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STATEMENT PRINT

Surname: SO78
Forenames: SO78
Age: 40 Date of Birth: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Occupation: [REDACTED]
Telephone No: [REDACTED]

Statement Date: 09/12/2014

Appearance Code: Build:
Height (From): 189 Height (To):

Hair Details: Position Style Colour
HEAD SHORT BROWN

Left Eye Colour: BLUE Right Eye Colour: BLUE

Complexion1: FAIR Complexion2:

Glasses Worn: Glasses Use::

Accent Details: General Specific Qualifier

Number of Pages: 9

I was formerly a member of the British Army, serving as a Sapper in the Royal Engineers, where I trained and qualified as a Class 1 Electrician and Combat Engineer. I joined the army as a 24 year old in 1998 with a service number of [REDACTED] and left in November 2004. I am currently employed as a site electrician at [REDACTED]

On the 6th of November 2014 I agreed to be interviewed by staff from the IHAT (Iraq Historic Allegations Team) on a DVD recorded interview, which was held at my place of work. The interview was in relation to an incident that happened in Basra, Iraq in 2003, at which time I been part of Operation Telic during the initial

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invasion of Iraq in the same year. To the best of my memory the incident involved a young Iraqi lad who died by drowning at a dockside area within my units area of responsibility.

I am unable to remember the exact date of the incident because it is a long time ago. However I would estimate that it would have been around mid-late May 2003 which was soon after the war fighting had finished. I would add that a number of days after the incident I provided a written witness statement to the Military Police when events were fresher in my mind. What follows is a statement without reference to that original statement. What I would like to say is that if there are significant differences between that statement and the one I am making now then the one I made at the time is likely to be more accurate. This is simply because I made it nearer to the time.

At the time I had been part of 26 Armoured Engineer Squadron of the 32nd Regiment of the Royal Engineers and my Troop was attached to the 1 Black Watch Battle Group to provide combat engineering support. My section had one 432 AFV (Armoured Fighting Vehicle) which I think had the call sign 40D (Delta). Our section made up a small number of other sections which together formed the Troop. Generally speaking a Squadron consists of four to five Troops and each Troop is made up of four or five sections. My Troop Commander at the time was Lieutenant [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SO70 who had his own Spartan reconnaissance vehicle. He had a designated driver called Sapper [REDACTED] SO75. My Troop Staff Sergeant at that time was Sergeant [REDACTED] SO77 (I don't know his first name) who had his own 432 AFV vehicle, which I think had the call sign 41d (delta). Each 432 was fitted with fire extinguishers, with one or two externally fitted to the back door and one internally at the front. The predominant purpose for these was for extinguishing fires on board the vehicle itself.

At the time of the incident our Battle Group had been stationed at a base in Basra, although I can't remember the name of it now, or even if it had a name at all. It was possibly an old Iraqi Naval Base and within the camp I was accommodated in a single storey building with the other junior ranks of my Troop. These had the appearance of being old school type buildings. For security purposes the camp was surrounded by a concrete perimeter wall and the entrance gate had concrete gate posts with 24 hour a day armed security provided by our soldiers.

In addition to Lieutenant [REDACTED] SO70 and Staff Sergeant [REDACTED] SO77, I will name a number of other people who were in either my section or Troop that are relevant to my statement. These include Lance Corporal [REDACTED] SO71, Sapper [REDACTED] SO72, Sapper [REDACTED] SO75 and Sapper [REDACTED]. Others who I remember from that time, but were not connected to the incident, as far as I can remember, are Lance Corporal [REDACTED] and a Corporal [REDACTED] who I think had returned to the UK by the time the incident happened. There were two other lads in my section who were reservists, but I can no longer remember their names.

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The operational roles of our unit changed as the tour went on. Initially we had started by providing combat and engineering support to 1 Black Watch as we breached the Kuwait and Iraq border. On the approach to Basra we had joined Black Watch on raids and were involved in disposing of seized weapons and munitions for them. However, after the fighting had calmed I became part of an electrical team who had responsibility for setting up electrical installations for temporary bases which were to be used by our forces. This work often took me away from the rest of my section on a day to day basis, although I was still based in the same location and shared accommodation with them.

