

Date & Time: 12/12/1999 at 14:18:40

File Number:

Type: CD # 6 Side B

Line ID: 414-5632

Participants:

Sh = Shukri Abu Baker
Ab = Abdel Rahman Odeh
Uf = Unidentified Female

Abbreviations:

<i>Italics</i>	Spoken in English
IA	Inaudible
UI	Unintelligible
PH	Phonetic
[]	Translator's comment
SC	Simultaneous conversation

[Phone rings].

Uf: Hello.

Ab: Peace be upon you.

Uf: And peace be upon you.

Ab: Is your father available? Available?

Uf: Who are you, Sir?

Ab: Abdel Rahman.

[Noise].

Sh: Hello.

Ab: Peace be upon you.

Sh: Welcome, and peace and God's blessings be upon you.

Ab: How are you?

Sh: Thank God, Lord of the Worlds.

Ab: By God, what we expected from..., from..., from yesterday's talk, I and you, on the subject of Sheik Zeeb has developed a little.

Sh: What happened?

Ab: I was making a round today with Al-Sheik Kofahi to call on people...

Sh: M-hum.

Ab: ... so I called Samih Al-Abbasi to go to him, I called Said and Said was upset.

Sh: Huh?

Ab: I asked him: "What's going on?" He said: "How come this one stands up and raises as he pleases in the mosque?"

Sh: M-hum.

Ab: I asked: "Who?" He told me: "Sheik Zeeb." I told him: "And I...we have nothing to do with him..."

Sh: And what do we have to do with it?

Ab: "... You, you, Education, you brought him." He said: "Yes, but he collected in the name of Palestine's orphans." I told him: "Did he say the orphans of Palestine?" He said: "Yes, and we do not want to give him the amount..." and he *already* sent a complaint against him to his folks there, in Jordan...he said: "We do not want to give him the amount, because he collected in the name of Palestine and we...,the only foundation which collects for Palestine is you..."

Sh: M-hum.

[Noise].

Ab: "... We do not allow anybody else to collect, uh, we want to give you the amount..." and they will cancel a day which we booked with them; 31st, the Friday of 31st.

Sh: Really!

Ab: He said: "We will cancel it; we don't want to collect for Palestine more than [UI]-

[SC]

Sh: But Sheik Zeeb will not accept; he will take the money.

Ab: I told him... [UI]

[SC]

Sh: We will not receive one from them. We..., we..., we have nothing to do with Sheik Zeeb nor with those who begotten him.

[Noise].

Ab: I told him: "We have nothing to do with him."

Sh: Damn the sheikdom from which they emerged; let them tell each other.

Ab: I told him: "It is not us who brought him, neither we are responsible for his movements, nor we know anything about him nor..."

Sh: Did they consult us, my brother, did they consult us when they asked to bring him?

Ab: They prevented him, they are not allowing him to collect. He took advantage of their inattention while they were downstairs and as the lecture ended he started to raise .

Sh: Ok?

Ab: Therefore they held the money because they are not allowing...

Sh: How much did he collect?

Ab: He collect eight *so far, cash* in their hand now.

Sh: My brother, this one, if they give them to us, it will..., it will create a problem for us and he will want the money and I am not ready to deal with him because he does not have an account, *account*, and he does not have a society. This one will ruin us, this one...I do not, I don't...we...

Ab: He says...Dr. Said has a suggestion; he says...I told him...he started to laugh...I told him: "Does it mean that we are stuck with him?" He said: "No, no, I tell you, I mean you take the money and send it to Palestine, to the orphans. He collected it in the name of Palestine..."

Sh: He will not accept.

Ab: It is not up to him, they do not want to give it to him.

Sh: Al-Sheik Zeeb will hold him responsible; he will say: "This is money that I collected for myself. My brother, Abdel Rahman, may God be pleased with you..."

Ab: By God, but what can I do, the man...they cancelled the evening for us and want to give us a regular evening instead of a Friday sermon. They said: "We, we booked it." The schedule is there with Haitham and they designated Sheik Al-Kofahi for it."

Sh: No, my brother, we...tell him: "Shukri tells you we refuse to receive this money."

Ab: I told him, I, since yesterday...

