

1372

LA11-S

From: LA11-S
Sent: 23 April 2003 16:40
To: DCMC CCT2C-S; PJHQ-J9-POL/OPS4-S
Subject: RE: C: Lines on use of hoods and restraints

28

Ian, David

Sorry not to have replied sooner....
If not too late, I have suggested some changes.

Sean.



Lines on use of hoods
and rest...

-----Original Message-----

From: DCMC CCT2C-S
Sent: 20 April 2003 19:26
To: PJHQ-J9-POL/OPS4-S; LA11-S
Subject: C: Lines on use of hoods and restraints

<< File: Lines on use of hoods and restraints.doc >>

David

PSA a draft paragraph to insert into an MC on a series of issues - the MC sets the particular exam question "to comment on the use of hoods and handcuffs on PWs". I've interpreted this pretty narrowly yto mean UK use (US use is a matter fro them). this is based - as discussed on a conversation with S034 - whom you'd asked to u pdate me before briefing Min(DP) on Pw issues.

Grateful for your views (and theatre's, if nec) - before I go final (Sean would also welcome you views)

Rgds

IAn G

Lines on use of hoods and restraints

Text for the MC

We treat prisoners of war strictly in accordance with our obligations under the Geneva Conventions. Detainees who do not qualify for prisoner of war status (~~for example on account of their conduct during hostilities~~) are still treated decently and humanely. We would only restrain prisoners if we considered ~~felt~~ that it was necessary to do so (for example if we believed ~~felt~~ that they would ~~might~~ seek to escape, or be violent towards the guards or other prisoners). [There were a couple of occasions at the start of the conflict where prisoners were hooded for short periods - this practice has now been stopped. [Goggles - what do we say?]

In all this we have worked very closely with the ICRC - who have expressed themselves content with the way we have treated prisoners and detainees throughout the conflict.

Background (C)

Handcuffs and hoods were used by UK forces at an early stage of the conflict to detain (and control ~~disorientate~~) Iraqi Prisoners of War. Command in theatre expressed concern about this and the practice was discontinued. Handcuffs are now only used to restrain prisoners who are violent (towards the guards or other prisoners). Theatre have asked the ICRC locally whether it would be permissible to make certain prisoners (notably those of high intelligence value) wear blacked out goggles. the ICRC were in two minds about this (one thought it was ok, one disagreed) - and they approached Geneva for advice. [David - this is the position as of about 2 weeks ago (as briefed by SO34) - any developments since?]

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27

137

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