

THIS IS A TAPED STATEMENT REFERENCE CASE NUMBER 90 01 31 0233. THIS STATEMENT IS TAKING PLACE AT THE MAIN STATION IN JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION ON THE 31ST OF JANUARY, 1990, AT APPROXIMATELY 0900 HOURS. PRESENT IN THE INTERVIEW ROOM IS DETECTIVE SKUTA.

Q For the tape, would you tell us your full name?

A My first name is S-O-A-D.

Q S-O-A-D?

A Yeah, Soad, you mean my middle name too?

Q Um-hum(affirmative).

A Abudel, A-B-U-D-E-L, Halin, H-A-L-I-N, Khalifa, K-H-A-L-I-F-A.

Q How old are you Soad?

A Thirty-eight.

Q And your date of birth?

A [REDACTED]

Q And where are you currently living?

A At 747 East Sixth Street.

Q So what is your relationship to Doctor Khalifa?

A My brother.

Q This morning Lisa came to your door and knocked on the door, do you recall about what time?

A Ten minutes before six.

Q And what did she tell you?

A She said, "Call 911." She told my husband to call 911.

Q Did she at that time tell you what happened?

A She said that Rashaad was shot. She didn't say anything, she just...

Q That he was shot?

A Rashaad _____ (inaudible).

Q Okay. Did you go into the kitchen area?

A Yeah I went. _____ (inaudible)...stabbed him. They stabbed him many times. Just as they did to Jesus before.

Q Did you see a knife in the kitchen when you went in?

A No.

Q Okay. So we understand from talking to your husband and from talking to Lisa that there have been a lot of threats made against your brother?

A Yeah.

Q What we need to do is to go into those...is to go into those threats and find out what was going on over at the Mosque and who was involved.

A Had threatening phone calls. Many phone calls. From Saudis and other people.

A people.

Q From Saudis?

A Saudi _____ (inaudible) what he said because...because he was God's messenger. They insist...they insisted that Mohammed was the lost messenger. They didn't believe _____ was the last messenger. Rashaad was messenger. God sent him to teach us in a _____ religion because it's not the _____ religion anymore and they had to...

Q So this announcement that he made, when he announced to the rest of you that he was a messenger, how long ago did that start? When did he announce that?

A He announce it? Announced it ah...I _____ about two years ago and they didn't like it at all, since this time...

Q And there has been trouble since then?

A Yeah, they said it _____. He was not in trouble but they didn't like that all...how come...how come a messenger comes after Mohammed, 'cause they worship Mohammed. They don't worship God, 'cause Rashaad always said, "God alone, God alone", but they insisted Mohammed, not God.

Q Soad, was there any particular person, Saudis or...

A That threatened him?

Q Yes, who have threatened him, that you are aware of?

A No. I didn't know any names but I knew the Saudi radio _____ to anybody from any country.

Q It is our understanding that at some point in time your brother was a hit list. Is that correct?

A Pardon?

Q That his name was on a list to be killed?

A Yeah, they wanted to kill him, especially since he announced that he is messenger.

Q And those are the Saudis?

A Yeah.

Q Who else has made threats against him?

A Um...could be Arabs too. Mainly Saudi Arabians 'cause they think we are _____ and they think they love Mohammed but we don't. We don't love _____ Mohammed and _____ love. They are just very bad. They have too much money, too...too much bad things with it.

Q Has any of these groups...have any of these people shown up over at the mosque in person and made threats to your brother?

A I think many Arabs used to come to the mosque to argue with him. Many Arab soldiers and others...others.

Q But you don't know any names of any particular person?

A No. There are many. No. I think many names.

Q Were...

A 'Cause I was not...I was not there all the time. I just heard. I hear

A somebody came from what I understand, from the talk. Somebody came to _____ and they don't believe that he's God's messenger.

Q Would any of those people had been at the mosque last night?

A Last night? No, but somebody came..not last night, the night before and he said he wanted to meet Rashaad. He said...he said he was from _____. _____ is just next to Saudi Arabia. I don't believe him. I think he was from Saudi Arabia, not from _____. _____ and Saudi Arabia is one country and he wanted to meet Rashaad but we didn't get him and then he bought one Koran and left.

Q Do you know who he was?

A No.

Q Did he leave a name?

A No. He said he's from _____ and that's it. No _____.
No. He could be a liar to me. He could be from Saudi Arabia or anywhere, ya know, _____ can hire anybody. From one country.

Q What time did he come over?

A Seven thirty to eight, 'cause we were ready to pray night. Probably about seven...from seven to seven-thirty.

