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4 April 2018



Thank you for your letter of 14 March in which you requested the following information:

"I would like a copy of the learning account carried out by HQ TNB Garrison as a result of the incident on 22 Dec 16"

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. I have attached extracts of the Learning Account but the remainder is exempt from release under section 40 (Personal information) of the FOIA. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, if you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure and Litigation Leader

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camp. The orders for the TGF state that an NCO should man the Cell, check ID cards, oversee the signing out process and assess each driver who signs for a token to determine if they are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Fus Cutmore's handwriting on the sign-out sheet is barely legible and could have indicated drunkenness but on assessing previous sheets, poor handwriting is common place and not a reliable indication that a person is drunk. Though a member of his Bn stated that Fus Cutmore was extremely drunk earlier in the afternoon preceding his departure from camp, the Booking-out Cell duty staff, when challenged, categorically stated that he did not believe that Fus Cutmore was drunk in the short time that he observed him.

12. The RTR normally tasks 3 X JNCOs (vice 1 JNCO as per the Gar Policy) to provide additional leadership.

With the exception of this incident the Booking-Out Policy has been effective since its implementation.

- a. **Recommendation**. In addition to extant policy, the TGF Comd is required to brief the TGF on the duties of the Booking-Out Cell during Guard Mount, explaining the importance of this duty (a script will be provided). The GDO is to confirm with the TGF Comd that the Cell is manned by a JNCO. The GDO will also conduct a visit to the Cell during Silent Hours as part of his duties. The GDO Orders will be amended accordingly.
- b. **Recommendation**. Legal advice will be sought from Comd Legal concerning the potential use of a breathalyser on those thought to have been drinking.
- c. **Recommendation.** Take advice on the production of guidance to ascertain whether or not someone is intoxicated which could take the form of a series of questions to ask those booking-out.
- d. **Recommendation.** Adjust the ORBAT of the TGF leadership to 1 X SNCO and 3 X JNCOs. The current ORBAT of 1 X JNCO means that person is on duty from 1700 0600 (leave period) or 2200 0600 (normal working week) without relief unless replaced by a Pte. Also unless the JNCO on duty in the Booking-out Cell can be rotated during the duty, that JNCO will be on task for 13 hrs without break which will have an adverse effect on the JNCO's alertness.
- 13. Good Practice, Nil.
- 14. Immediate action taken to prevent recurrence.
 - a. The GDO is to confirm with TGF Comd that a JNCO is manning the Booking-Out Cell throughout the time of the duty and implement the correct booking out procedures as per the TGF Standing Orders.
 - b. NCOs manning the Booking-out Cell must be empowered to make a decision to prevent a person from leaving camp by not providing a Booking-Out token if suspected of being drunk. The NCO should contact the TGF Comd and if required, the GDO should report to the Cell and deal with the incident.

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- c. The TGF Comd will brief the TGF on the Booking-Out Policy and emphasise its importance during Guard Mount.
- d. The GDO will visit the Booking-out Cell during the GDO nightly rounds.

<< ORIGINAL SIGNED>>
S PW LAWTON
Col
Cemd TNB