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STAFF - INVESTIGATION
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MOD Form 266A (Military)

Case No: 64695/03

WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, S9; MC 1980 SS.5A(3a) and S5B; MC Rules 1981 r70)

Statement of: Anthony Alexander Daniel ROYCE**Age if under 18:** Over 18 **Occupation:** HM Forces (Army)
(if over 18 insert "Over 18")

This statement (consisting of 3 pages 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 6th day of February 2004.

Signature: AAD ROYCE

I am the above named person.

On 8 Jun 03, I deployed on Op TELIC 2, with the pre-advance party of my unit, 1 QLR. In theatre I held the appointment of Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) Officer and in early Jul 03, I was also appointed the Battle Group Internment Review Officer (BGIRO).

During the handover/takeover with my predecessor within 1 BW, the subject of internment of persons arrested by the Battle Group (BG) was not discussed as at that time everyone was taken to the Theatre Internment Facility (TIF) and there was no difference between a detainee and internee. Things came to a head when the system became overloaded with persons being sent to the TIF who should not have been sent there. As a result of this Div promulgated a Fragmentary Order (Frago), giving instruction on the type of documentation required to be completed by the detaining BG, who in the BG (i.e. the BGIRO) was responsible for the detainees in their care and time constraints BGs should comply with. From that FRAGO I compiled a BG document which was distributed within the unit to the heads of departments.

I have today Fri 6 Feb 04, been shown the following document to which is attached a label marked:

JEM/1 - Certified true copy of 1 QLR Internment Procedures dated 9 Jul 03
(3 pages).

I have signed the attached label.

Signature: AAD ROYCE

Signature witnessed by: DPW SPENCE

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MOD Form 266E (Continuation Sheet)

Sheet No 2

Case No: 64695/03

Continuation of statement of: Anthony Alexander Daniel ROYCE

On perusal of this exhibit I recognise it as that which I drafted and my signature albeit a duplicate of the document appears at the end. The period of 14 hrs referred to in this exhibit was taken from the FRAGO at Reference A on the document, however, it was rarely practicable due to constraints (i.e. the opening times of the TIF (0800 – 1700 hrs after which they would not process internees) the availability of Tactical Questioners (TQs) if required from Bde and the time that most lifts i.e. early morning would take place). During the many operations performed by the BG whilst I was BGIRO there were countless occasions when the detainees remained in our custody over the 14 hr period for the reasons mentioned above or due to the numbers detained and the time taken to process them. On these occasions I contacted ALS at Bde or Div and informed them of the reason for the delay in processing as a result of which there was never an occasion when I had to explain a delay after delivering detainees to the TIF.

On Sat 23 Aug 03, I started a 3 day handover/takeover of my appointments with Maj Mike Peebles, of my unit. During this period in addition to providing him with the literature I had produced and disseminated, two local males were interned by the BG and therefore I performed a walk through/talk through of procedures with him. At no time did he express any concerns with the working practices and I was content he understood the internment procedures.

Signed: AAD ROYCE

Signed: DPW SPENCE
WO2
RMP (SIB)AE - 2
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