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BODY:

Following is a partial transcript of a discussion yesterday between Nation of Islam Minister Louis **Farrakhan** and reporters and editors from The Washington Post. It was one of the first comprehensive sessions that **Farrakhan** has held with a major daily news organization in which he discussed at length many of his views and offered explanations to previous statements that have sparked controversy.

Many of you know me very well through your writings and listening to me under various circumstances and occasions. I think it is good that we sit together and that we have a chance to exchange with each other; that the man that you see behind the microphone -- you can feel him, touch him and see him and experience each other as human beings.

I would like to close an opening statement by saying that Louis **Farrakhan** is not an enemy of America, not an enemy of Jews, not enemy of white people. I have a profound message. A message that can, I believe, correct some very, very serious problems in this nation, the most serious of which is the worsening condition of 30 or more million black people in this country who have become the Achilles' heel of this nation

And I would hope that today, in a fuller exposition of our views, that possibly we might get even closer in working to solve the problems of our people and this nation. Thank you very much.

Q. When you were last here the [D.C.] Council, as you know, presented you with a resolution at the time of your speech, praising you and the nation of Islam for its work in Mayfair Mansions and other parts of Washington combating the drug trade. Subsequently the council was criticized for passing such a resolution among other things by Jewish groups that have accused you of antisemitism and I wanted to make sure that we got your own views on the record on this controversy. What do you say in response to these accusations?

A. Well, first I think the council did a commendable thing because I believe that Dr. Alim [Abdul Muhammad] and the brothers and sisters who work with him in the Washington area have done a most commendable thing with drugs and the scourge of this city and this nation. It should be interesting to note that Minister Alim went into Mayfair Mansions and Paradise Manor, comprised of nearly 8 or 9 thousand people which you know were crime-ridden and drug-infested, and not with money, and not with guns but with a moral authority has literally almost completely ridden that community of drugs and it is almost completely crime-free.

We are not rich people. We are poor people. But with the word that we have been taught by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, as espoused by Minister Alim, that miraculous result was brought about and so the city council should be commended for recognizing that effort.

[National Drug Policy Director William J.] Bennett, however, in praising those who have helped in the drug program, could not find it in his heart to recognize the good work that Mr. Alim and the Muslims have done.

Now to speak to the charge of antisemitism. To say that Louis **Farrakhan** is an antisemitic is an improper and unjust characterization of me. To say that I have been critical of Jews and critical of the state of Israel is true. But I have been critical of blacks, critical of our leaders, critical of Arabs, critical of whites, and yet my own people don't call me anti-black and Arabs don't call me antisemitic and they are also semitic people. The term is wrong. And is wrongfully applied. My criticism of Jews should be taken in that light.

And criticism, sir, with all due respect, is not necessarily born out of dislike of the person, but dislike of the condition that maybe these persons are involved with

Q. But you just said "I have been critical of Jews." Were you referring to Jews as a whole or individual Jews?

A. Certainly I said some Jews were responsible on the ships that brought our fathers into slavery. All Jews didn't own those ships. Some Jews have been responsible for characterizing black people as clowns and buffoons using the movie industry to get that message over

Q. Do you think that the fact that some of those people were Jewish is material, or the fact that they were Hollywood producers?

A. You know, it is interesting. It's interesting, sir, that we know how to make the distinction when we feel it is in our interest. But certainly not all Muslims are terrorists and all those who subscribe to [the beliefs] and wear the name Muhammad and Aziz and Ali are not people who are avowed to harm Jewish people. So when you don't make that deliniation in your writing of us but you want us to be very, very exact when we speak, I think we're holding up a double standard here

Q. But you have been quoted in more than one place . . . as referring to Judaism in a certain context as a dirty religion.

A. No. No, you misunderstood again Now, I have said over and over again. I have no reference whatsoever to the religion that Jews practice. Listen to me carefully, please. I said this morning . . . that I was referring to the actions of the state of Israel using God and religion as a cover for what I said was lying, stealing, murder, using God's name as a shield for your dirty religion, meaning you're preaching one thing, but you are practicing another.

