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From Lieutenant General Sir John Foley KCB OBE MC



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
Old War Office Building,  
WHITEHALL,  
London SW1A 2EU

30 OCT 1997

Telephone (Direct Dialling) [REDACTED]

See Distribution

Your reference:

Our reference: D/DI(Cts) Ops 2/5/1/4

Date: 21 Jul 97

POLICY FOR INTERROGATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

References:

- A. MOD VCGS/195 dated 8 Aug 72.
- B. D/MIN (AF) /NS/3/10 dated 4 Mar 97.

1. The previous MOD policy instruction on the use of interrogation by the Armed Forces in internal security operations is at Reference A. This is now clearly dated and applied to internal security operations only. It is therefore cancelled and is replaced by the wider guidelines at Annex A to this letter, which apply to operations across the conflict spectrum. These have been staffed in draft to relevant Commanders and other interested parties and have since been endorsed by the Minister (Armed Forces) at Reference B.

2. Addressees may wish to note that UK interrogation policy is now vested in the new Joint Service Intelligence Organisation (JSIO) which forms part of the Defence Intelligence and Security Centre at Chicksands. The new unit includes regular and reserve interrogation elements that were components of the old Joint Service Interrogation Organisation at Ashford.

[REDACTED]  
CDI

Annex:

- A. Policy for Interrogation and Related Activities.

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ANNEX A TO  
D/DI(CTS) OPS 2/5/1/4  
DATED 21 JUL 97

POLICY FOR INTERROGATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

1. Policy for Interrogation and Related Activities. The revised policy for interrogation and related activities is as stated below:

- a. The UK's existing Service interrogation capability should continue to prepare and train in peacetime for tasks involving the questioning of PW during conventional operations using procedures that comply with the Geneva Conventions.
- b. If, in exceptional circumstances, Service interrogators are required in future to support the civil authorities during Internal Security operations, they are not to deploy without the specific approval of Ministers.
- c. Interrogation methods employed during all operations should comply with the Geneva Conventions and international and domestic law. The services of a Legal Adviser should be made available to the interrogation organisation during operations to ensure that these requirements are met.
- d. Procedures used by UK interrogators in an operational theatre should be governed by a detailed directive that incorporates current legal advice and is issued on behalf of the UK Joint Commander.
- e. Debriefing operations and CAC training will continue to be governed by existing MOD rules and directives which will be updated as necessary by CDI and DCDS(C) and their respective staffs.
- f. Commandant DISC should review on a routine basis all interrogation related procedures, methods and organisations employed by the UK Armed Forces. He should also be responsible for the supervision and conduct of all interrogation related training carried out by the three Services including practical CAC training.
- g. Commandant DISC should advise the UK Joint Commander over the nomination of a suitably qualified officer to assume command of the UK Service interrogation organisation that is established in an operational theatre.

2. Training. As far as access to training is concerned, the relevant guidelines are stated below:

- a. Interrogation training. Access to interrogation training should be restricted normally to [REDACTED] nationals. Access by other nations should be on a case by case basis and cleared by the MOD. All interrogation training would be in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and restricted to the questioning of PW during conventional military operations.
- b. Conduct After Capture (CAC) Training. Access to CAC training should be restricted normally to [REDACTED] nationals and exchange personnel from [REDACTED] countries serving with UK units, subject to them being eligible for access to UK CONFIDENTIAL information. Some [REDACTED] personnel would be excluded from those elements of

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