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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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REFUGEE REVIEW

TUESDAY 4 APRIL 2006

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY: ROSEMARY HOBAN

INTERVIEWEE: SAFI BASARA

1 MS HOBAN: I'm Rosemary Hoban, it's the 4th of April 2006 and  
2 I'm interviewing Safi Basara. Safi, can you tell me your  
3 full name and where you come and your date of birth?  
4 MR BASARA: My name is Safi Basara, birthday 26/12/66. I'm  
5 born in the Iraq, city Nasria.  
6 MS HOBAN: Can you tell me what it was like growing up in  
7 Nasria?  
8 MR BASARA: Stop.  
9 MS HOBAN: You just talk. Who did you live with, tell me about  
10 your family?  
11 MR BASARA: I lived with my parents and two sister.  
12 MS HOBAN: And where did you go to school?  
13 MR BASARA: I go to school Abitaman High School.  
14 MS HOBAN: Tell me about school, did you enjoy it?  
15 MR BASARA: My school, I remember this one very nice because  
16 I like the teacher, I like friend, yes, I remember that.  
17 MS HOBAN: Did you have hobbies?  
18 MR BASARA: No.  
19 MS HOBAN: Birds?  
20 MR BASARA: I have, yeah in my home birds. Yeah, I like that.  
21 MS HOBAN: Tell me about that hobby what you did with birds?  
22 MR BASARA: Yeah, every day I give them food because of flying,  
23 yeah.  
24 MS HOBAN: Did you play any sport, did you play sport?  
25 MR BASARA: I don't know sport.  
26 MS HOBAN: Football?  
27 MR BASARA: No, no.  
28 MS HOBAN: Okay, was your family religious, what religion?  
29 MR BASARA: Muslim.  
30 MS HOBAN: Muslim, okay. Did you go to the Mosque with your  
31 family?

1 MR BASARA: I no go to Mosque but my father go to a Mosque  
2 every day.

3 MS HOBAN: And what about food, tell me the sorts of things  
4 that your mother or your sisters or your family cooked and  
5 ate?

6 MR BASARA: I cook food Arabic, Arabic food.

7 MS HOBAN: Tell me about that sort of food?

8 MR BASARA: I cook lunch in the summer, people like ochre in  
9 the summer, this Boboli, Iraqi food.

10 MS HOBAN: And what about breakfast and dinner, what was the  
11 food like?

12 MR BASARA: Breakfast, egg, cream, every thing same here,  
13 breakfast.

14 MS HOBAN: Did you garden, did you grow food in your garden?

15 MR BASARA: Yeah, I have in my home I have garden, yeah.

16 MS HOBAN: So, you liked gardening?

17 MR BASARA: Yes.

18 MS HOBAN: Tell me about the garden that you used to have?

19 MR BASARA: My garden what do you want to talk about?

20 MS HOBAN: What did you grow, what plants did you grow in your  
21 garden?

22 MR BASARA: No understand, I can't speak English in the garden?

23 MS HOBAN: Flowers?

24 MR BASARA: Yeah.

25 MS HOBAN: Vegetables?

26 MR BASARA: Flower, vegetables, yeah something cucumber,  
27 tomato.

28 MS HOBAN: And when you finished school how old were you?

29 MR BASARA: When I finish school I think, 20.

30 MS HOBAN: Twenty, and then what did you do after you finished  
31 school?

1 MR BASARA: I worked with my father.

2 MS HOBAN: And what was the business, what work did you do?

3 MR BASARA: Light shop.

4 MS HOBAN: And can you tell me about the sort of work that you  
5 used to do in the shop?

6 MR BASARA: This shop in the centre the city Nasria and because  
7 very, very busy, yeah. Everyday I go to help him, yeah  
8 I like that yeah.

9 MS HOBAN: What did you do in the shop, did you sell things?

10 MR BASARA: No, just I help my father some - I help him.

11 MS HOBAN: Was it a big shop?

12 MR BASARA: Yeah, it was big shop.

13 MS HOBAN: And you enjoyed working there?

14 MR BASARA: Yeah, yeah.

15 MS HOBAN: So, how long did you live in Iraq for?

16 MR BASARA: I live in Iraq 34 years.

17 MS HOBAN: Why did you leave Iraq?

18 MR BASARA: Because my father trouble with government Saddam  
19 Hussein. After that Saddam Hussein killed my father,  
20 after I left Iraq because Saddam Hussein I fear would stay  
21 this problem for me.

22 MS HOBAN: Can you talk about the trouble that your father had  
23 with Saddam Hussein, tell us about that?

24 MR BASARA: 1998 people go to the Mosque and pray in the street  
25 but this (indistinct) government put (indistinct) in the  
26 gaol. After people go to talk to government to help this  
27 (indistinct) after government put it some people might be  
28 40 people in the gaol, so my father went with these  
29 people, after kill him.

30 MS HOBAN: What gaol was your father taken too?

31 MR BASARA: First in the gaol in Nasria, after sent to Baghdad.

1 MS HOBAN: And do you remember the name of the gaol in Baghdad?

2 MR BASARA: Yes, Abu Ghraib.

3 MS HOBAN: So, how did you find out what happened to your  
4 father, was he in gaol long?

5 MR BASARA: Maybe ten month, no my father stay in the gaol  
6 three month, after - Saddam Hussein kill him.

7 MS HOBAN: And how did you find out what happened to your  
8 father?

9 MR BASARA: Because government come into my home, they said  
10 come into take the body, my father. I go to - me and my  
11 uncle to Abu Ghraib.

12 MS HOBAN: And you brought, what happened then?

13 MR BASARA: After I got to this area, Nigeff because - put it  
14 in the ground, after I come back to Nasria. When I come  
15 back to Nasria after body's coming putting me in the gaol.

16 MS HOBAN: So, you were put in gaol?

17 MR BASARA: Yeah.

18 MS HOBAN: Can you tell me about that?

19 MR BASARA: Yeah, I went put it in the gaol because I stay in  
20 the gaol ten month after I tell, no problem, this  
21 government problem with my father, after is it 2000 I go  
22 outside.

23 MS HOBAN: So, ten months in gaol?

24 MR BASARA: Yeah.

25 MS HOBAN: Tell me about those ten months in gaol. What was it  
26 like?

27 MR BASARA: There's no food, no shower, very dirty and hurt  
28 people, yeah.

29 MS HOBAN: And did that happen to you, were you hurt in gaol?

30 MR BASARA: Yeah.

31 MS HOBAN: What happened?

1 MR BASARA: Every morning come in people - hurt people, yeah.

2 MS HOBAN: So, after ten months what happened?

3 MR BASARA: After ten month I go outside but my mum she said to

4 me don't stay, if you stay here Saddam Hussein kill me -

5 same my father. I go to Araf with my friend, after that

6 I go to Jordan.

7 MS HOBAN: Okay, so when you left the gaol did you go back to

8 your mother and your sisters for a while?

