

VISIT TO MINNESOTA

DATE: May 19, 2000

VIDEOTAPE 1

Participants: ABDEL RAHMAN = OMAR ABDEL RAHMAN
 YOUSRY = MOHAMMED YOUSRY
 STEWART = LYNNE STEWART

Abbreviations: (UI) = Unintelligible
(PH) = Phonetic Spelling
... = Incomplete Thought
_____ = Spoken in English
*** = Redaction

1 [Yousry and Stewart are sitting at a round table. Mixed (UI)
2 whispering.]
3 YOUSRY: Remind me to tell you something.
4 STEWART: (UI).
5 YOUSRY: Okay.
6 STEWART: Yes.
7 [Background talking]
8 YOUSRY: (UI)
9 STEWART: Huh?
10 YOUSRY: (UI) or maybe upset.
11 STEWART: Hmm.
12 YOUSRY: That would mean I didn't do anything wrong. Did you?
13 STEWART: No, no (UI). I would find it hard dealing with the (UI).

1 YOUSRY: Yeah I know, horrible.

2 STEWART: Not liking him (UI).

3 YOUSRY: [Simultaneously] Horrible.

4 STEWART: (UI) so much.

5 YOUSRY: Horrible. So what do you think, she met Ramsey, she met
6 Abdeen and she didn't meet you.

7 STEWART: Who is that?

8 YOUSRY: That woman, the blonde attorney (UI).

9 STEWART: (UI).

10 YOUSRY: Hmm.

11 STEWART: (UI) because he is a bad guy.

12 YOUSRY: No. I think she knows and she could not intimidate you.

13 STEWART: Hmm, that might be.

14 YOUSRY: Because they had a meeting with Abdeen and she didn't meet
15 you. Remind me to tell you something, but this is-

16 STEWART: [Simultaneously] Alright (UI).

17 YOUSRY: In complete confidence.

18 STEWART: Absolutely. You know..., it is um..., it is funny you know,
19 they ah, they do know. (UI). You know when you're waiting
20 a long time to get in. You have to like wait outside this a
21 gate, you know. It wasn't inside where you can sit down. The
22 guard down there says looks at me and says Ms. Stewart, you
23 know how does he know who I am, (UI) he says should I call
24 anyone for you. And I said, I don't think so, I think they're
25 waiting to get an escort to take me to get me in here. So you
26 know. I don't know.

1 YOUSRY: Yeah, we'll talk about it later.

2 STEWART: Yeah.

3 YOUSRY: 'Cause what I have to tell you is also interesting.

4 STEWART: Yeah.

5 YOUSRY: Have you (UI)?

6 STEWART: [Simultaneously] Have you ever been here?

7 YOUSRY: This room, yeah. Actually the last time we were here. Abdeen
8 and I.

9 STEWART: The last time I was when you and I were here we were on
10 stage, do you remember.

11 YOUSRY: Absolutely. The last time Abdeen and I were here, remember
12 before when you have to use the bathroom they let me stay
13 with him, you and Ramsey... That day Abdeen stepped out he
14 said, can I use the bathroom? They jumped in, they said Mr.
15 Yousry, you have to leave. I said, I told him, I said the lawyer
16 is not out yet, relax. It was the same guy who we met outside,
17 he said it's our orders. I said I know, I know. So I waited
18 outside and then I came back in when Abdeen came in. It's a
19 few things that happened that day and the next day that I think
20 they got [whispering (UI)]. You know.

21 STEWART: Yeah well, it helps (UI) anti (UI) police work.

22 YOUSRY: Yeah, I think so.

23 STEWART: You can't want a... you can't, you know. And I'm not as
24 hostile as a lot of people. I mean I always feel like Stanley is
25 much more in their face than I am, you know.

26 YOUSRY: Probably not. You represent this image of a mature woman.
27 Who reminds them of their mother, older sister, an aunt. You
28 know, especially, because, especially you have your own
29 sense of humor; you break the ice right away, there is no

1 question about it. You have your own way of dealing, you
2 know.

3 STEWART: Yeah.

4 YOUSRY: Abdeen is like - looks like (UI), relax (UI).

5 STEWART: Yeah right.

6 YOUSRY: Ramsey Clark is always like, he has the same way about him
7 to break the ice.

8 STEWART: Yeah, I got I have to say I learned a lot of that by working
9 with Bill. Even though Bill has flaws, he was always, um...
10 embraceable people. He never, his personality was his
11 personality no matter who he was with. Ah, everybody
12 thought that was incorrect, you know. That, that I should be
13 removed from these people because they are holding your
14 comrades prisoner, you know. You should be (UI). Besides
15 that, I am not really you know (UI).

16 YOUSRY: Yeah.

17 STEWART: Because they are so appreciative of anybody personally (UI)...

18 YOUSRY: Yeah.

19 STEWART: And you create an image for yourself that is not helpful.

20 YOUSRY: Yeah.

21 STEWART: (UI).

22 YOUSRY: No you're absolutely right. I tell you it's ah, it's really
23 dangerous to treat everybody in uniform as an enemy, you
24 know. It is really interesting. Ah, during the time of ah, ah,
25 Abner Louima and Amadou Diallo. I found myself waiting
26 for a cop to stop me so I can yell at him.

27 STEWART: That's right.

1 YOUSRY: You know, I felt so (UI).

2 STEWART: Everybody was doing it.

3 YOUSRY: And one of them backed off. He stopped me actually and it
4 was a stop sign all the way, and I stopped all the way. The
5 first question that came out of his mind when he stopped me,
6 that came out his mouth he said, "Is this your car?" I said,
7 "Do I look like a person who can not (UI) a car to you or
8 something, why do you ask if this is my car?"

9 STEWART: Yeah, no I agree definitely, definitely.

10

11 YOUSRY: You know, and then he said no, I just want to know and I said
12 yes, this is my car.

13 STEWART: (UI) This meter maid, you know (UI) I ended up
14 screaming at this woman. She had no (UI).

15

16 [Abdel Rahman enters]

17 YOUSRY: [Rises and walks to Abdel Rahman] You are walking, Your
18 Excellency, no wheelchair today, oh, oh, oh, what a
19 significant development! [Laughs]

20 ABDEL RAHMAN: May the peace and mercy of God be upon you.

21 STEWART: Peace be to you, Sheikh. [She rises and walks to him]

22 YOUSRY: How are you, Sir?

23 ABDEL RAHMAN: May the peace and blessings of God be to you too. How are
24 you Miss Lynne?

25 YOUSRY: She wants to shake hands with you, Sir. Pardon me, I am not
26 allowed any hugs or kisses, you know that, Sir.

27 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah, yeah, you are not allowed.

28 YOUSRY: Yeah.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Did they tell you that?

2 YOUSRY: Yeah, they are worried I may exchange something with you.

3 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

4 YOUSRY: Please be seated, and what is this new outfit?

5 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah, that is to show the people that I am fine.

6 YOUSRY: [Holding Abdel Rahman's arm] The chair is just behind you,
7 Sir, please sit down.

8 STEWART: As usual.

9 ABDEL RAHMAN: How are you Miss Lynne?

10 STEWART: Sheikh Omar, my very most favorite person!

11 YOUSRY: She is saying, Sir, that her favorite person is Sheikh Omar
12 Abdel Rahman.

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: May God bless you, may He reward you graciously.

14 YOUSRY: [Pointing to a document in front of Abdel Rahman] Is this for
15 the watch?

16 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

17 YOUSRY: You see, Sir, Mr. Nabil-

18 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

19 YOUSRY: -bought a new watch.

20 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

21 YOUSRY: I'm telling him about Nabil and the watch, because this is the
22 manual, the old watch.

23 STEWART: Ah.

1 YOUSRY: He bought a new watch.

2 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

3 YOUSRY: He says that the only reason he doesn't want to ship it to you,
4 Sir, is, he wants to know whether you, Sir, want a leather
5 band or a metal one.

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: *No strength or power save in God!*

7 YOUSRY: Frankly, yesterday I yelled at him.

8 ABDEL RAHMAN: I don't wear a band at all.

9 YOUSRY: I yelled at him.

10 ABDEL RAHMAN: I don't wear anything on the wrist, I am not supposed to.

11 YOUSRY: [Simultaneously] (UI), I told him, Mr. Nabil, the Sheikh
12 wants it for prayer, he will either wear it or put it in his
13 pocket, so why is this delay? But anyway, he is sending you a
14 letter, Sir, last night, he faxed it to me, I will read it to you.

15 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

16 YOUSRY: [Opening notes] He is adjusting it and...

17 STEWART: Did you tell him how uh, Ahmed did us a favor and it ended
18 up...

19 YOUSRY: Yeah, Ahmed made the reservation for our air tickets from
20 New York to Minneapolis, and from Minneapolis to here-

21 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

22 YOUSRY: -to save us time driving.

23 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

24 YOUSRY: We arrived in Minneapolis, but the airplane that was supposed
25 to transport us here didn't take off, it was delayed for an hour

1 and a half.

2 ABDEL RAHMAN: It didn't take off?

3 YOUSRY: Yeah, it took off after an hour and a half-

4 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

5 YOUSRY: -we came about an hour and a half late.

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

7 YOUSRY: He was happy, he said, "You will arrive at around ten. At ten
8 past ten, you will be with the Sheikh." This is because the
9 airport is not far from here. Lynne says, next time please
10 make our reservation to that spot, and from there we will
11 drive here. [Stewart laughs] We don't want to (UI).

12 ABDEL RAHMAN: How are you, Miss Lynne?

13 STEWART: Yes Sheikh, how are you?

14 ABDEL RAHMAN: How are you?

15 YOUSRY: How are you Lynne, how are you doing? How's things with
16 you?

17 STEWART: I'm doing fine, fine, everything is fine, very overworked,
18 tired, but very, very good.

19 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, "I work very hard, my responsibilities
20 increased, but (UI) like you, Sir, help me forget my trouble
21 and feel good."

