

STAFF - INVESTIGATION
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Case Ref No: 64695/03

MOD Form 266A/B
(Introduced 12/03)



**SERVICE POLICE
WITNESS STATEMENT**

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

Statement of: Paul Vernon DAVIS	
Rank/Status: Maj	
Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert "over 18")	Occupation: HM Forces (Army)
This statement (consisting of 4 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.	
Signature: PV DAVIS	Dated the 10 th day of March 2006

I am Major Paul Vernon Davis [REDACTED] presently serving with 4 Div, SO2 Plans, Aldershot, Hants, an appointment I have held for the previous eighteen months.

Between May-Aug 03, I deployed with my, then current, unit 1 QLR on Op TELIC 2. My role whilst on this deployment was as OC of Anzio Coy. I was based at Camp Stephen and was responsible for a Saxon Coy of about 140 personnel, as well as attached personnel. Our area of responsibility was the south of the Sha-at Al Arab waterway, going south into the centre of Basrah. Our company would conduct regular patrols and general peacekeeping operations.

Part of my responsibilities during my deployment was to attend daily 'O' groups at Battalion Headquarters, which took place about 1800 hrs. I can recall the following personnel as being present: Lt Col Mendonca, (CO), Maj Lighten, (OC Burma Coy), Maj Kenyon, (OC C Coy), Maj Helmesley, (OC Somme Coy), Maj Bostock, (2IC), Capt Lowton, (QM), Capt Goodenough, (QM Tech), Lt Ainley, (Press Officer), Capt Seeds, (RSO), Maj Royce, (Bn Ops), later replaced by Maj Peebles, Capt Cronin, (IO), the RSM, RMO and Padre, whose names I do not recall.

During each O group the CO would begin with his opening address and then each Coy Comd would provide a verbal briefing relating to their Coy's previous 24 hours, any updates and any planned future operations. Maj Royce would provide a verbal brief on all matters at Bde level, Battle Group level and any attachments or detachments. The remainder of the personnel present would raise any issues or updates from their perspective and the CO would conclude the O group.

In answer to a number of direct questions today by Sgt Willis LR, RMP (SIB), I can state the following:

The CO's line and outlook on all Iraqi detainees, was that each one would be treated fairly and that during any subsequent arrests, only the minimum amount of force was to be used. The CO would

Signature: PV DAVIS

Signature Witnessed by: LR WILLIS

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ensure during the O groups that all Coy Comds were aware of these procedures for detainees and that it was to be passed down to their company personnel. This was the only occasion when I recall the topic of detainee handling being discussed. I cannot be specific with dates on when it was mentioned or how regularly it was discussed. On occasions he would personally check that this was happening and would deploy on to the ground on any specific operation.

During any of the O groups that I attended, I do not recall any concerns being raised by anyone, regarding the treatment, process and arrests of any Iraqi detainee. I can recall that at the time of my deployment, Iraqi detainees would have sandbags placed over their heads and their hands tied with plasticuffs. Towards the end of my tour the use of sandbags had ceased, but I cannot recall why or exactly when this happened.

The only concern that I raised was regarding there being nothing in place for Iraqi detainees to be jailed. They would be processed by Maj Royce or later during my tour Maj Peebles and taken to Umm Qsar. Within 3 weeks they would be back on the streets.

During most if not all O groups, I recall receiving a copy of an Intelligence Summary (Intsum), produced by Capt Cronin. They would detail all major activity and impact relating to Political, Iraq wide, Battalion and Bde areas.

During my deployment I witnessed several arrests and the process of the detainees. I never witnessed any physical harm being inflicted on any detainee or any of them being placed into stress positions.

I completed my tour of Op TELIC 2 before the death of an Iraqi detainee in detention and therefore have no knowledge of any subsequent later events.

Signed: PV DAVIS

Signed: LR WILLIS
Sgt
RMP (SIB)

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