

MOD-83-0000342-A

STAFF - INVESTIGATION OFFICER ONLY



Case Ref No: 64654/03

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: Ayad Salim Hanon KHEDHAYYER

Rank/Status: Civilian

Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert "over 18") Occupation: Factory Worker

This statement (consisting of 5 page(s) 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: ASH KHEDHAYYER

Dated the 15th day of April 2006

I, Ayad Salim Hanon Khedhayyer, live in

I was born in and I work with my father as a welder in the industry.

In respect of Ahmed Jabbar, I had only seen him in the company's garage and I only know his father.

I can confirm that my statement was previously taken at a police station.

In respect of the incident, I went only to a garage just behind Baghdad's Garage in Sa'ad Square.

I arrived there around nine o'clock and I went there to steal and also the other people who were with me were there for the same purpose.

When I entered I still did not do anything so I ran away. One Iraqi person and a British ran after me. I ran away because I heard someone saying "the British come, the British come" so all of us ran away and we did not steal anything. There were four Iraqis and four British. We wanted to take something from there because there was no work.

We were running away and they ran after us until we were caught by them. When I was first caught the Iraqi tied me up and the British punched me on the eye. The British were carrying weapons and ammunitions. They started beating us up and my hand was injured from the wall. I was facing the wall and my hands were behind me. The Iraqis were from the Iraqi police and wearing blue hats. The British were wearing khaki berets. I was struck and butted with something like a crown by the British. The badge on the beret was yellow. The Iraqi tied me up and the British hit me with his hand.

Signature: ASH KHEDHAYYER

Signature Witnessed by: MR PRICE



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Continuation of statement of:		Ayad Salim Hanon KHEDHAYYER		

When I was tied up by the Iraqi and put me against the wall and then the British came over running and struck me.

After that we were taken from Baghdad's Garage to a place where there was dirty water. I was wearing brown trousers, stripy shirt and black shoes. The deceased boy was wearing black trousers, black T-shirt and maybe he was wearing shoes (slippers). The other two were wearing 'dishdashas'.

When we reached the dirty water they started tearing up our clothes and told us to swim in the dirty water. The water was up to my knees and when we went down the dirty water they began throwing stones at us. There were children gathered and also throwing stones at us. After that they got us out the dirty water. Our clothes were torn up so we were only in underpants. We were tied up when we came out the dirty water. My left hand was tied to the deceased's right hand. He used a piece of cloth he picked up from the ground. My clothes remained by the dirty water. They threw my shoes in the dirty water. We stayed in the water for 4 or 5 minutes.

I was beaten up continuously by only two soldiers, one of whom was stocky and the other one was thin. The Iraqis just tied me up. They caught three others before me.

After that we were taken to a hospital and still tied up. There was a high fence and they insisted that we had to climb it. It took us about quarter of an hour to get to the hospital because the road was not paved.

There was an armoured vehicle at the door of the hospital and there were approximately six or seven soldiers in the area. We saw people walking normally and the British were standing and had a large box containing Pepsi. The boy and I supported each other and climbed up the fence. The ground was a bit high so we climbed up with difficulty. The British soldiers and the Iraqis climbed the fence as well. After we climbed, they did too.

We reached the hospital and made us sit on the ground slightly away from the two main doors. Then one of them came over and started beating us. We sat there for a short period. The British spoke with the Iraqi, maybe he told him to leave us and the Iraqi did not agree with him and said "I will kill them today." The Iraqis tore our clothes up and only one of them said "I will kill them and I will take them to the manager today." We were sitting two by two. After that they took and put us inside the armoured vehicle. The two who brought us remained standing beside us. When they put us inside the armoured vehicle, two of them and the other two stayed.

When we got inside the vehicle, the driver was sitting in the front and the other one was standing up and carrying a weapon. He was standing on the turret. The armoured vehicle was camouflaged.

