

Date/Time Recorded: 8/2/1998 at 16:32:58

Participants:

Sh = Shukri Abu Baker

Ja = Jamal Abu Baker (Abu Ahmad)

Abbreviations:

<i>Italics</i>	Spoken in Foreign Languages
IA	Inaudible
UI	Unintelligible
PH	Phonetic
[]	Background Conversation / Noise/Translator's comments
SC	Simultaneous conversation

Sh: Hello. Hello.

Ja: Peace be with you.

Sh: God's peace, mercy and blessing to you.

Ja: How are you, Shukri?

Sh: Welcome, Abu Ahmad. How are you?

Ja: I long to you.

Sh: I long to you more. Praised be God.

Ja: Huh. Where are you? Why didn't you pick up and....er, the *answer machine* and stuff?

Sh: We got a little busy, by God. By God, I was returning from an errand today and I said I will call Jamal tonight. I just walked in.

Ja: How are you?

Sh: May God greet you. How are you doing?

Ja: What is going on with you? How are your matters?

Sh: Thanks be to God. What do you have?

Ja: Fine, by God. How are your children.

Sh: They're fine. May God bless you.

Ja: Praised be God.

Sh: Yes, thanks be to God.

Ja: How are the father and the mother?

Sh: They're fine. We sent them to Ramzi. The other day when I returned and you had left me a *message* I was driving by car to take my mother and my father to stay over at Ramzi's end for a little while.

Ja: I expected that.

Sh: Yes, it was about 15-hour drive.

Ja: May God assist you. How is Ramzi?

Sh: He is good, thanks be to God. He is doing well.

Ja: He is divorcing from his wife or...?

Sh: They will end it, yes. They will end it, yes.

Ja: They will separate, you mean?

Sh: Yes.

Ja: Amicably, I mean?

Sh: Amicably, yes. There are no problems. Amicably.

Ja: They didn't get along with each other, huh?

Sh: I mean, this is an inevitable result. There isn't..., there isn't... Our civilizations and our cultures don't meet over here. He is not alone. All the youth who are like him, even after 15 or 20 years, they...

Ja: It is true. Our society and it looks like there are no people like your mother.

Sh: No. There are none like that. The Arab *lobby* must be strong over here. What is going on with you?

Ja: By God, I long to you.

Sh: Huh?

Ja: I long to you, by God. I have a new number now. I hope you have it.

Sh: Yes, I have it. I took it.

Ja: Ok. The last two digits are "18" and there is another number [ending with] "19".

Sh: "18" and "19".

Ja: Yes, "19" has a fax connected to it if you wanted to...

Sh: Ah, Ok, Ok. Good.

Ja: Hum. I wanted to consult you regarding your work with Um Haitham.

Sh: Yes.

Ja: I heard that you have projects and that they're going well and stuff.

Sh: Yes, yes.

Ja: I suggest that you, immediately and without hesitation,...

Sh: Yes.

Ja: That you open a regional office and appoint an employee even if you have to send him from your end.

Sh: By God, the idea...

Ja: And no matter what you paid....., no matter what rent...

Sh: Where do we appoint him?

Ja: Over there...

Sh: Ah, yes.

Ja: No matter what rent you pay, legal and accounting fees, you will be in the *safe side* as those who are there are drains.

Sh: Yes.

Ja: And their...[UI].

Sh: Yes, yes.

Ja: And it looks like that there are whispers that they can possibly devour¹.

Sh: Hum, hum, hum.

Ja: So, don't fool these people.

Sh: No. They..., they would destroy our house and we won't work. This is being considered, God's willing. It is being very much considered in the...

Ja: I consulted with people, even people who are our friends, people you know, our relatives, our cousins and stuff...

Sh: Yes.

Ja: They said, "By God, it is a sound idea" and they asked me to do it quicky, "so that he can have time".

Sh: God the Almighty's willing. God's willing. This is...

Ja: This will develop your management and it will create a continuous presence....

Sh: Right.

Ja: And if you consider it as part of the office's *overhead* no matter what it is, ..[UI]% or 5%...

Sh: No, it is nothing. It is nothing.

Ja: You'll stay be in the *safe side*, that this will still be counted among your capital.

Sh: Good, good, God's willing.

Ja: So, be cautious, may God be pleased with you.

Sh: No, God's willing, even in Amman we started the procedures.

Ja: With God's blessings.

Sh: We started in Amman and, God's willing, the idea for over there is present and....., and it just needs follow-up, God's willing.

Ja: Ah. The people in Amman are clear, I mean.

Sh: Yes.

Ja: ...I mean, you can depend on them.

Sh: Correct.

Ja: But, as for those people over there, they just emerged out of a certain experience and.

Sh: Yes, right, *yeah, yeah*.

Ja: They're been influenced. They've absorbed some old accumulations.

Sh: Right.