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G2 Branch
Headquarters 19 Mechanised Brigade
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Reference: G2/PHTQ1

See Distribution

Date: 27 Sep 03

PRISONER HANDLING AND TACTICAL QUESTIONING PROCEDURES (PHTQ)

References:

- A. MND SOI 390 Tactical Questioning of Detainees.
- B. ITD 9 Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC).
- C. 19mb/g3/101 Timeline dated 18 Sep 03.
- D. Tactical Questioning Report HQ 3 Div Force MI.

GENERAL

1. The aim of PHTQ is to gain time sensitive tactical intelligence from a detainee and to determine if they require detention and further questioning at JFIT. Timely intelligence gained from TQ can lead to cascade operations and general building of the intelligence picture. Correct prisoner handling is vital in order to gain maximum benefit from tactical questioning and remain within the confines of the Geneva Convention. These two components (PH&TQ) are inextricably linked and must be considered together, not as separate entities.

CONDUCT

2. Reference A defines how PHTQ should be conducted and highlights the importance of using qualified personnel (Para 3). 19 Bde have fully endorsed MND (SE) SOI 390 and full direction is enclosed at Annex A. BGs are to ensure prisoner-handling procedures are strictly adhered to. Reference B covers vital issues that all soldiers must fully conversant with when dealing with detainees. Reference C highlights time lines to be adhered to from detention to movement to TIF or release (further information can be found at Annex B). Reference D provides a framework for TQ to follow (Annex C) in order to extract information of tactical value and assist JFIT. A simple Bde produced PH Aide Memoir is at Annex D. It is intended to assist commanders at all levels to ensure detainees' welfare and maximum benefit from TQ.

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3. Incorrect PH will lead to the possible harm of the detainee and reduce dramatically the effectiveness of TQ. PH must be included in the Service Support section of the orders process and a SNCO or officer put in command to ensure it runs to the principles laid down in Annex D.



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Annexes:

- A. Standing Operational Instruction (SOI) Tactical Questioning (TQ) of Internees.
- B. PHTQ Timeline.
- C. Tactical Questioning Report.
- D. Prisoner Handling – A Battle Group Guide.

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ANNEX A TO
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INSTRUCTION FOR THE HANDLING AND TACTICAL QUESTIONING OF
INTERNEES

AIM

1. The aim of Tactical Questioning (TQ) is to extract time sensitive tactical intelligence from an internee or to establish if an internee requires interrogation in the Theatre Interrogation Facility (TIF). Normally only individuals who have been detained during an intelligence lead operation should be subject to TQ. An exception may be made during a reactive operation if an individual is detained who, from indications on the ground, is believed to be of intelligence interest, that is to say former high level Ba'athists, terrorists or who is considered to be a clear threat to security.

2. Since the aim of TQ is to extract tactical intelligence persons detained for criminal activity are not to be subjected to TQ. Such individuals are to be handed to RMP/CIVPOL in accordance with Div/Bde SOPs.

CONDUCT

3. TQ may only be carried out by personnel who have undergone and passed a course of qualification in TQ and/or Interrogation run by F Branch Joint Services Interrogation Organisation (JSIO) or a course run by qualified instructors and sanctioned by JSIO. Additionally TQ should only be carried by persons who have either carried out TQ operationally or taken part in practical resistance to interrogation training with 4 (CAC) Coy within the last two years.

4. TQ can not be undertaken without the internee first being examined by a suitably qualified Medic. This should be at the first practical opportunity and the following must occur:

a. The MO is to sign a fit for detention and questioning form.

b. Any medical attention that is required should be administered. If necessary the internee should be removed to local medical facilities.

c. If any detainee is found to be unfit for detention or questioning then they are be removed to a safe place until such time as they are fit for questioning.

d. It is important to note the timeliness of the information is critical and if the period of recovery should extended past a point when any intelligence gained is of no tactical value the internee should be released or transported to the TIF.

5. In order to undertake TQ the following rules must be followed:

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- a. Permission to establish a TQ Operation must be sought from the next higher formation (minimum Bde HQ) stating clear reasons for the requirement to detain an individual for TQ. For a planned lift operation this permission should be given before the operation starts. A nominated individual must be in charge of the TQ.
 - b. Under normal circumstances no more than two TQ sessions should be required to obtain initial intelligence/information. The second session is to allow confirmation and further exploitation.
 - c. The period of detention for the entire TQ phase for each internee should last no longer than 12 hours. At the end of the 14 hr period the internee should either be released, handed to the Police, or moved to the TIF for questioning.
 - d. The internee should be treated in accordance with the Geneva Convention at all times and must not be subjected to any physical punishment.
6. The nature of the current operation may make it difficult to abide by these rules all of the time. If for any reason they cannot be adhered this must be notified to Bde HQ level immediately.

