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THIS IS DETECTIVE MARMION, NUMBER 4601, TUCSON POLICE DEPARTMENT.  
THE DATE IS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 1990. THE TIME NOW IS APPROX-  
IMATELY 0916 HOURS. THE FOLLOWING WILL BE A TAPED INTERVIEW WITH  
MR. MUHTESM ERISEN. STATEMENT WILL BE TAKEN IN THE AREA OF EUCLID  
AND SIXTH AVENUE. STATEMENT WILL BE REFERENCE IN T.P.D. CASE NUMBER  
90 01 31 0233.  
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Q Ah..MUHTESM, may I have your full name, please?

A MUHTESM ERISEN, that's how we say it in Turkish.

Q Okay. And ah..your home address?

A 5250 South Campbell number 242.

Q Your date of birth?

A [REDACTED]

Q Your social security number?

A [REDACTED]

Q And your occupation?

A Well, I've been a waiter and now I'm...I went home to Turkey  
and I got back and I'm not working at this moment.

Q Uh-huh.....and how much education do you have ah..MUHTESM?

A I ah...I quit college, I went to college in New Jersey for  
three years. (ph)

Q Are you a member of any type of ah..religion?

A Uhm...Ah..I..I don't know what you mean by that.

Q Okay, let me ask you this, ah...are you...

A I worship...

Q ...you worship?

A Yea, over here.

Q Okay, and..correct me if I'm wrong, I believe you indicated  
earlier that that's referred to as the Islam Submission to  
God...

A Submission to God, we go by the scripture, it was sent from  
God.

Q Okay. And who is the ah..local leader of that ah..Islam Sub-  
mission to God or..what..what would you call him, that..you  
know...

A It was...

Q ...excuse my ignorance but it's a religion...

A ...it was..it...it was...

Q ....I'm not familiar with is that...  
A ...the leader was the Messenger of God, Messenger of the Covenant, DOCTOR RASHAD KHALIFA.

Q And that...  
A God bless his soul.

Q Okay, and that is the person who at this time we have reason to believe is the same person who is..in that house at this time?  
A That..was...

Q The person that who is deceased?  
A ...was assesed..murdered.

Q Yea. Well, we don't know that for a fact right now...  
A Well...

Q ...that's what you believe?  
A Yes.

Q Okay. Ah...when did you...would you describe your relationship with ah..how did..how did...  
A He was..he was my...

Q ...how did you refer to him? What would you call him?  
A ...he was my teacher.

Q Okay. He's your teacher. Ah...when was the last time you saw your teacher?  
A Last night.

Q About what time last night?  
A Ah...about seven-thirty...we prayed together...

Q Okay.  
A ...we did the night prayer together.

Q Okay. Did he..did he..was he by himself at that time when you did that?  
A No, no.

Q Who..who else was there, do you know?  
A My wife was there.

Q Okay, who else?  
A And....there was...MAHMOUD was there.

Q MACH who?  
A MAHMOUD. The..one of the gentlemen, he's from Samiley (ph).

Q Okay.  
A He's short..and...

Q Okay.

A ...ah...and there was his ah...sister...

Q Uh-huh.

A ...his brother-in-law, her husband...

Q Okay.

A ...my daughter, SARAH...and there were there kids.

Q Do you know where all these other people live at?

A Yea, they live ah..right here.

Q Okay.

A They live and then there was BEHRUZ (ph)...

Q Uh-huh.

A ...he lives in 749.

Q Okay and what time...

A And there was LISA, the lady that you just saw pass by.

Q Okay. At what time did you leave there?

A Ah...we left to go to Village Inn me and my family, ate dinner and I came..ah..and we had two cars...

Q Uh-huh.

A ...and we..we left around...the Mosque around eight o'clock, eight-thirty, I'm not certain about the hour...then we came back and pick..picked my car up and drove it home after dinner.

Q Okay, when you say you left, did your teacher go with you or did he remain there?

A Well, he sometimes..ah..sleeps in the Mosque...

Q I see.

A ...there is rooms there....but he..he stays there sometimes. I'm not sure whether he stayed ah..last night there or he went home, I'm not sure. I don't know.

Q Okay.

A But he was there in his office when I left.

