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British Army  
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Company C  
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Operation Telik/2  
British Forces POB (sic) 647  
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Kings / Coy / V 3067 9/11/2003

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**Statement regarding firing at Mr. Muhammad Abderridha Salem**

The circumstances surrounding the regrettable shooting incident at the aforesaid are as follows:

- An unknown civilian came up to the gate of Cherokey Camp and informed the British Forces that he had seen ten men armed with rifles and RBGs, seven of them entered a house that was to be known as the house of Mr. Mahmoud Zayoun.
- Fearing a threat the British Forces decided to enter the house to disarm the above mentioned men and to detain them. And in order to avoid possible risks the house was stormed. At that time, Mr. Muhammad Abderridha Salem was coming down the stairs. It is sad that while Mr. Muhammad Abderridha Salem was coming down the stairs he was met by a British soldier coming from the opposite direction. The soldier wrongly thought that he was in danger and opened a salvo of bullets at Mr. Muhammad Abderridha Salem hitting him in the stomach.
- The British Forces transported Mr. Muhammad Abderridha Salem to the Czech Hospital where he was operated upon but very regrettably and sadly he died thereafter.

It is clear that the British Forces were deliberately misinformed in this regard and it is very regrettable that the incident resulted in the death of Mr. Muhammad Abderridha Salem.

We offer our sorrow and deep condolences to his family.

Signed  
S G Rotledge (sic)

Major  
Commanding Officer