

**WITNESS STATEMENT**

(CJ Act 1967, S.9; MC Act 1980, SS 5A(3a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981 r70)

**Statement of:** John Edward Seaman

**Rank / Status:** Captain

**Age if under 18:** Over 18  
(if over 18 insert "Over 18")

**Occupation:** HM Forces (Army)

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This statement (consisting of 13 pages each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

**Dated the**                      **day of**                                      **2007**

**Signature:**

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### 1. Background / Pre-Deployment Training

Up to March 2003 I was Mortar Officer with 1 QLR. I was then at short notice put on the Junior Command and Staff Course (JCSC) and completed the 3 phases at the beginning of August. After a couple of days leave I deployed to Iraq as Intelligence Officer joining QLR around about 6 or 7 August. I received a handover brief from the outgoing Intelligence Officer Captain Sean Cronin.

I did not undertake any pre-deployment training.

### 2. Deployment

I was based at BG Main in the Intelligence Cell. The Intelligence Cell was located at the rear of the Headquarters building on the ground floor.

At the time of Operation Salerno I had only ever looked into the detention centre whilst it was empty. It was sometime after Salerno that I observed detainees present.

I was aware that suspected FREs had to be tactically questioned prior to being sent to the TIF.

I was not trained in tactical questioning techniques and never sat in on any interviews by tactical questioners. I have stated previously that I observed both Davies and Radbourne at BG Main as they were qualified tactical questioners. I was aware that no one within Battlegroup was trained and therefore we were reliant upon Brigade tactical questioners.

In regard to dealing with detainees the BGIRO – first Major Tony Royce and thereafter Major Mike Peebles were responsible.

Mike Peebles based himself in my office and had a desk there. I knew him from QLR and had worked with him in Ireland when he was a Captain and I was a second Lieutenant. I would describe him as pleasant enough but I found him frustrating in Iraq. He was due to join the Intelligence Corps and kept interfering in my role as Intelligence Officer. I had to say to him that it was my job. He of course was senior in rank to me. I felt that he kept getting in the way of myself and Mark Robinson. On two or three occasions he received information from Robinson which he did not pass on to me.