brother, Mohammed, advised me that I must continue to learn my English language, because those who speak English in the company, they are -- they tend to pay them a lot more.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: And right now, I am learning the English language while I am in detention.

BM: Good morning, Mashhoor.

If you can't return to Saudi Arabia or Yemen, do you have any countries -- any other countries that are of interest to you? And you can, can you tell us why?

TRANS 1: If he doesn't --

BM: If he doesn't go back to Saudi Arabia ----

TRANS 1: Okay.

BM: ---- or Yemen.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: First and foremost, I hope to return back to Saudi Arabia.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: This is my hope.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: That's because everything is ready for me in Saudi Arabia; the house, the wife is waiting for me and all my property are [sic] there.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: My mother spoke already with the family of my bride-to-be.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: She is a teacher.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Furthermore, all my brother [sic] and sister, seven brothers and nine sisters, who are ----

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: ---- are in Saudi Arabia. After the death of my father, I became the head of the household. It is a necessity. It is an obligation for me to return back to Saudi Arabia.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: My youngest sister is five years old.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: So if I -- I am not transferred to Saudi Arabia, I pray to God to go to a country close by Saudi Arabia so that I can communicate easily with them.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Yeah. It's also preferable to go to a country, Arabic-speaking country, so that I can communicate easier. However, I do not have any reservation, whatsoever, to go to any other country in the world that is willing to accept me.

BM: Mashhoor, thank you for speaking with us today.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

BM: I have one question for you.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

BM: You have told us that you need to return to your family so that you can become the head of the household, or the head of the family. What steps do you plan to take to assert yourself in that role?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

[Private counsel confers with personal representative.]

TRANS 2: The question is: What are the -- **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: First things I am planning to focus and to take care of my mother who is gravely ill.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: She has high blood pressure and she has a lot of illness.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: She has a lot of clots. She has two clots in her

brain.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: As you know, my house is ready. So I have to be there to take care of them.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I am also planning to have a job so that I can take care of them financially and otherwise.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: My brother-in-law in Saudi Arabia has a chain of supermarkets, and he promised me upon return he will employ me.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: It is, as you can -- as you saw it in the video that was attached to your attention.

BM: Who is taking care of your mother right now?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: Mohammed.

TRANS 2: My brother, Mohammed.

BM: Have you discussed ----

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

BM: Have you discussed with Mohammed that you plan to take over that responsibility if you return?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Of course, I spoke a lot with my brother, Mohammed, but this is the tradition. Our tradition as the oldest of the family is to take the helm to be in charge of the family.

BM: Thank you, Mashhoor.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

BM: Thank you for speaking with us today. I want to talk a little bit more about your family. You mentioned that you have a sister that's five years old.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

BM: And I want to talk a little bit more about your brothers. Are all of your brothers married?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Five -- my oldest brother. Five of them are married and two of them are still looking.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: They are young.

TRANS 1: Still young.

BM: How old are the younger, younger brothers that are not married?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: The -- one of them is 15 years old, and the other one is eight years old.

BM: Who's, who's taking care of your younger siblings, your sister and the two younger brothers?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: In principle, my -- the entire family are [sic] helping and taking care of my younger siblings. My older brothers are well-to-do, and they have their own houses. They have the capability and the finances necessary to take care of my youngest brothers and sister.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: In addition, in every telephone call that I made, I admonish them and I reaffirm to them their role as what to and what should they do to the rest of my brothers and sisters.

BM: Are they all living in the same household?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: All of my brothers who are married, they live in their private apartments.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Now -- they -- those who are married, they live separately in their own apartments.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: However, my mother and my stepmother, because my father used -- he had two wives -- we had -- they lived in two separate apartments.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Of course, after the death of my father, situation are not that very smooth within the -- our household. That is why I resorted to instructed -- instructing them during our telephone calls to tell them what to do and how to behave.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Even my sister, when someone comes to the family to ask for their hand to be married, they wait til [sic] I -- the phone call and they ask for my opinion. What should I do? What is my opinion? Am I approving of this individual or not?

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Being the oldest is a responsibility in our culture. They cannot do anythings [sic] without reverting to me.