22 ***

23 YOUSRY: Praise be to God, you look great (UI), how is the sugar?

24 ABDEL RAHMAN: Good, it's good, it's average. Yesterday, I mean today it is
25 187.

1 YOUSRY: His sugar reading is 187.

2 STEWART: Uhm.

3 YOUSRY: Which is very good for (UI).

4 ABDEL RAHMAN: It's better.

5 YOUSRY: Praise be to God. No way to compare to 500. [Laughs]

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

7 STEWART: And how is his wife whom I met, and...?

8 YOUSRY: Lynne is asking, Sir, about your wife.

9 STEWART: And we had such a very, nice....

10 ABDEL RAHMAN: She is very pleased with you, very, very pleased!

11 YOUSRY: [Laughing] She says, the Sheikh said that his wife was very
12 happy to meet you, and she was very pleased to see-

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: She is telling me to marry her.

14 YOUSRY: And she was asking him to marry you.

15 STEWART: Yes, I know.

16 ABDEL RAHMAN: I said to her, no, she is married, I am not going to marry her,
17 she is my sister.

18 YOUSRY: I told her that you are already married and I consider you as a
19 sister.

20 STEWART: Hmm. [Laughing]

21 ABDEL RAHMAN: I told her I left two sisters in Egypt -

22 YOUSRY: Yes, sir.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: -I have not seen them for a very long time....

2 STEWART: (UI) it was such a great honor actually, a true honor, I must
3 say.

4 YOUSRY: Lynne says, Sir, this is an honor, it gives me a feeling of
5 dignity.

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah, she is pleased, she says you (UI) the Sheikh is keen that I
7 convert to Islam, things like that.

8 YOUSRY: She told me that, the Sheikh's wife told him that you spoke
9 with her and you told her that the Sheikh was very concerned
10 about you and he wants you to learn more about Islam, and,
11 and that's why she was very happy and she liked you a lot.

12 STEWART: Yes, she is, I can see that she and I, in a, in a better world,
13 would be very, very, good friends.

14 YOUSRY: She says, Sir that, God willing, if she and her met some other
15 time, at some other place, they would be very good friends.

16 ABDEL RAHMAN: God willing.

17 STEWART: God willing.

18 YOUSRY: [Simultaneously] God willing.

19 STEWART: Do they usually sit like this and watch us?

20 YOUSRY: Yes. Lynne is asking, what is going on, why are the three of
21 them sitting next to each other and looking at us?

22 ABDEL RAHMAN: [Laughs]

23 STEWART: They have to read lips, I guess. (UI) are looking (UI).

24 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

25 YOUSRY: She is asking, "Do they always do so?" I said yeah.

1 STEWART: It's like a television show we're doing here.
2

3 YOUSRY: It is like a television program....

4 STEWART: We should give them something to watch.

5 ABDEL RAHMAN: Tell her that when the wife visited, though there was a barrier
6 between me and them, they were with us all the time.

7 YOUSRY: All the time?

8 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

9 YOUSRY: When my wife used to visit me, despite the fact that I used to
10 sit at one end and my wife sat at the other end, they used to sit
11 and watch us very closely, but I don't know why.

12 STEWART: Yes you do, Sheikh.

13 YOUSRY: She's telling you, you know why they do that.

14 STEWART: They uh...they are uh...

15 ABDEL RAHMAN: I told her that though Lynne is my sister and everything, she
16 fools me-

17 YOUSRY: Oh, oh!

18 ABDEL RAHMAN: -because she kept telling me, the case, we will file, I will
19 come and visit you, we soon will...[laughing], but nothing
20 happened.

21 YOUSRY: Well despite, I told my wife, despite the fact that I consider
22 Lynne to be a sister to me, and despite the fact that she fights
23 a lot for me, she told me once that she will go ahead with the
24 case, and she'll sue the government and she will do the
25 conditions case, and nothing happened.

26 STEWART: Ah...aih! That is a cry of pain from my heart. That is a cry of
27 pain from my heart but....

1 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, it is a cry from her heart.

2 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

3 STEWART: I have just been so terribly overworked and overbusy, I had a
4 lot of cases and....

5 YOUSRY: Mr. Jabara's, uh clients.

6 STEWART: Yes. Some of them!

7 YOUSRY: She is saying, Sir, that she took Mr. Abdeen Jabara's clients,
8 that's why she is very busy. [Laughs]

9 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah, tell her that Ramsey's and Jabara's offices are
10 completely out of business, they don't have business, they
11 have nothing to do.

12 YOUSRY: Because of you, Ramsey and Abdeen have lost all their
13 clients. You are a much better lawyer, and that's why you
14 have all the customers and they have nothing to do.

15 STEWART: No they don't do, they don't do the, people's cases, they do
16 (UI)...

17 YOUSRY: [Simultaneously] She says, Sir, they don't take the poor
18 people's cases like she does.

19 ABDEL RAHMAN: Tell her they are thinking of transforming their office into a
20 grocery store or something.

21 YOUSRY: They are thinking of transforming their office into a grocery
22 store.

23 STEWART: Ah.

24 ABDEL RAHMAN: (UI).

25 STEWART: But we, but we will, we have just reorganized the office.
26 Geoffrey and I are now the Stewart Defense Group. And I
27 think it's going to work so that I get a little more leeway to do

1 the things I want to do rather than just trying to make money
2 to keep everything afloat all the time, you know.

3 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that she rearranged her office, the new office
4 with her son, and that they formed the Stewart team, they
5 have another lawyer, you surely know him, Stanley Cohen, in
6 the same office....

7 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

8 YOUSRY: Lynne says, Sir, that she and her son formed the Stewart
9 Team, which is the team of Stewart, and that from now on the
10 office will have some business, make money to cover its
11 expenses, and she will be able to do the things she likes to do
12 (UI). She expects this to be achieved soon and she will not
13 need to work on cases to earn money.

14 ABDEL RAHMAN: (UI).

15 STEWART: And I have tried to, I have spoken with some of the other
16 lawyers who are- also have people who are under these
17 terrible conditions, and they basically don't intend to do
18 anything, so I think it will be up to us, and I think we do have
19 the best case to go forward-

20 YOUSRY: You spoke with people....

21 STEWART: In other words, I ran, I ran into uh... (UI) lawyer, (UI) Ramzi
22 Yousef, I guess, you know, but I don't necessarily think it's
23 political to do the case with them, let's do it as a class-action, I
24 don't think is a smart thing actually...

25 YOUSRY: Lynne says she spoke to other lawyers who have cases of
26 prisoners suffering from similar things as you, Sir, do. Most
27 of them think that if they all together file a suit against the
28 government, because the government mistreats them.... She
29 thinks that this will not be in your interest, Sir, because your
30 case is one-of-a-kind, and what they impose on you is not
31 imposed on anybody else, she considers you, Sir, a political
32 prisoner. Based on that, she prefers to deal with your case
33 separately, especially from Ramzi Yousef's.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Fine, fine, whatever you think, tell her whatever she thinks.

2 YOUSRY: That's all good, that's very good.

3 STEWART: Yes, and I am hoping, you know, I'm still... (UI) I have a
4 number of trials I just have to complete, but I hope that I will
5 get them done and.... In August, when I'm on vacation, be
6 able to set this up and put it in motion.

7 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, by the end of July or beginning of August, she
8 will be finished with the cases she has. She will put the final
9 touches on your case and will try to start in the beginning of
10 the new judicial year, which is the end of August.

11 ABDEL RAHMAN: May God grant you success, may He help you.

12 YOUSRY: May God help you and may God give you strength to do it at
13 the end of August.

14 STEWART: Absolutely.

15 ***

16 YOUSRY: Well I was just telling the Sheikh about Tuesdays and
17 Fridays,(UI) and stuff like that.

18 STEWART: Uhm. That's why we have to change (UI).

19 YOUSRY: She says, Sir...

20 STEWART: It is so repressive and so...it's so rigid for people, we need
21 some flexibility in our lives, you know uh, and it's done
22 because they know that's the way they prevent the calls from
23 going through.

24 YOUSRY: She is saying, Sir, that the government keeps our calls eh, of
25 course I didn't say...I only told her that I spoke to the Sheikh
26 about the Tuesday and Friday calls. She says, we are
27 supposed to have Tuesday and Friday calls placed any time
28 during the day, they shouldn't tell us to have them at nine or
29 ten in the morning only. I will be present if Abdeen is not

1 there, and if I am not present, Ramsey will be there. It can be
2 made at three in the afternoon instead of nine in the morning.
3 If one of us is late, they wait till we arrive; we can call them
4 and say we are ready and they will call us then. You see, Sir?

5 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

6 YOUSRY: So we wouldn't (UI).

7 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yes, but they will say, eh, we need to know in advance.

8 YOUSRY: Well, they, they might insist that they need to know a certain
9 time so, like that, they can prepare everything, so we can't
10 really (UI)....

11 STEWART: They do, but they uh, you know, when you say, "Well how
12 about if we have it in the afternoon rather than the morning,
13 because it is easier for lawyers to be in the office in the
14 afternoon."

15 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, "It is much easier for me as a lawyer, or for any
16 other lawyer, to be in the office after they finish with the
17 court; they finish with the court at three o'clock. They can be
18 in their offices at four o'clock, we can have the call at that
19 time."

20 ABDEL RAHMAN: This is not possible.

21 STEWART: You can't do that.

22 YOUSRY: It is not impossible.

23 ABDEL RAHMAN: It is not possible at four o'clock because they would say, the
24 employees are done.

25 YOUSRY: [Simultaneously] It's too late for them (UI).

26 ABDEL RAHMAN: They would say that those now are for service, they have
27 nothing to do with eh....

28 YOUSRY: The people who work in the afternoon shift, they have

1 (UI), Abdeen.

2 ABDEL RAHMAN: No, I spoke with him for about five minutes.

3 YOUSRY: Yes, he mentioned that to me, I said to him, “Mr. Ramsey, I
4 spoke to Jack....” He said, “It’s okay, okay, the Sheikh knows
5 that you are going on Friday.”

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: No, but I was worried about the visit, that was the first thing I
7 was going to ask you about.

8 YOUSRY: He did. Ramsey said, “The Sheikh asked about the visit and I
9 told him that he would go.”

10 ABDEL RAHMAN: No, he didn’t know anything, he said, next week.

11 YOUSRY: He forgets.

12 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah, he said next week. I told him, no, it’s this week, hah,
13 you see?

14 YOUSRY: Uhm. Well the, the Sheikh, when he discussed it with Mr.
15 Clark on Tuesday, because I went late, Mr. Clark hung up
16 after five minutes even though I called and I said I am on my
17 way. And Mr. Clark didn’t know that we are coming today,
18 he was thinking that we were coming the week after.