On the day in question I remember that the weather was hot and dry and that I was approached by Staff Sergeant [SO77]. At the time I believe that I would have either been inside our accommodation, or just outside of it. Sergeant [SO77] basically told me that we had to go to a nearby dockside area quickly because something had happened there and we had to assist the rest of my section, who were already there, to pack up some equipment. I cannot remember what Sergeant [SO77] demeanour and tone had been when he spoke to me, but the order given by him, in itself, was nothing out of the ordinary. In my experience of my time in Iraq I was always being given jobs and tasks to do. I am no longer able to remember what particular shift I was working that day, or what my duties were. However, due to the fact that I hadn't gone down to the dockside with the rest of my section I can only assume that this happened some time during the afternoon and that I must have been committed during the earlier part of that day carrying out electrical repairs elsewhere as I have previously mentioned. I say this because it is the only explanation I can give for not being down at the dockside myself if the rest of the section were there.

I know now that the equipment Sergeant [SO77] had been referring to was a diesel powered pump which was being utilised to pump water from the river to clean the section's vehicles as a type of temporary wash down point. I assume that my section must have had some spare time and were using that time effectively. To the best of my knowledge I hadn't known the dockside to be used for this purpose before by my Section, Troop, or anyone else for that matter.

I hadn't initially been aware that this temporary wash down point had been set up at all, and the first I was aware of this was either when Sergeant [SO77] gave me the order to go with him, or when I arrived at the dockside, I can't remember which it was now. I was also unaware at that stage of which members of my Section were at the dockside, or how long they had been there.

The dockside Sergeant [SO77] was referring to was located behind our base, approximately 1- 1½ miles away by road and this was to be the first and only time I was to go to that area. He and I left the base immediately after he had spoken to me, using his 432 AFV. Somewhere in the back of my mind I think that we may have had another person with us, but I cannot be sure about this. If there was a third person it would have been either Sapper [REDACTED], or Sapper [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was Sergeant [SO77] usual driver. I believe that I drove to the location with Sergeant [SO77] in the Commander's Hatch, so it is less likely

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to have been Sapper [REDACTED] because he would have probably have driven. If there had been a third person with us he would have travelled in the rear of the 432. As far as I remember no other vehicles left the base to accompany us.

The 432's were equipped with a radio which had a linked headset between the commander, the driver and a link to a large radio in the rear which allowed for full communication between all areas of the vehicle. From the radio it is possible to communicate with command back at base as well as between the crew of the 432. I have been asked if I can recall any radio communication en-route to the dockside that day. I am unable to say if there had been any or not, certainly none that I can remember now. I can't remember there being any conversations with Sergeant SO77 whilst en-route about what we were going to either. I would say that the journey wouldn't have taken very long at all in terms of time; we were in a hurry as I remember, although I can't really give an estimate as to how long it took.

As I have said, I hadn't been to the dockside before so I took directions from Sergeant SO77. From memory this involved taking a left turn as we exited the base then left again after a short distance then straight down past some houses to the dockside itself. The dockside had a hard standing area made of concrete with houses on one side and waste ground and a road on the other.

During the interview process, at 11.15am on the 6th November 2014 I produced a plan draw of the dockside area and I signed an exhibit label which was attached to this bearing the exhibit reference SO78/IHAT87/1 and the description 'plan drawn of dockside by [REDACTED] SO78 during significant witness interview on 06/11/2014'. I handed this item to [REDACTED] of IHAT at 4.30pm that day when the interview concluded. This drawing shows the hard standing area, water, houses and military vehicles that I will refer to later in the statement. I am unable to mark the roadway into the dockside area because I can't remember how it came in, however it was somewhere around the area marked 'houses' on the drawing. I cannot be clear about how many of my section's vehicles had been present when we arrived, it had either been just the one or there may have been two.

When we arrived I parked the 432 at 90 degrees and close to the other 432 which was parked close to, and facing, the water's edge. I have marked the position I parked my 432 on item SO78/IHAT87/1. This is the 432 facing the water's edge, the pump and the position Sapper SO72 was stood at. I immediately dismounted from my 432 carrying my SA80 LSW rifle carried at my side with the shoulder strap over my shoulder. I would describe the scene that met me as being very hectic and this became more so as time went on. I remember seeing Sapper SO72 standing close to the water's edge with a number of Iraqi civilians around him, pushing, gesturing and shouting at him. He was soaking wet and his t-shirt was ripped. I have marked his approximate position on item SO78/IHAT87/1 by his initials SO72. This was generally close to the pump which I have also marked. I estimate that there were at least three, or possibly more, Iraqis stood around Sapper SO72 doing this. When I first arrived there had been in the region of 10 Iraqis in the hard standing area itself. This number grew the longer we were there. It is difficult to give numbers of people who

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were shouting at Sapper [REDACTED] SO72 because it was a situation with lots of to'ing and fro'ing so there may have been more Iraqi's around him at different points.