And when I said I have no reference to Moses and what Moses revealed, there is nothing in any way, shape or form in any of my speeches that you have ever heard me say that I condemn Moses and what Moses taught to the Jews, or condemned Jesus and what Jesus taught to the Jews, or condemned Muhammad and what Muhammad taught to the Arabs. But I do condemn our actions in direct contravention to what we profess we believe as taught by the prophets. And I said in that paper that Jews, some of them practice dirty religion; some Muslims practice dirty religion; some Christians practice dirty religion, and that's why we're in America in the condition that we're in under religious people who went in direct contravention to the teaching of their prophet. That's my statement. I never ever mention Judaism in that context, nor will I ever . . . Q. When you mention Jews as a collectivity being responsible for certain acts, possible acts, stupid acts against blacks -- do you mean that Jews as a whole are especially guilty in this regard . . . ?

A. . . . Certainly a majority of Jews are not involved in certain decisions that are made by others. No. You can't condemn a whole group of people for what some have done

There are righteous Jews, and there are righteous Christians, and there are righteous Muslims; and there are unrighteous Jews and unrighteous Christians and unrighteous Muslims. There are righteous blacks and there are unrighteous blacks, and now if we're going to get into lumping everyone together, then I think we would be guilty of making an error.

I want to say that I was in Jamaica in 1971, the island of Jamaica and Brock Peters was on that island making a movie called "Lost in Stars." I had just been on national television on WNET education television because I had made a speech in Atlanta, Georgia, in September 1970 when every black organization and group was invited. And there was a Jewish director -- no, producer -- and he learned that I was on the island and asked Brock Peters if I would meet with him and I said yes.

And I went and sat down on the set with this producer And that man looked at me, as God is my witness, and he said, Brother **Farrakhan** -- he didn't call me brother, he said "Mr. **Farrakhan**" -- he said "You seem like a very nice person. It is not you that we fear." He said, it was just he and I talking, "It is your ideas that we fear."

I never asked him who the "we" was. But then he went on to say that "there is a group of us who meet in an apartment on Park Avenue, sometimes we meet in Hollywood, California. And we study trends. And if there are trends that we do not like and there are trends that we want, we produce through our writers and people that have the same mind" -- I'm telling you what he said to me -- "and move the people according to the way we feel the trends should be."

I don't know why he said that to me but that stuck in my mind. And when I look at the scriptural reference to the people, that they are like sheep easily led in the wrong direction but hard to lead in the right direction, then those of us who have the responsibility of guiding people, which this paper does along with government and agencies that teach and lead people, then I ask you, is there some small group that have seen a trend and now get together with writers, with people like those around this table, people in media, people who write songs, people who write scripts and begin to move the masses of the people in directions that benefit this small group?

Now I'm sure that the masses of persons don't know anything about this. They are a part of the herding process. And I would respectfully submit that in my judgment 85 percent of the masses of the people of earth are victimized by a small clique who use their power and their knowledge to manipulate the masses against the best interest of the people. Q. Is it this group that you're talking about . . . a small group of Jews or have I misheard that?

A. Well, when he said "we" and he was Jewish, I do not know whether he meant a small group of Jews or a small group of like-minded persons.

Q. And you believe they do actually exert the influence.

A. There's no question about that. The results proved that the masses are absolutely being manipulated by those in power . . .

Q. . . . I'd like to pursue this question of are we manipulating this interview I'm curious to how you believe it operates with us, say, here at The Washington Post. Do you believe that we are in some direct contact with these people, or that we are just being used or that we are part of the manipulators?

A. I couldn't honestly say that. But, you know, it's like a knee-jerk reaction, because when [there's] a person like myself, and, you know, as a white person or as a Jewish person you're not used to hearing any black person criticizing Jewish behavior, not publicly. I could be wrong. But I don't recall any black person ever being lambasted like Louis **Farrakhan** [has been lambasted] as a bigot and [an] antisemite.

I feel that there is a certain sensitivity -- that Jewish rabbis and I have sat down and talked about -- that Jews have, and that we have as a persecuted and an oppressed people. And maybe in that sensitivity there has been a reaction to statements made by Louis **Farrakhan** as we react to anything that opens a sore with us like the [CBS-TV commentator Andy] Rooney thing recently and the other fellow on CBS, Jimmy the Greek. We're very sensitive and Jews are very sensitive. And in that sensitivity, I think care has to be taken by us. And sometimes when you say something and people say, "Ouch!" and you learn that you have offended, then you're conscious of being careful.

And that's why I said earlier if you take the whole Jewish-**Farrakhan** question and put it in context, then you will see that it was not **Farrakhan** who started this. It was Jews who started this. And everytime **Farrakhan** goes someplace, I'm not even speaking, Jews come out even calling for my death. And if I speak to that, they say, "There goes the controversial **Farrakhan**

Q. I've read a number of accounts, tell me if it's true or not, that your bookstore in Chicago was selling a tape put out by or made by the former aide [Steve Cokely] to the former mayor [Eugene Sawyer (D)] that said that AIDS was a white plot to decimate the black population and that Jewish doctors were injecting young black males with AIDS. Is this true? Are you selling it?

A. . . . It is true that he [Cokely] spoke at The Final Call [bookstore]. I never heard the tape myself It is true that it was sold at The Final Call. Now, all over the world you have libraries. In those libraries are the quotes of so-called scholars,

scientists of every kind. Whether the scholarship is erroneous or true, it is there for people to hear it or read it. Mr. Steve Cokely's quotes, I can't say [I] subscribe to the truth of what he said. I do not know what he said. I do not know whether it was true.

When I got back to the city I asked Steve Cokely, "Can you document the truth of what you stated?" And he said to me that he could. And I offered him the opportunity to do that. As of this day I have not seen the documentation.

However, sir, it is a fact that AIDS is killing us at a larger or greater rate than any other ethnic or racial group anywhere in the world. And I don't know whether it is a fact or not, but there are some journals that are saying that the AIDS virus is not a natural virus in its configuration. And that it well could be -- and some go so far to say that it is -- a manufactured virus

For those who are students of history, we are very suspicious to be very honest with you, because we know the history. We know that in this country to decimate the population of the Indians, blankets were sent to the Indians containing smallpox. We know that in this country [there was] the Tuskegee experiment, where a hundred black men were given the most virulent form of syphilis and a program was set up that they would never be treated for syphilis and these men cohabited with many, many women, spreading syphilis among our people. This is documented.

We do know that in New Zealand, in Australia, in the Congo -- wherever whites have wanted that particular area -- there has been a genocidal plot against the lives of those native people, and it goes on to this day. And we respectfully submit that we are deeply concerned because we have a population of between 30-40 million people much of whom are useless to this society. And we watch how this society treats the elderly who have served this country well, and we watch how this society treats those who have outlived their usefulness.

And we are afraid when we see a population ever growing, millions of unemployed, millions of unemployable and angry youth. And we see drugs flooding into our community and you know we don't produce the drugs, we don't bring them in. You know, sir, that because of the deep economic condition in the black community, you can't offer young blacks a job at Wendy's or McDonald's as an alternative to selling crack.

And if Mr. Bush can see the wisdom in providing some economic solutions to the growers of the cocoa leaf in Peru and Bolivia, then surely Mr. Bush should see there has to be an economic solution to drugs in America and particularly in the black community. So I am saying we are dying. Blacks are dying in America at an inordinate rate. Is there a plan? We believe there is.

Q. The thing we know least about is the program you propose. What would you propose as a way of economic and political empowerment and improvement for the black community in America?

A. Everything that our leaders are attempting to do and have attempted to do has helped, and is helping. The problem is, is it a solution to the growing problems of our people? According to the recent [National] Urban League report, the State of Black America, the statistics bear out that our condition in America as a whole is worse today than it was in 1967. Worse economically, the gap is widening; worse in terms of health; the gains that the civil rights movement fought for are being rolled back from the Supreme Court, the conservative attitude that exists in America.

These things do not portend that there is genuine effort to reconcile the differences between black and white. And what the Honorable Elijah Muhammad said 60 years ago and what we say now is that if there is not going to be a genuine sincere effort to ameliorate, or correct the sickening and worsening condition of black people in America and the worsening condition of race relations in America, then we ought to admit that America does not have the will. She has the wherewithall, but she does not have the will to solve this problem. And we as black people have to be concerned about preparing a future for our people. And we feel that separation is the ultimate answer if we do not work as we should to reconcile the problems within the social political and economic system that we call America.

Q. . . . When do you separate and where would you go?

A. America, since the 1954 Supreme Court decision and since the civil rights acts of 1964 and '65, has created a larger black middle class sort of as a buffer between the white community and the black community. And this middle class that has been created as a result of the struggle of the poor, the youth that were out on the marches with Dr. King, the youth that were rioting, the youth that were throwing the Molotov cocktails, the youth that got shot down in the streets -- it was their effort that caused you [black journalists] to be here. You weren't here before then, I don't think It's the suffering, the poor black people that opened the door for us sitting around the table.

Now this black middle class it seems to me is being used, maybe not even knowingly, to sell the idea to the masses that America works. But if it doesn't work for the least it's not working for you. If it doesn't work for the poor white in Appalachia, it's not working for Mr. [Donald E.] Graham [publisher of The Post], because your problem is going to come from the poor revolting against a system [in which] the wealth doesn't trickle down. So I respectfully submit that there's anger coming up out of the masses, and their anger is against often times the black middle class.

Not that the middle class is guilty of any wrongdoing against the masses. But when we ride around in nice cars, when we live in nice neighborhoods and our people are called a permanent underclass, that is totally unacceptable to those of us who love our people.

There is nothing permanent about our people being in that condition, but what it says is the will of the policymakers is permanent that they will do nothing for the masses of our people. I'm suggesting that rather than kill off our people, let them go. And help them. Since we built the country, then give us reparations. You're doing it for the Jews in Germany, you're doing it for the Japanese. The children of slaves in this country are owed something. You don't have to give us welfare, just give us what you owe us.

We built your country and this civilization has turned us so backward mentally that you let us go under the Emancipation Proclamation, passed the 13th Amendment against involuntary slavery knowing that [because of] the mental condition that our people were in, we would become your volunteer servants. And so we have served America, fought in all her wars, bled and died on every field of battle. We helped you beat Germany, and now Germany is reunited and we can't get together. The walls are tumbling down between Eastern Europeans, but no walls are tumbling down with us because there are those who don't want to see us reconcile our differences.

If I go out to stop the gangs from killing each other there are those who will say he's wrong Is he trying to make an army there? Yes I'm trying to make an army of righteousness, but there are those who profit from black people killing each other. So I think that time has already arrived . . . We've got to turn our knowledge and our energy to lifting our people, making them useful to themselves before the American public gets the mindset that black people ought to be killed

Q. When you talk about drugs, talk about why you think this plague of drugs is happening now.

A. . . . Drugs in this country is now a scourge. Drugs started fully in our community. Nobody cared when blacks were using drugs . . . Mr. Gil Spencer in New York did a beautiful documentary, tragic, on drugs and he said that in the '60s, when the civil rights movement became strongest, a purer form of heroin was introduced into the ghettos. And if you watch the crack epidemic it did not start till after Louis **Farrakhan** became the voice of the poor. In Los Angeles, when 19,000 people came out in 1985 to hear me and nearly 50,000 came out in New York but only 30,000 could get in, or 35,000 because they squeezed them in -- right after that the crack epidemic exploded in this country

Q. Mr. Farrakhan, we had a story in the paper yesterday that said one in four black men within a certain age group is now either in prison or supervised currently by the courts. Is there a specific plan that you would have if you were using this new political muscle that you talk about, that would directly address that problem . . . ?

A. There are several things that we could do. We have to recognize that if a whole generation, as that article suggests, of blacks are lost, that is our loss as black people. It is the nation's loss because human resources died with that generation that may be lost.

Since we have proved that we have a winning record of retrieving that which was lost We believe that we can retrieve those lost

. . . to really, really solve the problem, as Moses said . . . then would you think about at least letting some of us go?

Since the prisons are full and you really don't rehabilitate prisoners, you loved Malcolm X, so you say. Well, look at Malcolm. He was a thief, a hustler, a pimp, a user of drugs, a seller of drugs, a bank robber. Would you love him in that condition? Would you accept a picture of him on your wall in that condition? But who reclaimed him? We did. And the brilliance of that man is the same brilliance that's hiding in prisons all over America. Malcolm was not the exception. Malcolm is the rule. There are many brilliant black people. All they need is a chance.

I respectfully suggest that the crown of England, when this new nation was discovered, would not come themselves. But they let the prisoners go free if they would go to America and build a new reality. If you had nothing for our people to do, particularly those that are useless, and you have many scholarly blacks walking around with re'sume's in their attache cases and nobody hiring them. And I respectfully suggest, let us do or help us do what was done for the persecuted Jews all over the world.

Gentiles and Jews worked together with the aid of America, England, France, the United Nations and set up the state of Israel, took land from the Palestinians, but you created a state for Israel and you created hope for Jews. All Jews are not there, but all Jews know that they have the right to go there.

Suppose, now, we who are the natural kith and kin of Africa could get our brothers and sisters in Africa to agree to give to their long-lost brother territory that is fertile with mineral Then those [blacks] that wish to go, let them go. Those that wish to stay, let them stay and then give us dual citizenship since we've got as much right to this as you, maybe more. Then across the water we can go back and forth like the Jews go back and forth to Israel and America, not with hostility.

And don't you know if Mr. Bush allowed us to take the prisoners away and give them something to do that can establish their self-worth, like building on that continent a new reality for themselves and their people, and these brilliant blacks that are hidden away in corporate America that can only be the assistant to the assistant of the vice president -- give me the tired black intellectuals that are huddled masses that are yearning to breathe free and we'll give them something to do in Africa building a new reality

And I believe with all my heart the blacks in Africa don't want any [criminals] because they've got enough of their own. But if we can show our African brothers what we do with criminals, we'll help them get their criminals in order then we can have a wonderful relationship across that water and believe me, that will help America through the year 2000 to live in a new world reality as a just nation that didn't kill off her population that became useless but allowed them a chance to make something of themselves and help them so to do

All we want now is the chance and I respectfully say that if I were allowed the freedom to teach black people unhindered, then give our people a chance to vote on whether they would like to be separated. You never offered the chance to vote as to whether we wanted to be citizens. You just made us that under an amendment of the Constitution.

But America has never amended the condition that slavery imposed upon black people, not to this day. And every black leader who sincerely tried to amend that condition, the government killed that leader, destroyed that leader's organization, deported that leader. And that is sad, and right at this very moment this government sees **Farrakhan** as a threat and they have through the anti-terrorist division of the Justice Department and the IRS and every other one of those letters, they are working seriously to get **Farrakhan**.

And I'll close by saying, you know Mr. Bush, the president, I think a week before he was elected, was standing before the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles and he pledged his support to Israel. And then he turned around and said that he pledged continued support, funding the Justice Department in their vigorous investigation and prosecution of antisemites whether they wear brown shirts, white shirts and bow ties, whether they live in Skokie, Chicago or Brooklyn, the villain is the same. I don't think they were talking about Sen. [Paul] Simon [D-Ill.], who wears white shirts and bow ties. That to me says that this president has in his heart for me what Reagan had in his heart for [Libyan leader Moammar] Gadhafi.

And I'm saying that's a mistake. Through The Washington Post, I'd like to say to Mr. Bush, that would be unwise. And it is unwise because you, Mr. Bush, are in the

position of a modern pharaoh and Pharaoh lost his army, his government and his power over his rejection of an honorable and just solution to the problem posed by the unwanted presence of the Israelite slaves. And so it is today.

Q. What is it you think Mr. Bush is threatening to do to you?

A. I believe that there is [a] continuing investigation and I believe that Mr. Bush and those who fear the rise of black people see me as much today a threat as they saw my brother, Martin Luther King, when he made that speech, a really innocuous speech in Washington in 1963 where he hoped that black and white and Jew and gentile, Protestant and Catholic would get together. The next day, J. Edgar Hoover received from his staff people a memo saying that Martin Luther King Jr. was the most dangerous Negro in America and then this government through the Justice Department investigated Dr. King vigorously, and I doubt that the government can escape culpability in that man's assassination or in the assassination of Malcolm X. And I firmly believe that they have something similar in store for me.

When I left this country in '86 and was arrested in London, England, at the airport because I'm persona non grata in London, England, they arrested me and kept me in the airport for 14 hours, put me in a police van, took me to the airplane, took my passport and gave it to the pilot with a note to surrender it to Nigerian authorities. And when I got to Nigeria -- the pilot had heard me at Madison Square Garden came and gave me my passport and gave me the document -- I spoke to the law school and as I was about to address thousands of people in Nigeria, the Nigerian armed forces and police ringed the national theater and would not let us speak I later learned in my travels that the CIA operatives in Africa were spreading the news, the news that **Farrakhan** was a communist masquerading as a Muslim and had come to Nigeria to exacerbate the tensions between Christians and Muslims because Nigeria had joined the organization of Islamic conference. And that was the furthest thing from my intentions. And when I got to Ghana I was asked if my security wanted to carry weapons

And I respectfully say that as I said for Jesse [Jackson], it goes double, triple, quadruple, quintuple for me. I am not before you of myself and if I were, you would have done away with me a long, long time ago. But you should know by now that there is more to this man than what meets the eye. And if I am treated by those Jews who hate me and by the government that hates me in this consistent way, you will bring down on this country the same thing that was brought down on Egypt, Babylon, Sodom and Gomorrah. And if you doubt it, then let us wait and watch and see.

Q. We've had a chance to go over most of the areas where you've said something in The Post . . . One that came up in a press conference the last time you were in town that I'm frankly not sure I understood . . . is the business of the wheel.

A. You know, I'm very glad you asked that. I was not going to raise it. I was just wondering who would. You know, Louis **Farrakhan** in teaching in the black community for 36 years is not known to be a nut and is not known to be insane . . . I'd like to just read something before I say what I said.

A memorandum dated February 26, 1942, from Gen. George Marshall, U.S. Army chief of staff in World War II and secretary of state for foreign affairs from 1947 to 1949. He wrote a memo to President Roosevelt giving details of a Los Angeles air alarm in February 1942 during which 1,430 rounds of ammunition were fired at unidentified flying objects during a five-hour alarm.

Former president Gerald Ford, in a letter he sent as a congressman to L. Mendel Rivers, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, dated March 28, 1966, said, and I quote: "In the firm belief that the American public deserves a better explanation than that thus far given by the Air Force, I strongly recommend that there be a committee investigation of the UFO phenomena. I think we owe it to the people to establish credibility regarding UFOs and to produce the greatest possible enlightenment on this subject."

Former president Jimmy Carter, during his election campaign in May 1976 said, and I quote: "If I become president I'll make every piece of information this country has about UFO sightings available to the public and the scientists. I am convinced that UFOs exist because I have seen one."

Senator Barry Goldwater, in a letter dated March 28, 1975, said: "The subject of UFOs is one that has interested me for some long time. About 10 or 12 years ago I made an effort to find out what was in the building at Wright Patterson Air Force Base where the information is stored that has been collected by the Air force and I was understandably denied this request." It is still classified -- listen to the words . . . above Top Secret -- Not just Top Secret, but above Top Secret -- I have, however, heard that there is a plan on the way to release some, if not all, of this material in the near future. I am just as anxious to see this material as you are, and I hope we will not have to wait much longer.

I don't need to go to Prime Minister Winston Churchill and others throughout the world who say that these things exist. There were 18 of them seen over the White House

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us for nearly 60 years that these planes exist. You call them Unidentified Flying Objects, they're not that to us. They're re-

ferred to in the writings of Ezekiel the Prophet as the wheel within a wheel that was seen by Ezekiel in a vision 595 years before Jesus was born.

Now that as a backdrop I said, having believed of course, that these wheels exist, having taught their existence, having seen them for myself, I said -- and I don't want to go over the whole vision -- but I was down in Mexico and I had a vision, an experience where I was carried up into not just the little wheel but into the major wheel which is, as the Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us, a half a mile by a half a mile, a huge, mechanical object that is above our heads

And The Washington Post reported, on the front page . . . a few years ago, a Japanese pilot -- who is not a nut, who had been flying planes for nearly 30 years -- that he saw this not only on his radar but he monitored this for nearly an hour and a half up between Alaska and the Bering Straits and the Asian mainland. And he drew a picture which The Washington Post put on the front page comparing his 747 to this huge object. He said it looked like two huge aircraft carriers in length, which bore witness to what Elijah Muhammad said because the largest aircraft carrier's about 440 yards, a quarter of a mile, and two of them would be a half a mile.

I was carried up in a vision into that wheel and I, in a room not unlike this, but with a speaker in the center, heard the voice of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad just like you are hearing my voice today.

Now you say, of course, Elijah Muhammad's dead, how could you hear him, you know, on a wheel and this is incredible, the boy's a nut. But okay, let's listen to what I heard. He said, to me, President Reagan has met with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and is preparing a war. I want you to hold a press conference in Washington and tell them his plans and tell them you got it from me, Elijah Muhammad, on the wheel. Instructions.

I came back in the vision, had the press conference, the vision was over. I woke up from the experience and in 1985 when I had the vision, September the 17th, October 7th or the 6th, I'm on my way to New York to Madison Square Garden -- now you go and check the records -- traveling from southwest to northeast. There were 15 squadrons of four of these wheels in a squadron, that's 60 of them, flying from southwest to northeast reported on a national public radio out of Tucson, Arizona. The army, not some deluded crack addict, but the Army followed the planes in helicopters or what-not and they reported this

I left here having a press conference at the Washington National Press Club, not in obedience to that vision, because it really hadn't crystallized for me at that time, but the buildup against Qadhafi had started.

I went to Libya. And in my hotel room was everybody in the Libyan top echelon of their government except Moammar Gadhafi and [Maj. Abdul Salaam] Jalloud [the No. 2 official] and I told them what came down in the vision and they fled out of my room. And within a month America bombed Libya . . . The fight started two weeks before the actual bombing took place but something happened and one of the aircraft carriers -- go check the record -- had to go back to Florida for repairs. And it came out in the Arab news in Saudi Arabia that a bright shining object was seen over the Mediterranean. I called back to the United States even before I knew that, I said the wheel is present in the Mediterranean and it's interfering with their highly sensitive electronic equipment. And that aircraft carrier had to go on back to Florida for repairs.

And now in 1987 The Washington Post, New York Times magazine section and the front page of the Atlanta Constitution, "America Plans War with Libya" and right in the text of the reporting it said President Reagan met with the Joint Chiefs of Staff early in September 1985 to plan a war against Libya. And it went on to say that through the American ambassador to Egypt that [Egyptian President Hosni] Mubarak was contacted that he should use his troops to come at Libya from the East and America would give air cover to the operation. And Mubarak backed out of it. This was reported now, okay.

And so that verified, for me, the truth of my vision . . . I thought that the vision was over and I had satisfied what was asked of me and last year, '89, while I was in Phoenix, Arizona, I looked on the television and there I saw tanks rolling over Chinese youth in Tiananmen Square. I had rested and I was feeling very good and when I saw that I got intensely sick.

The same day Imam Khomeini died in Iran. I didn't know the connection. I know I got sick. When I came back to Chicago I looked like an old man, drained because there was something in that that I was to learn.

[Pointing to one of his associates present.] This man right here, who is not only the minister in Boston, Massachusetts, and the East Coast representative, but this man has been honored in Boston by the mayor, the police chief, everybody in that city, as an upstanding, outstanding citizen. This brother called me and said that the gangs had shot up in a gang violence each other, but luckily nobody got killed. But a quarter of a million dollars worth of property was destroyed. And the gangleaders had told Brother Don that if Brother **Farrakhan** tells us to put the guns down -- is that what they said, brother? That they would put it down.

So he was asking me to send them a message. And when I put the phone down with him I started thinking, I said, well, I didn't tell them to pick the guns up, why

should I tell them to put the guns down and knowing that I'm under this kind of investigation I thought that was really a trap.

. . . And then I came out as I started dictating this letter to my secretary, the strain started coming off me. And in that I said that there is a war being planned against black youth by the government of the United States under the guise of a war against drugs and gangs and violence. Still doesn't dawn on me now a connection.

I go back out to Phoenix and Mickey Leland is killed in a plane crash in Ethiopia. Something strikes me, I don't know what it is, but I'm made sick again and finally in September on my 36th wedding anniversary, I get a call and somebody says to me, "Happy anniversary." I said, "Oh, yes, my wife and I have been married for 36 years." And they said, "I'm not talking about your marriage, I'm talking about the anniversary of your vision."

And then it clicked in. Bush's statement to the Simon Wiesenthal Center, the murder of all those babies in Tiananmen Square, President Bush never took a strong stand against that slaughter, not to this day. And right after the slaughter he sends on a secret mission, [National Security Adviser Brent A.] Scowcroft, I think, and others, into that area. The Senate, the Congress is coming down on China, but not Mr. Bush.

Why? I asked. Then, I said, ah, it's a ratio and proportion. As Gadhafi was to Reagan, **Farrakhan** is to Bush. And then I went and held the press conference right here in the city and I charged Mr. Bush with hatching this kind of a plan . . . My mind goes to scripture because that's my orientation: Pharaoh said let's deal wisely with them, had a plan against Jews. Every Jew in this boardroom knows that according to the scripture that plan was to kill all the male children of Israel and spare the females. And you look at black America today and tell me if there's not a plot. Twenty-five percent of our black youth in prison, black males destroyed in the cities, they fill the armed forces, the women are the aggressive ones, the women in college, the women in business, the women moving ahead, but the black man crushed.

And so I maintain that what my father and teacher, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, was revealing to me and telling me to reveal to the world was not only the plan of Reagan but the plan of Bush. And then Mr. Reagan takes a black man, an upstanding, sincere, committed black man like -- Mr. Bush, pardon me -- takes [Gen.] Colin Powell, jumps over 30 [other people] . . . and puts Mr. Colin Powell in as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

I maintain he's there for a reason. I don't think Colin Powell was in on the planning for the thing that went down in Panama. I think that came out in the press. But who did they trot out to defend the action because it was black people being killed in

Panama, I remind you, and so a black man, a sincere, committed American is used to justify the bombs that fell in Panama.

And I say right now, the mood is created for the killing of black people

Well, is there a plan? I believe there is. And I believe that what was revealed to me on that wheel that it is the truth and I'm saying to Bush and I'm saying to America, don't go that way because there is a bigger power and you're going to have to answer for everything that you do

I say we're in a serious time, a serious condition. And I pray God in the name of his servants, the prophets, and I pray that he, God, will open your hearts to what I have said and the manner in which I have said it. And I pray that we, as intelligent, reasonable, sane, human beings will see what is at stake here and stop demonizing me and let me do my work and let's sit down and map out a strategy to save black people and possibly to save this nation.

May God bless you all

GRAPHIC: PHOTO, MUSLIM SPIRITUAL LEADER LOUIS FARRAKHAN AT THE WASHINGTON POST YESTERDAY: "I AM PASSIONATELY CONCERNED FOR THIS NATION.", LUCIAN PERKINS