GUARDING AND HOLDING OF DETAINEES

7. Whilst the guarding and holding of internees is a J/G3 function it forms an important part of the conditioning process which allows an internee to be susceptible to the approaches of the TQ.
8. For the TQ element of the holding process the guard forces should have been instructed by a Prisoner Handling Instructor, who has taken a course of qualification in Prisoner Handling and TQ and in the correct manner of holding and moving internees through the TQ centre. Such instruction is to occur prior to the operation and/or be conducted as part of routine training procedures. Suitable "on barracks" real estate should be identified and used. This will ensure that any short notice TQ operations fall back on a proven and thought through system. The following procedures are to be followed:
- a. The TQ Operation is to be supervised at all times by the senior Tactical Questioner (SNCO or WO). This individual has no responsibility for wider issues of control of internees outside the TQ process.
 - b. A holding area is to be established and sufficient guards provided (the normal ratio is two per internee).
 - c. TQ rooms or areas are to be established. The holding and TQ areas should be supervised by an officer or SNCO.

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- d. Movement between the holding area and TQ rooms is to be controlled by two guards, under the instruction of an NCO. Instruction should be given to these guards as part of the TQ stand up procedure prior to the operation.
9. Internees are not to be hooded during the TQ process, however the Geneva Convention allows for internees to be blindfolded when moving around a military sensitive area. Likewise internees are not to be held in stress positions. They are to be made to sit or stand depending on the environment or tactical situation.
10. Once TQ is completed and it is intended that an internee should be moved to the TIF then a copy of all TQ reports must be passed to the JFIT either directly or via J2X at Div HQ through Bde.

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PHTQ TIMELINE

1. The detention of individuals either as part of a planned or reactive operation is an expected activity. It should continue to happen. Information, which may be held by detainees, may be of immediate tactical value. TQ of detainees in a controlled environment is often the only way in which this can be determined.
2. TQ must only take place after an individual has received a medical examination. It should be conducted by qualified personnel only. They must have passed the PH&TQ course run by JSIO.
3. TQ should be conducted in a single session. If the questioner assesses that the detainee has more useful information, they should be transferred to the TIF for further questioning. Comds should use discretion at this stage. If he believes that the information is time critical then further questioning may be justified. This should be annotated in the final report.
4. The table below details the timeline which must be followed following the arrest and TQ of suspects. The timeline below is a minimum requirement and discretion should be employed by comds to ensure that, where possible, a more lenient regime is followed.
5. 'A'hr indicates arrival time at the location for TQ:

Ser	Time (a)	Required Activity (b)	Remarks (c)
1	A Hr	Arrival at TQ location Medical Inspection Water made available	A detailed log is initiated. To be conducted by a RMO
2	A + 1 onwards	Water made available hourly	Water to be avail more frequently if required
3	A + 3	Examination by RMO	Record kept.
4	A + 6	Meal provided. Examination by RMO	Record kept
5	A + 9	Examination by RMO	Record kept
6	A + 12	Meal provided.	
7	NLT A + 14	Final Examination by RMO Depart for TIF	BG to inform Bde if this timeline will not or has not been met, with justification.
8	A + 16	Consolidated report to Bde HQ	This must include any complaint made by the detainee during his questioning. It must state whether no complaint has been made.

7. Medical Records. Records must be kept of all medical examinations. This will allow the detainees to be transferred to the TIF on or before the 14 hour mark, without the concern that he/she will not receive medical attention before 0900hrs when the TIF medical staff start their duty.

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8. Released Detainees. All records of released detainees must be archived. This should include medical records and a final report, a copy of which must be sent to Bde HQ.

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ANNEX C TO
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TACTICAL QUESTIONING REPORT

PERSONAL DETAILS

REF.No:

Surname: Tribal name is used instead of surname

Forenames: Full forenames which incl. father's and or grandfather's name

AKA: Eg Abu + name and any other names used (if possible all names should be written in both English and Arabic)

Rank: If applicable

Service Number: If applicable

Date of Birth: Year is acceptable if date not known (Iraqis don't tend to know their exact date of birth. 1st of July or 1st October are used as defaults)

Place of Birth (incl country): Full details

Nationality: Full details

Religion: Incl.sect eg Sunni or Shia

Native Language: Dialect of Arabic and if possible any accent noted

TQ Language:

Fluency in English/other languages:

Address: Addresses work in the opposite direction to UK eg town, neighbourhood, street, house number. If an address cannot be given then a description of the house and its location should be obtained.

Telephone number: Ask but few Iraqis have a phone. Ask for mobile/Thuraya number.

Other Addresses: Incl. recent previous or second homes or abroad

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Employment Details: Job description and name and location of employer.
Many Iraqis have second jobs ie Policeman and farmer

Place of Employment: Full details

Details of subject: Physical description:
height
weight
build
complexion
eyes
hair
distinguishing features eg scars, tattoos
physical condition (note any injuries)
medication / glasses

TQ DETAILS

Date of TQ:

Start time:

Finish time:

Location of TQ:

Name, rank and Service No. of TQer:

Name, rank and Service No. of others present during TQ:

Interpreter used:

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BACKGROUND TO TQ

1. Put in Op. name and background to operation (all relevant documents ie target pack, MX reports, INTREPS should be attached to the TQ report and forwarded with the detainee to JFIT).

ITEMS OF INTEREST

2. List items of interest found on person or with person. Note ALL items must be sent with detainee to JFIT for exploitation especially books, phones, address books, notebooks and ID documents/passes. Bde MUST inform JFIT of any items withheld for intelligence exploitation and MUST send the results of such exploitation to JFIT. Any items to be used as evidence in future criminal prosecutions must first be correctly processed by the RMP.

INFORMATION OBTAINED

3. This should be reported in full clearly separating what was said by detainee from what is comment/inference by the TQer.

4. Any exploitation points used

THE TQ

5. All TQs should be conducted using the neutral/logical approach. No other approach should be used.

6. NO STRESS POSITIONS, CONDITIONING, PHYSICAL ABUSE, HOODS, OR WHITE NOISE TO BE USED. However, in order to preserve the shock of capture, where possible, detainees are to be kept apart and prevented from communicating with each other. Blindfolds are ONLY to be used when detainee is passing through sensitive areas and must be removed afterwards.

7. Restraints should be used sparingly in line with Divisional SOPs.

8. Detainee is to be given adequate food and water, medical attention and where necessary rest. When transporting detainee to JFIT adequate water must be provided.

9. Length of detention to be strictly adhered to as per Divisional legal guidelines.

NOTE

10. A TQ is exactly what it says. It is a tactical assessment of an individual and should last no longer than 1 hour. If all the information requested on this form cannot be obtained then leave the relevant spaces blank. No further interrogation is to be carried out.

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11. Most detainees seen by the JFIT are willing to be debriefed / interrogated.

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ANNEX D TO
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PRISONER HANDLING - A BATTLE GROUP GUIDE

This guide must be read in conjunction with the MND (SE) SOI on Tactical Questioning of Detainees.

POINT OF ARREST

1. Any prisoner assessed to be a threat should be cuffed behind the back using 2 separate plastic cuffs or purpose made handcuffs to ensure the safety of the guard force. Particular attention should be paid to the hands to ensure circulation is not disrupted.
2. Prisoners should be clearly numbered (on hand/arm) with a permanent marker as soon as the decision is made to detain them for TQ. This helps with identification of the prisoners by a source if present at the scene of arrest and avoids confusion in handling during the TQ phase.
3. Prisoners must not be blindfolded; however, they must not be allowed to communicate. The simplest way to ensure this is to face prisoners outwards and in to the corners of a vehicle. Guards must ensure no communication takes place (an interpreter with the guard force is useful to ensure the guards wishes can be communicated clearly).

ARRIVAL AT CAMP

4. As prisoners are about to enter the camp location they should be blind folded (blacked out goggles not sandbags) to prevent reconnaissance of the location.
5. Once in the holding area blindfolds should be removed but the same procedures in paragraph 3 should be implemented. Prisoners should be made to stand or sit but must not be placed in stress positions. However, they must not be allowed to relax or lie down to continue the shock of capture and conditioning process.
6. In the holding area all prisoners are to be initially checked by a medic and later by a MO as soon as practical.
7. The detainees must be photographed and their details taken.
8. Communication between the guard force and prisoners should be kept to a minimum. A SNCO or officer should be in command of the guard force.

MOVEMENT TO AND FROM TQ AREA

9. Detainees should be called forward by number at the request of the TQ to avoid confusion.
10. Prisoners should be moved to and from the holding area by 2 guards holding the arms, which are cuffed as per paragraph 1. The prisoner should be blindfolded during the move and handled firmly. Steps and obstacles should be avoided where possible. If obstacles are unavoidable the detainee should be warned and guided past to avoid injury.
11. On the request of the TQ the prisoner should be blindfolded and returned to the holding area.
12. Detainees must have access to water and toilet facilities. Medical treatment must be administered as required.