

Witness Name: William Hewitt
MOORE

Statement No.: 1

Exhibits: WM1

Dated: 03 January 2010

THE BAHA MOUSA PUBLIC INQUIRY

Witness Statement of William Hewitt MOORE

I, William Hewitt MOORE will say as follows: -

1. I am a serving Major General in the British Army and I make this statement in response to the Inquiry's Rule 9 Request dated 15 June 2009. I have read this Request, and I seek here to cover everything that it raises to the best of my ability and recollection.
2. I have given three previous witness statements in connection with the events which are the subject matter of the Inquiry. I have been shown and have read copies of those statements and also a transcript of my evidence at the Court Martial of Payne and others:
 - (a) Statement dated 29 June 2005 (ref MOD000599)
 - (b) Statement undated but made after 29 June 2005 (ref MOD000601)
 - (c) Statement made in connection with the Al-Skeini proceedings dated 30 June 2004 (ref MOD005888) ('Al-Skeini statement')
 - (d) Oral evidence in court martial proceedings, day 60, 14.12.06

43. I do not specifically remember seeing FRAGO 152, but it is possible that I could have seen the document through my communications with the Comd 7 Armd Bde (or his COS and DCOS) prior to being deployed. I remember that I was reading a lot of documents at that time, including guidance on the Geneva Convention and other topics, in preparation for deployment.
44. During the handover process I had been made aware of numerous issues in theatre that would need immediate attention. I do not recall prisoner handling being an issue at the time. As far as I was aware, a system for prisoner handling had been established by 1(UK) Div, which appeared to be working. I do not remember discussing prisoner-handling during the handover and do not remember it being an issue at the time.

Structure & Role of 19 Mech Bde in Iraq

45. In Iraq, the Brigade was under the command of a Divisional HQ (Multi National Division (SE)) (MND(SE) (of which 3 (UK) Div formed the core); MND (SE) had responsibility for the four provinces in South East Iraq.
46. My Brigade had responsibility for two of the SE provinces, Maysan and Al Basra (covering an area roughly the size of Ireland), and its task was to provide security and stability in both provinces.
47. The multi-national Brigade had around 4,000 fighting troops including 400 Danish soldiers, approximately 100 Norwegians, and small contingents from other Coalition Forces.
48. The troops in the Brigades were organised into Battle Groups (a Battle Group is formed around an infantry battalion or armoured regiment which is complemented by appropriate armour, infantry and support personnel and weaponry, relevant to its mission). The Battle Groups' size varied according to the tasks given to them but ranged from around 400 (the Danish battalion) to 1100 soldiers.