

Date/Time Recorded: 8/2/1995 at 09:16:49

Line ID #: 470-0925

Contact ID #:

Participants:

Sh = Shukri Abou Baker

Gh = Ghassan Elashi

Abbreviations:

<i>Italics</i>	Spoken in Foreign Languages
IA	Inaudible
UI	Unintelligible
PH	Phonetic
[]	Background Conversation / Noise/Translator's comments
SC	Simultaneous conversation

GOVERNMENT
EXHIBIT
Baker Wiretap - 37
3:04-CR-240-G
U.S. v. HLF, et al.

Sh: Hello.

Gh: Peace be with you.

Sh: Peace to you, God's mercy and his blessings.

Gh: The *Dallas Morning News* published an *editorial* today.

Sh: Aha.

Gh: Er..., it has a paragraph in it, in their *editorial*, that is.

Sh: Aha.

Gh: In the *Dallas editorial*: "*Hamas leader, deport him, but not to Israel*". When you the read the *editorial* in details, one of the paragraphs is referring to us in a way or another.

Sh: Ah.

Gh: It says, "*As the Oklahoma City bombing illustrates, the homegrown variety of terrorists is quite capable of creating problems without adding to their number from abroad.*"

Sh: Hum.

Gh: "*Interestingly, the FBI has noted in the past that cells of Hamas organization are known to be operating even in North Texas*".

Sh: Hum.

Gh: Do you know who is North Texas?

Sh: Yeah.

Gh: North Texas is Dallas.

Sh: Aha.

Gh: "*Should the government prove itself unable to deport Mr. Marzouk, the message will be clear; America is an easy refuge for the worse..., for the world-prosecuted terrorists*".

Sh: Hum.

Gh: Er..., *of course that is the last paragraph of the article.*

Sh: *Yeah.*

Gh: So, a Jewish guy wrote it for them.

Sh: *Yeah.*

Gh: It says here, "*Sadly, Arab and Islamic organizations in America are perceiving the action against Mr. Marzouk as anti-Islam and anti-Arab*". He says "*sadly*". Don't..., *doesn't that bring to you Steven Emerson?*

Sh: *Oh, yeah, yeah.*

Gh: The word "*sadly*".

Sh: *Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.* Don't be surprised if Steven Emerson is the one who wrote it.

Gh: Emerson wrote it and sent it as a *fax* to the ADL's *all around the nation*...

Sh: *Yeah.*

Gh:and the ADL local *faxed* it to the *Dallas Morning News*....

Sh: *Yeah, yeah.*

Gh:*under the name of their head or whatever and they said, "Ok, we will take this as an editorial"*.

Sh: *Yeah, yeah.* Don't be surprised, don't be surprised. But, anyway, they're free to write whatever they want now.

Gh: Huh?

Sh: *Well,* this is their opinion and I don't believe anyone ought to be *defensive* about it. It is a very weak opinion; this thing.

Gh: Yes. But when they write "*cells of Hamas are operating in North Texas*..."...

Sh: *Yeah.*

Gh: *...what is that?*

Sh: *Yeah. maybe there are some.*

Gh: *There are some?*

Sh: *Do you know any?*

Gh: *No.*

Sh: *No, we don't know any. Maybe they know better. [laughs].*

Gh: *Ah, because they don't mention names here, you....*

Sh: *No, no.*

Gh: *But you know who..., who is in their mind, I mean.*

Sh: *Maybe, yeah.*

Gh: *It is not maybe.*

Sh: *Hum.*

Gh: *Ah. Who is there, I mean, in..., in...*

Sh: *Don't they say that it is Israel which created Hamas. Maybe the ADL is working with Hamas.*

Gh: *Ah.*

Sh: *I don't know. I think that is what they mean. Maybe some fanatic Jewish groups [laughs].*

Gh: *Ok.*

Sh: *I mean, like they say, I want to have the passive..., the passive attitude.... It is possible that a new a media campaign has started. Definitely, they will start a new..., a new thing, I*

mean. So...

Gh: They wrote about *fundraising*. They're saying, ...er,er, [Mumbles] "*According to Washington Post, Mr. Marzouk is the principal organizer of Hamas international fundraising and recruiting network*".

Sh: O Merciful God!

Gh: "*It is the organization's chief Iranian leaders who are believed to have provided financial support to Hamas' terrorist activity*".

Sh: *Yeah.*

Gh: "*Without their financing, Hamas would not be a major terrorist threat*".

Sh: Oh Merciful God!

Gh: "*The organization has openly stated its dedication...*", listen, listen, "*the organization has openly stated its dedication to the destruction of Israel and the creation of an Islamic state in its place*".

Sh: Hum.

Gh: So what? *If I scream and issue a newsletter, its goal is to establish an Islamic state in Palestine. Is this a crime?*

Sh: *No.*

Gh: *Can you tell me that this is a crime. Convince me that this is a crime. Yes, I want to establish an Islamic state in Palestine. Is this is a crime?*

Sh: *No. That's up to Hamas to answer.*

Gh: *I'm not, I'm talking about...*

Sh: *I'm telling you. Yeah, I mean....*

Gh: *I'm not talking about them. I'm saying is it a...., is it....er.*

Sh: *No, no.*

Gh: ...is this a crime?

Sh: *Freedom of speech.*

Gh: What I'm saying is that, if a newspaper like this is writing its own opinion, that the establishment of an Islamic state anywhere on the face of the earth is..., is...

Sh: This is..., this is Steve Emerson's point-of-view. This is Steve's talk and he said it...

Gh: What?

Sh:I will get you articles which have the same stuff Steve Emerson said before.

Gh: Ok.

Sh: *This is Steven Emerson's who is writing.*

Gh: Hum.

Sh: *Yeah, yeah.* Don't think anything else.

Gh: I know that.

Sh: Aha. If you notice, some of the very same sentences and statements.

Gh: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Sh: Very old rhetoric and the same logic.

Gh: Yes, yes, right. This says here, "*Er...., while it is true that Hamas funds schools and medical clinics in Gaza, the evidence is overwhelming that it is also habitually..., habitually slaughters innocent people and blows things up*".

Sh: Hum.

Gh: *As if Israel doesn't habitually kill and does not blow things up!*

Sh: Hum. Are they saying "*Deport him, but not to Israel*"?

Gh: That is the headline.

Sh: They don't want to send him to Israel.

Gh: No.

Sh: They're afraid problems will happen, *yeah*. Hum

Gh: Hamas has issued a statement threatening...

Sh: Hum. Hum. Ok, I mean, this..., this..., I mean.

Gh: *Everybody in Dallas is reading this now, those among the....*[SC].

Sh: *It is Ok*.

Gh: *So, we have to make some response.*

Sh: To the newspaper?

Gh: *I think, but not officially from us. From individuals, because it did not mention Holy Land.*

Sh: *Yeah, yeah.*

Gh: I'm thinking us as individuals. I mean, Thomas, al-Bayyoud, you and I and *whoever can write should write to them from an Islamic perspective, I mean.*

Sh: *Yeah, why not.*

Gh: *I mean, this article should be severely criticized as in indication of the Dallas Morning News killing...er, ...er, one point-of-view. I mean, if..., if Israel practiced..., if Hamas practiced terrorism, Israel practiced terrorism.*

Sh: *Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah.*

Gh: *And America practiced terrorism. This is what I'm trying to..., to... I want to get to this guy's mind. If you determine that Hamas, by bombing five individuals in Tel Aviv, is considered a terrorist, then Israel, by killing civilians in the West Bank - 12 people or 20 people or 1,000, this is also called a practice of terrorism.*