19 STEWART: Uhm.

20 YOUSRY: The Sheikh told him, no, it’s this week. He gets, he forgets.

21 STEWART: (UI) Well, what is he? He must be almost eighty.

22 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, is Ramsey eighty years old or eh, how old is he?

23 ABDEL RAHMAN: Maybe.

24 YOUSRY: Is he seventy four or seventy five?

25 ABDEL RAHMAN: I don’t know.

1 YOUSRY: About seventy five, I think.

2 STEWART: Yeah. Because I mean-

3 YOUSRY: He still has a lot of energy. You know (UI)-

4 STEWART: Yeah, no, no, you're right, definitely, but things do start, to,
5 you know....

6 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that his health is good and everything, but
7 maybe he started to forget.

8 STEWART: My memory, is not as good as (UI) to, you know, you can't....

9 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that her memory became weak.

10 STEWART: Ah!

11 YOUSRY: She herself, Lynne's memory.

12 STEWART: [Laughs]

13 YOUSRY: There are letters for you, Sir, from Nasser, his wife, Ahmed
14 and Usama, no, no I'm sorry, I mean Nabil, and of course,
15 Firas. He called Lynne yesterday-

16 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

17 YOUSRY: [Gesticulating] -and told her she has to kiss the hand and the
18 foot of the Sheikh.

19 ABDEL RAHMAN: [Laughing] May God guide him.

20 YOUSRY: I told him that Firas insisted that you have to kiss his hands
21 and his feet.

22 STEWART: That's right.

23 YOUSRY: She says, Sir....

24 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah, uh.

1 STEWART: (UI) And, and sent his extremely warm and uh...and there's
2 not a day that goes by that would not be a better day if he
3 could see you....

4 YOUSRY: She says, Sir-

5 STEWART: [Simultaneously] ...and the moment they open this place up he
6 would be the first down here to....

7 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that Firas told her that every day that passes
8 without him seeing you, Sir, is a miserable day, no happiness
9 in his life. He is waiting for the day when visits will be
10 permitted, he will be the first among those waiting here to kiss
11 hands and....

12 ABDEL RAHMAN: May God guide him.

13 YOUSRY: May God help him and may God provide for him.

14 STEWART: And he said please to always include him in your prayers
15 because he is someone who thinks of you, and cares for you
16 and....

17 YOUSRY: He says, Sir, please include him in your prayers because he
18 always prays for you, Sir, and....

19 STEWART: ...do anything for you.

20 ABDEL RAHMAN: May God bless you. His wife has a society, named....

21 YOUSRY: A charity organization.

22 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah, ask her if she knows about it.

23 YOUSRY: His wife is eh, some, some kind of an organizer and she has a
24 women's, uh, movement, some Muslim women's
25 movement....

26 STEWART: Uhm hm.

27 YOUSRY: ...in California.

1 STEWART: Uhm hm.

2 ***

3 YOUSRY: The visit, Sir.... May I tell him about the Louis Farrakhan
4 thing and what's (UI)?

5 STEWART: Oh, please.

6 YOUSRY: You, Sir, agreed to have Louis Farrakhan visit you.

7 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

8 YOUSRY: Fine. Now, Sir, we said so to Mr. Abdeen-

9 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

10 YOUSRY: -and to Mr. Ramsey.

11 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

12 YOUSRY: [Gesticulating] Now, neither Mr. Abdeen nor Mr. Ramsey
13 sent letters to Kaukab or to Louis Farrakhan saying that you,
14 Sir, approved the visit.

15 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

16 YOUSRY: You, Sir, did approve the visit.

17 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

18 YOUSRY: [Gesticulating] Kaukab calls Ahmed, he tells him, "We need
19 the answer." Ahmed calls Abdeen and says, "Send the
20 answer." Abdeen says okay, but nothing is received. Ahmed
21 and Nasser visited Lynne last night and told her they are
22 worried that Ramsey and Abdeen do not want this to take
23 place now.

24 ABDEL RAHMAN: Why?

25 YOUSRY: Why do you think Ramsey and Abdeen don't want it to go

1 through now?

2 STEWART: Uhm....

3 YOUSRY: What Ahmed and Nasser told you?

4 STEWART: Farrakhan has a, a, a very, uh, heavy reputation, by that I
5 mean eh, he is really despised by a lot of groups, as the
6 Sheikh knows this, so ah, and eh....

7 YOUSRY: Mainstream.

8 STEWART: Mainstream, definitely, and eh, but also, you know, he, he's a
9 deathly enemy of, of, Jewish interests because of his remarks
10 and eh, you know people are very timid these days (UI).

11 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that she believes, or that they believe, that
12 because Louis Farrakhan has a reputation in the American
13 society that he is an enemy of the Jews, a reputation that he is
14 against the surrendering movements, a reputation that he
15 resists oppressive governments, opposes American foreign
16 policy, it is possible that they are worried about him
17 interfering with this issue as it may cause harm, not help.

18 ABDEL RAHMAN: But no, we need any opportunity, any opportunity to publicize
19 my case. If he is capable of that, we have to do so. Besides,
20 he is not accused of any crime, he is accused of good things....

21 YOUSRY: [Laughing] Yes. Well actually, we need any opportunity for
22 our case to be eh, public (UI) and people speak about it and if
23 he will help us and he'll speak about it, why not?

24 STEWART: [Simultaneously] Absolutely.

25 YOUSRY: Especially that he is not accused of crimes; he is accused so
26 far of the things that you told me, they are great things... why
27 can't we all be like him?

28 STEWART: Well, the bad things are that eh, there is, um, he has taken a
29 lot of money on behalf of his community....

1 YOUSRY: (UI)

2 STEWART: ...in other words, black people from Libya and other places;
3 and every...nothing has ever been successful, nothing eh, you
4 know, they had a fish business for a long time, things like
5 that. So he is definitely thought that he has put a lot of that
6 money in his pockets and never done anything for the people
7 with it...corrupt.

8 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that he is accused of taking money from
9 Qaddhafi and from Saudi Arabia to assist Muslims here, the
10 money was not all spent on the Muslims. Some of it was
11 spent on things it was not supposed to be spent on. However,
12 this doesn't stop us from... all these things should not stop us
13 from using him....

14 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

15 YOUSRY: (UI).

16 ABDEL RAHMAN: [Simultaneously] It is a great opportunity. Besides, he will
17 struggle till he-

18 YOUSRY: -till he comes.

19 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah, till he comes. We will not worry about anything.

20 YOUSRY: Exactly. Well actually, it's a great opportunity for us, and....

21 STEWART: [Simultaneously] Absolutely.

22 YOUSRY: ...regardless of what he does, regardless of what people think
23 of him, let him try to come, and let him try to bring out to the
24 public that the American government is refusing him.

25 STEWART: I am a 100%... and especially since he certainly would try to
26 eh...I understand he's very ill. That's what I had heard-

27 YOUSRY: Yeah.

28 STEWART: And that uh, this may be, you know, his way of moving

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: So we only respond to the message.

2 YOUSRY: We will have to um, respond to the letter that we received.
3 We received a letter from Kaukab, and we are going to
4 respond to Kaukab and let Kaukab do the rest of Farrakhan's,
5 okay?

6 STEWART: Absolutely (UI), very good.

7 YOUSRY: Alright, Sir. Can we have Lynne be the link between Kaukab
8 and so-

9 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

10 YOUSRY: -besides Abdeen.

11 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

12 YOUSRY: Right. Ah well, actually, also if you like, you can tell Kaukab
13 that he can call you on this matter.

14 STEWART: Okay.

15 YOUSRY: If, uh, Abdeen is busy he can call you. [Pause] All right, Sir.
16 This was one of the reasons they raised (UI) last night. I
17 mentioned it to Abdeen more than once.

18 ABDEL RAHMAN: No, if he struggles and tries by any means, it's a big gain!

19 YOUSRY: Uhm. And even if he doesn't succeed in coming, it's a big
20 gain that the newspapers write-

21 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

22 YOUSRY: -that Louis Farrakhan is not allowed to visit Sheikh Omar
23 Abdel Rahman.

24 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah, yeah, yeah. He can make the newspapers write.

25 YOUSRY: He is capable...

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: He has power-

2 YOUSRY: Right.

3 ABDEL RAHMAN: -or authority.

4 YOUSRY: He is capable of eh, bringing the news media into this place-

5 STEWART: Absolutely.

6 YOUSRY: -and writing about why was he rejected, why can't he visit
7 and they bring me up to the floor-

8 STEWART: Absolutely.

9 YOUSRY: -and that will start the discussion.

10 STEWART: Absolutely. And he definitely wants the visit, as the Sheikh
11 being a great scholar and a great religious leader.

12 YOUSRY: And of course, Sir, it is very useful for us, because he doesn't
13 want to visit "the prisoner," he wants to visit the scholar of
14 Al-Azhar, more well known for his knowledge and
15 understanding of Islam than anyone. This is useful for us
16 because it will help change the bad image the people have of
17 you, Sir.

18 ABDEL RAHMAN: Right.

19 YOUSRY: That's a very good idea (UI).

20 STEWART: A very, very good (UI).

21 YOUSRY: He wrote it in his letter, Sir. He wrote that you are a scholar
22 of Al-Azhar, known for your great knowledge, et cetera, et
23 cetera. And he hopes to meet you, Sir, to get hold of the truth
24 from you, not from the American government. Here Lynne,
25 you see?

26 STEWART: Uhm hm.

1 STEWART: Good for them, I didn't read that either.

2 YOUSRY: She says, Sir that she never read it in the newspapers either.

3 ABDEL RAHMAN: No, I eh, eh....

4 STEWART: Amazing, and they never said that.

5 YOUSRY: Yeah, they never did, they never did.

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: But are they still holding the hostages?

7 YOUSRY: Yes Sir, they still hold the hostages.

8 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

9 YOUSRY: [Arranging his papers] They are still holding them, they are
 10 telling them that unless they respond to their demands, they
 11 will kill them.