Sh: We refuse to receive it and let's maintain our program, and we have nothing to do with Sheik Zeeb, nothing whatsoever; we do not know for whom he collects or what he collects, and if they did it...if they did it and gave us the money, he will..., he will nag us and say: "I want my money". He will drive us crazy - this man - I

want to get rid of him and his problems [noise], my brother, I don't want him to...I, I...this..., this is an issue..., they brought this man and they are responsible for him, and we have nothing whatsoever to do with him. Therefore, my honorable brother, no, we say let them give him the money...[children's noise], uh, I do not, I am not ready to receive anything collected by Sheik Zeeb, because I tell you, [noise] he will drive us crazy [children's noise] if on a subject of fifteen thousand—and I do not know where he came up with this idea—it is possible that he did this in the past; probably he stood up and collected money like this, yes...?

Ab: Yes?

Sh: ... and, of course, whatever it is...and orphans...

Ab: I, I told him...

Sh: ... and he started to call me and tell me: "I..., I want money, I want money," what?, [Laughs] "I'm ready to..." I don't know what, "... to do and to write a check, and..., and..." and he started to talk nonsense. I told him: "Man, may God be pleased with you, spare us." So...?

Ab: I tell you, I explained the story that took place to Dr. Said, and I told him: "By God, it was by coincidence that I and Shukri were talking about the subject and I told him so-and-so, he told me: we have nothing to do with it." He told me: "No, our brother, but I cannot give him the amount, brothers, and this amount was collected for Palestine and you must receive it because it is for Palestine, [noise] but as for Friday sermon, I will not be able to give it..." I mean, he wants to consult with the Shura Council, and said: "...we will give you another day instead, a day of Nightly Prayers, come and raise, in addition to this amount."

Sh: But we will not receive this amount, I am telling you. If he gave us this amount, Sheik Zeeb, will..., will..., will mess up my life and I buy my life out with \$8,000; I buy out his harassment with \$8,000. I do not need them, I do not need them, my brother, and I do not want to be associated with him in any way. I do not want, I want them to send this brother away, my brother...to tell him...as I told you, to send him home. What brought this person here? What brought him? I, what brought him in the month of Ramadan?

Ab: They brought him for Education, and he is going around now collecting for, uh, in the name of Palestine.

Sh: He collects...and do you know if he collects in the name of Palestine? do you in whose name?

Ab: He, when he told me, when Sheik Zeeb himself told me, [children's noise], and

Sheik Ra'id...and Ra'id of Education, he told me: "He collected for his camp."
[Noise.] So he brought up...what is it that disturbed the folks? He brought up the name of Palestine in the middle, that: those are the orphans of Palestine [noise] and that we look after them in Zarqa,' and these and those...and he started and collected [children's noise]. So Dr. Said is about to go crazy, I mean, he is about to go crazy. I told him: "Isn't he your guest, this one, we are not [UI]."

Sh: About to go crazy, let them send him back, my brother, let them sit with him and tell him: "Please brother, go home."

Ab: I told him: "Do you want to force him upon us. Do you want to force his problems on us? We did not bring him or nothing".

Sh: No, brother..

Ab: "... we have nothing to do with the subject."

Sh: No, no.

Ab: ... he said: "The money has been collected and we do not want to give it to him."

Sh: Uh, I, I also...

Ab: I told him: "This man will come after us in the future."

Sh: No, I, my brother...

Ab: [UI] what they say...[children's noise] I don't know.

Sh: No, my brother, no.

Ab: [UI] Dr. Said, solve the subject with him.

Sh: No, my brother, no [children's noise.]

Ab: With Dr. Said himself.

Sh: I, I'm not--not, I don't have time for this...I told you from day one: "Al-Sheik Zeeb, I've got nothing to do with him, and you good folks, this man's work is all done by hook or by crook...like this, now he will start to say: "I want \$23,000 from you; I want \$15,000 from you, and here is 8" And so, here you are Shukri, come solve...involve yourself with the law and with the inappropriate practice of Sheik Zeeb and his problems. No, my brother, I..., I tell you, make it..., make it a problem, tell him that Shukri refuses to receive the amount because the amount was not collected in the name of *Holy Land Foundation* [noises], and we...we..,

without coordinating with us, neither, neither we, I mean neither we are willing to deal with Al-Sheik in a subject related to raising donations for Palestine, because this...

Ab: They want to cancel our evening — to cancel the Friday prayer — [noise] Do you understand? I mean, he cornered you.

Sh: And where is Sheik Zeeb?

Ab: They sent him away today, he is going to Michigan...or I do not know where he is going [noise], and I am sure that he will do the same thing; I...the solution is for us to talk to Khawwam tonight [noise], I tried to call Khawwam, but it turned out that Khawwam has a *surgery* at the hospital...