I noticed that Sapper [REDACTED] SO72 looked upset, by this I mean that he wasn't crying but was looking gutted. It was absolutely obvious to me that something was definitely up because of the way the Iraqi's around him were behaving, they were quite irate about something and pointing at the water. I didn't know any of the Iraqi's there and hadn't seen any of them before or since. They were generally middle-aged, both men and women, although there were a handful of younger Iraqi lads in their early 20's.

My first action was to go to the pump to pack up the equipment. I don't remember anyone ordering or telling me to do this when we arrived, it was just the right and obvious thing to do, to pack and get out as quickly as possible. If I was following an order to do this, it would have been given by Sergeant [REDACTED] SO77 because I had arrived with him. I believe that the pump was switched off and the hose had already been wound up by someone else, so that all I had to do was to get it back onboard the 432 parked closest to the waters edge.

I cannot remember if I had been told what had happened to make the Iraqi's so upset when I arrived, or if I was told later or by whom. However, I found out at some stage, that Sapper [REDACTED] SO72 had gone into the water to try and rescue an Iraqi lad who had either fallen or jumped into the water after he had been fleeing either an argument, or after being caught stealing electrical cable with another Iraqi. One of the two Iraqi's had climbed out and the other didn't make it. That is as much as I knew about what had happened and this must have happened before I arrived because I did not see any of this. Either way it was obvious from the actions of the Iraqi's present at the dockside that something bad had happened and our section needed to get out as quickly as possible.

I couldn't understand actually what the Iraqi people were shouting at Sapper [REDACTED] SO72 because we had no interpreters and everyone was talking in Arabic, but again it was obvious to me from their gestures, body language and from them pointing that something had happened in the water and they wanted Sapper [REDACTED] SO72 to go in. Sapper [REDACTED] SO72 didn't go into the water whilst I was there, which I assume must be either because he had been ordered not to do so, or had decided himself not to. I didn't specifically remember looking over into the water whilst I was near the pump, but in any case I have no memory of seeing anything, or anyone in the water.

I clearly remember that whilst I was reclaiming the pump a young Iraqi lad in his late teens or early 20's began pushing and shouting at me whilst gesturing to the water. He then tried to grab my rifle from me. I reacted by shouting and pushing back at him and prepared myself to take a swing at him because I was fearful of what he was doing and losing my rifle for obvious reasons. Sergeant [REDACTED] SO77, who was nearby at the time, saw what was happening and told me to calm down and get the pump packed away. I didn't strike this Iraqi lad in anyway and he released his grip on my rifle

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allowing me to continue with what I had been doing. I believe that when I packed the pump onto the other 432 [REDACTED] SO72 helped me load it.

I can't remember if was after I had put the pump onto the other 432 or whilst doing so, but I clearly recall that at some point there had been what I would describe as a sort of big surge from the crowd towards our position, close to our vehicles. I would say that the surge was not the Iraqi's surging towards us to cause us harm as such, but surging forward because they were panicked and scared about something coming from behind them, which was from the general direction of the houses. I decided to jump back up onto my 432 where I got behind the GPMG (General Purpose Machine Gun) because I feared that whatever it was may pose a threat to me and the other members of my section. From that position on the 432 I would have been about 10 feet from the ground and I could see the crowd moving from the general direction of the houses. As soon as I had got behind the gun an Iraqi man wearing a white hat and white dish dash said to me, in English, words to the effect that it was just the mother arriving. He didn't say anymore than this, but the way he said it made me feel that the risk wasn't as great as I had first thought. I would add that I never saw the mother or female he was referring to and we may have left the dockside before she arrived. I am sure that I never made the GPMG ready to use because I would have had to make it safe again and the procedure for this is thorough and that would have stuck in my memory. I would describe the Iraqi who spoke in English as being in his 50's with white hair and a white beard. He may have been older, but it's hard to tell because of the white hair may have made him look older than he really was. This was the first and only time I noticed this particular man as far as I can say.