12 ABDEL RAHMAN: Wow!

13 YOUSRY: Especially a German female with a heart condition, they are
 14 raising a big fuss.

15 STEWART: Have they still, are they still holding them?

16 YOUSRY: Yeah, and they still have them.

17	<u>GOVERNMENT VERSION:</u>	<u>DEFENSE VERSION:</u>
18	STEWART: <u>(UI)....That was a very (UI)....</u>	STEWART: <u>That's so sad ...That was a</u>
19		<u>very (UI)....</u>

20 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

21 YOUSRY: What else do we have? Lynne said we would leave the
 22 newspapers out today so we can talk about regular stuff, and
 23 tomorrow we read the newspapers for the Sheikh.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay, fine.

2 YOUSRY: I only brought one newspaper that has eh.... [He looks
3 through his notes then picks a newspaper under Stewart's pad.
4 He reads] The Egyptian Government Continues to Chase
5 Islamists While Violence Abates. The State Security Court
6 Sentences Thirteen Defendants Who Belong to the Islamic
7 Group, Three of Them Are Minors.

8 ABDEL RAHMAN: Minors?

9 YOUSRY: Uhm.

10 ABDEL RAHMAN: Oh.

11 YOUSRY: That is, the eh, in Al-Hayat newspaper.

12 STEWART: Uhhh.

13 YOUSRY: It's in Al-Quds also, Sir.

14 ABDEL RAHMAN: Also?

15 YOUSRY: Yeah.

16 STEWART: What is this?

17 YOUSRY: This, these are members of Gama'a al-Islamiyya, the
18 Egyptian government now is sentenced - sentencing, them to
19 long-term prison-

20 STEWART: Uhm.

21 YOUSRY: -imprisonment, and including three eh, below the age of 16.

22 STEWART: Uhm.

23 YOUSRY: So, Ahmed thought it was important, and Abdeen gave me
24 approval to read it.

25 STEWART: Uhm hm.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Read the news article.

2 YOUSRY: The whole thing?

3 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

4 YOUSRY: [Reading] The Egyptian government was able to stop the
5 wave of violence which reached its climax in the Luxor attack
6 of 1997. Nevertheless, it still follows the Islamists who
7 belong to the Islamic Group, 43 of whom will stand trial in
8 court this month. Emergency trials (UI) irrevocable ruling
9 (UI) acts of violence done by armed organizations, the third
10 involves activists who belong to organizations believed to be
11 affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood.
12 It is expected that the State Security Court will issue a
13 sentence on the 10th of May, the current month of May - no,
14 that's wrong, it should be the 20th, that is tomorrow-

15 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay.

16 YOUSRY: [Reading] -the 20th, will sentence 13 defendants, three of them
17 are minors. This is within the framework of a trial of an
18 Islamic Group in Al-Menya linked to the Islamic Group, the
19 most important armed group in Egypt.
20 Their leader, Sha'baan Haridi (PH), 30 years old, from a rural
21 area, had been previously sentenced to death on April 13, for
22 killing three policemen and seven civilians, three of them
23 were children, between 1995 and 1997.
24 The Group is charged with an armed attack to finance the
25 Islamic Group. The others can be sentenced to life
26 imprisonment with hard labor. The Islamic Group announced
27 its responsibility for the Luxor attack, in which 58 tourists and
28 4 Egyptians were killed in November 97. However, in March
29 99, the Group announced suspension of violent operations;
30 there was a truce on earth since the end of 1998. On May
31 23rd, the State Security Court will have deliberations
32 concerning the case of ten Islamists, among them four
33 women, charged with reactivating Islamic Group activities in
34 Asyut.

35 STEWART: [Nodding as she makes a double hand motion tap on the table]

1 YOUSRY: Okay, Sir? [He gives the newspaper back to Stewart]

2 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm. Okay.

3 YOUSRY: Eh, the rest is about the Muslim Brotherhood.

4 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm. [Pause] Ask her about her future anticipation
5 concerning our case, Miss Lynne.

6 YOUSRY: What do you think the future holds for us?

7 STEWART: What do I think?

8 YOUSRY: Hmm?

9 STEWART: I think the future holds for us a long and protracted struggle
10 to.... The wrongs of the earth are getting greater and greater
11 economically. Distances between people, and that I don't
12 think it can be resolved unless people are aware that their best
13 interests are not in piling up wealth in this world or in, you
14 know, just....

15 YOUSRY: Will that have an impact on his case?

16 STEWART: In his case? Yes, I think ultimately....

17 YOUSRY: Lynne says, Sir, your case is part of a conflict (UI); it is part
18 of the existing universal conflict between the rich and the
19 poor countries. Many people like you, Sir, are in jails, many
20 people like you, Sir, have armed groups, many of them have
21 been defeated and many of them are still struggling. The (UI)
22 between the rich and the poor will result in exerting pressure
23 on these countries to release or to improve relations (UI); this
24 can have an impact on the case of you, Sir.

25 STEWART: I look for a solution in his case like what happened in Ireland
26 within the last two years and eh....

27 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, there is a big possibility that your case can be
28 solved the same way-

1 STEWART: [Simultaneously] Once they were able to set up their own
2 government....

3 YOUSRY: -the case of the Red Army case in Ireland was solved-

4 STEWART: -and all the IRA soldiers were freed-

5 YOUSRY: -and as the government there was changed....

6 STEWART: -in both England and eh-

7 YOUSRY: ...all trials-

8 STEWART: -in northern Ireland and eh, they are people that I knew from
9 the MCC actually.

10 YOUSRY: All those sentenced in Ireland in cases of violence against the
11 British, some of them were arrested here in America and in
12 the MCC, all of them are now in their countries. This is
13 because there was a change of government, there was a real
14 change.

15 ABDEL RAHMAN: What government?

16 YOUSRY: The government of Ireland.

17 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

18 STEWART: Yeah. The uh, that is why it's very important that the politics
19 still be maintained and that uh, uh.... Your image is who you
20 are is, is...is important, very important. I think things like that
21 in the Philippines, even though it may be futile and not be
22 successful, they still keep your name...as someone that eh, the
23 Mujahideen eh, consider their own hero. It is very, very
24 crucial.

25 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, it's very important to keep the policy of
26 struggle, to keep our policy clear and known, to keep the
27 personality, image, and voice of you, Sir, as one concerned
28 with the jihad movements in the world against tyrants and for
29 the oppressed. Now, the Philippines consider you one of their

1 heroes, this, in the end, can lead to some real change.

2 ABDEL RAHMAN: But eh, eh, do you think that the American government eh,
3 would hold me here, for an opportunity as a trump card?

4 YOUSRY: Do you think that the United States of America, the
5 government of the United States of America, is keeping me
6 here as a card, a trump card they can use at a time when they
7 (UI)?

8 STEWART: I think so.

9 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that she believes they will use you....

10 STEWART: I think that the...I think that the whole prosecution, I thought
11 that from the first day, was politically uh, motivated.

12 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that she knew from the first day you, Sir, were
13 arrested that the whole issue was political, and that you, Sir,
14 in her view, is considered a political card.

15 STEWART: They feel that if Egypt slides from their grasp eh, they at least
16 have the leader of the new Egypt uh, in their uh...

17 YOUSRY: [Simultaneously] She says, Sir, they felt that they will be
18 holding the new leading personality of the new government of
19 Egypt if Egypt would ever be defeated in Mubarak's person
20 and his government-

21 STEWART: They (UI).

22 YOUSRY: -and based on that, they would have the link or build a linking
23 bridge.

24 STEWART: I believe, the Americans know they can not hold any interest
25 in the Middle East if they don't have Egypt.

26 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that she firmly believes that the United States of
27 America considers Egypt to be the key of its policy in the
28 Middle East. You, Sir, are considered a big part of this key.

1 STEWART: And although their puppets have maintained uhm, you know,
2 the uh, the status quo for a long time eh, that can't be forever.

3 YOUSRY: And they definitely know that the puppets they move today
4 carry out their instructions, but will not continue to do so to
5 the end.

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ask her if she believes that the American government desires
7 that I become its agent.

8 YOUSRY: Do you think that the American government thinks or wants
9 that, uh, use me as an agent for it in the Middle East?

10 STEWART: Eh, I don't think they would go that far.

11 YOUSRY: The word "agent-"

12 STEWART: I don't think so.

13 YOUSRY: Sir, eh, what does the word "agent" mean?

14 ABDEL RAHMAN: It means, one who carries out its orders, like they buy me.

15 YOUSRY: You think that they want to buy me, or that they think that
16 they want to use their influence to buy me, to buy my
17 cooperation with them?

18 STEWART: I don't know. You know there are some people that- whose
19 image is irreproachable and that they understand they, they
20 could not uhm, it, it would- well let me put it this way, in the,
21 well in some ways, they are responsible for your image as far
22 as that's concerned here, and there, so, eh, eh, I don't, I don't
23 know that answer, they are capable of almost anything.

24 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that she doesn't know the answer to this
25 question. But you must bear in mind that what is now said
26 about you, you are (UI), you are an important person and (UI)
27 against their policy, is all made by them. They know, more
28 than anybody else, that you, Sir, being here eh, eh, as a major
29 enemy to them, at the same time, your return to Egypt can be
30 useful to them.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: In what way can it be useful to them?

2 YOUSRY: How would the Americans uh, benefit from uh, me being here
3 and keeping me here?

4 STEWART: By, they keep the Egyptian people from having a focus, a
5 focal point, a way to push their Movement into uh, a
6 personality who would seize the reins of power, right, and
7 eh....

8 YOUSRY: Ah, in other words, in other word, muscles, no brains.

9 STEWART: Yeah.

10 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that being here is very beneficial to them
11 because even if your Movement, the Islamic Movement in
12 Egypt, a major and a strong Movement, if you seize its
13 driving power which is the brain, you paralyze it. So they are
14 killing two birds with one stone, they know that the brains are
15 here, they have Hosni Mubarak, the head of the Egyptian
16 government in place, and at the same time they annihilate the
17 Movement with you, Sir, being here. In other words, they are
18 controlling him and annihilating the Movement.

19 STEWART: And uh-

20 YOUSRY: Ah. There is uh-

21 STEWART: And they hope that people will forget, that is their, that's why
22 they-

23 YOUSRY: Of course, they hope that people will forget.

24 STEWART: When the people forget, then, they have, they have won in a
25 (UI).

26 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that, as you know, people end up forgetting
27 things. Do you remember, Sir, the portion of the program you
28 requested, the radio program your wife told you about?