Q And this would have been Monday night?

A Yeah, the night before last night.

Q Okay. Monday night.

A Yeah, Monday night.

Q What did he look like?

A Oh, I didn't see him so...

Q Oh, you didn't see him?

A No.

Q Did your husband see him?

A No, but a friend of us and the mosque, he _____. He told us about it and he said somebody from _____ wants to meet Rashaad and she tried to look through the window and he...he thought he was lying to him and he said, "Why do you lie to me and he's here." He saw Rashaad inside. Through the window. He even told Rashaad to put _____ and _____ what he didn't want.

Q Rashaad never spoke to him?

A No he didn't, because he know..he knows they can be bad and can hurt him.

Q Who was the person who spoke to this man?

A It's Matashin(ph)...Matashin and he's from Turkey. His name is Matashin.

Q Marta?

A Matashin.

Q Okay, I'm real terrible with the names.

A Matashin.

SS I can...I spoke to her husband and I got M-O-T-C-H-U-M, was...something like that.

A M-U-H-E-T-E-S-H-A-N. Something like that.

SS He doesn't live there right there on the property though, does he?
A Muheteshan?

SS Right.

A No. He lives...no, he's not close to the mosque. He lives far away.

SS He lives somewhere else.

A But his wife was with us this morning. Susan. His wife Susan.

Q You were at the mosque last night?

A Yeah.

Q Who else was at the evening and night prayers?

A Was with us?

Q Ah-huh?

A Me, my husband, the children and Mohammed was asleep. Was supposed to pray with us but he slept and the _____.

Q Bahroes?

A _____, yeah, B-A-H-R-O-E-S. And Muheteshan and Susan and Sarah her daughter. That's it.

Q Sarah?

A And _____, another lady. Yeah, Sarah is Susan's daughter. Muheteshans.

Q Okay. Susan's last name is Erinson, do you know?

A _____, I think _____ it's not easy to me...the last name.

SS Mohammed is married to Linda, is that right?

A You mean Mohammed?

SS Mohammed?

A _____.

SS And they are having some trouble right now?

A Yeah, she want to divorce, ya.

SS Do you know where she lives?

A No. Nobody knows. She left about two weeks ago and she took her son.

SS Was she mad with your brother?

A Yeah, yeah. I don't think she can do....she can't _____. Many people was mad at him and many people are _____ with him but not everybody think to kill him. Not everybody.

Q Was there anyone else there last night, at evening or night prayers?

A No, I don't think there was. _____.

Q You said who?

A _____. She's _____.

Q How about Adid(ph)?

A No, Adid was not there.

Q Emily?

A Emily? Last night?

Q Um-hum?

A I think so. Yeah, _____.

Q Bahroes was there?

A Yeah, Bahroes.

Q Anyone else that you can think of?

A No, _____.

Q What time would you have gone to the mosque last night?

A Last night we went to prayers and sit with them. We went there five minutes before six.

Q And what time would you have left?

A Excuse me...we left after we prayed, about seven-thirty.

Q Was your brother still there when you left Soad?

A Um..he left before us. Just before us. Maybe five minutes or ten minutes before us, said goodnight to us.

Q Who was there when you left?

A When I left?

Q Um-hum?

A I think everybody was still there. I think we left first. I can't remember if somebody left before us. I think everybody was still there _____....Susan...I can't remember if Susan left with us at the same time. I'm not sure.

Q Was your husband's wife at the mosque last night?

A Who?

Q Your brother's wife?

A No.

Q No? Where is it that she lives?

A Oh, I don't know her address but they live quite a way.

Q Do you know the phone number?

A I think, 296...my husband knows it _____7474...0740...something like this, but my husband knows it.

Q And her name is what?

A Her name is Stephanie.

Q Stephanie?

A Stephanie Khalifa, yeah.

Q When you went to your apartment after you left the mosque, is that where you went?

A Last night?

Q Um-hum? Did you stay at the apartment for the rest of the night and what

Q time would you have gone to bed?

A About nine...nine or nine-thirty.

Q Did you hear anything unusual going on at the mosque at that time?

A No. No. We think...do you think somebody came to kill him at nine o'clock, no. He should used to go every night to mosque about twelve or one o'clock 'cause he was translating the Koran and I think somebody was watching him..._____ he knew he was alone every night at this night.

Q When your brother left and he would come back very early...

A Yeah, he comes early, yeah, 'cause he wants to be quiet when he works. He wants quiet.

Q Is the mosque usually locked at night?

A Yeah.

Q Do you know what time your brother returned this morning or last night to the mosque?