I can't remember if I left immediately after getting down from the GPMG, or if I returned to packing up the pump and then we left. However, I recall that whilst up on the 432 behind the GPMG I noticed another of my section's vehicles parked alongside my 432 facing away from the water. This was either the 432 that had been parked close to the water's edge, which I have previously referred to or it was a Spartan vehicle used by Troop Commander [REDACTED] SO70. If it had been the other 432 it must have been loaded with the pump and manoeuvred to a position alongside mine. This is why I am unsure if there were one or two of our section's vehicles there when I arrived. I have marked the position of this vehicle in relation to mine on item [REDACTED] SO78/IHAT87/1/.

Because the situation was so erratic and confused I cannot specifically remember seeing exactly which other members of my section were there, or what they did. There would have been times during this that my view of the rest of my section was obscured by our vehicles and the Iraqi's who were in the area. Sapper [REDACTED] SO72 is the only one I really remember, he sticks in my mind because he was close to the pump and because he was wet and being shouted at by the Iraqis. At some point during the incident he was a matter of feet from me, but this was not always the case because everyone was moving around throughout. The point I have marked for him on item [REDACTED] SO78/IHAT87/1 is where I first noticed him when I arrived. I think that Sergeant [REDACTED] SO77 was stood near to me at one point but apart from that I cannot say what he was doing throughout. The only other people I can definitely say were there

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were Troop Commander [SO70] and Lance Corporal [SO71], although I cannot say what they did whilst at the dockside because I didn't see anything of them apart from being aware that they were also present. I would say that the fact that Troop [SO70] was present makes it extremely likely his Spartan vehicle would have been there and if that was the case so may have been Sapper [SO75] who would have driven him.

The whole event lasted a short space of time and for the majority of this I was loading the pump onto the back of the 432 and packing it away. It was a manic situation and my concern and focus was getting the equipment packed away and not really on what other members of my section were doing.

We left the dockside as a section together. I don't specifically remember anyone giving the order to do so as such, it was like clockwork as I recall it, with everyone knowing what to do and where to go. Once again I drove Sergeant [SO77] 432 back with him in the Commander's position and, as far as I know, everyone returned in the vehicle they had arrived in. I do not remember any radio communication with command on route, although the procedure would have been to let them know we had left the dockside. If there had been any conversation about what had happened at that stage I don't think this would have been done over the radio, although I have no recollection of there being any conversations on the way back. The incident at the dockside itself lasted about 10 minutes and I have no recollection of their being any radio communications during this either. Generally speaking, the 432 commander would have been responsible for the radio comms in the circumstances I have described in this statement.

Looking back I wouldn't describe my feelings at the time as being scared because my training kicked in and took over. We had been in a hurry to leave the dockside because we were unsure what threat the crowd posed to us and this crowd had grown in number and became increasingly hostile the longer we were there. It is hard for me to put a number to the Iraqi civilians that were present during the time I was there because the number increased the longer it went on from the original ten or so.

When we got back to the base I cannot remember any specific conversations with anyone about what had happened. I remember that Sapper [SO72] and Lance Corporal [SO71] were both quiet. This wasn't surprising to me because they may have seen someone drown and the after effects of this on the local population. I shared accommodation with both of them and spent more time with them than I did with either Sergeant [SO77] or Lieutenant [SO70].

What I can say in respect of both Sergeant [SO77] and Lieutenant [SO70] following the incident was that they both remained professional and didn't make it obvious that they were upset by it. I am sure they were because it had happened on their watch so to speak. Generally speaking my memory is clearer on the events at the dockside than they are about things that happened after it. I would add that not long after the incident our squadron left Iraq and returned to Germany at the end of our tour. Many of us went our separate ways and I also left the army not long afterwards. I

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think that Sapper **SO72** may have even left the army before I did. Once in Germany the troops got mixed around due to changes in the configuration of the squadron so I did not spend a great deal of time together with those that I have mentioned in this statement.

I cannot remember the name of my Commanding Officer for our Squadron at the time but it was something like Major **SO79** or something similar. The 2nd in Command I remember was short with dark hair and a skin colour similar to that of someone of Indian origin, but I cannot remember his name. To the best of my recollection neither of them spoke to me about the incident and I don't know if they did with anyone else that had been there. The only people that spoke to me about it were the Military Police when I provided my witness statement. Other than that, I didn't speak to anyone about it or overhear any other conversations about it.

I didn't return to the dockside again and as far as I am aware no one else in my section did either. I can't say for sure if they did or didn't, but if they did I am not aware of it. I was aware of something going on down at the dockside afterwards which was connected to the incident, but not involving any of my troop. This was that I recall hearing about divers going down to look for the young lad that drowned. I cannot remember if these divers were part of the Royal Military Police (RMP) or if they were separate from them. I have no idea if the divers managed to recover the lad. As far as I was concerned, I was interviewed by the RMP then didn't hear anything else and assumed that was an end to the matter.