29 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

1 YOUSRY: It is here, it may be useful to shed light on the things they say.
2 Can I read it to you?

3 ABDEL RAHMAN: Is it here?

4 YOUSRY: Yeah.

5 ABDEL RAHMAN: Who sent it?

6 YOUSRY: Muntasir Al-Zayat sent it in summary. [Holds up the paper]

7 ABDEL RAHMAN: Read it.

8 YOUSRY: [Reading] Dear Brother Abu Omar, [interjecting] he is
9 addressing it to Ahmed.

10 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

11 YOUSRY: [Reading] This is the letter I spoke to you about, and which
12 was brought by Abdullah for his father. An ambassador
13 named Samih Derar (PH), a former Consul of Egypt to the
14 United States, says that you- [points to Abdel Rahman]
15 meaning you, Sir- [resumes reading] had threatened him in a
16 sermon you delivered on a Friday, because he had alcohol
17 with the Americans during celebrations of one of the national
18 days. One of your supporting reporters said that he had
19 alcohol. The ambassador said that he didn't have alcohol, and
20 went on saying that America is now treating you- [points to
21 Abdel Rahman] -meaning you, Sir- [reading] well or better
22 than well. It facilitates for you an enjoyable means of life in
23 return for what you did for them in Afghanistan. The
24 ambassador says that they gained the Sheikh notoriety when
25 they gave him a visa and helped him escape to Sudan after he
26 fled Egypt when he was charged in Sadat's case. You, Sir,
27 can answer to that as you are well aware of (UI). The
28 ambassador is presently working as the ambassador of Egypt
29 to Sweden. These statements were broadcast in a program
30 called, "Witness of Present Time", presented by Omar
31 Battisha from the Cairo Broadcasting Station, on Feb. 20,
32 2000, and rebroadcast on the 23rd.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: That was....

2 YOUSRY: The 23rd. So it was on the 20th, and on the 23rd of February,
3 2000.

4 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

5 YOUSRY: This is-

6 STEWART: [Simultaneously] From the lawyer?

7 YOUSRY: This is a summary from the lawyer in Egypt about the
8 program, the radio program-

9 STEWART: Hmm, hmm.

10 YOUSRY: -that uh, uh, the former Egyptian ambassador here said that
11 the Sheikh, Sheikh Omar, is being, being treated wonderfully
12 in the United States of America, and that is being done
13 because the Sheikh had played a role uh, for the Americans in
14 Afghanistan...

15 STEWART: [Simultaneously] Ah, they are doing that again?

16 YOUSRY: - therefore, they are repaying him and uh, the Sheikh after all,
17 the Americans were the ones who took him from Egypt to the
18 Sudan, and from Sudan to the United States.

19 STEWART: The old, uh....

20 YOUSRY: Yeah, so, the lawyers are asking the Sheikh -

21 ABDEL RAHMAN: Read for me, read the first part so I can answer to it.

22 YOUSRY: [Takes the paper back and reads] An ambassador named
23 Samih Derar (PH)-

24 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

25 YOUSRY: -a former Consul of Egypt to the United States-

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

2 YOUSRY: -says that you- [pointing to Abdel Rahman] -meaning you,
3 Sir-

4 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

5 YOUSRY: [Reading] -had threatened him in a sermon you delivered on a
6 Friday, because he had alcohol with the Americans during
7 celebrations of one of the national days. One of your
8 supporting reporters said the same thing.

9 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

10 YOUSRY: [Reading] The ambassador said he didn't have alcohol, and
11 went on saying that America is now treating you well or
12 better than well. It facilitates for you an enjoyable means of
13 life in return for what you did for them in Afghanistan. The
14 ambassador says that they gained the Sheikh notoriety when
15 they gave him a visa and helped him escape from Sudan after
16 he fled Egypt, when he was charged in Sadat's assassination
17 case. You can, Sir answer to that....

18 ABDEL RAHMAN: Enough, that's enough... "Helped him escape?"

19 YOUSRY: "Helped him escape from..."

20 ABDEL RAHMAN: [Simultaneously] -from Sudan?

21 YOUSRY: "Helped him escape from Sudan after he fled Egypt."

22 ABDEL RAHMAN: How did they help me escape from Sudan?

23 YOUSRY: I don't know, this is nonsense.

24 ABDEL RAHMAN: They helped him escape from Sudan after they helped him
25 flee from Egypt.

26 YOUSRY: Uhm.

27 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay.

1 YOUSRY: After they helped him flee from Egypt because he was
2 charged in Sadat's assassination case.

3 ABDEL RAHMAN: [Laughs]

4 YOUSRY: Meaning eh....

5 ABDEL RAHMAN: This is all nonsense.

6 YOUSRY: Uhm. Well, Sir....

7 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay.

8 YOUSRY: Stockholm is full of hashish, (UI) Sweden.

9 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

10 YOUSRY: You see, Sir?

11 ABDEL RAHMAN: Good thing they could get it.

12 YOUSRY: Yeah, [he inserts the paper in his notes] it's a summary.

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

14 YOUSRY: They sent a summary, you see, Sir?

15 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

16 YOUSRY: [Taking a paper out of his notes] Do you want me, Sir, to
17 read Nabil's letter about the watch? This is Nabil's, uh,
18 Nabil's letter.

19 STEWART: Uhm hm.

20 YOUSRY: Lynne is saying, "approved" (UI) and signs, she signs it, Sir
21 (UI).

22 ABDEL RAHMAN: (UI)

23 STEWART: I have almost as good a signature as the Sheikh's.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: It's official.

2 YOUSRY: Very official.

3 STEWART: [Laughs]

4 ABDEL RAHMAN: You cannot just read it, you can go on top of the prison
5 building and read it!

6 YOUSRY: [Laughing] Oh, oh, it has already been signed!

7 ABDEL RAHMAN: After it is signed....

8 YOUSRY: Now, you know, I have the right not to read it here, I can go
9 upstairs and read it for the whole prison....

10 STEWART: That's right....

11 YOUSRY: ...since it is approved by you.

12 STEWART: No question, no question, they'll all want to hear it.

13 YOUSRY: [Reading] Brother Mohammed Yousry, [interjecting] he is
14 addressing it to me.

15 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

16 YOUSRY: [Reading] Peace be to you. I received a letter saying that our
17 honorable Sheikh, may God set him free, wants a battery for
18 the azan alarm watch. I will, God willing, send a new battery
19 to Abdeen. I also want you to inform the Sheikh of the
20 following points:
21 One: There is no wristwatch that automatically gives you the
22 changed prayer time according to El-Medina time, or that
23 chants the announcement of prayer time. There is one though,
24 that gives intermittent rings to announce prayer time, it
25 automatically adjusts itself. This watch is available, if the
26 Sheikh wants it, (UI) all I need to do, or something like that,
27 is send it to Abdeen, send it to him through Abdeen.

28 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay.

1 YOUSRY: Two: [Pauses] The outer (UI), oh, the new watch can be very
2 easily adjusted, it is a Citizen brand. Its outer circle has three
3 buttons. I can send it to you if you want, I also want to know
4 the kind of band, you know, Sir, the watch band....

5 ABDEL RAHMAN: [Laughs]

6 YOUSRY: [Reading] ...which the Sheikh prefers, metal, rubber or leather
7 or spandex.

8 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

9 YOUSRY: I don't understand what he means by spandex.

10 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay, okay, okay....

11 YOUSRY: [Reading] A spandex band that latches by pressure or a
12 regular one that clasps.

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

14 YOUSRY: [Continues reading] The Sheikh knows Brother Ahmad Al-
15 Rifa'i, and knows that he has twin boys, age 21, they are
16 Khalid and Basim.

17 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

18 YOUSRY: You know that, Sir?

19 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

20 YOUSRY: Well, Basim died.

21 ABDEL RAHMAN: What?

22 YOUSRY: Basim died.

23 ABDEL RAHMAN: Oh!

24 YOUSRY: He was studying in Spain, I mean in Italy. He drowned while
25 swimming....

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

2 YOUSRY: ...he drowned. [Continues reading] They are among the
3 closest friends to Shadi, my son. In January, Basim went to
4 study for six months in Italy. On Sunday, April 30 we got
5 news from Italy that Basim was swimming in a lake, he never
6 got out; most likely, he drowned. His father went to Italy,
7 Basim's body was found on Saturday, May 6, a week after he
8 drowned. The body was given to Muslim doctors and
9 prepared for burial in Italy. On Sunday, May 7, it was
10 brought to New Jersey and buried the same day in Al-Salam
11 cemetery for Muslims, in New Jersey. The cemetery is
12 owned by three mosques, Al-Aman, Bilal and (UI) Mosques.
13 I have a question on religious law; if a worshiper makes a
14 mistake while praying the "Naql" [sic] prayer, like he forgets
15 to kneel down or forgets to say the first chant [sic]. If he is
16 praying four worships, should he do the two "Sahw"
17 prostrations as in the case of the "Obligatory" prayer? Most
18 of the references we have say two "Sahw" prostrations are
19 due if prayer is mistakenly performed. My understanding is
20 that it applies to the two forms of prayer, the "Obligatory" and
21 "Naql." [sic] However, one of the Imams said that it is meant
22 to apply only to the "Obligatory" prayer, and if a worshiper
23 makes a mistake in the "Naql" [sic] prayer, he doesn't have to
24 make the two "Sahw" prostrations. This Imam was a guest of
25 Bilal Mosque during the month of Ramadan. He says he was
26 your colleague in the Tanta Institute for Religion, his name is
27 eh, oh, [interjecting] the name is not clear at all, his name is
28 eh, [interrogatively] Al-Sayid Abd Al-Hadi Yasin-

29 ABDEL RAHMAN: Al-Sayid Abd Al-Hadi Yasin?

30 YOUSRY: Something, eh, Abdallah Sayid Abd Al-Hadi Yasin?

31 ABDEL RAHMAN: I don't know, okay.

32 YOUSRY: It is not clear at all, Sir.

33 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

1 YOUSRY: Sorry.

2 ABDEL RAHMAN: Is that it?

3 YOUSRY: Al-Sayid Yasin.

4 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

5 YOUSRY: [Reading] 5- This is another question, one of our brothers
6 donated an amount of money and said that it was interest from
7 a bank and that he wanted to get rid of it because he doesn't
8 accept usury. As the chairman of the Council, I went by the
9 saying... (UI) is good, He accepts...