Sh: Yes.

Ab: ... I want to tell him: "My brother, you brought this man...for God's sake get his evil off us". I want to tell him: Khawwam, the other day you told me that the Fugu came to you.

Sh: Who are they? Yes, yes, yes, yes.

[Noise]

Ab: I want to tell him. I want to tell him: "You told me they came to me at the office the other day..."

Sh: Tell him: "This man is mined, man, how do you bring him without telling us?"

Ab: "...you told me that they are bothering you, this one now...they are going to have something against you..."

Sh: Of course.

[Noise]

Ab: "... if you want to get rid of him, take him and send him back home." Because he sent him to all his friends, to the states to visit — through his connections — and secondly, through the way that we used to send him to collected funds now he wants to go...[UI]

Sh: My son, this, this man collects funds flatly and publicly for the benefit of Samah and her sisters — flatly and publicly — he is not shy, he stands in front of people, he talks and...we saw him in Dallas, and [noise], therefore this man, my brother [sighs], I, *got nothing to do with him* [child's noise], and even if I received the

amount, I...he will drive me crazy and he will tell me: "I want my money," and if I hand him money...I, originally, as a point, must not have any monetary dealing between me and him. Anyway, tell him: "You, primarily, hold on to the...if he wants to hold on to the money, to hold on to them", uh, and, uh, until we solve the problem later...I don't have time for him now, frankly; I don't have time now to deal with the Sheik now.

Ab: Fine, then if they want to take away Friday, shall we take a regular evening?

Sh: Fine. Sheik Zeeb has to understand that he messed it up for us; he has to understand...they have to tell him that this is what happened and we...as a punishment...what have we got to do with the subject?...they will say: you collected for Palestine and here we deprived the *Holy Land Foundation* from..., from..., from a Friday sermon. He has to know it; Zeeb has to know so that I can bargain with him — so that I tell him: "You Sheik, have caused us damage, you caused us damage. You, nobody gave you the permission to collected for Palestine in America...".

Ab: Yes.

Sh: ... and neither do you the circumstances..., neither do you know the political and security circumstances that we are going through...

Ab: Man, also what upset Dr. Said, man, is that he took the money in *cash* and put it in his pocket. Said went crazy...

Sh: Ok.

Ab: Said went crazy.

Sh: They will..., they will see more.

Ab: ... the second day they told him: "Give us the *cash* that you took."

[Child's noise]

Sh: ... he will still see more than that from him.

[child's noise]

Ab: You see, he stripped him of the *cash* that he had. I told him: "I mean, I do not know what to tell you, I, I mean, I we have nothing to do with this man and you must not cancel our plan for..." he said: "It is because I am unable to tell people that there are two evenings for Palestine... and Iraq...and everybody is after me: "Why have you allocated a Friday for Palestine..."

[SC]

Sh: *Well..., well.*

Ab: ... you are the only ones to whom we allocated a Friday".

Sh: Fine, my brother, they gave us a Friday...

Ab: I told him, "Sheik, that Friday was messed up in Patterson and will be messed up there for you too".

Sh: Yes.

Ab: Aren't we, I mean, spared this one or that? Does every one with a problem have to force it on us? What do we have to do with it?

Sh: By God, I do not know, by God I do not know what we have to do with it.

Ab: So he said: "No, you just take the money, because you take..."

Sh: We...because they want to create trouble between us and him: "Take the money..." is Sheik Zeeb going to accept to give us the money?

Ab: I told him..., I told him: "Do you want to subject us to Sheik Zeeb's tongue lashing?" He started to laugh. I told him: "Why don't you fall in his trap, why do we [UI]...?"

Sh: No, my brother, no. I tell you...

Ab: "... neither have I brought him to you nor have I told you to allocate him a seminar [noise] nor have I told him to collect"

Sh: No, no.

Ab: I told him: "Once, because Al-Sheik Al-Kofahi collected with pre-planning, you made a big issue out of it and created problems for us, and I and you had a fight, right?" He said, "Yes." I told him: "So?" He said: "What does it have to do with this problem?".

Sh: *Yeah.*

Ab: So if he wants to insist on taking away the Friday sermon, let him take it and give us another evening, I don't want Abou Ibrahim...

Sh: No, no.

Ab: ... he has the next Sunday free...

Sh: *Ok*

Ab: ... he will assign Abou Ibrahim, even on Friday people rush out in a hurry.