The gun/cannons' vehicle was similar to "Doushka". The vehicle had tyres and tracked. The door was at the rear. The two who beat us got in after us while the other two did not do anything to us. One of whom was the driver and the other one was on the top. He pressed a button and the door opened, and pressed another button and the door closed. They were beating me on my face and kicking me during the journey. Our hands tied up and my right hand was bleeding and they were punching us inside the armoured vehicle. We sat opposite each other and they were beating us until we reached Zubair River. The journey took about quarter of an hour.

Signature: ASH KHEDHAYYER

Signature Witnessed by: MR PRICE



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Continuation of statement of:		Ayad Salim Hanon KHEDHAYYER			

After that the person who was with us opened the door and got off and we found ourselves by Zubair Bridge. The armoured vehicle stopped under Zubair Bridge towards Basrah.

The British got off before we did and then those who were wearing 'dishdashas' got off after us.

We were told by the same people who beat us up, to swim and pulled and aimed their weapons at us. They untied our hands and said "swim". Those with 'dishdashas' went in first. They swam and crossed the river. The boy was with me and I did not know how to swim; however, we went in because the weapons were aimed at us. They were the same two, one of whom was tall and slightly big, aimed the gun at us and even he pushed me with it. He did not hit us, he pulled the gun and we got scared.

I got in the water step by step and eventually I reached a distance and I dipped but by force I pushed myself upwards. The water was running fast and muddy. When we first got in the water a bit up to our shoulders, before the boy drowned, they told us to enter the deep water and he was throwing stones at us.

They left us for a while and he continued throwing stones at us. I entered a distance of 2-3 metres in the river and Ahmed entered the same distance. After that the boy who was with me dipped and came out for a period of 2-3 minutes and then dipped. One of the British took his clothes off and wanted to swim but one of them said "let's go." I saw him taking all his clothes off and one of them pointed at him and said "let's go." The person, who wanted to take his clothes off and go after the deceased, was in front of the driver or the soldier who was standing up. They left us in the water and gone away. I remained in the water for about twenty minutes. They were standing there for about twenty minutes throwing stones at us. Only two of them were throwing stones and they had left us when the boy drowned. I remained in the water for approximately 10-15 minutes and I got out of the water when they got in the armoured vehicle.

At the beginning, we both dipped together then I got out and looked around. He did not come out and after about 3-5 minutes he appeared, floated, extended his hands and drowned again and did not appear again and then they all left.

Then I stood up in the street without clothes and the boy did not come out. I said to myself "Ahmed has drowned". Then I took a taxi and returned home. They were throwing stones before and after Ahmed had drowned.

I did not go to Ahmed's family home as I did not know where they live. I met with his father in Basrah on Thursday or Friday when I found his family. The night before we were arrested he was with me. I know him from Basrah as he was buying and selling. I asked him did Ahmed come home, he said "No", so I said "Your son had drowned."

I only saw Ahmed once with his father in Basrah. I spoke with him on Friday and told him about what happened.

On 23 June, I attended three computer parades and one was face to face but I could not identify anyone. Also I went to the bridge and showed them where the armoured vehicles stopped.

Signature: ASH KHEDHAYYER

Signature Witnessed by: MR PRICE



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Sheet No	Sheet No 4		Case No:	64654/03
Continuation of statement of:		Ayad Salim Hanon KHEDHAYYER		

I was shown exhibit JAP/4 and JAP/5, left and right shoes belong to me, and also the exhibit JAP/2, trousers – dirty dishdasha. JAP/1, dirty dishdasha, it could be for the same person of the trousers, I do not know who it was, and JAP/3 a light coloured ripped T-shirt belongs to them to.

I also took them to the place where they tore up the clothes.

Signed: ASH KHEDHAYYER

I certify that I have compiled this statement from the original translated copy of the summary of the transcript (Arabic) to the best of my knowledge, ability and belief.

Signed: ITT
61 Sect SIB RMP

Signed: MR PRICE

Sgt

RMP (SIB)