BM: Thank you. I want to talk a little bit about your time before you came to Guantanamo. Can you let me know a little bit about what your thinking was about the U.S. and the West, back in say 2000 before you came to Guantanamo?

TRANS 1: About U.S. and?

BM: About the U.S. and the West.

TRANS 1: The West. [Translation of above.]

DET: [Speaking in Arabic.]

TRANS 1: [Speaking in Arabic.]

TRANS 2: [Speaking in Arabic.]

DET: [Speaking in Arabic.]

TRANS 2: First of all, I didn't get to know the United States before. I never know American or America, the country, until I came here.

DET: [Speaking in Arabic.]

TRANS 2: I didn't know the population. The number of population of the United States is huge and big till [sic] I came here.

BM: What was your thinking about Americans? What did you think about Americans?

TRANS 1: [Translation of above.]

DET: [Speaking in Arabic.]

TRANS 2: The American people in my opinion I didn't know much about them but they seems like other nations, like the Europeans.

BM: Okay. So what do you think about Americans now?

TRANS 1: [Translation of above.]

DET: [Speaking in Arabic.]

TRANS 2: I would like to be frank with you. They have the bad and the good. They are similar to any other country.

DET: [Speaking in Arabic.]

TRANS 2: Other people.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: There is no country in the world where everybody is good or everybody is bad.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: During my incarceration and my detention, I met wonderful people and I have memory [sic] that I will never forget.

BM: I want to talk ----

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Although a security guard is in the detention center to apply the law and to give you order, they used to give me a lot of things to help me and support me.

BM: So, you mentioned earlier that you were born and grew up in Saudi Arabia. At some point you left Saudi Arabia. What was your thinking at the time you left? Why did you want to leave Saudi Arabia at that point?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I didn't leave Saudi Arabia. They put me out of the country.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: The law in Saudi Arabia is that, that make any problem in the country, they expel him for five years, and then they allow him

the opportunity -- they give him the opportunity to return back.

BM: What year was it approximately that you were expelled?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: 1999.

BM: Okay. What was your family's thinking about that? Did you, did you have a chance to communicate with your family during that time?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: "I do not understand the question," he says.

BM: After you were expelled from Saudi Arabia, did you maintain communication and contact with your family?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 1: Yes, of course, I was in contact with my family. My father, within a year, he proceeded to communicate with the ministry of interior and he bought, he bought me authorization, a visa, to return back to Saudi Arabia.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: They forgave me and they disregard the five years period -- waiting period they should have wait for.

BM: Did you go back to Saudi Arabia at that point?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: No.

TRANS 1: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I tried to return back, but they stop me at the border crossing.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I arrange my document, I prepared my paper, I went to the embassy.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I -- once I reached the border crossing, they looked in the computer and they told me "Your name is still in the black list, and we cannot allow you to enter until they remove your name."

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: They did not stamp my visa. They did not acknowledge, but they requested from me in the border crossing area to contact my family upon my return and to tell them to work with the ministry of interior on removing my name from the black list.

BM: And where did you go after that?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I didn't have any other choice but to return back to Yemen.

BM: Did you go anywhere else after Yemen?

TRANS 1: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Back to Yemen?

TRANS 1: After Yemen.

DET: Back to Yemen? **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: After Yemen -- I remained in Yemen while my family were [sic] trying to communicate through the routine administrative where people work in Saudi Arabia, and they failed to convince the Saudi government to allow me to return back. I tried my best to go to other country such as to Qatar.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: And the United Arab Emirates.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: But I failed.

BM: Did you ever go to Afghanistan?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Yes, I did.

BM: What, what led to your thinking to go there?

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I was hopeless. I tried to go to other countries. I

tried to go to Saudi Arabia, to Qatar, to United Arab Emirates. I couldn't go anywhere. I went to Afghanistan.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I could not live in Yemen.

BM: So, if one of your brothers or sisters or somebody you knew faced a similar situation, and wanted to either go to Yemen or Syria or Iraq and possibly take up arms, what would you tell them now based on your own experiences?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I would -- it's impossible. I would never allow him to go.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Right now, the war in Syria and Iraq, people are killing each other.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: As you can see, in Saudi Arabia you want to go to the market in -- excuse me, in Syria or in Iraq -- you want to go the market and you will find a car exploded in the mass.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Each -- they are killing each other.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: People are killing each other there, and every group

are [sic] looking to themselves.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

BM: Thank you.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

BM: Mashhoor, thank you so much for joining us today and for answering our questions.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

BM: Your counsel has, has described how he and others have observed you maturing over the years; you know, from I believe it was 24 or 25 when you first were, were taken to Guantanamo to now when you're 37. And I'd be interested in, in hearing from you in what ways you think you have matured and changed over the past 13 years.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: First of all, I was in my --- very young and immature. I was in my 20's and now, and now I am in my 30's.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I couldn't differentiate between things. I couldn't understand them as they are.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I used to believe everythings [sic] that, that anybody would tell me.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: But here in Guantanamo Bay detention center, I was taught a lot of things. I learned life skills. I learned computer science. I learned business administration.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I learned nutrition.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I learned things in health. I learned the art of agriculture.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I learned the English language. I became smarter.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Even I learned how to form a small company and do a small project.

PM: Mashhoor, I wanted to go back to talking about your travels and Afghanistan, in particular.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: When you applied to go there, what were you expecting?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I, I heard that Afghanistan is an Islamic country.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Someone advised me to go to Afghanistan and to check

how -- because I couldn't live in Iraq -- in Yemen. I couldn't live there. I couldn't live in Yemen. Yeah.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I was told that Afghanistan is an Islamic country, and I wanted to see -- I wanted to see what kind of Islam they apply and what is the application of their Islam to begin with.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I find that most Muslim people are the same everywhere.

PM: Why couldn't you stay in Yemen?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I couldn't live in Yemen. I was alone. My family were [sic] in Saudi Arabia. I couldn't deal with myself. There is no life there. No opportunities.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I couldn't live with the environment there.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Secondly, I didn't have a house.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I -- so I didn't have a house to live in. Now, thank God, we have our own house in Yemen.

DET: In Taiz.

TRANS 2: In Taiz.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: My father, God bless his soul, he started, started to build this house.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: They built the first floor and now they are building the second floor.

PM: But you have an uncle in Yemen, and you couldn't, you couldn't stay with him?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 1: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Of course I could live with him, but I didn't have a job. There were [sic] nothing to do there.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I didn't have any connection -- anythings [sic] to do.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I just couldn't stay there. I escaped. I left.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: But now, I matured a lot. I can live there. I can do it.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I can live anywhere in the world, because I have connection now with my family.

PM: So when you were applying to go to Afghanistan, were you planning to find a job there and live there forever?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: In Yemen?

TRANS 1: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I just was curious. I went to see, that's all.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I went to see if I like it or not. If I -- and then I'll make up my mind to return back.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I just was trying to kill time; the five years condition that the Saudi government put on me. So I decided to return back. I was trying to kill time -- to buy time so that I will return back to Saudi Arabia to my family.

BM: Mashhoor, do you believe that it is okay to live with or work for people who are involved with fighting, even if you are not fighting?

TRANS 1: Fighting?

BM: Involved with armed conflict or weapons and fighting.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: In the beginning, as I said before, I couldn't differentiate between good and bad. Now I am smarter. I matured. I know the difference.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Second, I have my family now, and I have my obligation toward my family.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I didn't before -- I didn't have any responsibilities.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Before I used to stay with anybody and follow anybody. Now I don't.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: My family consists of 17 person [sic] that depend -- they depend on me; it's not one or two.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I am in charge and responsible of [sic] their development.

BM: What would you do if you discovered that you have a friend who is involved with fighting?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: First I would sever any relation with him.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Second, if he continues to be, to be persistent and try to cause trouble, I will report him to the authorities.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Because my focus is my family, and I am not ready to involve my family in such a things [sic] once more.