Sh: *Ok*

Ab: On Sunday, people stay and...

Sh: *Yeah. Fine.*

Ab: ... just not to involve us in it.

Sh: ... but now, primarily, we do not have anything to do with what he collected...

[noise]

Ab: *Yes.*

Sh: ... nor we...let them punish us, penalize us, it's up to them, but this is a point against them because those folks bring people *they know...*, *they don't know anything about them*, and I..., I tell you: Sheik Zeeb came...and by God, half of the amounts that he collected for Education he will put in his pocket, [noise] because this person is used to...he considers himself a guardian over..., over the Islamic work and the orphans and such, and it does not matter to him.

Ab: I, [noise] at the end he said [children's noise]: "But what shall I do with the money if you do not want to take it?" I told him: "Keep it with you for a long time."

Sh: *Yes.*

Ab: "Keep it with you for a long time..."

Sh: Hold on to it so he gets disciplined, let him hold on to it so that the man be disciplined...

Ab: *Yes, [Children's noises], let it remain, I [UI]...[SC]*

Sh: ... and to understand...you talk to him, tell him: Sheik, you put us in an awkward situation; you collected without permission and the folks thought..., they punished us, and here is the money...

Ab: No, I will call Khawwam after he comes out of the operation, I am waiting for him

to come out.

Sh: Yes, yes.

Ab:because..., because he went on a tour; he will tour around twenty states...

[Child's noise]

Sh: How nice!

Ab: ... and everybody will say: [noises] "Palestine, Palestine", and nobody collects for Palestine except us; he will implicate us, he will not implicate the others.

Sh: Of course [children's noise], of course.

Ab: I told him: "Set limits for him from now, my brother, not to be collected in the name of Palestine or bring him back, bring him and send him home" [noises]. I want to tell Khawwam: "Are you preparing yourself for problems? Expect problems from him".

Sh: Fine, let, let him see..., by God, they will not only knock his door, but on his clinic as one would say...

Ab: Yes.

Sh: Yes. Because he doesn't know...he doesn't know whom he talks..., whom he brought, or who this man is or what his status is.

Ab: It's up to him...let them tolerate him. They came complaining to me last night: "For God's sake rid us of him". I told him: "Did I tell you to bring him?"

Sh: Man! he came to Dallas and I refused to meet him — in Dallas itself I avoided him for three days, he asked about me and I refused...he came to the office and I was inside and avoided him because I did not want to meet him, because..., because I know what is behind him. So, the man is righteous..., he is righteous among his own folks, here in America..., I have my special circumstances that I cannot bear all the...

Ab: Yes, yes.

Sh: Yes, therefore Sheik Awad..., yes.

Ab: Shall I talk to Dr. Said [UI] ?

Sh: I wish, by God, explain to him, my brother.

Ab: I want to tell him...I explained to him, but I want to tell him that Shukri still insists that we do not take the money.

Sh: No, tell him: "You, brother, do not know what..., what the nature of problems the Sheik brings with him to America. Therefore we, if we want--if we want, it would have been with greater reason for us to bring him to collect for Palestine...

Ab: Yes.

Sh: I mean, if we were satisfied with him, we would have brought him to collect for Palestine, and the other thing is that we would have issued a letter — Abou Ibrahim wanted me to issue a letter from my end to recommend him and such. I told him, "By God, I won't issue one paper for him".

Ab: Abou Ibrahim wanted to issue a paper to recommend him?

Sh: Yes.

Ab: Abou Ibrahim is betrayed by emotion sometimes.

Sh: Yes, I told him: "By God, I will not..., by God, I will not write one paper. I do not know the Sheik, my brother". I told him: "Neither do I know him nor I know what his goals are, and I am not willing to implicate myself with him, and I know that he is being watched."

Ab: No, and he does what he wants...

Sh: *Yeah, yeah.*

Ab: ... he does not listen to anyone.

Sh: Fine, my brother...

Ab: It might be good.

Sh: I am going to the office, we have *infomercial*, I want to go to our office

Ab: Well, may God grant you strength...

Sh: We have...

Ab: We are going to see Dr. Samih Al-Abbasi tonight...

Sh: Fine.

[Noises]

Ab: Said pledged, and there are a few who pledged.

Sh: Good, my brother, may God bless you, Abdel Rahman.

Ab: Alright.

Sh: Alright, peace be upon you

Ab: Say hello. Good-bye.

Sh: May God be with you.

END OF CALL.