



MOD-83-0000088-A

Witness Name: Tha'er Naji Said

Statement No.: 1

Exhibits:

Dated: 08/08/2014

**In the matter of an investigation into the death of
Hassan Abbas Said**

**WITNESS STATEMENT OF
THA'ER NAJI SAID**

I, Tha'er Naji Saeed, state as follows:

1. I am making this statement for the purposes of the investigation in the death of Hassan Abbas Said.
2. I am a cousin of the deceased and son of Naji Said Finjan. I live in Al Shafya, 2 km away from Al Deir North, Iraq.
3. On 2 August 2003, early evening, I was with my father Naji in my house in Al Shafya. I saw Hassan enter from the main green door of the house. Two British soldiers were chasing him. They chased him into the house, into the centre of the yard. Upon entering they stopped at the right hand side.

(Signed)

4. The first soldier was tall, medium built and wearing a British military uniform. He was armoured and wearing a sand-coloured battlefield vest. There was a scratch on the right-hand side of his forehead and another on his right arm from inside. He was also carrying a rifle like the one all British soldiers carry.
5. The second soldier was shorter than the first soldier but he was wearing the same uniform and equipment. I did not pay much attention to him because he did not handle Hassan like the first soldier did. Both of them talked to Hassan, especially the first soldier.
6. I knew that my father was close but did not see him after the two soldiers entered the house. I think he was outside trying to calm down friends and neighbours because we did not want any problems. We were on good terms with the British soldiers.
7. Hassan was chased into the middle of the house yard. He stood calmly against the wall to the right of the door facing the two soldiers who were standing two metres away from him. From the body signals that the two soldiers were asking Hassan to go with them although I did not understand what they were saying. But I saw Hassan signalling to them “Well, well, I will come with you, but there is no need to treat me like this.” I do not think the two soldiers understood him as they seemed careless.
8. Then the events took place quickly. The two soldiers stood in front of Hassan screaming at each other in two different languages and then one of the two soldiers drew a baton (electric staff) and hit Hassan on his legs, hands and shoulder several times while Hassan continued to signal that he was ready to go with them but in an appropriate manner that did not hurt his dignity before his family and neighbours. In the meantime the other soldier hit Hassan with the butt of his rifle on his forehead, and as a result Hassan lost his balance for a few seconds and turned. At that moment one of the two soldiers fired and hit him in his back.

(Signed)

I do not know where exactly in the back. After Hassan was injured, he turned around and ended up with his back on the wall. The other soldier ran outside the house looking unhappy and in rejection of what his colleague had done and then returned in a vehicle. The soldier who shot at Hassan stayed in the house with Hassan. My attention was focused on my cousin so I did not concentrate on what was going on. What I remember is that the soldier who ran out of the house returned and with his colleague began to drag Hassan roughly outside the house, the same way they entered it. I could not believe their roughness with a wounded person so I tried to help them

carry Hassan. The soldier who had fired at Hassan pointed the rifle at me but the other soldier stopped him and allowed me to move Hassan inside a British vehicle, I think it was a Land Rover. Had I not stepped in, I believe Hassan was going to be dragged and thrown in the vehicle. I tried to speak to Hassan while taking him, but the two soldiers did not allow me. It was the last time I saw Hassan.

9. Sergeant Bamfor of the Royal Military Police drew a sketch of my house, on which I marked where I, the two soldiers and Hassan were when he was shot.

(Fingerprint and signature)

Allah is witness to what I am saying.

All the facts mentioned in this statement are true and this is my witness statement.

(Signature)

(Fingerprint)

Tha'er Naji Saeed

Born in [REDACTED], ID NO. [REDACTED] (illegible), Nashwa

Dated: 8/8/2014

This statement has been witnessed and signed by Ali Sabri Wadee,

Signed

Address: [REDACTED]

Dated: 8/8/2014