Q Okay. And that was at whata time again, please?

A Between eight and eight-thirty.

Q Okay. Did he appear to be in good spirits at that time?

A No, he..he was concerned that..the guys that claimed to be FBI, he didn't...when we were in a group ah..well before when he said that we...he told me in the kitchen privately that there were two FBI's came and...ah..warned him about there's.. this person they caught or...my impression was they got some information, they had the pictures of the Mosque inside, they were showing it to him and ah..he..they told him to be careful.

A He told me that in private he said, "I didn't want to tell in front of the group to the..to be ah...scare them and because this is a serious matter." And he told me at...you know, they were FBI and warned them and...

Q Warned him that what, that his life was in danger...

A Right...

Q ...is that what you're implying?

A ...right, uh-huh. Then ah..I was..I was in the kitchen, we were gonna expand the parking lot, I was talking to him, I said, "Can I do it with MAHMOUD ah..we'll make the parking spaces smaller, in order to get more cars in the parking lot."

Q Uh-huh.

A And he said, "Okay, go ahead and do it, you and him." In the afternoon we were talking, he must've been watching outside, he noticed my wife came...to the Mosque, I didn't, so he told me, "you're wife, you know, SUSAN just came." And...I had the feeling that he didn't want me to..be to close to him in the kitchen because the..the window is so big that he was..watching outside. So, it..the..the feeling I get that he didn't want me to be to close around him, he was just concerned, his mind. He was..he wasn't himself. He was..something was in his mind. Something was in his mind and...I just...

Q Did he actually tell you that he was in fear for his life?

A Well...he's not ah..he..he's not fearful man, he...no he's... ..he's man of God, I don't know...

Q Okay.

A ...I don't know if you would call it fear...

Q There's no...

A ...there's no...

Q ...a fear...well let me ask you this, now would it be fair for me to say that he was honestly concerned?

A Concerned, yes.

Q Okay.

A That..that's the reason...

Q Alright.

A ...he didn't, I don't think he wanted me to stay in the kitchen to long, in front of the window...

Q I see.

A ...that he..I think that he was thinking that I might be a target also.

Q Sure.

A So...ah...

Q MUHTESM, did he..give you any names of these alleged FBI agents by any chance?

A The name of the FBI agents...

Q Yea, who..

A ...that..the people claim to be FBI agents?

Q Yea, right, did he give you...

A No..no...

Q ...names by any chance?

A ...I wasn't there, I wish I were there. There's a gentleman, another turkish gentleman ah...his name is EDEIP YUKSEL. He was at..at the time they came, he was with them. So...

Q Okay.

A ...if..if you...

Q Where..where would I find this gentleman at?

A I don't know where he is. I don't...

Q Can you describe him to me?

A He's ah..darker then me and he's got long hair. He wears glasses, he's medium height.

Q About how old?

A Ah..he's about 33.

Q Okay. And...

A He's 32.

Q ...does he work, do you know?

A Yea, he..he..he was translating the Koran into Turkish.

Q Okay, and where..where...

A He works in the ah..Mosque.

Q Oh, okay, ah..give me his name again, please?

A EDEIP YUKSEL.

Q Okay. How do you spell that?

A E-D-E-I-P Y, his last name is Y-U-K-S-E-L.

Q Okay.

A He's the gentleman that would actually there, when the people came they claimed to be FBI agents.

Q I see, okay. Did your teacher, to your knowledge, have weapons of any type inside the ah...Mosque there?

A Well, I heard that if..he..he had a 22, I know.

Q Ah..when you say 22, you're talking about...  
A A gun, gun, a weapon.

Q Okay, I understand...  
A \_\_\_\_\_ (inaud)...

Q ...but you never saw it?  
A \_\_\_\_\_ (inaud)

Q You know if it was a 22 revolver or automatic, do you know by any chance? Do you know the difference between automatic and revolver?  
A Ah..yes, one is ah..that..that thing comes out...

Q Sure.  
A ...and the other one is...

Q Do you know what kind he had?  
A No...

Q Okay.  
A ...I never saw the weapon, I did...

Q Did your teacher, to your knowledge have any other weapons around?  
A No, no, this..this was...you know, came in a conversation when we were in a group that he..picked..bought that gun, 22, they said.