I am not sure if members of my troop and section had been to the dockside area before the incident, but it is possible that they may have done. I had heard some hearsay at some point during my time in Iraq that there was a yacht nearby to our base, which at one time had belonged to Saddam Hussain. I don't know if this was true and, if it was, whether it was in the same area as this incident. I don't know who I had heard about the yacht from. In relation to the dockside, I have some recollection that there may have been a burnt out ship of some description in the water on that one occasion I went there. This ship was definitely not on fire as far as I remember, nor were there any other fires of any description that I saw or smell.

To my knowledge there had been no orders issued to us after the incident preventing us from returning to the dockside. I remember that there regular 'O' group meetings which senior member of the Squadron would attend. This would have included Troop Commander **SO70** and Staff Sergeant **SO77**. These meetings happened on a very regular basis, if not daily then nearly so. I never attended any of these myself and any orders from them were fed down to the relevant Section Commanders to pass on to the junior ranks like myself at that time.

In relation to my knowledge of looting by the local Iraqi population at that time I would describe it as having been a major problem for us. Basically speaking the Iraqis pulled their country apart and if it wasn't nailed down it would disappear. From recollection, this started pretty much straight away from the point of the initial invasion and there was no Iraqi police force to help stop this happening. As far as I

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aware there were no orders in place to deal with them and in any case it was not something that we dealt with because we were dealing with engineering tasks. Looters were really the infantry's responsibility. I have never personally heard of the phrase 'wetting' and have no knowledge of Iraqis being thrown, or put into water as a form of punishment for looting, or anything else.

Any contact I had with Iraqi civilians during my tour was very limited and apart from the incident at the dockside the only incident I had any real dealings with them was when doing vehicle stops at a check point. We did this for three days and on the first day we detained some Iraqi's who were in possession of something or other, I can't remember what now. We had detained them in a marked off area and waited for the Black Watch to come and collect them from us. We had tied their hands behind their backs with plastic cable ties and kept them in a kneeling position until the Black Watch arrived. We hadn't been trained to do vehicle checkpoints and had no interpreters with us. I have no idea whether the way we detained them was following the proper procedures, or whether it was just decided that it would be the best way to deal with them at that time. As far as I know the Black Watch took these Iraqi's back to their HQ, but I am not sure which HQ that would have been because that would have depended on which company of the Black Watch came out to collect them from us.

I have been asked about the pump set up at the dockside. This was basically a diesel driven generator with one hose in the river where the pump suction caused by the generator sucked water out of the river and blew it out of another hose. As I have said this was switched off when I arrived. From experience I would say that if the generator had been switched on and pumping water it would have been annoyingly noisy, by which I mean that you would notice it but it would not have been so noisy that you would need to wear ear defenders, or be unable to have a conversation with someone stood close to you. It would be like standing next to a diesel lawnmower if I had to compare it with something. If it had been set up and working I am pretty sure that it would have not generated enough pressure to be anything like a power washer, but enough maybe just to rinse the vehicles. There had been no specific wash down facilities at the base for cleaning our vehicles and in fact there had been very little need to do so because the roads were hard and dry and there was never any need to go off road, so really the vehicles never got very dirty at all.

I have been asked if I knew any of the people named in this statement by any other names, or nicknames, and a little bit more about them.

In relation to Lieutenant **SO70**, he was known as **SO70** and I was also aware that he was known as 'Troopy', which is a general term used for Troop Commanders. I would describe him as being OK, jokey, and quite laid back as Troop Commander's go. He tended to be more for being one of the lads than most Troop Commanders, spending time with the junior ranks as well as the senior ranks. He joined our troop approximately one week after we had been deployed and after we had already started the campaign, by which time we had reached the Iraq/Kuwait border. The last time I saw him was in Germany after we returned from Iraq in 2003. I moved to a different

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Troop and had no further contact with him. I didn't know a lot about him, but I understood from what he had said about himself that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Consequently he was a little bit older than many other Troop Commanders. I didn't ever witness him speaking Arabic myself, but I think he had a better understanding of the language than the rest of us. I cannot remember who told me this to leave me with this impression. He never spoke to me about that day at the dockside and I have not heard him talking to anyone else about it. I have had no contact with him since I left the army and am not linked to him on Facebook, or any other social media. During my time under his command, he never gave me any cause to be concerned about the way he did so, I don't know if he had any tattoos.

