

**RESTRICTED**

Form MG11(T)

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## WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r.70)

Statement of: BROOKES, PETER GEORGE

Age if under 18: OVER 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: FORENSIC SCIENTIST

This statement (consisting of 3 page(s) each signed by me) 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 anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signed: P G BROOKES

Date: 31/01/2005

I am a forensic scientist specializing in the examination of firearms, ammunition and related items. I have worked continuously in this field, at the same laboratory, for over 26 years. I joined the Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory in 1978 and that establishment merged with the Home Office Forensic Science Service in 1996. This report is further to my statement dated 9th March 2004 concerning the examination of two L85 A2 service rifles, bullet fragments and a fired cartridge case. That report was made to the RMP SIB under their reference number 64679/03 OP. TELIC. On 21st January 2005 I took possession of the following additional item which also had been submitted to the Laboratory under the reference number 300185920. It was described on the submission form in this way:

AMS/2 PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUM OF AMMUNITION TAKEN AUGUST 2003

I have examined this item with the assistance of a trained colleague whose contribution I have listed in the attached Forensic Examination Record. I have identified that document as item PGB/2. AMS/2 was an album of seven photographs.

The first two images were of a stack of dirty and corroding rectangular tins. These cartons appeared to be of the style used for small arms ammunition issued to Russian armed forces. There were at least 46 tins visible in the photographs. The next two images provided closer views of one tin and the next returned to the stack with one tin gaping open, revealing ammunition inside. The penultimate photograph was a close-up of the gaping tin and the last one showed three cartridges laid across the lid of a tin. From the last two images it is apparent that the cartridges shown are heavy machine gun (HMG) ammunition rather than pistol or rifle cartridges. The colour and presence of corrosion show that these were steel cased cartridges as

Signed: P G BROOKES  
2004(1)

Signature Witnessed by:

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Continuation of Statement of: BROOKES, PETER GEORGE

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would be expected with ammunition from RUSSIA and other ex Soviet nations. I understand that Russian small arms ammunition is generally packed in the same size of tin, independent of the calibre it contains. Such tins in the Laboratory ammunition store are 155 millimetres (mm) wide and the cartridges in the last photograph appear to be as long as the tin is wide. Of Russian HMG ammunition, the cartridge which is closest to this in overall length is the 14.5 mm Soviet. In addition, the profile of the cartridges in the last photograph most closely matches that of 14.5 mm Soviet.

#### CONCLUSIONS

The cartridges shown in the last two photographs of the album I examined were Russian or ex Soviet ammunition for a heavy machine gun. They were most likely to be of 14.5 mm Soviet calibre. Although this calibre ammunition was originally designed for use in anti-tank rifles, it is mainly used in heavy machine guns. It is available with projectiles of incendiary, armour piercing/incendiary, armour piercing/incendiary/tracer and high explosive/incendiary types. Such weapons and ammunition are generally used for anti-material or anti-vehicle use rather than anti-personel. At the conclusion of this examination I signed the item label. I have been made aware that in my previous statement, dated 9th March 2004, I incorrectly stated that I had taken possession of the items on 1st August 2003. I can now confirm, from a record on the case file, that I took possession of items PH/4, PH/8, AHA/2 and NSF/2 on 1st September 2003. A full record of the work I have done in this case, and which has been done under my supervision, is available at the Laboratory. The currently known dates when I will not be available to give evidence in court are listed on the reverse of page one in the original, signed, statement.

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Signed: P G BROOKES  
2004(1)

Signature Witnessed by: