13c

From: OC F Branch
Sent: 12 May 2004 08:14
To: _F Branch
Cc: OC 3 (Trg) Coy
Subject: Hooding
Gents

Just to make sure that all know that 'hooding as an interrogation method or during interrogations' was banned by government decree in 1971. This date is important as it has been quoted in the Commons. We have not trained this as a technique for longer than anyone can remember, and as we all know an interrogator must get eye contact with the prisoner in order to be effective so there should be no accusations made against us.

The practice of restricting a prisoner's vision is ok by the GCs (and has been ratified by SO1 legal) if it is for force protection reasons, but should not done gratuitously.

The use of sand bags to restrict vision during PW handling is incorrect regardless if that is the only method to restrict a PWs vision. Our advice **must** be to use a blindfold so that only the eyesight is restricted, not the nose, mouth or free circulation of air around the head and shoulders etc.

I know that this is teaching you to suck eggs however I am still fending off such queries.

S012