BM: If you are resettled to a third country, not Saudi Arabia or not Yemen, you might not have a lot of people around you to support you while you're there. How would you adjust to this new life, and what would you do to pursue your goals of getting a job, getting an education, and things like that?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: First things first. I will learn the language of their country.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Secondly, I would look for a good woman.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Most preferably that this woman must be from the same country so she can guide me.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: She would help me to learn the custom of this country and she will help me in learning the language. But mostly, I would love that my mother join me too in this country.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I would like to look for a job of course.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I don't care what kind of work it is. I'm a, I'm a worker in principle, I would start to do any job I can find.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: So that my family can help me by sending me some of my inheritance.

BM: You've -- we've discussed the fact that you've taken a number of classes while at Guantanamo. I'd be interested in hearing from you -- what has been the class that you've enjoyed most or learned the most from? And if you could tell, tell us a little bit about it and what you've -- what you've taken away from it, or what you've learned from it.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Most things that I learned the most and I enjoyed the most is nutritions.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I saw my father and my mother eating the wrong food, getting ill; have diabetes, high blood pressure. I realized that most the source of all these diseases is the food they eat; nutrition.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: People in Saudi Arabia, my family, they used to eat a lot of meat, a lot of rice, a lot of grease. I've learned only during my incarceration here how to count calories, what to eat, how to eat.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: All their diseases stem from what they eat and what they ate.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: So I decided to focus on nutrition and I start to look at what a person should eat and not eat, how much he should eat and not to eat.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: People, they have little bit of illness or a disease of a sort, and they continue to eat the wrong food that will accelerate their illness and make them a lot sicker.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: My father passed away all of a sudden ----

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: ---- because he didn't have a regime, a plan, a program in his way of provision in eating.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Those kind of things, the essence of nutrition, does not exist in those countries either in Yemen or in Saudi Arabia.

PC: Can I ask a quick follow-up there?

PM: Please.

PC: Mashour, if you know all this, why do you keep asking me for so much chocolate when I come visit you?

TRANS 2: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: How about you come to see me every three months, so if I eat chocolate once every three months, it's no big deal.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I'm not going to get ill from that.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: And I'll go back to my -- to the camp, and I'll work out and I will, I will lose everything.

PM: Family is obviously very important to you, and that starting your own family is something you said you'd like to do. You've mentioned having a wife several times.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: If you were to be transferred to another country, to a non-Arab country or a non-Muslim country, you could encounter a very, very different approaches to family and to marriage.

TRANS 2: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: As I stated from the beginning, I am willing to go

anywhere and to meet any person, as long as this woman is a good person, I do not care what kind of religious she is. I am willing to marry a Muslim, a Christian or any other religious; that has no bearing on my decision to marry.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: And this is -- it is allowed in Islam.

PM: So you would -- if you settled to a non-Arab or non-Muslim country, you would look to a wife to help you acculturate, or become used to that culture, and you would look to, to her to also help with your mother, if the mother could come join you. Are there other expectations that you might have in that relationship?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I am looking for a woman that she is beautiful, and that she is sincere.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: It's a matter; of course, I'm not willing to marry an ugly person.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: She must love me for me, and I love her.

PM: Okay. You also mentioned that taking on being the head of the household and the head of your family requires you to make a lot of decisions now, and I noted that you had been the head of your

cellblock for a while, and that was very stressful. Can you talk to us about how you handle stress from all this leadership? And talk to us too about where do you look for guidance; who provides guidance and leadership to you now?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Life is full of problems.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: But you have to deal with your problems and confront them.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I spent two years of my detention as the block leader.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: And I faced everyday problems.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: [REDACTED] .

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: And each one of them has his own problem.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: And the IOC, the head of the detention center, had -- is coming and going every five minutes.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: That is why I decided to resign from my post as a block

leader.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I was consumed by sorting their problem. I couldn't read, I couldn't manage my time; they had a lot of problems.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: My lawyer, Mr. Cline, sent me a book on nutrition and health. I didn't touch it for three months. That's how much I was busy working with them.

DET: **[Speaking in Arab.]**

TRANS 2: Every one of them had his own problem.

DET: **[Speaking in Arab.]**

TRANS 2: However, I did my best to accommodate them, and I worked with them. I mediated between them.

PM: When you were trying to do that mediation and work with people, where did you look for guidance? What did you rely on to make choices and to help people?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I used to seek counsel with a lot -- from a lot of people within the detention facility.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Mostly the camp supervisor, whom they were very positive and they used to give me guidance and exchange ideas with me.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Two -- three days -- years ago, the camp administration -- they are -- they were positive and forward. Help -- they helped us at all time so I sought counsel from them.

PM: All right. I also wanted to ask about your family in Saudi Arabia. Have they approached the Saudi government to ask the Saudi government to let you be transferred back in?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: Before the passage of my father, he was in communication with the Saudi ministry of interior. He used to correspond with them asking them some clarification concerning my return, the possible return to Saudi Arabia. But when my father passed away, everything halted. However, my mom right now, she wrote a letter to the ministry of interior asking them the possibility of admitting me to Saudi Arabia.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: During each and every phone conversation, I ask them this question, but we don't have a concrete answer as of now.

PM: Your personal representatives stated in the opening statement that you've been evaluating what you should have done before coming to Guantanamo. Will you talk to us about what that means and what you've -- in that evaluation what conclusions you've come to?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: What you want me to tell you? I am right now a person who think to, to live and to have a family and to, to take care of his mother.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I want to get married. Someday I want to settle down.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I am 37 years old.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: My younger, my younger brother and sister, almost ten of them are married and have kids, and I don't.

PM: Okay. Are there any other questions from the Board at this point?

[No verbal response from the Board members.]

PM: All right.

One of the issues that we'll see in the -- your mother's statement, she mentioned that when you come back she would make sure that you didn't return to your old ways. Can you talk to us a little bit about what she means by that and, and how if you're taking care of her, how she would keep you from returning to old ways?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: From what I understood from her statement that I will not return back to those friendless people of before, and I will return back to my family and focus on my family. That's all what I understood.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: It has been about 15 years now that I didn't see my mother.

PM: Anything else?

[No verbal response from the Board members.]

PM: Okay.

All right, well that concludes our questions for you from the Board members.

Mashhoor, normally written statements are presented by a detainee to the Board and a transcript of the detainee's participation at the hearing is posted to the Periodic Review Secretariat's website. That's a public posting.

Do you wish to have your written statement and/or transcript of your participation today posted to this website?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I have no objection whatsoever.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I have nothing to fear.

PM: Okay. Thank you.

For the personal representatives and private counsel, do you have any final questions for Mashhoor?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PR 1: No, ma'am, we do not.

PC: No, ma'am.

PM: All right. Personal representatives, it is the understanding of this Board that you have a video to present that's been approved for presentation; is that correct?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PR 1: Yes, ma'am.

TRANS 2: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

PM: Thanks. Go ahead and present the video now.

[Video embedded with English subtitles is played.]

PM: Does the Board have any questions for Mashhoor after viewing the video?

[No verbal response from the Board members.]

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: Okay. No questions?

[No verbal response from the Board members.]

PM: So, Mashhoor, do you have anything further you wish to say?

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

[Detainee conferring with translator two.]

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I just want to thank you so very much for listening to my case.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I would love that you render a decision to return me back ----

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: ---- to my family, and I live with them.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I do not represent any danger, any threat to the United States.

DET: **[Speaking in Arabic.]**

TRANS 2: I want to live with my family in peace.

PM: Thank you. Mashhoor, this concludes your participation in the hearing. The Board will continue in a classified session. Your personal representatives and private counsel will remain and attend the classified session, and will continue to advocate on your behalf.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

PM: The Board will deliberate to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted in your case. Your personal representative will advise you of the results.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

[Presiding member conferring with case administrator.]

PM: All right. I'd ask that all members remain seated until further instructed by the case administrator.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

CA: We will take a five-minute recess and prepare for the remaining session.

PM: Thank you.

TRANS 1: **[Translation of above.]**

[The detainee session closed at 1146, 03 March 2015.]

[END OF PAGE]

ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYM KEY

BM: BOARD MEMBER

DET: DETAINEE

PC: PRIVATE COUNSEL

PM: PRESIDING MEMBER

PR 1: PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE ONE

PR 2: PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TWO

TRANS 1: TRANSLATOR ONE (LOCATED AT PRS HQ)

TRANS 2: TRANSLATOR TWO (LOCATED AT GUANTANAMO BAY)