

1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
3 EASTERN DIVISION

4 STANLEY BOIM, ET AL.)

5 Plaintiffs.)

6 VS.) CASE NO. 00 C 2905
7) SENIOR JUDGE GEORGE W. LINDBERG

8) MAGISTRATE JUDGE ARLANDER KEYS

9 QURANIC LITERACY)

10 INSTITUTE, ET AL.,)

11 Defendants.)

12 *****

13 ORAL DEPOSITION OF

14 SHUKRI ABU-BAKER

15 JANUARY 30, 2003

16 *****

17 ANSWERS AND DEPOSITION of SHUKRI ABU-BAKER,
18 taken at the instance of the Plaintiff, on the 30th day
19 of January, 2003, in the above styled and numbered
20 cause at the offices of Gardere Wynne, located at 1601
21 Elm Street, Suite 3000, in Dallas, Dallas County,
22 Texas, before Tami G. Lewis, a Certified Shorthand
23 Reporter in and for the State of Texas, pursuant to the
24 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the provisions
25 stated on the record.

LEGALINK

Dallas

global court reporting • large case specialists • legal videography • litigation support • records production

Stanley, Rice & Associates, Inc.
4144 North Central Expressway, Suite 450 Dallas, TX 75204
Tel 214-720-4567 Fax 214-720-4503 www.legalink.com

GOVERNMENT
EXHIBIT

Baker Deposition
3:04-CR-240-G
U.S. v. HLF, et al.

Page 1

1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 2 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
 3 EASTERN DIVISION
 4 STANLEY BORN, ET AL.)
 5)
 6) Plaintiff,)
 7))
 8))
 9))
 10))
 11))
 12))
 13))
 14))
 15))
 16))
 17))
 18))
 19))
 20))
 21))
 22))
 23))
 24))
 25))

ORAL DEPOSITION OF
 SHUKRI ABU-BAKER
 JANUARY 30, 2003

ANSWERS AND DEPOSITION of SHUKRI ABU-BAKER,
 taken at the instance of the Plaintiff, on the 30th day
 of January, 2003, in the above styled and numbered
 cause at the office of Gardner Wynne, located at 1601
 Elm Street, Suite 3000, in Dallas, Dallas County,
 Texas, before Tam C. Lewis, a Certified Shorthand
 Reporter in and for the State of Texas, pursuant to the
 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the provisions
 set forth on the record.

Page 17

16 Q. And you testified that your position at the
 17 Holy Land Foundation was CEO and president. Was that
 18 always your title?
 19 A. No. I started out as the - actually starting
 20 out in 1990, I didn't have a true title because I was
 21 the only employee there. So - but gradually I became
 22 the executive director. I think that was like in 1992
 23 when we moved to Dallas. Then I think around 1996,
 24 '97, I assumed the new title.
 25 Q. And by the new title, you're referring to CEO
 and president?
 A. Yes.
 Q. What were your duties and responsibilities as
 executive director?
 A. It was basically overseeing the everyday's -
 you know, business of everyday's function of the Holy
 Land Foundation.

Page 18

1 Q. And I understand there may have been like a
 2 board, but in terms of employees or officers, you were
 3 the person who was in charge of the day-to-day
 4 operations; there was nobody above you?
 5 A. Yes.

Page 10

14 Q.
 15
 16 what was your position with Holy Land
 17 Foundation?
 18 A. I was the chief executive officer and
 19 president of the Holy Land Foundation.
 20 Q. Could you describe for me briefly what your
 21 duties and responsibilities were in that capacity?
 22 A. I was in charge of overseeing the
 23 implementation of board policies regarding the running
 24 of the foundation, implementing strategic plans,
 25 working with the board to facilitate better
 communication with the executive branch of the Holy
 Land Foundation, that is to say my personnel. And I
 also was in charge of - I was the spokesman of the
 foundation. I was in charge of the public relations

Page 11

Page 19

19 Q.
 20 Did you actually hold or officially hold
 21 the position of secretary at some point?
 22 A. Yes. I was a board member. Yes, I was one of
 23 the founders of the Holy Land Foundation.
 24 Q. Okay. So you were a member of the board of
 25 directors and an officer?

Page 20

1 A. Yes.

Page 43

8 Q. Okay. Now, we talked about offices in the
 9 United States. It's my understanding that HLF has at
 10 various times had offices outside of the United States
 11 as well?
 12 A. Yes.
 13 Q. What offices has it had outside of the U.S.?
 14 A. We had an office in Gaza, and we had an office
 15 in Hebron. Hebron, West Bank. And we had an office in
 16 Jerusalem.