9 MR BASARA: Yeah, yeah little bit, two month - after.

10 MS HOBAN: What happened to the store, your father had a light

11 shop where you worked, what happened to the shop?

12 MR BASARA: Yeah, after I go to this person because my father

13 shared it with another person.

14 MS HOBAN: Shared the shop?

15 MR BASARA: Sharing - yeah, I go to this person, I tell him

16 I want money my father, this person very good he said give

17 me seven days I finish everything, after that I go this

18 person after seven days he give seven million Iraq.

19 MS HOBAN: Do you know what that is in Australian money?

20 MR BASARA: \$7,000, but this is \$7,000 in Iraq but not same

21 here, long. For example, 7,000 in Iraq two house if you

22 want to buy two house.

23 MS HOBAN: Two houses?

24 MR BASARA: Two houses.

25 MS HOBAN: So, you got lots of money?

26 MR BASARA: Yeah.

27 MS HOBAN: For the shop?

28 MR BASARA: Yeah.

29 MS HOBAN: What did you do with the money?

30 MR BASARA: Because I, when I think I want to go to Jordan

31 I take the money I give my mother 1,000,000 and I put it

1           in my wallet 6,000,000, after I go to Jordan.

2 MS HOBAN: When you lived in Iraq did you speak English?

3 MR BASARA: No.

4 MS HOBAN: What language?

5 MR BASARA: Just Arabic.

6 MS HOBAN: When you were put in gaol what happened to your  
7           mother and sisters?

8 MR BASARA: After - stay this in home, because government broke  
9           into the house, house (indistinct) broke in. After my  
10          mother and two sister go to live with uncle, with uncle.

11 MS HOBAN: With uncle.

12 MR BASARA: Yeah.

13 MS HOBAN: Where?

14 MR BASARA: Same city, Nasria.

15 MS HOBAN: So, after you came out of gaol, you decided to  
16          leave?

17 MR BASARA: Yeah.

18 MS HOBAN: Your mother, what did she say to you?

19 MR BASARA: She said to me don't stay, go, if you stay here  
20          Saddam Hussein kill me.

21 MS HOBAN: Did you have friends who were killed?

22 MR BASARA: Yeah, plenty. Plenty people Saddam Hussein kill.

23 MS HOBAN: Why were your friends killed?

24 MR BASARA: Same trouble, you see the - if you see on the  
25          television when you (indistinct) Saddam Hussein, plenty  
26          story.

27 MS HOBAN: So were you afraid?

28 MR BASARA: Yeah.

29 MS HOBAN: What happened after you decided to leave and your  
30          mother said go, what did you do then?

31 MR BASARA: I go this area in Iraq, Ar Ramadi, beside Jordan.

1           Some person I give money, they have ship and he said me  
2           \$100 American, I give \$100 American and three days walk in  
3           the desert, three days.

4 MS HOBAN: To get from Iraq.

5 MR BASARA: To Jordan.

6 MS HOBAN: Jordan, so you walked?

7 MR BASARA: Yeah, after - - -

8 MS HOBAN: Were you alone?

9 MR BASARA: Me and this person yeah am alone. After that I go  
10           to Jordan, I buy passport, some person help me at Jordan,  
11           I go to Malaysia.

12 MS HOBAN: Malaysia?

13 MR BASARA: Malaysia.

14 MS HOBAN: How long were you in Jordan?

15 MR BASARA: I stay in Jordan three days.

16 MS HOBAN: And how did you get from Jordan to Malaysia?

17 MR BASARA: A plane.

18 MS HOBAN: What happened in Malaysia?

19 MR BASARA: In Malaysia I stay one month in Malaysia, I want to  
20           go to Indonesia because when I go to - when I went to  
21           Malaysia some person I give them the passport, they come  
22           back the passport. I give them the passport in the  
23           airport, outside in the airport when I come to Malaysia  
24           I give them - I come back passport. After I no passport.

25 MS HOBAN: Why did you give the passport?

26 MR BASARA: Because this business with another person the  
27           Jordan, (indistinct) came he said - because this passport  
28           come back to Jordan - again work.

29 MS HOBAN: What did you do in Malaysia for one month?

30 MR BASARA: I just in hotel because I'm scared for police  
31           because no passport and hotel I go sometimes outside,



1 I come back.

2 MS HOBAN: Did you know anyone in Malaysia?

3 MR BASARA: I see, people Iraqi (indistinct) person, after  
4 someone said I send to Indonesia, give them money, some  
5 person experience for work for this one, and go to  
6 Indonesia.

7 MS HOBAN: How did you get from Malaysia to Indonesia?

8 MR BASARA: Small boat, illegal.

9 MS HOBAN: How long did that take?

10 MR BASARA: Three days.

11 MS HOBAN: What was that trip like, tell me about that trip?

12 MR BASARA: What trip?

13 MS HOBAN: The boat trip from Malaysia to Indonesia.

14 MR BASARA: Yeah, this one little bit food and small boat, very  
15 small, yeah.

16 MS HOBAN: How many in the boat?

17 MR BASARA: Maybe 14 person.

18 MS HOBAN: Were you scared?

19 MR BASARA: Yeah, very scared.

20 MS HOBAN: Did you know anyone in that boat, anyone from Iraq?

21 MR BASARA: Yeah, Iraqi people, I know one family, all the  
22 family, I think husband and wife and six children  
23 together.

24 MS HOBAN: Did anyone get sick on the boat?

25 MR BASARA: Yeah, I'm sick.

26 MS HOBAN: Where did you arrive, where did the boat stop in  
27 Indonesia?

28 MR BASARA: In - I forget the city I think, Sumatra. Far away  
29 in the Jakarta. When I go to Jakarta - the bus three  
30 days.

31 MS HOBAN: Okay. How long where you in Indonesia for?

1 MR BASARA: In Indonesia I stay two month.

2 MS HOBAN: What did you do in those two months?

3 MR BASARA: Two month, same in Malaysia, this person put people  
4 in the house, big house. He said stay here when you buy  
5 boat, he said went and found the boat, stay two month  
6 after, so okay.

7 MS HOBAN: Did they look after you in that house food?

8 MR BASARA: Yeah this person give the food, something.

9 MS HOBAN: And how much did you pay to get a boat from  
10 Indonesia to Australia?

11 MR BASARA: Indonesia to Australia, \$2,000 American.

12 MS HOBAN: So, after two months - - -

13 MR BASARA: Yeah.

14 MS HOBAN: - - - you got a boat?

15 MR BASARA: Yeah.

16 MS HOBAN: Where did you catch the boat in Indonesia?

17 MR BASARA: In Indonesia this area name Cubung, Cubung.

18 MS HOBAN: Can you tell me about getting that boat. Was it  
19 night time, day time?

20 MR BASARA: Yeah, night I think four o'clock morning, in the  
21 morning, yeah.

22 MS HOBAN: Tell me about the boat?

23 MR BASARA: This boat when you come to the beach it can't - the  
24 boat come near the beach because they want to stay here,  
25 people go to walk in the beach to boat. It had - there's  
26 water there.

27 MS HOBAN: Were you scared?

28 MR BASARA: Yeah.

29 MS HOBAN: Cold?

30 MR BASARA: Before, when I come no for cold because summer.

31 MS HOBAN: How many in the boat?

1 MR BASARA: Sixty people.  
2 MS HOBAN: Sixty?  
3 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
4 MS HOBAN: Was it a big boat?  
5 MR BASARA: Yes, not big but medium.  
6 MS HOBAN: Was it crowded?  
7 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
8 MS HOBAN: Was there plenty of food?  
9 MR BASARA: No, little bit food.  
10 MS HOBAN: What food did you eat?  
11 MR BASARA: This food Indonesian. Some people don't like this  
12 food. After in the - when I come to Indonesia this  
13 captain lost on the beach, three days lost.  
14 MS HOBAN: How long was the trip from Indonesia to Australia?  
15 MR BASARA: Four days.  
16 MS HOBAN: Four days?  
17 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
18 MS HOBAN: Were you afraid on the boat, were you afraid of the  
19 water, were you scared?  
20 MR BASARA: Yeah, scared yeah. All people are scared because  
21 this one first, I go to this boat, I go to it before I no  
22 see the beach, never I see the beach.  
23 MS HOBAN: So, your first boat trip - - -  
24 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
25 MS HOBAN: - - - was the first time you'd been on the beach?  
26 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
27 MS HOBAN: What happened after the four days on the boat?  
28 MR BASARA: In the area in Australia, Ashmore Reef, Ashmore.  
29 MS HOBAN: Ashmore Reef?  
30 MR BASARA: Yeah. This one police in the Ashmore Reef coming.  
31 MS HOBAN: So, you landed and then what happened?

1 MR BASARA: Yeah, after police come in. Police, Australian  
2 come in to Ashmore Reef.

3 MS HOBAN: And what happened to you then, tell us what  
4 happened?

5 MR BASARA: After send people to Darwin - police.

6 MS HOBAN: Did the police tell you what would happen to you?

7 MR BASARA: Yeah.

8 MS HOBAN: What did they tell you?

9 MR BASARA: They said why no come in before one day because  
10 helicopter before see the boat, after helicopter talk to  
11 police but this captain no understand that lost. This boy  
12 is very angry.

13 MS HOBAN: Your boat was lost?

14 MR BASARA: Yeah.

15 MS HOBAN: What did the police do, they took you to Darwin?

16 MR BASARA: Went and stayed in the Ashmore. Come in big boat  
17 for soldiers, for army. Police contact with this boat, he  
18 accept to send people to Darwin.

19 MS HOBAN: Then what happened?

20 MR BASARA: Yeah, the soldier, general, he said he can't put  
21 people inside the boat because the boat weapon something  
22 for soldier, he said outside, he said okay.

23 MS HOBAN: You were taken from Ashmore Reef to Darwin on a  
24 boat?

25 MR BASARA: Yeah, outside.

26 MS HOBAN: Okay, what happened when you got to Darwin?

27 MR BASARA: When this when, big room for basketball, this one  
28 person very nice, very person send the food, everything,  
29 clean, shower, yeah it was good person I remember this  
30 man. Very nice.

31 MS HOBAN: How long were you in Darwin for?

1 MR BASARA: Two days.

2 MS HOBAN: Did anyone tell you what would happen to you?

3 MR BASARA: Yeah, yeah.

4 MS HOBAN: Who talked to you, how did you find out?

5 MR BASARA: This - some people, this person, I forget this name  
6 he said how old are you when you come birthday, something  
7 this one.

8 MS HOBAN: And did he tell you where you would go after Darwin?

9 MR BASARA: Yeah, he said after Darwin he said to send to  
10 Woomera.

11 MS HOBAN: Did you understand what was happening, did you  
12 understand that you were going to a detention centre?

13 MR BASARA: No, because I no understand for detention centre.

14 MS HOBAN: Where did you think you were going, what did you  
15 think would happen to you?

16 MR BASARA: I think before I come to Australia this finish but  
17 I sent to Woomera.

18 MS HOBAN: What happened after you left Darwin?

19 MR BASARA: When I left Darwin night, maybe twelve o'clock in  
20 the night in the plane, small plane sent to Darwin.

21 MS HOBAN: How many on the plane?

22 MR BASARA: Maybe 50 person, 50, 60.

23 MS HOBAN: From the boat?

24 MR BASARA: Yeah.

25 MS HOBAN: What time did you get to Woomera?

26 MR BASARA: Three o'clock.

27 MS HOBAN: In the morning?

28 MR BASARA: Yeah.

29 MS HOBAN: It's dark?

30 MR BASARA: Yeah.

31 MS HOBAN: Tell us about arriving at Woomera, what could you

1 see?

2 MR BASARA: When I come to Woomera in the night, they sent me -  
3 give a room. They said this room, sleep in that room.  
4 Sleep in the room, after morning some person talk this one  
5 person, in the Woomera he said no trouble before, because  
6 before people had trouble. Fire in the detention centre  
7 and broken. I go outside people they say I promise I give  
8 visa three years, one week after three weeks people go  
9 outside. The same, yes, after case officer come in, yes.  
10 Because I'm lucky, I stay four days.

11 MS HOBAN: Four days?

12 MR BASARA: In the detention centre.

13 MS HOBAN: In Woomera?

14 MR BASARA: Yeah.

15 MS HOBAN: Four days?

16 MR BASARA: Forty. No, 40 days.

17 MS HOBAN: Forty?

18 MR BASARA: Yeah, 40 day.

19 MS HOBAN: Forty days. When you got off the plane at Woomera  
20 and went to the room - - -

21 MR BASARA: Yeah.

22 MS HOBAN: - - - and you woke up in the detention centre - - -

23 MR BASARA: Yeah.

24 MS HOBAN: - - - describe what it looked like?

25 MR BASARA: Small room, or caravan and because I live with my  
26 friend, two person in the room.

27 MS HOBAN: Okay, like a hut, small hut?

28 MR BASARA: Yeah, small, very small.

29 MS HOBAN: Did your friend come on the boat with you?

30 MR BASARA: Yeah, yeah.

31 MS HOBAN: Did he leave Iraq with you?

1 MR BASARA: No, I found him in - in Indonesia I see him.  
2 MS HOBAN: You met?  
3 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
4 MS HOBAN: So, two of you in one room?  
5 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
6 MS HOBAN: When you went outside what did it look like?  
7 MR BASARA: Outside in the, yeah, in the morning I see this one  
8 same, the gaol. Yeah, because it can't go to outside and  
9 because this Woomera and they visit, no see house, no see  
10 outside. Just desert.  
11 MS HOBAN: Were you surprised at where you were?  
12 MR BASARA: Yeah, I'm surprised, in the morning surprised.  
13 MS HOBAN: You said it looked like the gaol?  
14 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
15 MS HOBAN: Was that like the gaol in Iraq?  
16 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
17 MS HOBAN: Were you in - - -  
18 MR BASARA: Plenty, I ask the security, I said security I no  
19 understand why don't you go outside, because security no  
20 understand.  
21 MS HOBAN: Could you find someone who spoke Arabic?  
22 MR BASARA: Yeah, plenty people in the - people in the  
23 detention centres speak Arabic.  
24 MS HOBAN: Any guards?  
25 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
26 MS HOBAN: So, could you find out what was happening to you?  
27 MR BASARA: Yeah, some people said I see when I come, some  
28 people live eight month. They say very problem here.  
29 MS HOBAN: What were you thinking, were you afraid?  
30 MR BASARA: Yeah, I'm very sad.  
31 MS HOBAN: Can you tell me about what the days were like at

1 Woomera?

2 MR BASARA: Day?

3 MS HOBAN: What did you do during the day, what time did you  
4 get up in the morning?

5 MR BASARA: In the morning I get, nine o'clock because I have  
6 breakfast at 8.30 sometimes I no go to breakfast, yeah.

7 MS HOBAN: What was for breakfast, what food?

8 MR BASARA: Milk, food, egg, bread.

9 MS HOBAN: Like food you had in Iraq?

10 MR BASARA: Yes, it was good - same.

11 MS HOBAN: What did you do after breakfast?

12 MR BASARA: After I walk in the restaurant, clean when you  
13 finish people breakfast, lunch, dinner. Clean up, clean  
14 the table, floor.

15 MS HOBAN: Did you get paid for cleaning?

16 MR BASARA: No.

17 MS HOBAN: So, did you clean everyday?

18 MR BASARA: Yeah, everyday.

19 MS HOBAN: After breakfast?

20 MR BASARA: Yeah.

21 MS HOBAN: And then what did you do?

22 MR BASARA: With a friend sometime jogging, sometime this one.

23 MS HOBAN: Did you make many friends?

24 MR BASARA: Little bit, not too much.

25 MS HOBAN: When it was lunch time what did you eat at lunch  
26 time?

27 MR BASARA: Meat, rice. But people worry they said this one  
28 meat halal, not halal, no understand. Some people eat,  
29 some people not eat this.

30 MS HOBAN: Did you eat?

31 MR BASARA: Yes, I'm eat.



1 MS HOBAN: And dinner?

2 MR BASARA: They are same, meat, rice, yeah but dinner if you  
3 finish lunch three o'clock, dinner five o'clock, what's  
4 the problem, yeah. If no go five o'clock no dinner.

5 MS HOBAN: Why was lunch at three?

6 MR BASARA: This business, for this business, this company they  
7 say five o'clock if you no can come at five o'clock no  
8 dinner, yeah.

9 MS HOBAN: Was the food okay?

10 MR BASARA: Yes, okay. If you come at five o'clock you want to  
11 take away the dinner into the room, don't accept - people.

12 MS HOBAN: Not allowed?

13 MR BASARA: Yeah, they want to eat in the restaurant because  
14 scared for food dirty outside something.

15 MS HOBAN: Did you get hungry anytime.

16 MR BASARA: No, not hungry.

17 MS HOBAN: What about television, music was there any  
18 television to watch?

19 MR BASARA: One television and one television and 1,000 person.

20 MS HOBAN: One television?

21 MR BASARA: One television, yeah.

22 MS HOBAN: Did you watch it at all?

23 MR BASARA: Sometime I go to watch because no chair, no -  
24 plenty people too.

25 MS HOBAN: Were there any radios?

26 MR BASARA: No, radios.

27 MS HOBAN: Any music?

28 MR BASARA: No.

29 MS HOBAN: Did you write letters to your mother and sisters?

30 MR BASARA: No, no.

31 MS HOBAN: Did you get any letters?

1 MR BASARA: No.

2 MS HOBAN: Were you allowed to write letters?

3 MR BASARA: No.

4 MS HOBAN: Did you read?

5 MR BASARA: No, no read. No book because I before no speak  
6 English, how can to read.

7 MS HOBAN: No books in Arabic?

8 MR BASARA: No.

9 MS HOBAN: Did you play cards, play games?

10 MR BASARA: No.

11 MS HOBAN: What did you do in the afternoon?

12 MR BASARA: Just sit down with people, talk together. Same,  
13 everyday same, talking.

14 MS HOBAN: What did you talk about?

15 MR BASARA: From a story when coming here and from boat, from  
16 Iraq. People thinking when you go outside.

17 MS HOBAN: Were people scared, were they telling you stories  
18 that made you scared?

19 MR BASARA: Yeah.

20 MS HOBAN: What were you thinking about getting out?

21 MR BASARA: Yeah, I think sometime I see the bus, some people  
22 get from visa, I just, I work, I see - I hope, same as the  
23 spirit of the people.

24 MS HOBAN: Was it noisy, was there lots of noise?

25 MR BASARA: Yeah.

26 MS HOBAN: What were the sounds you remember, what sounds do  
27 you remember?

28 MR BASARA: Some people angry in the detention centre. Some  
29 people fighting. Crazy people stay long time.

30 MS HOBAN: Did you see people fight?

31 MR BASARA: Yeah, plenty people fight.

1 MS HOBAN: Did you get in any fights?  
2 MR BASARA: No.  
3 MS HOBAN: what happened when you saw people fight?  
4 MR BASARA: Very sad when I see people fighting.  
5 MS HOBAN: Were there many children in the camp?  
6 MR BASARA: Yeah, children, yeah, plenty children.  
7 MS HOBAN: Did you see them play, what were they doing?  
8 MR BASARA: Just together with family. No, because nowhere to  
9 play in the detention centre, nothing.  
10 MS HOBAN: How did that make you feel for the children?  
11 MR BASARA: Yeah, very sad when I see children they're hot,  
12 very hot Woomera.  
13 MS HOBAN: Was it hot during the day and at night?  
14 MR BASARA: Yeah, very hot in the summer very, very hot.  
15 MS HOBAN: Trees?  
16 MR BASARA: Huh?  
17 MS HOBAN: Were there any trees?  
18 MR BASARA: No.  
19 MS HOBAN: Any birds?  
20 MR BASARA: No.  
21 MS HOBAN: Were there any smells that you remember?  
22 MR BASARA: Yeah, windy, windy, yeah.  
23 MS HOBAN: Was it windy a lot?  
24 MR BASARA: Yeah, windy.  
25 MS HOBAN: Hot and windy?  
26 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
27 MS HOBAN: During the day did you go into your bedroom, were  
28 you allowed in your bedroom during the day?  
29 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
30 MS HOBAN: Describe your bedroom, what did it look like?  
31 MR BASARA: My bedroom very small, very small, be half to this

1           one, half again (indistinct) bed, two bed.

2 MR BASARA: Bed, two bed. Two bed - me and friend. Yeah, was

3           very small.

4 MS HOBAN: Was it cold at night?

5 MR BASARA: Because I live in the Woomera in the summer not

6           cold.

7 MS HOBAN: Was there air conditioning?

8 MR BASARA: Before last year people no air conditioned. When

9           you fighting, and people after that send air condition.

10          When I come to detention centre I see air condition.

11 MS HOBAN: Did you see anyone hurt themselves?

12 MR BASARA: Yeah, I see one person, Afghani person.

13 MS HOBAN: What did you see?

14 MR BASARA: When this one shave.

15 MS HOBAN: Where did that happen, outside, inside?

16 MR BASARA: Inside.

17 MS HOBAN: Can you tell me what happened, what you saw?

18 MR BASARA: He have small knife and take skin.

19 MS HOBAN: And what happened then?

20 MR BASARA: After security come and take him there, Medicare.

21          What can you do people, because this one very upset, he

22          said I'm a long time here.

23 MS HOBAN: Did you ever get sick?

24 MR BASARA: Yeah.

25 MS HOBAN: In Woomera?

26 MR BASARA: Yeah.

27 MS HOBAN: What happened?

28 MR BASARA: My stomach, I have stomach. I go to Medicare.

29 MS HOBAN: And what happened?

30 MR BASARA: I don't know because when I come on the boat I eat

31          food no good - dirty, water dirty.

1 MS HOBAN: Did you get cared for, did someone care for you when  
2 you were sick?

3 MR BASARA: Yes, my friend. This one my friend that came on  
4 the boat - this one teacher and he speak English, he go  
5 with me to Medicare to talk to him.

6 MS HOBAN: Did your mother know where you were?

7 MR BASARA: No, after when I come to Australia I ring my  
8 mother.

9 MS HOBAN: When did you ring her?

10 MR BASARA: I ring my mother when I come to Australia 2001.

11 MS HOBAN: When you were at Woomera?

12 MR BASARA: Woomera, no, no ring.

13 MS HOBAN: Where were you when you phoned her?

14 MR BASARA: In the - Melbourne.

15 MS HOBAN: So, she didn't know where you were?

16 MR BASARA: No, all the story my mum no understand when I - she  
17 understand me I go to Jordan.

18 MS HOBAN: What did she say when you told her?

19 MR BASARA: She very happy. First I ring my friend because my  
20 Uncle no telephone, I have to phone my friend, I ring my  
21 friend. My friend talked to mum, after mum come to house  
22 of friend I talk to - I ring again.

23 MS HOBAN: Was she happy?

24 MR BASARA: Yeah, very happy.

25 MS HOBAN: At Woomera who helped you apply for your visa?

26 MR BASARA: This case officer came in to talk and at the visa,  
27 interpreter.

28 MS HOBAN: Interpreter.

29 MR BASARA: Yeah, and case officer talk the case after this 40  
30 days, in the night he said Safi is okay with visa.

31 MS HOBAN: When did you arrive at Woomera, what date?

1 MR BASARA: 31/12/2000.  
2 MS HOBAN: 31st of - - -  
3 MR BASARA: No, I think - yeah 31/3/2001.  
4 MS HOBAN: Is that when you arrived at Woomera?  
5 MR BASARA: Yeah, yeah I come to Australia 31/12/2000 after  
6 that I go to three month in the detention centre, after  
7 I come to Melbourne.  
8 MS HOBAN: Did your friend who you shared the bedroom with, did  
9 he get his visa when you applied for yours?  
10 MR BASARA: Yeah together, together.  
11 MS HOBAN: Did you share the bedroom with him the whole time at  
12 Woomera all the time?  
13 MR BASARA: Yeah, all the time yeah.  
14 MS HOBAN: What about bathrooms, what were the bathrooms like?  
15 MR BASARA: Yeah, bathroom is very dirty, very dirty bathroom.  
16 Plenty bathroom but very dirty toilet, yeah.  
17 MS HOBAN: Was there privacy in the bathroom for showers?  
18 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
19 MS HOBAN: Was it private?  
20 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
21 MS HOBAN: Shower curtains?  
22 MR BASARA: Some curtain broken, some no curtain.  
23 MS HOBAN: And lights at night, were there lights?  
24 MR BASARA: Little bit light at the night.  
25 MS HOBAN: Was there noise at night?  
26 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
27 MS HOBAN: What was the noise at night?  
28 MR BASARA: Because security everyday walk you see people  
29 fighting, yeah noisy people, some people noisy.  
30 MS HOBAN: At night did people fight?  
31 MR BASARA: Yeah; everyday, night, morning.

1 MS HOBAN: What was that like for you hearing fighting all the  
2 time at night?  
3 MR BASARA: Yeah, I talk to myself when I go outside.  
4 MS HOBAN: Did you ever get in any fights?  
5 MR BASARA: Yeah, some forget some no forget but I see plenty  
6 fighting people.  
7 MS HOBAN: People hurt from fighting?  
8 MR BASARA: Yeah, hurt and blood.  
9 MS HOBAN: What were the guards like to you, the guards at  
10 Woomera. how did they treat you?  
11 MR BASARA: Stop.  
12 MS HOBAN: The people who were at the detention centre working?  
13 MR BASARA: Yeah people working?  
14 MS HOBAN: The people working there, the guards.  
15 MR BASARA: Guards, won't say guards.  
16 MS HOBAN: Police in the detention centre?  
17 MR BASARA: No police, security.  
18 MS HOBAN: Security, were they good to you, kind to you, what  
19 were they like to you?  
20 MR BASARA: Some people good, security some people good, some  
21 people very - no good.  
22 MS HOBAN: So, what happened to you with security that was no  
23 good?  
24 MR BASARA: One securities name Shane, Shane yeah, I work in  
25 the restaurant he give me food, he give me pot, shoes, he  
26 give me shoes. All the people they work in the restaurant  
27 he give them shoes. After I think one day I'm sick I no  
28 go to work, they come into my room take the shoes. Them  
29 I'm very upset, this one shoes.  
30 MS HOBAN: Did you have other shoes?  
31 MR BASARA: No, because my shoes broken, I stay no shoes.

1 MS HOBAN: So, in the camp you walked around bare feet?  
2 MR BASARA: Sometimes you have people shoes, sometime people no  
3 shoes.  
4 MS HOBAN: You, did you have shoes or bare feet?  
5 MR BASARA: Two days I stay, no shoes because this one take the  
6 shoes.  
7 MS HOBAN: And did you go back and work in the kitchen after  
8 that?  
9 MR BASARA: No, I no go, yeah. No like this person.  
10 MS HOBAN: Did security ever search you, search your body?  
11 MR BASARA: No, because I'm very quiet.  
12 MS HOBAN: What about your friend?  
13 MR BASARA: Yeah, friend I see some people friend fighting with  
14 security, some people in security hit him.  
15 MS HOBAN: Was your room ever searched, did security search  
16 your bedroom?  
17 MR BASARA: Some people, some in the bedroom, some people  
18 outside.  
19 MS HOBAN: But your bedroom?  
20 MR BASARA: No, because it just me and my friend, no.  
21 MS HOBAN: Tell me about getting your visa, you had your  
22 interview?  
23 MR BASARA: Yeah, interview after that.  
24 MS HOBAN: How long, when did you have you interview?  
25 MR BASARA: When I come to - in detention centre after one  
26 week, interview.  
27 MS HOBAN: And did the person who interviewed you - your case  
28 worker, what did they say to you?  
29 MR BASARA: They said give me the story for Iraq. After story  
30 when I come to Australia they said you want to understand  
31 case officer I'm Iraqi, I'm not Iraqi. I give him for



1 example.

2 MS HOBAN: What example did you give her?

3 MR BASARA: She said me tell me the city Nasria, she want to  
4 understand Nasria, I tell her this Nasria it have river,  
5 it have for what is the government, and Nasria what is  
6 this one. She ask me for the city, I tell them this one  
7 they said okay. They after showed me for photo, they say  
8 to me what this, what this, photo, she have photo for  
9 Iraq, ay this where in Iraq, this where? I tell this in  
10 Baghdad, this one Nigeff.

11 MS HOBAN: Did you she ask you about your father?

12 MR BASARA: Yeah, yeah all the story for father.

13 MS HOBAN: How long after your interview did your case worker  
14 tell you about getting a visa?

15 MR BASARA: Two hours, two hours yeah.

16 MS HOBAN: When did you get your visa?

17 MR BASARA: Visa - after 40 days, give a visa.

18 MS HOBAN: What sort of visa did you get?

19 MR BASARA: TPV, three years TPV.

20 MS HOBAN: Three years, a temporary?

21 MR BASARA: Temporary Protection Visa.

22 MS HOBAN: When you got your visa did you have to stay in  
23 Woomera for a while or what happened the day you got your  
24 visa?

25 MR BASARA: This one, my visa this one the night come in  
26 security he said, Safi this one the visa. Morning eight  
27 o'clock he said bus go to Melbourne, I no sleep I stay,  
28 yeah.

29 MS HOBAN: At night you got your visa?

30 MR BASARA: Yeah, night.

31 MS HOBAN: The next day?

1 MR BASARA: Yeah.

2 MS HOBAN: Gone?

3 MR BASARA: Yeah, I come to Melbourne.

4 MS HOBAN: Tell me how did you feel when the security came to  
5 tell you about your visa?

6 MR BASARA: They said, what is it, Safi, I tell them, yes, they  
7 said visa, I said, oh.

8 MS HOBAN: Did your friend?

9 MR BASARA: Yeah, friend same, that sleep with me in the room,  
10 same day, same time together.

11 MS HOBAN: Are there things that happened in Woomera that you  
12 think about a lot, things you can't forget?

13 MR BASARA: Yeah, because very - same in gaol because people  
14 were like, because no this food no good, dirty, something,  
15 no go outside, no see tree, no see house, no see the  
16 street, no see car.

17 MS HOBAN: Were there sounds, are there things that you heard  
18 that you remember?

19 MR BASARA: What are?

20 MS HOBAN: Are there things that happened at Woomera the  
21 fighting or anger, do you remember that, do you think  
22 about that now?

23 MR BASARA: Yeah, yeah I see one person Afghani - this fighting  
24 with same Afghani people.

25 MS HOBAN: When you left Woomera in the morning what happened?

26 MR BASARA: I cry when I left Woomera, yeah, because my friend  
27 stay in the Woomera, not friend who lived with me another  
28 friend come with me in the boat because visa, my visa  
29 open, after people - after that for the list people the  
30 list stay. Not all people, everyday - I mean every week  
31 I think this day Tuesday. Every Tuesday visa, visa, it's

1           because they one week, two weeks after one month people.  
2 MS HOBAN: You were crying were you happy, and sad for your  
3           friend?  
4 MR BASARA: Yeah, because when bus when you go, the detention  
5           centre be asking people to stay to see the bus. Children,  
6           women.  
7 MS HOBAN: So, what happened to your friend who did not get a  
8           visa?  
9 MR BASARA: Try same, yeah because we live together maybe eight  
10          month while in Indonesia, Australia in the detention  
11          centre.  
12 MS HOBAN: Did he get a visa one day?  
13 MR BASARA: Yeah, yeah every person get their visa after, after  
14          - same three years.  
15 MS HOBAN: When you got on the bus at Woomera did everyone  
16          crowd around, looking, wishing?  
17 MR BASARA: Yeah, I look in the street, when I come look yes  
18          after this bus drove in the restaurant, after little bit  
19          see the city, yeah.  
20 MS HOBAN: You left Woomera in the morning, what happened then,  
21          what happened to you after you left Woomera that day?  
22 MR BASARA: Yeah, I come to Melbourne.  
23 MS HOBAN: On the bus?  
24 MR BASARA: On the bus.  
25 MS HOBAN: How long was that trip?  
26 MR BASARA: One day and a half.  
27 MS HOBAN: What did you see along the way, did you know where  
28          you were going?  
29 MR BASARA: No, she said we go to Melbourne but I just listen  
30          Melbourne but no understand where we were.  
31 MS HOBAN: Nobody asked you where you wanted to go?

1 MR BASARA: She said free now, free have visa.  
2 MS HOBAN: Who said?  
3 MR BASARA: In the Woomera, because give me the visa they say  
4 this visa, now free.  
5 MS HOBAN: Did she tell you about Melbourne?  
6 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
7 MS HOBAN: Could you go anywhere else or only to Melbourne?  
8 MR BASARA: No, because some person her on the council, some  
9 people work for paper with address and give the flat, give  
10 me the flat. Yeah, for housing yeah and card, bank, card  
11 bank, bank card and Medicare, yeah and one social work  
12 Julia has helped.  
13 MS HOBAN: So, after you left Woomera on the bus with your  
14 friend.  
15 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
16 MS HOBAN: Who shared your bedroom, a day and a half to  
17 Melbourne?  
18 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
19 MS HOBAN: What date, when did you leave Woomera?  
20 MR BASARA: I remember, I think - stop there, I left the  
21 Woomera I think 28/3/2001.  
22 MS HOBAN: March 28 2001?  
23 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
24 MS HOBAN: Then you went to Melbourne?  
25 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
26 MS HOBAN: What happened when you arrived in Melbourne?  
27 MR BASARA: When I live in the Melbourne?  
28 MS HOBAN: The day you arrived?  
29 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
30 MS HOBAN: Tell me about the day you arrived in Melbourne?  
31 MR BASARA: When I arrived Woomera I come to Melbourne and I go

1 to this one council and I see this lady Julia, social  
2 work.

3 MS HOBAN: Where did the bus stop?

4 MR BASARA: In the council, council this I think area this  
5 Bell, yeah, Bell.

6 MS HOBAN: Bell?

7 MR BASARA: Yeah.

8 MS HOBAN: In Preston?

9 MR BASARA: Yeah, yeah and give me Medicare and the card bank  
10 and the flat, commission housing and come with me in the  
11 flat they say this your flat. This the shopping centre,  
12 the calls, there's Medicare here, they teach me, after  
13 said, free. Said to me if you problem come back to me.

14 MS HOBAN: When you arrived you were given everything on that  
15 day?

16 MR BASARA: Yeah.

17 MS HOBAN: House?

18 MR BASARA: Yeah.

19 MS HOBAN: Everything?

20 MR BASARA: Yeah.

21 MS HOBAN: Were you surprised?

22 MR BASARA: Yeah, I'm surprised yeah.

23 MS HOBAN: What did you think would happen when you got to  
24 Melbourne?

25 MR BASARA: I think when I come to - I think very difficult but  
26 no difficult.

27 MS HOBAN: Did you think you were going to another detention  
28 centre?

29 MR BASARA: Yeah, I think because I'm worried for because give  
30 me visa three year all people waiting for this one, maybe  
31 go back to Iraq, maybe stay here, maybe come back

1           detention centre because people no understand.

2   MS HOBAN:   When you arrived in Melbourne was your caseworker -

3           could they speak Arabic?

4   MR BASARA:   No, interpreter come in.

5   MS HOBAN:   Okay, when did you learn English?

6   MR BASARA:   I come to Fitzroy Learning Network, this one social

7           work come with me here.   I like Fitzroy Learning Network.

8           I work in the Fitzroy volunteer cook, every Tuesday

9           cooking.

10   MS HOBAN:   What do you do as a volunteer?

11   MR BASARA:   Cook in the kitchen the school, cooking.

12   MS HOBAN:   Who do you cook for?

13   MR BASARA:   Sometime I cook, sometime my friend cook, sometime

14           because in my school plenty people different, different

15           country Chinese, Vietnamese, Iraqi, Afghani, every person

16           if you like cook come in to cook.   Sometime Chinese,

17           sometime Afghani, sometime Iraqi.

18   MS HOBAN:   When you were free and came to Melbourne is that

19           when you phoned your mother?

20   MR BASARA:   Yeah, I ring my friend, after I ring my mother.

21           I tell her full story.

22   MS HOBAN:   What did she say?

23   MR BASARA:   She said very good because all people don't like

24           staying in Iraq.

25   MS HOBAN:   Tell me about where you live now?

26   MR BASARA:   I live in the Collingwood, Wellington Street,

27           Collingwood.

28   MS HOBAN:   A house?

29   MR BASARA:   Flat.

30   MS HOBAN:   Where is the flat?

31   MR BASARA:   Is in building 240, we live in Wellington Street,

1 Collingwood.

2 MS HOBAN: Is it large or small, tell me about your flat?

3 MR BASARA: Medium, but it's good.

4 MS HOBAN: Up high, or on the ground?

5 MR BASARA: No, it high.

6 MS HOBAN: Do you have friends where you live?

7 MR BASARA: No, I live by self.

8 MS HOBAN: Have you made friends?

9 MR BASARA: Yeah, I have a friend here.

10 MS HOBAN: Who are your friends?

11 MR BASARA: Because friend come with me to Australia and live

12 in the Hoddle Street, sometime visit me, some time I visit

13 him.

14 MS HOBAN: Safi, you were talking about where you live now in

15 the flat.

16 MR BASARA: Yeah.

17 MS HOBAN: And that you come to the Fitzroy Learning Network,

18 what else do you do during the day now, are you working?

19 MR BASARA: No, because I'm disability.

20 MS HOBAN: What's your disability?

21 MR BASARA: It's my leg.

22 MS HOBAN: Your leg?

23 MR BASARA: Yeah.

24 MS HOBAN: What happened to your leg?

25 MR BASARA: It's when I had children, that's when. When

26 I (indistinct).

27 MS HOBAN: Was it an accident?

28 MR BASARA: Yeah. I think ring needle, (indistinct) ring

29 needle when I had children. I have (indistinct) before

30 I think needle was wrong.

31 MS HOBAN: You can walk around okay?

1 MR BASARA: Yeah, it's okay I walk.

2 MS HOBAN: What do you do during the day each day, tell me  
3 about your day?

4 MR BASARA: The days, because I'm cook in my home I cook  
5 sometime lunch, sometime I'm ring my friend come into my  
6 house. Sometime I go to friend house, go to party  
7 sometime.

8 MS HOBAN: Do you like to cook?

9 MR BASARA: Yeah.

10 MS HOBAN: What sort of food do you cook?

11 MR BASARA: I cook food Arabic.

12 MS HOBAN: Did you miss eating Arabic food at Woomera?

13 MR BASARA: I don't like eat, cooking from Woomera because  
14 different cook.

15 MS HOBAN: What do you cook now, what sort of things do you  
16 cook?

17 MR BASARA: I cook rice, meat, chicken.

18 MS HOBAN: Your friend now is that the person who shared the  
19 bedroom with?

20 MR BASARA: Yeah.

21 MS HOBAN: In Woomera?

22 MR BASARA: Yeah.

23 MS HOBAN: So, he came on the bus with you?

24 MR BASARA: Yeah.

25 MS HOBAN: So, you have a good friend now?

26 MR BASARA: Yes, good friend.

27 MS HOBAN: And have you made other friends?

28 MR BASARA: Yeah, I have yeah.

29 MS HOBAN: Do you have hobbies now, do you still breed birds  
30 anymore like you did in Iraq?

31 MR BASARA: I see birds in the garden here, sometime I give



1           them food, rice, sometime bread.

2   MS HOBAN:  When you came to Melbourne who has helped you settle

3           into life here?

4   MR BASARA:  A social worker, name Julia.  This nice woman.

5   MS HOBAN:  What did Julia help you do?

6   MR BASARA:  Julia help me when I come, because I no understand

7           machine the bank.

8   MS HOBAN:  The bank?

9   MR BASARA:  The bank - she teach me the machine and give me

10          help to school and to - - -

11  MS HOBAN:  What school?

12  MR BASARA:  It's Fitzroy Learning Network and sometime the

13          government send me letter but I no understand because I no

14          read English.  I go to Julia to read this one, I ring

15          interpreter because I know understand letter.  Sometime

16          letter come into my home because I no understand.  I go to

17          Julia.

18  MS HOBAN:  Your TPV for three years.

19  MR BASARA:  Yeah.

20  MS HOBAN:  When did it finish?

21  MR BASARA:  Finish last year.

22  MS HOBAN:  What happened when your TPV finished?

23  MR BASARA:  I go to interview in Immigration.  After that I go

24          to Immigration, I have rejected.

25  MS HOBAN:  Your application.

26  MR BASARA:  Yeah.

27  MS HOBAN:  So, you applied permanent visa?

28  MR BASARA:  No, rejected in the Immigration, rejected.

29  MS HOBAN:  Okay, Immigration rejected your application.

30  MR BASARA:  Yeah.

31  MS HOBAN:  Then what happened?

1 MR BASARA: I go to tribunal. After that in the tribunal  
2 I have government visa.

3 MS HOBAN: Who helped you with your application to the  
4 tribunal?

5 MR BASARA: Is when lawyer, David Mann.

6 MS HOBAN: Can you tell me about that, what was it like going  
7 to the tribunal?

8 MR BASARA: When I listen tribunal but I'm very scared, but  
9 when I go to tribunal, very difficult here. I think same  
10 in Iraq tribunal for Saddam Hussein was very difficult.  
11 This woman very nice, very kind, talk slowly and I think  
12 in the tribunal (indistinct) inside, outside as well, but  
13 no, different.

14 MS HOBAN: When your application was rejected, why was it  
15 rejected first?

16 MR BASARA: I don't know, this I - she ask me for my case  
17 after, send me letter, it said rejected.

18 MS HOBAN: Then David Mann helped you?

19 MR BASARA: Yeah.

20 MS HOBAN: With the tribunal, but you were scared?

21 MR BASARA: Yeah.

22 MS HOBAN: What is a tribunal in Iraq?

23 MR BASARA: The tribunal in Iraq if you go to a tribunal like  
24 (indistinct) but people go to gaol.

25 MS HOBAN: Is it like a court?

26 MR BASARA: Yeah, bodies and because this judge not honest,  
27 every people put it in the gaol. Yeah, was here  
28 different.

29 MS HOBAN: Last year you went to the tribunal here?

30 MR BASARA: Yeah.

31 MS HOBAN: Was it in Melbourne?

1 MR BASARA: Yeah, in Melbourne.

2 MS HOBAN: And what happened at the tribunal?

3 MR BASARA: Yeah, when I go to tribunal me and David Mann and  
4 friend come with me, this lady Michelle because tribunal  
5 he want a friend come together to listen. He said this  
6 room, small room and interpreter is very good, I'm  
7 surprised because before I'm scared.

8 MS HOBAN: What did the tribunal say, did you get your visa?

9 MR BASARA: No, just he say he ask me for my case after give me  
10 day, he said come in this day. After 15 days I go to  
11 listen, I go to listen, I go to office, I sit down. They  
12 come in one person, he said where is Safi Basara, he said  
13 me he said come with me in the room. I go to room he says  
14 Safi, I have permanent visa. I tell him thank you  
15 Australia, thank you Australia.

16 MS HOBAN: Were you scared before you got your permanent visa?

17 MR BASARA: Yeah, I'm very scared. Nervous, yeah, very  
18 nervous.

19 MS HOBAN: What did you think might happen?

20 MR BASARA: I think rejected again.

21 MS HOBAN: What would happen, what might happen if you were  
22 rejected again?

23 MR BASARA: If you rejected again - because if you rejected I'm  
24 stay in Australia because if you stay in Australia this  
25 one no good, because I want to go to marry, I have, I want  
26 to send people here, family together, I want children. If  
27 you stay this rejected, rejected it's nothing, after I'm  
28 50 years old.

29 MS HOBAN: So, you've got your permanent visa?

30 MR BASARA: Now I have permanent visa I hope the citizen after  
31 two years, I go to married, yes, I have this one.

1 MS HOBAN: When you got your visa how did you feel?  
2 MR BASARA: I'm very happy because, yeah.  
3 MS HOBAN: Do you feel safe now?  
4 MR BASARA: Yeah, I'm safe yeah. Different before I sleep  
5 good, before I'm thinking I, if you come back to Iraq I'm  
6 stay here, I not understand but now different.  
7 MS HOBAN: What would you like to do now, after you're a  
8 citizen, what would you like to do in your future?  
9 MR BASARA: After citizen I want to marry, yeah.  
10 MS HOBAN: Marry here or marry someone from Iraq?  
11 MR BASARA: No, I don't know, just I want a citizen, I want to  
12 see my family, after that I want Iraqi here, I don't know.  
13 MS HOBAN: Do you talk to your mother much?  
14 MR BASARA: Yeah, sometime.  
15 MS HOBAN: Would she like to come and live here?  
16 MR BASARA: In Iraq?  
17 MS HOBAN: Would your mother or your sisters like to join you  
18 in Australia?  
19 MR BASARA: Because my mother very old, she don't like because  
20 if you coming here no friend, no speak English - because  
21 very old.  
22 MS HOBAN: What about your sisters?  
23 MR BASARA: Sister, she like.  
24 MS HOBAN: Would like to come here?  
25 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
26 MS HOBAN: Once you're a citizen can you go and visit your  
27 family in Iraq?  
28 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
29 MS HOBAN: Would you like to go and visit them soon?  
30 MR BASARA: Yeah.  
31 MS HOBAN: Is your mother well?

1 MR BASARA: Yeah.

2 MS HOBAN: Is there anything about your time in Australia or in  
3 Woomera that you would like to talk about that we haven't  
4 talked about this morning, is there anything that you  
5 would like to say?

6 MR BASARA: For Woomera?

7 MS HOBAN: About life in Australia?

8 MR BASARA: Oh, for Woomera.

9 MS HOBAN: Do you regret coming to Australia, are you happy  
10 that you came, is there anything you would like to say?

11 MR BASARA: When I come to Australia I'm very happy and because  
12 have freedom. People very kind, different in my country,  
13 very different.

14 MS HOBAN: What is different with your country?

15 MR BASARA: Because here freedom, my country no freedom just in  
16 my country war, and people in the gaol and government  
17 Saddam Hussein very bad, different government here. Also  
18 if you see in the TV when you change Saddam Hussein plenty  
19 story for Saddam Hussein, kill people on the ground,  
20 plenty and plenty, plenty story.

21 INCOMPLETE INTERVIEW