

15/12
EIS

LA11

From: SP Pol-AFBT5
Sent: 16 September 2003 13:58
To: LA11
Subject: FW: RMP investigations

Sean,

Greetings - it appears there is, hopefully, a dying flurry of activity over Iraq with PQs and the AI business. You may recall the latter involved 4 cases of alleged abuse, no names mentioned or subsequently passed to us, and 6 cases of Iraqi lawlessness, which they claim was due to there being no law and order, for which we were ultimately responsible. Again in 4 of the cases no names were mentioned; in one there was either a forename or surname and one case where the victim was named but it was apparently a family killing and it is not clear what the complaint is.

The one case common to the current and previous report is that of [redacted] who died in custody. I have spoken to Ian Davidson SO1 Casework at Upavon who has the report. In short [redacted] was taken to the holding facility (bound and hooded), on arrival he was put through administration (name etc) and asked some questions. He was then released into the compound. He asked for and was given some water. Some (unspecified but not thought to be long say 10 - 20 minutes) time later he was noticed to be bent double and experiencing some pain. This was noted by the guard who immediately called for medical assistance but [redacted] collapsed and died. He was seen by the MO of Black Watch, who pronounced him dead. He was taken to the Hospital, which at that time was manned by Czech medical staff and the Czech MO handed him straight over to an Iraqi doctor. The Iraqi doctor confirmed that there were no signs of external injury but released the body to the morgue. An examination was carried out by 2 assistant Pathologists, who also confirmed that there were no marks or external injuries but were not qualified to carry out a proper post mortem. They recorded a verdict of cardiac arrest.

As you can see below AI have asked for an update. Clearly we can not add anything further on the alleged abuses or Iraqi lawless cases as we have neither names nor adequate details. We do have a report for [redacted] but you should also be aware that the family have slapped in a \$1M claim for trauma, mistreatment and presumably his death. I short, therefore, we can offer little and I do not believe we should release personal information to AI in any case, let alone that it may sub judicé under litigation. However, I am keen to engage with AI to assure them we continue to treat these issues seriously and investigate them properly. Arguably that is all they need to know!

I note you are out 16 & 17 Sep and I am out on 18th so perhaps we can have a chat on Friday 19th. I attach a draft reply to Claudio - again it is very broad, does not discuss facts (which are private and should not be released anyway) but the main intent is to continue to reassure AI that we do take the business seriously and will investigate when we have sufficient evidence.

Perhaps we can talk later - I do not believe there is any particular rush for the end of the week!

Richard

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

From: SP Pol-AFBT5
Sent: 12 September 2003 09:37
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: RMP investigations

Claudio,

Thank you for your e-mail and nice to hear from you. I have passed the request to the Head of the SIB Investigations, who is back in the office next week, and will advise accordingly.

Regards
Richard

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

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: 10 September 2003 18:23
To: [redacted]