Sergeant [REDACTED] SO77 I knew as [REDACTED] SO77 and I would describe him as OK as a Staff Sergeant. I first met him, approximately, in 2002 when I joined the Troop. He was a plant operator so looked after his boys who were the plant drivers more than the likes of me on the field section, but generally he was alright and generally well natured. The last contact I had with him would have been around mid 2004. I had no contact via Facebook, or social media with him. I cannot remember him speaking Arabic, but I think he may have had a tattoo which, more than illoziy, was the emblem of the 9th Squadron which was the airborne section of the Royal Engineers which he was a member of. He never spoke to me about that day at the dockside and I have not heard him talking to anyone else about it.

Lance Corporal [REDACTED] SO71 was known to me as [REDACTED] SO71. I had a good relationship with him; he was one of the lads and liked a drink like we all did. I shared the same accommodation with him whilst on Iraq so lived and worked with him, apart from the times I was working away from my section. I had known him for about 6 months to a year before the incident and my last contact with him was when I left the army and I said my goodbyes to those who were staying. He never spoke to me about the events at the dockside that day or any time after, nor have I ever overheard him talking about it to anyone else. I do not have any contact with him now and although he is on my friends list on Facebook I have had no contact with him via this. He could not speak Arabic at all and never gave me any concern about the way he behaved. I don't think he had any tattoos and I would say that he was probably not the sort of person that would have them anyway.

Sapper [REDACTED] SO72 was known to me as just [REDACTED] SO72. We were both on the same level rank wise so we were side by side on the pecking order and there was a bit of friendly competition between us. We got on very well, though I have not had any recent contact with him. I would describe him as being a very nice lad who was intelligent, but not able to speak Arabic as far as I remember. He may have had a tattoo, but I can't remember for sure. I never overheard him talking about the incident with anyone else, but on one occasion I did bring the subject up with him. This was soon afterwards and not long before we parted company. I remember that he didn't want to talk about it so I left it at that. I cannot remember what I asked him now, but, whatever it was, I gained no better understanding of what happened before I arrived at the dockside and nothing in addition to that I haven't already said in this statement.

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Sapper [REDACTED] SO75 was known to me by his nickname of SO75 and I would describe him as being a bit of a 'cheeky chappy', a bit of a clown and a nice lad. He didn't have what I would describe as a close relationship with Lieutenant [REDACTED] SO70 as such, from what I could see they got on well together in a professional sense, but nothing other than that. I think he left the army before I did in possibly mid 2004. I never discussed the incident at the dockside with him nor overheard him talking to anyone else about it. He is on my Facebook friends list, but I do not have regular contact with him. I am aware through this that he is now living in [REDACTED]. As far as I know he did not have any tattoos.

I have been asked what I, and others members of my section were wearing that day. I believe that I was wearing 95 pattern green camouflage trousers and a green t-shirt, which I think was the same for Sapper [REDACTED] SO72. At that time I seem to remember that we were still waiting for our desert camouflage uniform to arrive. The fact that I had my rifle makes me think that I would also have been wearing my webbing and probably my helmet too.

I can't say what anyone else was wearing, but it is likely that they all had the 95 pattern camouflage trousers. In the case of Lieutenant [REDACTED] SO70 and Sergeant [REDACTED] SO77 it was highly likely that they would have been wearing 95 pattern long-sleeved shirts with the sleeves rolled up. I would say this because as senior members of the troop they were expected to look smarter than the junior ranks.

During the interview I also examined certified true copies from an album of photographs which I know originally to be exhibit reference [REDACTED]/1. In this I have identified a number of people and locations contained in them annotating them in pen. I signed an exhibit label which was attached to this bearing the exhibit reference SO7802/IHAT/87 and the description 'Copy of Photographs Identified by [REDACTED] SO78'. I handed this item to [REDACTED] of IHAT at 4.30pm that day when the interview concluded.

I would like to clarify that this incident happened before Combat Stress became recognised as an addressable issue so keeping your head down and getting on with it seemed to be the natural thing to do. This might explain why no one talked about it after the event. How the matter was being dealt with, like most things in the army, was on a need to know basis. It was getting dealt with and that was all I, or we, needed to know. So again, it was a case of head's down and get on with it.

Signed: [REDACTED] Signature Witnessed By: