

[UM] Unidentified Male.  
[UI] Unintelligible.  
[NFI] Not Further Identified.  
(LNU) Last name unknown.  
[*Italics*] Translator's comments.  
[...] Incomplete sentence.

Sh = Shukri Abu Baker  
Om = Omar Ahmad  
Gh = Ghassan  
Ss = Sheik Sharif  
Ga = Gawad (LNU)  
Ab = Abdel Salam (LNU)  
Ak = Akram (LNU)  
Au = Abou Usama (NFI)  
As = Abdel Halim Al Ashqar (Aboul Hasan)  
Aa = Abou Ahmad (NFI)  
Aj = Abdel Jabbar  
Ab2 = Abou Bassem (NFI)  
Mu = Muin (LNU)  
Ar = Abdel Rahman

**Audio file: MTGB 19931002 11.WAV**

Sh: ...UI. That's what we really want. We want smiling faces [*laughter*]. I mean...UI...

Om: You know, they made Jim Zoghby and a Jewish man chairmen of the committee to provide investments in Gaza..., in Gaza and Jericho.

Sh: By God?

Om: Jim Zoghby is a chairman and they gave him a Jewish man...

Sh: No, no. He probably will get the commission and the thing will be over.

Om: And the target is 500 millions...UI. So, they have been contacting people. One of them talked to us. He told him that he donated some dollars long ago. So, he called him. He

told him: "Dr. Sabri...", he used to be a member of the National Council, he told him "We're raising money for Gaza and Jericho". He told him "Ok. So, you and the AIPAC are one". He told him: "Yes. Kind of. We work together". He told him "Congratulations to you"...UI.

UM1: The AIPAC..., one of them wrote an article and said that: "It is time that we put our hands together and, meaning, we don't fight each other. We have one goal".

Gh: Even the Jews are discussing the issue now. What to do now? What should we do?...UI.

Om: It is now 10:30. We will finish by 11:00. We will go rest and, tomorrow, we will...UI.

*[UI group talk]*

Om: Come on. People who have papers, Nihad, Mohamed Maaly. We will have a long talk.

Sh: Come on, our brothers. We still have an evaluation session.

*[UI brief group talk]*

Om: Let's go, people of Political Activism. You will be quizzed. So, work hard.

UM2: In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Prayers and peace be on the gracious prophet. We begin this 3<sup>rd</sup> session, God's willing, by talking about the future of the political, media and public activism, and the public relations...UI, the future and the challenges. In the same manner, God's willing, we will listen to material presented by the brothers and then we will open the door to discussion and comments, God's willing. Anything, Ghassan?

Gh: Is there anyone who doesn't have this paper? The brothers who don't have it.

Om: I don't have it. Prayers and peace be on God's prophet. Thanks be to God, prayers and peace be on God's prophet. Usually...

*[Interrupted by UI group talk]*

UM1: Omar. There are some people who went home, looks like.

Om: No, no. ...UI Aboul Hasan went to get...UI. Abou Ahmad, brother Yousif and brother Haitham went to the festival. And Sheik Sharif. Four of them went to the festival.

UM1: So, should we begin or wait for them?

Om: By God, if you want to wait for brother Muin and Aboul Hasan...

[UI brief group talk].

Sh: This presentation is about political activism, does it have anything new?

Om: There are other presentations. There are other presentations which haven't been made yet.

Sh: Ok, fine. So, we should be fine.

[UI brief group talk].

Om: Ok, go ahead.

UM2: Thanks be to God, Lord of the Two Worlds. Prayers and peace be on our master Mohamed. Regarding this presentation, maybe most of what is in it has been presented before, beginning with the concept for political activism. My view now is that work has increased and the challenges..., the challenge has become bigger than before. We took out all the copies.... We were supposed to make more because...UI.

UM1: Fine, God's willing. Go ahead.

UM2: So, my view is that the challenge and the work will require more effort particularly in the coming period. If we were to carry out our duty, this would require a bigger budget. I mean, the situation of the [Islamic] Association [for Palestine] and its resources are limited and what limits them is the budget. This, of course, is an obstacle..., a fundamental obstacle which must be solved as it stands in the way of the [Islamic] Association [for Palestine]. It must make its decision now. If this obstacle is to be removed, or if the [Islamic] Association [for Palestine] were to play a role in America, it must have a budget and its budget must be increased. There are, of course, questions... the reason I didn't want to..., I put them in the form of questions so that the politicians... or the political segment we had at the beginning discussed these questions in a way or another. We hope that we receive official answers regarding the inclinations of the policies of activism..., things which answer these questions. As for the goals, the concept of the goals - as you put it - is to make Muslims in America aware. The main goal we should follow while doing media activism is awareness. Making people aware of the sanctity of Al Aqsa [mosque] and making charitable work tangible so that people don't feel that work for the cause is over. I mean, charitable work ought to double so that

people... The same thing which was said before. I will mention it quickly. Of course, there are..., there are... In my opinion, we must form a new organization for activism which will be neutral because we are placed in a corner, we are place in a corner. It is known who we are, we are marked and I believe that there should be a new neutral organization which works on both sides so that..., because this state is coming no matter what and this is a new existing order. This suggestion ought to be discussed. Of course..., I threw in some radical ideas so that. We have the opportunity to discuss them. Of course, some of the policies..., our approach or our policies in the arena are: non-opposition to peace as a statement. I mean, someone will ask you: "Are you against peace?" Tell him "No. We are not opposed to peace as a peace but we are against hypocrisy because this peace is not just. We are with all just peace. Justice with peace". Without justice... Even the African-Americans have this title, that there is not justice without peace...

UM1 & several voices: No peace without...

UM2: No peace without justice. It is always a principle of peace with justice. Islamic Palestinian unity meaning, tying the Palestinian cause with its Islamic aspect, that it is just an issue called Palestine that was resolved, it is Islamic...UI and that Jerusalem is a matter of creed and not a matter of Palestine and then transferring this [view] to the Muslim public. The second page, regarding the motto, what I mentioned is that the motto is awareness. We must work on awareness on a very high level, an awareness on the level of imams and Sheiks because, of course, there are many imams and Sheiks and there are Islamic leaders, both Arabs and non-Arabs who are still unaware of..., really don't know these dimensions and positions. So, I believe if we don't carry out this [awareness] no one else will. To make them aware, make the educated segments and the students aware..., this will be done at the universities and the schools' levels, an awareness at the level of the general public, the masses, and an awareness at the level of the young generations. Awareness at the..., the... Of course, there are suggestions for each axis. The first axis is the leaders' levels, to have a conference for the imams...UI in America to discuss the problem and its dimensions and to emerge with a unified concept. The second thing is issuing their private statement. We should always feed them with the points of the Friday sermons and speeches they give about the cause of Palestine. What feeds them shouldn't always be the U.S. media and the non-Islamic media. Building a network of faxes for quick initiatives. Of course, brother Nihad has some items to be added about this subject. Brother Nihad will present them, God's willing. For the educated level, there are some educated people such as engineers, doctors and businessmen. We need to tally them so that we can deal with them and make them aware of this matter. Carrying out student activism in universities has almost decreased at our end. On the contrary, we must bring it back as the children of the communities are the ones who will go to universities. Therefore, the work of the [Islamic] Association [for Palestine] and Palestinian activism

must become active in universities like the days when we were in universities. Activism moved with us. When we were students, it [LAP] was active in universities and now that we have become a community, it is active in the community and not in the universities even universities still have people and this side is now somewhat weak with us. Calling for different political dialogues with other organizations. Adding parts in the educational curricula of MAS and ICNA to explain the meaning of the accord which took place and its secret articles. Of course, awareness at a general level, inviting speakers, conducting conference-calls with mosques like the ones we did with the deportees, conducting seminars... Of course, all of these are suggested activities. As for the young people's level, an educational material ought to be prepared to be taught in Islamic curricula. We don't want the children of the community who are raised here in schools and in Islamic schools and non-Islamic schools to grow up surrendering to the issue of peace with Jews and... I mean, we don't see in ten years the growing generations in America surrendering to peace with Jews. Therefore, there must be curricula and teaching materials which spread in Islamic schools and in weekend schools, the ones which teach children who attend American schools. Curricula ought to be put together to prepare them. Another thing is making teachers aware. We can arrange courses and arrange for cultural and political seminars for teachers who attend the conferences. Instead of bearing the expense of inviting the teachers and making a course for teachers and educators, we could have sessions for them during the ISNA, MAYA and ICNA conferences and things like that. We can request to have such a course to make teachers aware of this angle. Regarding the media aspect..., of course a statement or an issue of Al Zaytouna could be published, like the supplement we put out during the time of the deportees, a light coverage which won't cost much. One could be in English and another one in Arabic and a large number could be printed to explain the articles, the negative aspect of the accord and the secret articles. This should be distributed in the largest quantity possible. Of course, ...UI in Arabic and English languages are available, God's willing. Brother Mohamed has written some articles to be published on some Arabic and Islamic magazines. Of course, making a documentary showing the continuation of suffering. A film must be quickly made and we must try to circulate it in the festivals, I mean, to be shown in the festivals. Collecting cassettes for speeches and lectures about the issue and publishing them. We should try to make a library for the tapes in audio for every speaker who delivers a speech on the subject for every brother who had spoken about the subject. They ought to be collected, made available and..., like they say, feed them to people until they get full. Another thing is preparing a historical museum, a museum ought to be put together..., we have a museum but it needs to be developed so that it can go on a tour because this would really be a part of public awareness so that we can renew for them the meaning of Palestine and Jerusalem. Of course, things which brother Nihad will speak in are to be added to the above. Of course, the charity aspect has had the most discussion and, therefore, there is no need to go over it. That's it. Regarding the issue of the foreign exchange students, this

is something for the next stage. Charity work can focus on this aspect which is bringing people from the inside to America so that...UI. We also ought to focus on the issue of investment and I believe it is very important. The issue of investment on the inside [*is important*] as the issue of money and its availability on the inside is an indication that there will be an economic boom on the inside. As for the festivals, it is suggested to have a 30-minute segment for the participants to come on the stage and express their opinions. I mean, they hand over the microphone to people to come and express their views, whether he is in support or opposition. Let people express their views and have them registered so that the festival is not only for people to listen to you. Let people express themselves which would be a variety in the festival. Now, in particular, many people have views and suggestions. After that, the guest sheik can comment and add to them. A letter could also be prepared and is signed and then sent either to the [*Palestinian Liberation*] or to Yasser Arafat according to the inclination. There should be a segment in the festival for a discount in Al Zaytouna membership. Regarding the band, we agreed on certain policies. The band is looking for certain policies to follow in its performance and product. So, if we agree on certain policies they will be provided to the band so that its segments are based on them. The video film we spoke about in the beginning ought to be shown. In other words, making a video film. This, quickly, is what...UI.

Gh: Is the system still going to be...UI or each person will discuss his papers?

UM3: The topics overlap. We can discuss a topic now and it is repeated by our brother later.

[*UI brief group talk*].

Sh: Please allow me. Considering the atmosphere in place, if we run this session in the same manner the charity activism session, people will fall asleep, my brother. My opinion is to allow as many action...

UM1: ...UI everybody will sit, listen to the speeches.

Sh: If there is no discussion, we will fall asleep, specially after lunch.

UM1: There is coffee. Drink some.

Sh: So, if there is a chance to... We can determine how long it is. If you want 15 minutes for discussion that will be fine because people will listen and this will energize people. This is my opinion.

[*UI brief group talk*].

UM1: We will take 15-minutes to comment on these issues and then we will move on to... We can open the door to discussion and comment on what was said. Ghassan will go after that.

Om: The elections, of course, my brother. No one commented on them.

UM1: Don't worry about that...UI.

Gh: How about some of the brothers whose voices we didn't hear. The honorable Sheik and the honorable...UI.

Sh: The issue of the festivals..., I believe it is a matter of coordination. I believe they would be a great opportunity to be exposed to a large crowd. There are about 15 festivals and each festival has a large number of people in it. I see that we shouldn't follow the same old methods by making the song the main show. We should benefit from our presence by making awareness the main show; we give more time to the speaker and give him instructions that it shouldn't be like a Friday sermon. There is no need for the Friday sermons, my brothers, please. The festival is not a Friday sermon. Let's be a little bit objective and present issues and numbers to people which will shock people and make them know what is going on. Let them get out of the festival educated and...

UM3: Do you have a problem with the sheiks? [*laughter and a brief UI group talk*].

Sh: My point...UI, my brothers, because we need to face people with reality. Let them come to the festival and benefit more than listening to a certain tune. This is one idea. The second thing is very intelligent which is to involve people. I suggest a third idea which is to conduct a very quick survey, it can be designed now, to let the people in attendance participate in a survey made up of three to four questions: Do you approve of the accord...

UM1: A questionnaire.

Sh: Let them...UI. At least we would have a poll from the field. We will know how people think. How people think. This will benefit us as we will know the nature of our public and how they think. You might be surprised that maybe 70% of your public doesn't know or is not educated. Let's do this so that it help us with the awareness issue.

UM2: We will conduct a survey after the songs and everything.

Sh: By God, I say..., you want to make it a main focus for the song. I believe that you are going to lose so much potential that you could benefit from. People are coming to you,

my brother, and they are right there.

UM2: In support of what our brother Shukri said, people will... In the beginning, let's say that we should let them sing the songs because people are...UI and people don't want to listen to speeches. But, now, people are coming because you know that you are a voice of opposition. So, you're coming to listen to that opinion. Therefore, there is no need for emotional aspects, there should be a focus on points; one, two, three, stuff like that and not just words of enthusiasm.

[UI brief group talk].

Ga: In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Ghassan and I have papers to present which have some ideas which might cross our minds sometimes and they have important details. One might not have details during the registration process but they are very important in my opinion. May God reward him well. I have two remarks; regarding the goals..., regarding the goals, I was very surprised. There is a 180-degree change in customary threatening language of the organizations regarding the Palestinian cause. I personally have a quick comment as I don't want to talk too much...UI. This is my feeling, honestly speaking. You feel that it is over, that's it, we must deal with the reality and we surrendered and the matter is over. My feeling is that the future...UI, honestly speaking. ...UI that you have surrendered and you now work with...UI. This is my feeling and this is the first point. Issues such as steadfastness, struggle, keeping people in the inside stabilized, direct support to the people of Palestine and supporting the Jihad in Palestine are now absent. Where are they? I'm really surprised...UI. Really.

Sh: Also, awareness and informing...

Ga: As for the motto of this phase is..., I agree with the principle of...UI in activism but what is important is the motto. I propose that the motto should be "A wholesome solution" or there is no need for it ...UI. This is also a media goal, it is not a political or charity goal. Awareness and education is not a media [goal]. This is an important issue. ...UI. The issue of the education material for the Islamic community in America..., you presented some ideas. Are you acting up on it or they're only..., just thinking?

UM2: I thought that this is one of the women committee's activities, the Women's Union will do...

UM1: If you examine the introduction, this is..., this point is one of the issues which should be re-examined by writers and thinkers. One of them is preparing curricula material for the schools. Of course, if you look at points 1 and 2...UI, [it says]: "Preparing the following

material: written media material for films, educational material for schools, material for exhibits and banners". These are points which should be studied by people, writers and thinkers. If this stops, of course,...

As: But, are these for Palestinian activism in America? I mean, this is for Islamic activism. Why should we limit ourselves to it?

UM1: You mean Palestinian activism in schools?

As: Yes, ideas for the future of Palestinian activism in North America.

Om: This is only a typo, my brother.

[UI brief group talk].

Sh: The media material is the source which provides schools with material relating to the cause because such material doesn't exist in schools. As a source of information.

UM1: Oh, yes, yes.

As: A part [of the material] about Palestine should be provided by the [Islamic] Association [for Palestine] to the existing schools.

UM1: Of course, the [Islamic] Association [for Palestine] ought to make sure there are curricula in schools which teach about Palestine and Jerusalem. It shouldn't be...er, be... a lesson in geography without mentioning Palestine.

Sh: Yes.

UM1: The point is making sure if this stuff is being taught, particularly in Islamic schools, of course, and that we have materials to support them. As for...UI point,

UM2: Yes, sir.

UM1: Regarding your point I wanted to just throw some ideas but I still have more ideas than that. I just wanted to throw the idea that when we really examine our history we find that when a state is formed, we immediately take up the opposition spot and we continue as opposition to this state until the end of times. We remain in the opposition, why? As long as the state exists and this structure exists, why don't we try to... I mean, before Arafat signed the document we said we are against the agreement, against the state. But, now,

what happened right now? This is a reality and we cannot ignore it. Why do we have to be against this and against that? It is true that you are saying that you are in opposition in order to take a historical stand. We are not in disagreement. I'm just throwing a wild idea. Ok? In order to really be able to deal, comprehend... and benefit from the resources and the influence of this state or this structure, we must have an organization which is affiliated with us to deal with this state. This is the...

Om: What is the form of dealing? What is the shape of the dealing?

UM1: Of course..., of course, I'm not going to defend this point...

Om: I mean, what are you going to do? This is what I mean. Explain this to us.

UM1: I believe that the Palestinian state will begin handling donations, collection of donations and handle foreign exchanges. You can benefit from this. If you want to join the opposition, it is known that you are an Islamist and if you speak with them no one will grant you a foreign exchange or do anything [*favorable*] to you. They might start media organizations abroad, they might start a media organization in America as America now is a front for them. Why don't you have an organization which can be adopted by this Palestinian state? As a media organization, you could issue a newspaper or a magazine which could be...

Om: How is that?

UM1: Or you could be an educational institution sending people on foreign exchanges. I mean..., I believe that the idea should be discussed so that we are not always taking a 100% hostile side to something realistic. I want to give you an example from the time the [*Palestinian Liberation*] Organization started, the brothers..., until now I hear that there are some people who blame the brothers [*saying*] "Why did you leave the Organization? We were a part of the leadership of the Organization. Why did you leave it? You took a neutral stand and now the Organization is on one side and you are on a different side, you became two different paths". Of course, this might be criticized but it is realistic. Some people criticize the brothers [*saying*] "Why did you leave the Organization as soon as it was formed? Because you found that they took a different direction? As soon as you saw that one of them doesn't pray and a few of them cuss the religion and now they're leaders of Palestinian activism. So, this is the point; if we are to get a lesson from that we can benefit from this point in regards to our reality.

Sh: Are there remarks?

Ga: By the way, the Movement now doesn't represent...UI. So, this mentality is out. I didn't hear it from anyone. I didn't hear it from one person.

UM1: Yes.

Ga: And all those concerned are..., not one person has individually spoke about that. And this is...UI, it is a huge development of the stand. And we apply our stand as our stand is not just for history. We don't oppose just for history. This is an old talk and is over with...UI. The direction which is agreed upon is to make the [*peace*] project fail and it is not...UI. And what happened so far with the agreement is that it is just a paper and nothing has been executed until now. It is in the formation stage. So, why so you want to...UI on a whole stage which will take the next four or five months? It will take six months to materialize. When it is complete you can come and give your feedback. The...UI... Originally, there was independence, there was a warning and there was a total withdrawal, even a withdrawal of the multi-national forces from...UI Palestine and all of Israel. There must be a doubt in the peaceful solution. It is something different. We agree on the correct analysis. Here is the project and here are our recommendations. Dealing with it is different but...UI. And how can the [*Islamic*] Association [*for Palestine*] be in harmony given the general atmosphere? Therefore, my opinion regarding the goals is very clear: supporting the resistance to the occupation because the occupation will continue. It won't end. I don't know how many of you think that the occupation will end or not? It won't end, it is not possible. There is only...UI and that's it, even in Gaza and Jericho by the way. Barak confirmed this twice.

UM1: I don't think you could put this kind of stuff with the Foundation or the [*Islamic*] Association [*for Palestine*], support to the resistance to the occupation...

UM2: This is the point. As an American organization, we cannot adopt this stuff or add it to our goals. This stuff..., in the eighties, we at the [*Islamic*] Association [*for Palestine*] wrote that...UI. I mean..., we cannot include this kind of stuff officially in our papers.

Om: ...UI.

Ga: We are speaking from a practical point of view. I don't want to get into that issue. I'm saying: Practically speaking, do you support the resistance or not? This is the question.

UM1: ...UI.

Ga: Huh?...UI.

UM2: As far as the people are concerned, we must specify role in America, that we...

Ga: Number one, two, making people in the Occupied Territories steadfast. Where is that? Adopting the rights of the Palestinian people or the historical rights, that all of Palestine is ours, historically. Where is that?

Om: I just feel that these..., these goals...

UM1: I have them... I have the points.

Om: He has the points and more.

UM2: Allow me. As you explained in this thing..., you talk about the Organization. Do you mean that the organization should be in America and deal with the [*Palestinian Liberation*] Organization in America?

Ga: Yes.

UM1: Whether it is in America or outside of America, when we talk about these goals..., the first thing is that I, as an official American organization..., I'm telling you about things in the heart..., the goals you're talking about are in the heart but, can I write them down or can I support our brothers. We cannot write them down.

Ga: ...UI. Now, what can you do at the [*Islamic*] Association [*for Palestine*]?

UM1: Fine. But,...

Ga: You practice it. You know how to practice it? This is my question to you. You set some goals. Now, begin working on the programs. What does that mean?...UI. I'm working on Jihad, support the Jihad, support the Jihad, support the resistance to the occupation. You're working with all of your media and all of your political address is like that.

UM1: Ah.

Ga: Even supporting Hamas. The [*Islamic*] Association [*for Palestine*] met with the FBI in defense of Hamas. It was a clear talk then. Support to the Movement. Henceforth, do these goals mean anything?

UM2: Keep your voice down. May God be pleased with you.

[Laughter].

Sh: You Virginia guys got us trouble. This is the talk we will...

[Brief UI group talk].

Ga: So,...UI.

UM1: No, no. I believe that the [Islamic] Association [for Palestine] must take that direction meaning that we don't have this experience. In order to really be an Islamic- American organization in America things must be..., some things which were practiced must be determined. In a way or another, when we deliver the meanings of the sanctity of Palestine, when we deliver the meanings of the Islamic aspect of Palestine, what do we mean? Do we mean just talk? No. The context means that...UI. It means...

Ga: ...UI.

UM1: The point is that talk should be worded in a manner which is not spontaneous...

Ga: It is not spontaneous.

UM1: I'm telling you what you're saying and which is what we have.

UM2: OK. Fine. Just wait as Abou Mohamed will say a comment and then we will...

Sh: May God pray on our master, Mohamed and...UI on all the prophets, God's willing. I say that...[laughter]... the brother is saying that Jerusalem is still under occupation. He says..., he is even leaving the matter to charity work. So, it is more worthy that political activism is...UI. [Laughter]...UI, if he says it is under occupation, tell him there are some specific programs. Before..., before all of that talk we should ask ourselves a question; Is America a confrontation front? And what do we want from..., from the reader of Al Zaytouna and the reader of the Monitor and from the guy who owns a store in Chicago? Do I want him to go fight or do I want to earn his sympathy so that he could donate to me or do I want him to have a knowledgeable political culture? We have to specify what we want from people, honestly, otherwise we keep working and publishing a newspaper becomes a goal in itself without finding out what effect does the newspaper have on people. I believe before this session is over we should come up with a clear statement regarding what do we want from people. This is one. And what do we want from the Americans? Do we want to convert them to Muslims, to become Muslims, because the [Islamic] Association [for Palestine] often does activities which sound like that of mosques; pure Islamic

things. Do you want to convert people to Islam, to proselytize to people or do you want them to sympathize with your cause as a high ceiling? We must find out these things. This is another one. The second thing -we were talking about that in the morning- is that our brothers in the Occupied Territories will be pretend to go along with the self-rule and none of their societies will be shut down and this is a matter that hasn't been settled yet. Then enter our brothers who talk to us about politics and tell you: "It is impossible that there will be a self-rule. It is impossible that America will classify Samah as a terrorist organization. It is impossible that Israel will withdraw from one inch. Impossible, impossible....". My brothers, they say that there are no absolutes in politics to start with, there is nothing impossible in politics, everything is possible. It is possible that Israel withdraw tomorrow and forms a Palestinian state the way it wants. What is that? Is the Palestinian state going to be worse than Saudi Arabia, for instance? Saudi Arabia is serving Israel's interests more than Israel serving its own interests. What are you talking about? So, our brother is telling you "Instead of being taken by surprise and then, five months later, begin to wail..", he said: "We will form an organization for you to show the Americans that you are...UI. It will be made up of some of our people, our beloved ones, and let's not hoist a large Islamic flag and let's not be barbaric-talking. We will remain a front so that if the thing happens, we will benefit from the new happenings instead of having all of our organizations classified and exposed". I was telling our brother Aboul Hassan about Al Aqsa Organization. Why "Al Aqsa Educational"? When you go to Oxford they will ask you: "Sir, what is Aqsa?". Make it "The Palestinian General Education Academy". Make yourself a big name like that and give it a media twinkle and there is no need for Al Aqsa, Al Quds, Al Sakhra and all that stuff. Huh? This is for example. And let's stay ahead of the events, our brothers. We will find out later on that Fatah has 50 organizations here in America and offices named "Fatah offices" affiliated with Fatah here in America like they like to affiliate them, charity, educational and schools and everything while we are sitting unable to work because all of us have become burned, all of our organizations are purely Islamic organizations and we don't know how we are going to be dealt with. So, our brother had a suggestion to form an organization - the format he suggested was somewhat controversial, I didn't discuss it with him but I believe its concept is sound - that we should start right now, my brothers, begin thinking about establishing alternative organizations which can benefit from a new atmosphere, ones whose Islamic hue is not very conspicuous.

Gh: Neutral.

Sh: Meaning that we should benefit from..., from...

UM1: When did he say that, excuse me?

Sh: My brother, say what you want to say. The door to politics is big. Did God tell you that you must stand in front of the university and tell them: "We have to..., we have to claim the 1948 land"? It is just talk. This is an impossible address, my brothers. It is not our goal to demand the '48 land. Even if we demanded, neither the U.S. army will return it to you nor the store-owner in Chicago will return it to you. We already talked about that, about the most we could offer in America. What is the address which should be in harmony with our realistic strength. The brother is telling you "Jihad". I can't...er, follow the...

Ga: I didn't say "Jihad".

Sh: Samah..., Samah is classified as a terrorist [*organization*]. By constitution, by law, if I wanted to adopt its work, they kick me out, they kick me out of this country, my brother. By God, they would take away my U.S. citizenship and tell me "Go away". I'm telling you....

Ga: We are not classified, my brother. Who said we are classified?

Sh: Huh?

Ga: Who classified it?

Sh: ...er. I'm saying..., I'm saying that even...

Ga: ...UI that the Movement is a terrorist organization.

Om: No, no, no.

Sh: ...UI, my brother. What did the Congress do?

Ga: There isn't a proposition to... What did it do?

Om: ...UI. The bill didn't pass.

Ga: Huh?

Om: It didn't come yet. The Congress bill didn't...

Ga: It is proposed.

Sh: You mean they won't classify it?

Om: God knows. Basically, let's stay with the..., let's stay on the media topic.

Sh: I was bringing it up in a sarcastic way because every time our problem is that we are reactive, reactive, reactive. Let's be - just one time in our lives - expect the worst case scenario and be proactive so that when an event takes place we would have a blanket to fall on instead of falling to the ground. That's all I mean. That's it.

UM2: Ok. Just a second... Go ahead, Omar.

Om: Fine. I just have a point about the..., about the establishment of a new neutral organization to deal with the [*Palestinian Liberation*] Organization or the self-rule or the new state. I don't believe that there won't be a lot of contacts on the American arena between us and between the [*Palestinian Liberation*] Organization. I mean the [*Palestinian Liberation*] Organization won't have that big of a presence which we must deal with. The fact that it was formed is something for people to see. It is supposed to be like a diplomatic mission like they asked for and the Americans refused. Of course, they made a request to form a diplomatic mission and the Americans refused to grant the agreement. But, they will grant it to them in the future, they will grant it to them. I mean, there will be something like a consulate and not more, not more. Ok, here is the Jordanian consulate or the Jordanian embassy, what is the meaning of the Jordanian embassy or the...

Sh: Or the Jewish consulate.

Om: Or the Jewish one. Nothing. The official is different from the public. The official is different. It is very hard to infiltrate people or the community and work.

Sh: They have already infiltrated the communities.

UM1: Don't forget that America is a front. America has a Palestinian community...

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END OF RECORDING.

