



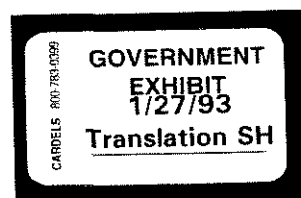
SUBJECT: Muhammad Salah's Police Statement 1

DATE: 01/27/1993

(ILL)= Illegible

Bold font denotes words/phrases written in English

03 CR 978



00001

Statement of:

Passport no. 024296248

Last name: Salah First name: Muhammad

Father's name: Abd Al-Hamid (Grandfather) Khalil

Religion: Muslim Date of Birth: May.30.53

Place of birth: Jerusalem

Permanent address: Chicago

Place of employment: Chicago, car dealer

On 27 January, 1993, at 14:30, the aforementioned sat before me and I told him: I, Staff Sergeant Maron Sulieman, hereby inform you that you are suspected of (list the action attributed to the suspect):

1. Hostile activity within the scope of HAMAS.
2. Financing and funneling money to HAMAS operatives in the West Bank and in Gaza strip.
3. Awareness of the murder of an IDF soldier and of a woman suspected of being a collaborator, by HAMAS operatives and recruits.

[Signature of] Sal

[Signature of] Maron Sulieman

You are not obligated to say anything unless you wish to do so, but everything you say will be documented by me and may be used as evidence against you. After I read the said above to the aforementioned, he said:

I understand the warning and wish to tell you the truth. While I was visiting the West Bank in 1989, I met with Muhammad Kathem, AKA Abu Obadah who is a HAMAS operative. I met with Abu Obadah in a mosque in Al Birah. I gave Abu Obadah my address and telephone number in Chicago, U.S.A. should he want to contact me in the future. And indeed, in the summer of 1992, Abu Obadah, Muhammad Kathem, arrived in Chicago, U.S.A., to visit me. I

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met with him there. I understood from him that he was wanted by the Israeli authorities for his activity in HAMAS. In December 1992, Abu Obadah called me at my home in Chicago. He called from London. This was after the deportation of HAMAS operatives. Muhammad Kathem, Abu Obadah, asked me to fly to the West Bank in order to distribute money that he would give, and distribute it among HAMAS operatives in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as well as to deal with the HAMAS activity in the area in the wake of the deportation. I agreed. After I agreed, Mohammad Kathem...

[Signature of] **Sal**

[Signature of] **Maron Sulieman**

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...AKA Abu Obadah deposited the sum of \$300,000 for distribution among HAMAS operatives in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Note that Muhammad Kathem deposited this sum in my account after I had given him the account number. The name of the bank is "Tallman in Chicago." Indeed, I flew to Israel on January, 13, 1993. I met with Muhammad Kathem at the airport, during a lay over in London. In the conversation between Muhammad Kathem and myself in London, Muhammad Kathem instructed me to distribute the money as follows:

1) The Gaza area - give a HAMAS operative, known as Abu Mujahid or Mujhid, the sum of \$100,000. 2) The Nablus area - give \$200,000, for which I had to call phone number 927438 378978 and set up a meeting. 3) The Hebron area - give \$50,000 to a HAMAS operative named Abu Husam, phone number 927438. 4) The Ramallah area - the sum of \$100,000 - give to a HAMAS operative who remained in the area and was not deported. Note that a name was not indicated because there were many deportees from the Ramallah area.

On January, 24, 1993, I arrived in Israel via Lod Airport. From there, I took a cab to the YMCA hotel, "The Christian Youth Organization," in East Jerusalem. Note that two days prior to my arrival, the man, AKA Abu Anas, whose name is Muhammad Hilmi Jarad, also arrived. He is about 35 years old, and lives in Chicago, U.S.A.. I am his friend. He's originally from Ein Yabrud, in the Ramallah area. Note that also Abu Anas met with Mohammad Kathem in London. Note that the one who's nicknamed Abu Anas is known to me as a HAMAS operative and supporter. I wish to note that Abu Obadah, Muhammad Kathem, instructed me to deduct a certain sum from the amount I received from him, for my activity in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. I took \$6,000 and deposited it in my account. Three days later, I met with a money

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changer by the name of Rubhi Abd Al-Rahman who has an office in Ramallah.

[Signature of] **Sal**

[Signature of] **Maron Sulieman**

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Statement of:

Last Name: Salah First Name: Muhammad
Father's Name: Abd Al-Hamid

I policeman Maron Sulieman here by inform you that you are suspected of- (list the action attributed to the suspect)

CONTINUED 2

Note that I received the money-changer's address from a friend of mine in Chicago called Samir Yasin, who indicated that Rubhi could be trusted. Note that Samir Yasin is originally from the West Bank. I approached the money changer, Rubhi, and agreed with him that I would transfer \$200,000 from my account into Rubhi's account and after receiving a fax confirming the transfer, Rubhi would give me the money, \$200,000. On the same occasion, I gave Rubhi 3 checks in the amount of \$10,000, and he gave me \$30,000 in cash. I called my wife in Chicago and asked her to transfer \$200,000 from my account into Rubhi's account in Chicago. Note that Rubhi has a bank account in Chicago. Two days later, Rubhi received a fax confirming the money had been transferred into his account. Following this, Rubhi gave me \$100,000 in his office in Ramallah. Three days later, I met with him again and he gave me \$100,000.

[Signature of] Maron Sulieman

[Signature of] Sal

About a week later I traveled to Gaza in order to meet with Abu Mujahid, as Mohammad Kathem had instructed me. I called Abu Ali at 07-8635371 and set up a meeting with Abu Mujahid through him. I indeed met with Abu Mujahid in Gaza in the Gaza-Jerusalem cab station near the Al-Ahli hospital. From there, the two of us drove a short way in Abu Mujahid's car, a white Audi with a license plate of the territories. In the course of the ride, I gave Abu Mujahid \$100,000 and set up a date for another meeting with him at the same place. I then went back to Jerusalem. The following day, I went to visit Muhammad Hilmi Jarad, AKA Abu Anas, in Ein Yabrud. During the conversation between us, Abu Anas told me that he came on behalf of Abu Obadah in the wake of the deportation. But did not exactly specify his role. Abu Anas said that he was supposed to go to Um El-Fahm and Gaza. I agreed with Abu Anas, Muhammad Jarad, that the following day we would both go to Gaza. The next day, Abu Anas and I drove to Gaza in a car, whose type I do not know, which I rented from (UI). Abu Anas and I met in Gaza with Abu Mujahid, who took us to an apartment far from Gaza, I think in Dir Al-Balah or Khan Yunis. I do not know for sure. During this meeting, Abu Mujahid asked for more money, and described the situation of the recruits in the field. Abu Anas and I promised him more money. And even promised that we would convey his requests to the organization abroad. Abu Mujahid said that HAMAS currently owes \$500,000 to HAMAS operatives in Gaza. During this meeting, it was agreed with Abu Mujahid to meet a third time in order to meet the HAMAS commander in Gaza. So a few days later, I went to Gaza and there I met with Abu Mujahid.

~~And he took me~~

.....

[Signature of] Maron Sulieman

[Signature of] **Sal**

Statement of:

Last Name: Salah First Name: Muhammad

Father's Name: Abd Al-Hamid

I policeman Maron Sulieman here by inform you that you are suspected of- (list the action attributed to the suspect)

CONTINUED 3

To be more exact, I met with two people who are among the heads of the HAMAS military faction in Gaza, at 13:00 near the Al-Ahli hospital. The meeting was coordinated by Abu Mujahid. Note that Abu Mujahid was not present at this meeting. I waited near the hospital at 13:00. Suddenly, a car came with two people inside it, who identified me by my clothes, which was coordinated beforehand by Abu Mujahid. The two invited me to get into the car, a white Peugeot. The two drove me into the city of Gaza. At the apartment, one of them introduced himself as Abu Sai'b, and said he received \$50,000 from Abu Mujahid. He asked for more money in order to continue the operations. Abu Sai'b told me that his men had killed a woman who had recruited 70 people to the Israeli intelligence. He also told me that his men had killed and murdered an IDF soldier. This terrorist attack was broadcast a lot in the radio, television, and newspapers. I heard of it in the U.S.A.

[Signature of] Maron Sulieman

[Signature of] Sal

Abu Sai'b noted that one of his recruits wore a torn IDF uniform which aroused the suspicion of the murdered soldier. The soldier put his hands on the shoulders of the HAMAS operative posing as a soldier, with a torn uniform, who then turned around and shot him and killed the soldier with a rifle he had in his hands. After that, I promised them that if I'm able, I will transfer more money to them through Abu Mujahid. Last Monday I met with Abu Mujahid in Gaza for the fourth time, in an apartment outside Gaza. Abu Mujahid again asked me for money for HAMAS operatives in the Gaza Strip. Abu Mujahid noted that there were many collaborators in the Gaza area, and that HAMAS operatives interrogate, record, photograph them, and then murder them. Abu Mujahid noted that at that point, HAMAS tries not to murder collaborators on purpose, in order to leave the problem of the deportees a central problem in this region and in the world. On the same occasion, Abu Mujahid asked me to take a number of dispatches to the HAMAS leaders abroad. I was afraid I would be caught with them, so in the end I took one open dispatch in order to pass it to it to the HAMAS commander abroad, Abu Obadah. So I took a dispatch from him. I put it in a pamphlet I had. The pamphlet is in English and it's blue. (ILL) (ILL) Jerusalem report, "Jerusalem report," **The Jerusalem report**. Then I took the pamphlet with the dispatch. I put them in my car, and drove back to Jerusalem to the hotel. I was arrested at the Erez checkpoint, and the dispatch inside the pamphlet was apprehended with me. I would like to note that when I was arrested, one of the policemen asked me whether the magazine and the dispatch belonged to me. I denied it, because I was afraid. But the truth is that the this dispatch...

[Signature of] Maron Sulieman [Signature of] Sal

Statement of:

Last Name: Salah First Name: Muhammad
Father's Name: Abd Al-Hamid

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...is mine, and the pamphlet as well. Question I am now showing you a pamphlet in English, marked as Y.A. 25.1.93, item 10. I am also showing you a dispatch written in Arabic, marked as Y.A. 25.1.93, item 7. Are this magazine and this dispatch those that you received from Abu Mujahid and were apprehended with you in the car, at time of your arrest?

Answer Yes. Those are the dispatch and the pamphlet that were apprehended with me at the time of my arrest. I received the dispatch from Abu Mujahid, for the HAMAS commander abroad. I would like to note that in the course of the time I was in Jerusalem, I met with Marwan Khawaja, age 26, from Ein Sinya, and asked him to arrange a meeting for me with Adil Awadallah, a fugitive, about 28 years old, from Al-Birah, a HAMAS recruit. This was per the request of Abu Obadah. Note that I know Marwan since 1989, while I visited the West Bank. I also gave Marwan \$500 in 89, which I received for him from Adnan Al-Haj from Chicago, for female relative of (ILL).

[Signature of] Maron Sulieman

[Signature of] **Sal**

So, the next day I went to the computer store in Jerusalem, where I met Marwan, who is one of the owners. Marwan said that he arranged a meeting for me with Adil Awadallah. We both drove to Ramallah, in a car I rented. Marwan showed me Adil's apartment on the third floor of a 6-story building in Ramallah. I went in to Adil's and Marwan went on his way. I met with Adil in his home. He asked me for money for families of HAMAS detainees in the West Bank. Adil also told me that he did not know why the authorities wanted to deport him. I would like to point something out to you that I forgot. In the summer of 1992, I met with Adil at his home during my visit to the West Bank. This was per the instruction of Muhammad Kathem. At this meeting Adil asked me to convey a message to Abu Obadah, Muhammad Kathem: how they as HAMAS should act if there should be an autonomy. Later on I met with Adil again, about a week ago. He asked me for money. I transferred \$60,000 to him, which I sent him with Marwan Khawaja. Marwan took this money from me in his store, the computer store. He funneled the money to Adil in Ramallah. Note that my visit to the West Bank in the summer of 1992 was per the instruction of Muhammad Kathem, Abu Obadah. I was sent on his behalf to check out the situation of HAMAS on the West Bank. So at that time, I met with Saleh Al-Arouri, a student in Hebron University, who asked me for the sum of \$48,000 for buying weapons for the operations. I agreed, and called Abu Obadah who gave me approval. I gave Saleh Al-Arouri this sum. I gave him this sum in cash, which I received from my friend, Walid Kiswani from Chicago, who was visiting Israel at that time. I paid him the money back in Chicago, after I received this money from Abu Obadah.

[Signature of] Maron Sulieman

[Signature of] Sal

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Statement of:

Last Name: Salah First Name: Muhammad
Father's Name: Abd Al Hamid

CONTINUED 5

I would like to note that the whole time I met with the HAMAS operatives, which I mentioned to you in this statement, I always introduced myself by my code name Abu Ahmad, which is a social name because the name of my son is Ahmad. I would also like to note that about a week ago, my friend Abu Anas, Muhammad Jarad, and I met with Dr. Sleiman Aghbariah from Um El-Fahm, who is the deputy mayor of Um El-Fahm. I was Abu Anas's escort in this meeting. During this meeting, the Deputy Mayor Dr. Suleiman said that they did not have enough money to distribute among the families of the detainees in the territories, and to all the needy. Therefore, Dr. Sulieman introduced us to Sheikh Kamal from the village of Dura, who was the chairman of the committee for food distribution in the territories. Who also claimed that they did not have enough money. Note that Abu Mujahid also indicated, in the meeting with him, that not enough food came to Gaza from the food distribution committee located in Um Al-Fahm, "Food Committee."

[Signature of] Maron Sulieman

[Signature of] Sal

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Dr. Sulieman also said that he went to Gaza to closely watch over the distribution of funds to the needy. I would also like to note something else: that Rubhi Abd Al-Rahman, the money changer, received a commission of 1.3 percent of the whole sum from me, about \$2700. Note that I currently have, at the hotel where I stayed, **Y.M.C.A.** in Jerusalem, \$100,000 which I hid in separate packets on the top shelf of the clothes closet. I would also like to note that Adil Awadallah told me that he intends to flee Israel, but did not indicate how. This is his statement which was read out to him, and he verified it to be true by his signature, of his own free will.

[Signature of] Maron Sulieman

[Signature of] **Sal**

Comment: in the course of the statement, the subject was offered a cold or hot drink. He said he didn't want any. Also, on line 45, page 3, the pen was changed because it ran out of ink.

[Signature of] Maron Sulieman