10 ABDEL RAHMAN: *God is good, He doesn't accept (UI).*

11 YOUSRY: The word "God" is not there.

12 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay, okay.

13 YOUSRY: *God is good, He accepts...*

14 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

15 YOUSRY: Okay Sir. [Reading] ...use this amount of money to buy toilet
16 paper and cleansers for the bathrooms in the mosque. In other
17 words, this amount of money will be used to buy, uh,
18 [articulating] consumption products only.

19 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm, okay.

20 YOUSRY: This is it, Sir.

21 ABDEL RAHMAN: Hah?

22 YOUSRY: This is it.

23 ABDEL RAHMAN: Can you read the point he mentioned before this one, the
24 question on eh...?

25 YOUSRY: The question on religious law?

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

2 YOUSRY: Okay, the question on religious law: If a worshiper makes a
3 mistake while saying the “Naql” [sic] prayer, like he
4 forgets....

5 ABDEL RAHMAN: [Correcting him] The “Nafl” prayer.

6 YOUSRY: Right, Sir, the Nafl prayer. Like he forgets to kneel down, or
7 forgets to say eh, [interrogatively] the first chant-

8 ABDEL RAHMAN: The first chant?

9 YOUSRY: The word “first” is there, but the word next to it.... Oh, can it
10 be, forgot the “first testimony?”

11 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

12 YOUSRY: Right, Sir. [Continues reading]...or forgets to say the first
13 testimony. If he is praying four worships, should he do two
14 “Sahw” prostrations as in the case of the “Obligatory” prayer?
15 Most of the references we have say the two “Sahw”
16 prostrations are due if prayer is mistakenly performed. My
17 understanding is that it applies to prayer in general, the
18 “Obligatory” and the “Nafl.” However, one of the Imams
19 said that it is meant to apply only to the “Obligatory” prayer,
20 and if a worshiper makes a mistake in the “Nafl” prayer, he
21 doesn’t have to do the two “Sahw” prostrations.

22 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

23 YOUSRY: [Reading] This Imam was a guest of Bilal Mosque during the
24 month of Ramadan. He says he used to be your colleague in
25 Tanta Institute for Religion. His name is Abdallah Al-Sayid
26 Abd Al-Hadi Yasin.

27 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

28 YOUSRY: This is as clear as possible, Sir, I don’t know if it is correct or
29 incorrect.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay.

2 YOUSRY: Uh.... [brief pause] Uh, that's all.

3 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay fine, okay.

4 YOUSRY: Alright? [Puts the letter aside]

5 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

6 YOUSRY: About the watch, I'll tell him to send it...what do you want us
7 to do with that, [points to the manual] Sir?

8 ABDEL RAHMAN: What is it?

9 YOUSRY: That one you brought, Sir, [taking the manual from in front of
10 Abdel Rahman] the manual.

11 ABDEL RAHMAN: You couldn't bring batteries with it?

12 YOUSRY: Nabil said he has a watch and batteries.

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: [Laughs]

14 YOUSRY: You see, Sir, meaning eh, we will send the right watch. [Puts
15 the manual down and picks up the letter]

16 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah, for sure.

17 YOUSRY: Alright, Sir. Now, the-

18 ABDEL RAHMAN: Tell Lynne....

19 YOUSRY: -we will send the new battery too.

20 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

21 ***

22 STEWART: [Pulls a few papers from her pad, gives the letter to Yousry]

1 cattle, or worse. Umm Ahmed is fine, Omar, Nagwa, and
2 Ahmed are fine. Salwa tries to study, but it is difficult for her
3 to study and take care of the house and the children. We pray
4 God to give you a way out, please let us know if we can do
5 anything, no matter what. One thing I like to emphasize to
6 you, I don't fear anything other than His Majesty God. To
7 me, nothing counts other than pleasing Him. Please accept
8 my love and best regards till we get together here in this
9 world, or in, in paradise.

10 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay, fine.

11 YOUSRY: Your brother in God, Nasser. [Puts down the page he read]
12 Ah, this is, Sir, a summary of eh....

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay.

14 YOUSRY: In other words, he is annoyed because nothing gets done,
15 nothing, eh... [Abdel Rahman eats chocolate] Is the
16 chocolate good, Sir?

17 ABDEL RAHMAN: It is excellent.

18 YOUSRY: You see, Sir?

19 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

20 YOUSRY: This is one of the reasons. Do you want me to read Umm
21 Nagwa's, (UI)?

22 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

23 YOUSRY: [Reading] Our Honorable Sheikh, the apple of our eyes, His
24 Eminence Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, may the peace,
25 mercy, and blessings of God be upon you. I hope this letter
26 finds you in your best condition and perfect health. May God
27 complete His grace and you come back for us as soon as there
28 is a chance. [Commenting] Her handwriting is good, thank
29 God, I can read it.

30 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

1 YOUSRY: [Continues reading] I can't find words to describe how much
2 we missed you, your sermons, lessons, and calls that filled us
3 with joy, your opinion on religion and religious law, the chant
4 of the Quran in your beautiful voice. God willing, the day
5 will come when His Eminence Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman
6 will be released in his full power and glory. He will prove to
7 the people that the freedom he lost behind these fake bars is
8 but the result of his holding tight to his religion and not
9 selling himself to God's enemies at a cheap price.
10 Nasser and I were listening to one of your tapes. It was an
11 explanation of the Surah of Ibrahim, [clears his throat] and the
12 lessons we get from it; how ruling is for God alone, and man
13 shouldn't fear anybody other than God, he shouldn't say, "I
14 have a wife and children," because God protects the wife and
15 the children. A man doesn't raise his children, God does.
16 Many people lived with their children and ended up failures;
17 many people left their children and went out for God's sake,
18 and He protected and guarded them.
19 I am done with taping the last part of the Quran Concordance.
20 Please let Brother Yousry know if you want me to tape other
21 things.
22 May God reward you graciously, may He save you, may He
23 grant that we get together with you in the near future. My
24 greetings to Sister Umm Mohammed, Umm Ammar and their
25 children. Greetings to Your Eminence sister, Sister Umm
26 Ahmed. May the peace, mercy, and blessings of God be upon
27 you. Umm Nagwa.

28 ABDEL RAHMAN: Peace be upon you too.

29 YOUSRY: Okay, Sir?

30 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

31 YOUSRY: (UI) that, that I read them both now, Nasser and eh, his wife.

32 STEWART: But we agreed, but we agreed that these letters do not really-

33 YOUSRY: Yes.

34 STEWART: -reflect, and you should tell him that too.

1 YOUSRY: Approved, approved.

2 STEWART: Yes, definitely approved, approved letters, yeah.

3 ABDEL RAHMAN: Are you saying that you approve?

4 YOUSRY: [Laughing] I am signing it-

5 STEWART: Now he is approving the letters.

6 YOUSRY: -lest they cut my throat, Sir.

7 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yousry, you are dragging us into a disaster.

8 YOUSRY: God willing, Sir. Do I have anything else to do?

9 STEWART: Yousry Stewart.

10 ABDEL RAHMAN: Don't laugh or breathe without taking permission, eh, eh...

11 YOUSRY: The Sheikh said, listen, you are going to bring us into a lot of
12 trouble, don't laugh, don't say anything without asking
13 Lynne's permission.

14 STEWART: [Simultaneously] That's right, you must, absolutely!

15 YOUSRY: Alright Sir, alright, alright.

16 ABDEL RAHMAN: We are, we are going by instructions here, Yousry.

17 YOUSRY: [Laughs]

18 STEWART: Without a doubt.

19

20 YOUSRY: [Going through his notes] Of course you heard about Al-
21 Azhar and what happened in it.

22 ABDEL RAHMAN: What?

23 YOUSRY: The Islamic Group issued a statement... didn't you know, Sir,
24 about the demonstrations that took place in Al-Azhar?

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

2 YOUSRY: Yeah.

3 ABDEL RAHMAN: What does the statement say?

4 YOUSRY: [Looking for papers] I have it here, [reading] God is great!
5 Al-Azhar's voice got loud....

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: They have been saying that for a long time.

7 YOUSRY: Rifa'i Ahmad Taha issued a statement, and the Al-Azhar
8 Students' Union issued one.

9 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

10 YOUSRY: Which one should I read first?

11 ABDEL RAHMAN: Eh.

12 YOUSRY: Rifa'i's statement?

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

14 YOUSRY: [Reading] God is great! Al-Azhar's voice got loud, this is
15 the voice of its students, can you imagine the voice of its
16 scholars! [Interjecting] Fine, Sir?

17 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

18 YOUSRY: Lynne, look at me and talk a little bit because they are
19 watching us closely.

20 STEWART: I am talking to you, I'm making notes, (UI).

21 ABDEL RAHMAN: Why?

22 YOUSRY: I don't know, Sir, they are standing very close by the glass.

23 STEWART: Yes, the uhm...I am talking to you about...him going to have
24 a, uh, chocolate eh...heart attack here. No, but (UI).

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

2 YOUSRY: [Laughs]

3 ABDEL RAHMAN: Hm.

4 YOUSRY: Alright, Sir. Okay, let me do this and eh....

5 STEWART: Okay.

6 YOUSRY: [Reading] God is great! Al-Azhar's voice got loud, this is
7 the voice of its students, can you imagine the voice of its
8 scholars! The incidents Al-Azhar University witnessed, the
9 revolt the students launched for a few days despite the rubber
10 bullets, the clubs of the State Security, and the large number
11 of casualties, put Al-Azhar back in its role and its leading
12 position defined by His Majesty God. The Al-Azhar
13 demonstrations say "No" to the forces of atheism, secularism,
14 the forces of apostasy, the atheism and treason of rulers and
15 others. These demonstration took place to draw the attention-

16 STEWART: Why don't you stop a minute now. And (UI) say to him that,
17 you know, "You understood what we are saying, (UI)."

