

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: Richard John ENGLEFIELD	
Rank/Status: Maj	
Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert "over 18") Occupation: HM Forces (Army)	
This statement (consisting of 9 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: RJ ENGLEFIELD	Dated the 15 th day of March 2006

I am the above named person.

I am currently employed as the 2IC, 1 QLR, an appointment I have held since Jun 05. Prior to taking up this appointment I was OC Anzio Coy, 1 QLR.

On 19 Aug 03, I deployed on Op TELIC 2, to assume command of Anzio Coy, who were based at Camp Stephen within Basrah City. I remained in command of Anzio Coy throughout the remainder of the deployment.

I have today been asked by SSgt Tolmie, RMP (SIB), a number of specific questions in relation to my time on Op TELIC 2. In response I can state the following.

Whilst employed as OC Anzio Coy, I was required to attend Bn O Groups. These were generally held on a daily basis at Battle Group HQ, which was located in the Old Ba'ath Party HQ, Basrah City. These O Groups would not take place if we were deployed on an operation but in the main there were very few occasions when there wasn't an O Group.

The O Group was given by the CO, Lt Col Mendonca and was attended by the Bn 2IC, Ops Officer, Intelligence Officer, OC ISTAR (info gathering), RSO, G5 Liaison Officers, QM, QM Tech, MTO, RAO, AGC Det Comd, RMO (when available), Coy Comds, CQMS Helio Coy and the Adjt.

The purpose of these daily O Groups was for the OCs to update the CO on what had happened in the previous 24 hours, our plans for the next 24-72 hours and any concerns or queries we had which we felt we wanted advice on. The CO would then discuss future specific operations and provide guidance to those in attendance.

During the time I was deployed on Op TELIC 2 as OC Anzio Coy I can recall that during the period from assuming command until the Baha Musa incident, which I have previously covered in a written statement, detainee handling was not covered as a specific topic on the O Groups. Lt Col Mendonca

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Signature Witnessed by: R TOLMIE
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simply informed us all at the assumption of command that this subject was to be dealt with in accordance with the training we had received pre-deployment. I cannot now recall the exact words used.

Following the Baha Musa incident in early Sep 03, revised guidance was given by Bde. This was then briefed to us on the O Groups. Although I cannot now recall all the revised measures I do recall that they included the non use of hoods on prisoners and the increase in the checking and documenting of prisoners.

I can recall that when we were briefed on these measures there was some discussion about how we were now meant to deny prisoners sight of sensitive areas and procedures in camp if hoods could not be used. The guidance had been read direct from a Bde issued pamphlet and the CO passed our concerns back up the chain of command. We were then briefed that hoods could still not be used, however, blackened goggles were to be utilised. This was a Bde direction and not one locally issued by our CO.

I have no knowledge of anyone ever voicing any concerns over these directions or expressing a desire not to operate in accordance with them.

I would say that the only real concern I and others had was that by changing the guidance, there was an implication that things had been incorrect prior to this. By this I mean the use of hoods. I can state that we found this a concern because the use of hoods had been the accepted means of breaking detainees and had been what we had been briefed and trained on pre-deployment.

I can state the Intsums were produced by the unit on a daily basis. These would have been produced by the IO, Maj Peebles and it would have been he who passed these up the chain of command. The normal distribution of these Intsums would have been to the Bn hierarchy in attendance at Bn O Groups and to the Bde HQ. I do not know where these Intsums went after they were received by Bde HQ.

During the time on Op TELIC 2, I am not aware of any concerns raised by Maj Kenyon in relation to the treatment and handling of detainees with the exception of that already mentioned in this statement.

I wish to state that the concern over the use of hoods was not a concern specifically raised by Maj Kenyon but was a collective concern raised by all present. When raised, we were instructed by Lt Col Mendonca that he understood our concerns; however, these were Bde instructions and were to be followed regardless.

It is my honest belief that had any concerns been raised during an O Group about detainee handling, I would have recalled this. I can also state that as Coy Comds we also had the ability to approach the CO directly and in private regarding personal concerns. This may or may not have happened but if it did it was never discussed openly afterwards. This was treated as an issue between those individuals concerned.

I have been asked if I have any knowledge of the arrest of members of the Garamsche tribe. In response I can state that the Garamsche tribe was one of the main crime based tribes in the area. During the time I was on Op TELIC 2 I was aware of numerous arrests being made of tribe members by my unit and others.

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