<p>23 Q. Mr. Abu-Baker, you've been headed what's been 24 marked as Deposition Exhibit Number 5, an agreement. 25 Is that your signature at the bottom?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. I take it then you're familiar with this 3 agreement?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. Is this -- am I correct that this is an 6 agreement in which HLF is formally setting up a 7 relationship with its Jerusalem office?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. The person who's signing on behalf of Holy 10 Land Foundation, Jerusalem is Mohamed Anasi?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Was he the person who was the head of that 13 office?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Was the Holy Land Foundation, Jerusalem, was 16 that a separate legal entity, or was it just an office 17 that the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and 18 Development set up?</p>	<p>17 the whole structure to kind of register as an 18 international group working in -- in the Palestinian 19 territory.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p>20 Q.</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25 Are you aware of any relationship or affiliation of any</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p>1 sort between that entity (IAP) and HLF?</p> <p>2 A. No affiliation, but what do you mean by 3 relationship? Can you itemize that?</p>
<p>19 A. Okay. Legally speaking, it was a separate 20 entity. This was an office that was registered as an 21 Israeli organization under the Israeli jurisdiction. 22 And that's why we -- we had to sign up an agreement. 23 So it was -- from a technical and legal point of view, 24 it was not a Holy Land Foundation Chapter. It was not 25 an international organization. It was a local</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>1 Jerusalem -- or as a Jerusalem foundation.</p> <p>2 Q. Now, the other various offices we've talked 3 about, were any of those separate corporate entities or 4 was it just this one?</p> <p>5 A. Okay. Now, when the -- when the Palestinian 6 National Authority became empowered over the 7 Palestinian territories, we registered the Holy Land 8 Foundation as an international charity organization 9 working in the Palestinian territories. For a brief 10 period, there was a Holy Land Foundation office in 11 Gaza, but that was, again, a local Palestinian 12 organization.</p> <p>13 Q. Separate legal entity?</p> <p>14 A. Separate legal entity. And we had a similar 15 relationship with them as we had in Jerusalem, but then 16 we were able to transform that relationship and change</p>	<p>4 Q. Well, did you undertake any programs together, 5 work together in -- in any fashion?</p> <p>6 A. We had a business relationship with IAP.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay. Can you describe for me in general 8 terms the nature of that business relationship?</p> <p>9 A. We advertised with their paper, and we used 10 their graphic design services. There were invoices for 11 that. And we had a contract to help us through their 12 grass root volunteers -- help the foundation through 13 its grass root and volunteers to help disperse Holy 14 Land Foundation literature and fundraising material.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 66</p> <p>5 Q. I've seen some indication that -- somewhere 6 that indicated that you were a member of an IAP 7 advisory board.</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. What was -- what was that advisory board?</p> <p>10 A. You know, we would meet once a year, just 11 discuss overall issues, strategies.</p>

12 Q. I'm sorry. Strategies for IAP?
 13 A. Oh, no, you know, just discussion. They would
 14 solicit our opinions on issues that concerned the IAP
 15 and their work, and that was - that was long time ago,
 16 I mean, up until maybe 1993, '94, but that was in the
 17 beginning.
 18 Q. Okay. So from - roughly from the beginning
 19 of the HLF until 1993?
 20 A. Something like that, yes.

Page 72

23 Q. All right. Next, the - the UASR. Let's see
 24 if I get it right. United Association for Study and
 25 Research?

Page 74

25 Q. How about Mr. Abou Marzook? Do you know who

1 he is?

Page 75

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Okay. Now, it's my understanding at some
 4 point he made a contribution to the Holy Land
 5 Foundation; is that correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Okay. And I want to ask you about that in a
 8 minute. Let's put that aside for the moment. Other
 9 than that contribution, are you aware of any
 10 relationship or involvement that Mr. Abou Marzook had
 11 with the Holy Land Foundation?
 12 A. No.

1 A. Yeah.
 2 Q. Probably butchered the name, but are you
 3 familiar with the organization?
 4 A. Yes.
 5 Q. Are you aware of any relationship, business,
 6 contractual, anything of that nature, between HLF and
 7 UASR?
 8 A. All I recall is we just purchased -- purchased
 9 some books from them. One-time transaction.
 10 Q. Can you tell me roughly the time frame?
 11 A. 19 -- maybe '87, '88, 1997.
 12 Q. 1997 or '98?
 13 A. Yeah, I'm really not sure.
 14 Q. Okay. Are you aware of anybody who serves as
 15 a -- who has served as an officer or director of HLF --
 16 A. No.
 17 Q. Let me just finish the question so the
 18 record's clear. I know you know where I'm going, but
 19 just so we're clear on the record. Any officer or
 20 director of HLF serving in a similar position with
 21 UASR?
 22 A. No.

Page 73

Page 111.

5 Q. are you able to tell that Occupied Land
 6 Fund address, is that an HLF address at some point?
 7 Plainfield, Indiana, I think you had testified earlier
 8 you lived there for some time?
 9 A. P.O. Box 36. What is the date of this? 1987
 10 Q. Other than the date you read to us earlier, I
 11 don't know. There's no dates in English.
 12 A. Yeah, that would have been the Occupied Land
 13 Fund address in Plainfield, Indiana.