18 YOUSRY: Lynne says, (UI) when they look, you look at me a little, talk,
19 then look at the Sheikh.

20 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay. (UI)

21 YOUSRY: That's fine, now I continue.

22 STEWART: Very good, continue.

23 YOUSRY: [Reading] These demonstrations draw the attention to Al-
24 Azhar which will one day break the bond and the leach they
25 put on it. At that point, the nation will be liberated through
26 the liberation of Al-Azhar. Its bonds will be broken with Al-
27 Azhar's bonds broken. A nation, led by scholars towards
28 freedom, honoring God's book and the Sunna of His Prophet,
29 may God's blessings be upon him, is, God willing, a
30 victorious one. [Clears his throat] As we....

1 STEWART: (UI) If the Sheikh understands all that and uh...for his uh-

2 YOUSRY: [Simultaneously] She is saying, Sir, is everything clear, or do
3 you want me to read something else?

4 STEWART: -understanding that uh, the future of his case that (UI) this-

5 YOUSRY: Oh, okay.

6 STEWART: -is uh, appropriately presented.

7 YOUSRY: Lynne just says anything, [laughing] (UI) Sir. Now I continue.

8 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah, yeah, that is good, good.

9 YOUSRY: [Laughing and reading] As we emphasize our support-

10 STEWART: I can get an academy award for it.

11 YOUSRY: She is saying, Sir that she can get an award in acting. [All
12 laugh] Alright, fine now, they stepped back.

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: Did they come so close?

14 YOUSRY: Yes, they were very close by (UI).

15 STEWART: Judith Miller.

16 YOUSRY: Judith, a guy next to her, a lady, the one who went with me
17 for the chocolates. They stepped back. [Reading] As we
18 confirm our support for the Al-Azhar students, and its
19 scholars in their stand against the attempts to change the face
20 of our Muslim Egypt and rip out its beliefs and (UI), we
21 emphasize our call on Al-Azhar scholars and students to
22 regain their dignity and leadership status in the nation. This
23 will not be accomplished unless they exercise their right to
24 choose their leadership. The scholars and students of Al-
25 Azhar are the ones to count on when selecting presidents and
26 emirs. It is a crime, it's oppression, it's tyranny, to have
27 soldiers impose leaders and sheikhs. The Egyptian regime
28 wanted to rip out Al-Azhar's message, and role to change,

1 when it appointed as its head a sheikh who receives a Jewish
2 rabbi and a Zionist ambassador, whose hands are covered
3 with the blood of our martyrs in Palestine and whose filthy
4 feet desecrate Islamist Palestine. We are sure that Al-Azhar
5 with its haughtiness, history, leading revolutions, bringing
6 forth Sulayman Al-Halabi, its jihad against the French and
7 British infidels who occupied our Egyptian Muslim lands and
8 others, is able to re-assume its role and regain the mission
9 God assigned to the scholars, the descendants of prophets.
10 On this occasion, we call on our Muslim youths of Egypt in
11 universities, institutes, and factories, to follow the example of
12 their Azhar colleagues and break the bonds and ties imposed
13 on them. May their word be loudly heard to achieve victory
14 on behalf of God and His Prophet, victory on behalf of the
15 wounded people, victory on behalf of the youths they hang,
16 the youths who died while defending religion and
17 confronting criminals. (UI) It is not unusual to sentence
18 Mujahid Sha'baan Hiraidi (PH) of the Islamic Group to death
19 (UI) and to have the sentence endorsed by the Mufti of Al-
20 Azhar, the government man, after they barred Al-Azhar
21 sheikhs and scholars who call for the word of truth.

22 STEWART: [Nodding] Truth.

23 YOUSRY: [Reading] Truth. We call on the Muslim youths of Egypt not
24 to get discouraged by the haughtiness of tyrants, arrogance of
25 aggressors or (UI). [Brief pause] You would think that all
26 this scum is something, but it soon gets washed out by roaring
27 waves, i.e., our youths' strong faith in God, and their holding
28 on to the truth they believe in. Scum.... In the name of God,
29 Most Merciful, Most Compassionate. [Continues reading]
30 "*For the scum disappears like froth cast out; while that which*
31 *is for the good of mankind remains.*" His Majesty God is
32 truthful. A nation whose scholars interact with its future
33 causes is a strong one; one that is capable of assuming its
34 leading role among nations. This author who started the
35 incidents and provoked people's feelings is but a sign of
36 sickness of the nation's body as they rendered it helpless, (UI)
37 the laity and atheists. It became a must for Muslim scholars
38 to take the lead. (UI) added to atheists are (UI) thinkers,
39 writers, and authors to the point that we got so many of them

1 like Faraj Foda and others. Since they bar our religion and
2 impose on us a different identity, we won't be (UI). Haydar,
3 Haydar will not be the last one, the same as Faraj Foda was
4 not the first. We are sure that the revolution of our Muslim
5 youth will one day uproot the Egyptian regime which barred
6 religion-

7 STEWART: I recognize that (UI) in Arabic.

8 YOUSRY: Yes?

9 STEWART: I recognize... "na'am?"

10 YOUSRY: [Laughs]

11 STEWART: "Na'am"? I'm, I'm an English speaker, you are speaking
12 Arabic to me, ah....

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: Eh.

14 YOUSRY: [Laughing] That's funny. [Continues reading] We are sure
15 that the revolution of our Muslim youths will one day uproot
16 the Egyptian regime because it barred religion, detained the
17 most sincere, and promoted perverts like his Minister of
18 Culture, who endorsed the decision of the so-called "Novel
19 Review Committee" disregarding the opinion of the
20 conscientious People's Council members. We are sure that
21 they have no future on our land and that they will not be
22 accepted by the sons of our Muslim people. *God will*
23 *complete His light even though the unbelievers may detest.*
24 *God hath full power and control over His affairs; but most*
25 *among mankind know it not.*
26 Rifa'i Ahmad Taha, one of the Islamic Group leadership
27 members in Egypt, Safar 11, 1421, May 14, 2000.

28 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

29 YOUSRY: [Puts the statement down, and brings another paper to the top]
30 There is also a statement by the Al-Azhar Students Union.

31 ABDEL RAHMAN: Hum.

1 STEWART: Al-Azhar?

2 YOUSRY: Yeah, the, the students in Al-Azhar University had riots and
3 what not-

4 STEWART: They did, indeed.

5 YOUSRY: -and demonstrating and stuff. And these are the-

6 STEWART: Shooting too, right?

7 YOUSRY: Shooting, yes, some of them were killed. These are the
8 official uh, students' organizations uh, uh, press communiqué?

9 STEWART: Right-

10 YOUSRY: They get them off the internet.

11 ABDEL RAHMAN: Tell her this is the oldest university in the whole world.

12 YOUSRY: It's the oldest university in the world.

13 STEWART: Uhm hm.

14 ABDEL RAHMAN: Meaning, no university was there before Al-Azhar.

15 YOUSRY: There is no university that was established before Al-Azhar.

16 STEWART: Uhm hm. Amazing.

17 YOUSRY: Lynne says this is great. Okay, Sir. [Reading] The Final
18 Result of Al-Azhar Massacre of 2000. Would you like to
19 know the final result of Al-Azhar massacre? You may be
20 able to recall the Al-Azhar incidents of the 18th Century, when
21 the French soldiers' horses broke into it; they trampled on the
22 defenseless worshipers and on the Quran and killed the people
23 prostrated in prayer. The pure blood was shed in Al-Aqsa
24 nave and on sheets of paper. At the pillars where students
25 were having their lessons, body parts scattered around with
26 the Quran in hands. Yes, the same thing happened again, yes,
27 its bloody scenes recurred in Al-Azhar University. But this

1 time, there is no Bonaparte nor Kleber. There are soldiers,
2 (UI) Israeli men who don't consider sacred religious law,
3 education, respect for Muslim sisters, nor innocent students.
4 Their rubber bullets went through bodies and eyes. May God
5 be your resort, you honorable sisters and heroes of Al-Azhar.
6 You offered your bodies, (UI) and eyes to protect our
7 sanctities at the time teenagers were absorbed in ethical
8 problems, debauchery and homosexuality. The Israeli (UI)
9 assumed the role of the Minister of Culture (UI) agent of the
10 West. Egypt was suffering under a savage rule which abused,
11 imprisoned, detained, desecrated and killed without trial.
12 You, males and females, came at the right difficult time when
13 (UI) alleged peace; when the worst oppressive campaign to
14 bar the nation's religion, change its (UI) God's sake and
15 defile its sanctities. God was cursed, the Quran was defiled,
16 and the Prophet was called names openly, in the name of art!
17 Dear Messenger of God, how can we apologize to you? One
18 day, you came for us, transcending all barriers of (UI).
19 Among the tribal shepherds you evoked a wisdom-bearing
20 nation, a nation (UI) paganism to the width of monotheism
21 and freedom, as the late martyr Sayid Qutb said. How come
22 the lowly people of the nation try to annihilate its brains,
23 history and sanctities?
24 You came for us, for us, beloved Messenger of God...

25 STEWART: Uhmm, what was that at the end?

26 YOUSRY: It's the Prophet.

27 STEWART: Uhm hm.

28 YOUSRY: Alright, Sir. Uhm. [Reads] We don't know what to say....

29 STEWART: What was the thing that sparked the students, again?

30 YOUSRY: There was eh, a novel by a writer, a Syrian writer, Haydar,
31 Haydar.

32 STEWART: Oh, yes, I do remember (UI).

33 YOUSRY: You see, Sir? [Continues reading] How come the lowly

1 people of the nation try to challenge its brains, history and
2 sanctities? You came for us, for us, beloved Messenger of
3 God, but we don't know what to say to you. How can we
4 apologize to you? Khayber, Khayber is being repeated.
5 Khalid (UI) Fatima (UI). The beloved was killed by the
6 infidels who fill the earth. The earth we are on is the same as
7 the day you started, (UI), we are scared the people may (UI)
8 us.

9 Dear Messenger and Master Muhammad, may the peace and
10 blessings of God be upon you, may the hands and tongues of
11 those who cursed you be paralyzed. We retire to your name
12 Muhammad, maybe God will cleanse the nation from the filth
13 of this age.

14 The signing cobs are Salah Ahmad, eight years old, who got a
15 rubber bullet in the neck; Karim Ahmad, five years old, who
16 got a rubber bullet in the neck; (UI), Tamir Ahmad, two years
17 old, suffered wounds in his left eye caused by live fragments,
18 in front of Al-Azhar University. Students, Safinaz Jalal of the
19 business school had injury to her right eye and possible
20 bleeding of the brain caused by a rubber bullet; Iman
21 Muhammad Abdel Rahman of Al-Azhar University, had an
22 eye injury caused by a rubber bullet; Muhammad Ibrahim Al-
23 Faqarani, a student at Al-Azhar, had an eye injury caused by a
24 rubber bullet; Hani Ahmad Al-Hashash of Al-Azhar had an
25 eye injury caused by a rubber bullet; Manal Ramadan got
26 fragments in the chest; Nora Uthman, live splinters in the
27 chest. Their signatures follow.

28 ABDEL RAHMAN: Tsk, tsk, tsk.

29
30 YOUSRY: Uh, Ibtisam Jaber, severe asthma caused by breathing poison
31 gas; Fatima Khamis-

32 ABDEL RAHMAN: That's enough. Did they say what they did about the riots?

33 YOUSRY: You mean the result?

34 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

35 YOUSRY: An investigation committee was formed. The person who
36 ordered that the book be published is named Ibrahim Aslan.

1 He is the writer of the old novel “Malik El-Hazeen”.

2 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

3 YOUSRY: It was produced as a movie, named Kitkat. Eh, he is
4 appointed President of the Committee on Culture House
5 Publications. There is a series of publications, Sir, named
6 “Read” headed by Susan Mubarak -

7 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

8 YOUSRY: -the wife of President Hosni Mubarak. It publishes old works,
9 books by Muhammad Abdu, Al-Tawhidi or (UI), Sa’d
10 Zaghlul, Jamal Idin Al-Afghani and others.

11 ABDEL RAHMAN: So far, that’s fine.

12 YOUSRY: Huh?

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: So far, that’s fine.

14 YOUSRY: But, eh, yeah but they don’t...

15 STEWART: What did he say?

16 YOUSRY: No, I’m telling him about the, why was that published now,
17 the, the president’s wife, the first lady, she is the head of eh,
18 eh a series called “Read” and they publish old stuff, and, and
19 out of that old stuff, they publish things written by Muslim
20 scholars but also they publish a lot of other stuff that is
21 against Islam, so I’m just telling him about that.

22 STEWART: Uhm, uhm.

23 YOUSRY: So they issue, Sir, for instance eh, 200 or 300 books of the
24 series by Muhammad Abdu....

25 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

26 YOUSRY: ...and that’s all.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

2 YOUSRY: But they publish 20,000 books of Tawfiq Al-Hakim's, and
3 you know, Sir, they sell them for how much?

4 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

5 YOUSRY: Ten piasters.

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: Oh!

7 YOUSRY: Yes. Besides, they are excellent editions! The series are on
8 literature and Islam, art and Islam, the freedom of woman in
9 Islam, uh, The Muslim's Directory (UI), books by Husain
10 Ahmad Amin, Islamic Shari'a, by Husain Ahmad Amin, by
11 people who are considered hostile to Islamic armed
12 movements, you see, Sir?

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

14 YOUSRY: [Gesticulating] All of them are, Mustafa Mahmud, Al-
15 Sha'rawi, so and so and all that. I have a big collection of the
16 series. And of course, they published plays, art, translated
17 novels, world books, and things like that. It came out as a
18 book of the series; nothing can happen, because it was printed
19 within the series of Susan Mubarak.

20 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ah.

21 YOUSRY: You see, Sir?

22 ABDEL RAHMAN: So, what happened with Al-Azhar demonstrations, do you
23 know?

24 YOUSRY: They came to an end, universities are already done in Egypt,
25 they are closed. You don't know that, Sir?

26 ABDEL RAHMAN: No.

27 YOUSRY: Universities are over.

1 ABDEL RAHMAN: Over with what?

2 YOUSRY: They are finished, the school year is over except for the
3 schools of science and medicine. The other schools are over.

4 ABDEL RAHMAN: They finished with the exams?

5 YOUSRY: Yes, before the 5th elementary grade did.

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

7 YOUSRY: I'm telling the Sheikh that the university in Egypt is closed
8 now, even before the elementary school. They are done, for
9 the year.

10 STEWART: Hm.

11 YOUSRY: The government doesn't want them to go, except for the
12 medicine colleges and the science college.

13 STEWART: Well, how do you figure that?

14 YOUSRY: After those demonstrations-

15 STEWART: Oh, they (UI).

16 YOUSRY: -they advanced, they advanced the final exams.

17 STEWART: Uhm hm.

18 YOUSRY: (UI) and that was it. So now everybody's home, there is no
19 reason for you to go to school, so that they can't demonstrate.

20 STEWART: Uhm, well....

21 YOUSRY: Sir....

22 STEWART: You can take, you can take eh, the discontent out of the
23 school, but you can't take the, the discontent out of the
24 person.

1 YOUSRY: Lynne says to you, Sir, if we don't let them go to school, they
2 won't get together against the government, but they are still
3 against the government when they are at home, so what is the
4 difference?

5 STEWART: So now they will sit in the cafes and eh, have....

6 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, they can get together in coffee shops and talk
7 about measures against the government, et cetera.

8 ABDEL RAHMAN: No. Tell her....

9 YOUSRY: No gathering.

10 ABDEL RAHMAN: Tell her that the difference is, there will be no gathering. Tell
11 her there can be, for instance, a gathering of ten or twenty
12 thousand people, how many can get together in a coffee shop,
13 five people?

14 YOUSRY: Well, actually, there is a big difference, the Sheikh said, in a
15 university, five thousand or ten thousand -

16 STEWART: Uhm-

17 YOUSRY: - but in the café, there are five or six.

18 STEWART: Yeah.

19 YOUSRY: So, you know, you have to be aware of that.

20 STEWART: That's a fact, yeah.

21 YOUSRY: Can I have Ahmed's letter?

22 STEWART: Umm hm-

23 YOUSRY: And it's the last one. Shall I read for you, Sir, Mr. Ahmed
24 Abdel Sattar's letter?

25 ABDEL RAHMAN: Delay it a little because (UI).

1 YOUSRY: Delay it a little?

2 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

3 YOUSRY: That's the one that requires (UI).

4 ABDEL RAHMAN: Hah?

5 YOUSRY: Fine, fine. Go ahead, Sir, do you want to say something?

6 ABDEL RAHMAN: Ask Lynne if she thinks filing a lawsuit can lead to anything.

7 YOUSRY: A lawsuit about the condition?

8 STEWART: [Simultaneously] Let me ask the Sheikh something before you
9 start.

10 YOUSRY: Yeah, he wants to ask you a question.

11 STEWART: Okay.

12 YOUSRY: Is it the lawsuit on the condition, Sir?

13 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah.

14 YOUSRY: What do you think, you think if we uh, sue uh them, condition
15 case, would that change anything at all?

16 STEWART: I think it will, eh....

17 YOUSRY: Like what?

18 STEWART: Well, I know that the Sheikh is very anxious to get to the east
19 coast.

20 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that she knows that you want to move from here
21 to the east coast, close to us.

22 ABDEL RAHMAN: Uhm.

23 STEWART: So they may make a (UI) uh, concessions.

1 YOUSRY: They may approve.

2 STEWART: They may not give you eh, population right away or
3 something, but they might allow you to, you know, at least get
4 away from the middle of the country here where there is no
5 one or nothing.

6 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that it is possible that they transfer you. They
7 will not transfer you “population,” they will not put you with
8 people, but they can put you in a nearby location.

9 STEWART: What I am thinking now, eh, is....

10 YOUSRY: [Simultaneously] I mean nearby, not eh....

11 STEWART: I’m sitting here, strategizing actually, is that if we can push
12 the Farrakhan thing and do the condition suit at the same time,
13 that will push things in a very positive way.

14 YOUSRY: That is why you are Lynne. [Both laugh] She says, Sir, that
15 she is sitting now and thinking of two things: first, Louis
16 Farrakhan; second, the condition suit. If they disapprove
17 Louis Farrakhan’s, he will start talking about it and we file a
18 suit at the same time, both work together.

19 ABDEL RAHMAN: Excellent, very good.

20 STEWART: “Very good,” very good. You’ve been saying, “very good,”
21 Sheikh, in English.

22 YOUSRY: Your way of speaking English, Sir, is very good.

23 ABDEL RAHMAN: Tell her that after the repeated unsuccessful appeals, I don’t
24 expect eh, eh, the condition suit will do anything.

25 YOUSRY: Well, if you ask me, my opinion is this, I do not feel that the
26 condition case will have any impact. I do not think we’ll win
27 it, especially after we, we lost all the appeals, I don’t think we
28 have a chance, I don’t think nothing, you know, will come out
29 of it.

1 STEWART: Well, we'll see. The uh, we have, what we do have is a
2 number of years uh, within these jails, under these terrible
3 conditions where nothing has occurred uh, would be
4 considered uh, any kind of a threat to anybody. And because
5 the political climate is relaxed at this, or more relaxed than it
6 was back then, uh....

7 YOUSRY: She says, Sir, that what works for us and against us at the
8 same time is, first, you have been in jail for a long time and
9 nobody has caused you any security threat [sic], so why the
10 isolation? Why are they keeping you away from all the
11 people? The second point against us is, the case died, there is
12 no factual reason that would influence them to transfer you or
13 keep you away, or, or, or.... We can use this point to our
14 advantage.

15 ABDEL RAHMAN: Okay, what eh....

16 YOUSRY: [Simultaneously] Are you following me, Sir?

17 ABDEL RAHMAN: What do we use to our advantage, you mean the case? [Brief
18 pause]

19 YOUSRY: Yeah, we take advantage of the case.

20 ABDEL RAHMAN: Yeah, tell her, tell her at any rate, eh, we have a proverb that
21 says, eh, eh, "The shot that-"

22 YOUSRY: "The shot that misses the target would at least cause noise."

23 ABDEL RAHMAN: "-causes noise." So it's good to use the case in terms of this
24 proverb. And the woman who danced on the stairway-

25 YOUSRY: [Laughing] Yeah, was not seen....

26 ABDEL RAHMAN: -neither the people upstairs nor those downstairs saw her.

27 YOUSRY: They didn't see her. [Laughs]

28 ABDEL RAHMAN: But she danced, and they know that someone is dancing.