A I guess he came...say twelve or one, somewhere before I had....sometimes I helped him...came two o'clock....

Q But this morning you didn't hear what...

A No. No.

Q Have you seen your brother with a gun before?

A The gun?

Q Uh-huh?

A No. I don't think he has a gun. Although he...ya know...all..all these threats, but he not try to have guns, no, 'cause he knows when anybody

SS It's our understanding that when Linda was having trouble with her husband, that she may have given your brother a gun. Do you know about that?

A She may have given my brother a gun?

SS Right, to keep so that no one would hurt them. Do you know anything about that?

A No. But if she had trouble with my brother, how come she give him...

SS No, no, no. With her husband. With her husband, that she may have given a gun to him to just to keep away from she and her husband?

A Gun to her husband you mean?

SS No.

A A gun to my brother?

SS She gave...Linda may have given a gun to your brother when they were having...when she and her husband were having problems, so that it wouldn't be there in the house to cause trouble. Do you know anything about that?

A No I don't think so. No.

SS Okay. You never saw...did you ever see Linda with a gun at all or her husband?

A I think her husband had a gun there but I didn't feel that she gave it to anybody.

SS Okay, so you don't know about that?

A No.

SS What kind of car did your brother normally use?

A _____ (inaudible).

SS Do you know what color it is?

A Yeah, _____ and he has another one, brown.

SS Alright, do you know what he was driving last night?

A I don't but the night before he was using the van, 'cause he told us. Monday night he used the van and he went to take the _____ in the middle of the night and he was going around the place and he was feeling that something's coming. He was feeling that. Maybe he knew something would happen.

Q Had he received any threats within the last couple of days that you're aware of?

A I don't know. I think he...I think he received threats recently because I felt that he was to think about something danger or something....he... he was think _____ to where we pray, somebody can watch us, ya know, so somebody could...so nobody can come and hurt us _____ but this is something new. _____ and somebody watch for us.

Q How long....

A This is new, I think that there's something...

Q How long has someone been watching?

A No. We didn't do it yet but....

Q Oh...he was talking about doing it.

A Suggested, yeah, about two days ago. I _____ that somebody watch for us and we pray and then he pray after us. So I felt that he's feeling, ya know, not safe. Maybe he received new threats or stronger threats, ya know.

Q When he received these threats, was it normally by telephone or did it come in the form of a telegram or a letter?

A I think it was by phone. I think so.

Q And do you know where these calls were placed from? Did they come through Saudi Arabia? Did they come from local?

A It can be from here, local. It can be from Saudia Arabia. _____ Arabs can call him. They can even call him from Saudia Arabia.

SS But did these calls come right to the mosque, in the office at that phone or did they come to your house or did they come to...

A No. They call him at his office.

SS How about at his house? Do you know anything about that?

A No. I didn't think they call his house, 'cause he was most of the time... he was working in the mosque so they know him...he spent most of his time at the mosque and if they wanted his number, they would look in the phone book and they'd find the mosque _____.

SS You have two nephews?

A You mean his son...his daughter and his son?

SS He has...

A He has one daughter and one son.

SS One daughter and one son.

A Yes.

SS Do they come to the mosque? Do they practice the religion?

A Yeah. They come on Fridays.

SS They come on Fridays only or were they there this week?

A No. They come on Friday to pray _____ and they come at night to study Koran...to study at night.

SS Were they there last night?

A Last night? No, Friday. They come on Fridays.

SS Okay, just Friday?

A Yeah.

SS And they don't come at night to pray?

A No. I don't think so. No. I only see them come Fridays.

SS Did your brother warn his children and his wife about these other threats do you know?

A I think they know, yeah. I think, yeah, he didn't hide them. _____.

SS Did you ever discuss...do you talk to his...to your sister-in-law and your niece and nephew, do you talk to them a lot? Do you see them?

A Oh, not a lot. They're always busy. They're busy.

SS Do you have a close family? In other words, do you get together?

A No. Not very often. No, 'cause his daughter goes to school everyday and _____ she works _____ and his wife is working. All of us are busy and we don't see each other very often.

Q Would you like some more water? Do you need some more?

A No, I had stuff already. I mean, I had coffee some time ago.

Q How long has your brother been at the mosque over on Sixth and Euclid?

A In the mosque? About eleven years.

Q Eleven?

A Yeah. Ten or eleven.

Q Soad, who do you believe is responsible for this?

A _____ him?

Q Um-hum?

A I don't _____ anybody. I don't know.

SS You seem to think though that the Saudis have something to do with this?

A Yeah, sure.