Q Okay. To your knowledge has anyone actually attempted to take his life in the past?  
A Oh, yea, there's been many, many threats on the phone.

Q Okay.  
A And there's been, one guy...ah..he told me that he was from ah...Egyptian Secret Police...

Q Uh-huh.  
A ...that came to the Mosque, I was the one at that time answered the door ah...with the gentleman FRAC YORGAN (ph)...

Q Uh-huh.  
A ...with the gentleman that you talking...and that guy from Egypt had his hand in his pocket ah..all the time, even, I watched him leaving ah..at..after we told him that he..he wouldn't be able..he can't enter the Mosque.

Q I see.  
A So..and..that guy was also following DOCTOR RASHAD KHALIFA before he noticed him. That he was following him around, before he approached ah...at that time when we were worship, we were worshipping, Friday's there's a worship at 12:15, he came at that time..to enter the Mosque, me and FRAC..FRAN

A YORGAN (ph) didn't let him in and he had his right hand, I believe, in his pocket at all times. That's one thing, but there's many times that ah..vicious Arab people came, you know, and there has been a lot of threats to his life, we gonna kill you.

Q Okay, do you know if these incidents were ever reported to the police?

A He told me once he called the police, yes, he mentioned it, not only to me, I think he mentioned it in a group that...

Q Uh-huh.

A ...one time there was a phone call, out of state, he said, "I'm gonna come and kill you." I think he called the ah..police in that state, I'm not sure.

Q Okay, is all this ah...do these threats evolve around the fact that he's the teacher of the Islam Submission to God or is that \_\_\_\_\_ (inaud)...

A Yes, he's the true teacher. He is the true servant of God.

Q Okay.

A Because he's..preaching was always worship God alone and follow the word of God alone.

Q Okay.

A But what you find in Middleast they fought..they mixed the traditions and the culture with the religion...

Q I see.

A ...what they do is not..is not religion, it's got nothing to do. I can give you another sample you see so many people claim to be Christians, so called Christians, and there's so many sects and God says there's no sect in my religion.

Q Okay.

A There's only submission to me and...all these people mix the ..there traditions, there culture with the religion and they claim this is from God.

Q Okay.

A All he did was preach the word of God.

Q Okay. Did you see anyone suspicious hanging around this area ah..yesterday evening?

A Yesterday evening?

Q Yes.

A Ah...not really.

Q Okay. Ah...it's my understanding in talking to you earlier that you were kind of like his...one of his guards is that correct...

A No, no...

Q ...would that be ah...

A ...it can't be.

Q No?

A You can't call it a guard I just..he was very close to me, he was like father that I had...(crying) he was really good to me. He was friend and you would watch your friend's back wouldn't you?

Q Sure.

A If..if somebody tried to (crying)...if somebody tried to threaten the closest friend you got, you watch him, wouldn't you? (crying)

Q I..I..I understand.

A I would never call myself, I'm nothing, but I loved him very much and God used him to..see God's light, he was my teacher and he was ah...he..he was very close to me...and...I would always watch because I felt that, you know, I can, I..that's my responsibility.

Q Sure. Okay. Ah..is this a true and voluntary statement given by you without promise of reward, threat or duress so that the true facts in this case may be known?

A Excuse me, I didn't understand.

Q Okay, is everything you told me here the truth?

A Yes.

Q Okay. Is it all voluntar in your part?

A Yes.

Q Did I promise you anything to tell me what you've already told me?

A Excuse me?

Q Did I..did I make you any promises for you to tell me all this?

A No, nothing.

Q Okay. Did I tell you I was gonna reward you in anyway?

A No.

Q Did..did I threaten you in anyway?

A No.

Q Okay. And you told me all this so we'd know the truth in this case?

A Yes, I..I want, you know, these people..we..we want to know who our enemies are...



Q Sure.

A ...I want to know, you know, I...

Q Yea.

A ...I want these people to bring in to justice and God will...

Q Okay.

A ...do that.

Q Let..let me have your full name again, please?

A MUHTESM ERISEN.

Q And the time now is approximately 0930 hours.

INTERVIEWED BY

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