SS Do you think that the pressure, because of his religious statements...

A Yeah.

SS Is such that it upset the Saudis?

A Yeah.

SS How about locally, your husband mentioned that the mosque at Speedway and Cherry, are they connected with the Saudis?

A Mosque on Speedway?

SS Do you know about that mosque?

A You mean the new mosque that Saudi Arabia are building, the Saudis?

SS Um-hum?

A Yeah, but it's too _____. I don't think anybody goes there, but _____.

SS Is there a group of local Saudis that have either verbally attacked your brother or made statements publicly?

A I don't know about this but I think...I think there have been. Maybe... I'm not with him all the time. I just here things when I go to the mosque but I don't see anything.

SS Your brother publishes a...or published a newsletter, is that true?

A Yeah.

SS Are there other newsletters here in Tucson that are published?

A It's one...it's one newsletter every month.

SS Just one newsletter?

A _____ to Saudia Arabia. I think we sent it to Saudi Arabia too. I'm not sure. He sends to everybody, even the people who don't agree with him. They get _____.

SS And is it printed here in Tucson?

A I think so. I don't know if they print it at the mosque or outside. I don't know.

SS What time did you go to be last night?

A About nine to nine-thirty.

SS Allright, were your children sleeping?

A Yeah. They went to bed maybe ten minutes before us or fifteen minutes.

SS Were there any disturbances last night?

A No.

SS Do you sometimes hear your brother come when he comes early in the morning or at midnight? Do you hear his car? Does that wake you up?

A No. I wish I heard. No.

SS You don't normally wake up? The car..his car coming in doesn't disturb you or your husband?

A No.

SS You sleep through that?

A Yeah, we don't hear that _____. Sometimes...

SS Okay and you didn't hear him last night come back?

A No. No.

SS You heard no arguing?

A No.

SS You mentioned earlier in our statement and I know it's difficult to remember everything that happened but you mentioned that they stabbed your brother like they stabbed Christ?

A Yeah.

SS Did you actually see stab wounds or did you...

A Yeah, I saw the stab wounds.

SS But you didn't see a knife?

A No. No. He took the knife with him.

SS Allright.

A How _____.

SS When you were woke up...when Lisa came to the door this morning, what did she say about what had happened?

A She didn't say anything.

SS How did she describe?

A She just said, "Call 911, Rashaad, Rashaad", that's it.

SS Rashaad's been shot?

A No, no. She said, "Rashaad, Rashaad" and that's it.

SS Oh, she didn't say shot?

A No, no.

SS Did she say stabbed?

A No, no. I think she didn't...ya know, she didn't want to tell me 'cause she was afraid....

SS She was very upset?

A Yeah, she was, yeah.

SS Allright. Is there anything else and I know it's difficult because it's so close to his death, is there anything else that happened today or in the recent past, something that you think is unusual or somebody other than this man from _____, other than him, something else that we haven't asked you about, something that you think is important?

A No.

SS Let me ask you this, did your brother keep a diary or did he write down about these threats and things from the Saudis and from these other people, did he keep a log of what was going on in his life and who were his enemies and who were his followers?

A I don't think so, no.

SS Was there on particular place that he kept his personal belongings, his little personal notes and...

A I don't _____ his office.

SS Is there a desk in the office?

A I think he must have something in the office.

SS You've never been in there?

A No. I don't go in the office.

SS You don't go in there?

A Not really, no, 'cause I know he's always busy and I'm a _____
to go inside.

SS Okay. Do you have a key into the mosque?

A We have...we have...we have key to the door.

Q To the kitchen door?

A No, the other door. Most of us have keys so we can go when we want
to go.

Q Is that all the members of the mosque or just...

A No, I don't think all the members, no, 'cause we used to go every morning
to study, to pray there and study Koran.

Q How many people would have keys?

A A lot of people come in the morning. We have...me, _____,
Muhammed, _____, but I'm not sure if _____ has _____.

Q But that would...those keys open the front door to the mosque?

A Yeah, the door on the street, yeah. Not the kitchen door.

Q Okay, so once those people go into the mosque, can they get into the
kitchen if it's locked?

A No, the kitchen...sometimes it's locked and sometimes it's open.
_____ pray in the mosque.

Q In the mosque? For the tape, tell me your full name again?

A Soad Abudel Halin Khalifa.

Q And has this been a true statement?

A Yeah, this is a true statement.

Q Has this been a voluntary statement?

A No, it's a true statement. You mean...yeah, it's a voluntary.

Q Voluntary?

A Yeah.

Q Okay. That's going to conclude the tape. The time is now 0930 hours.

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