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RECORD OF INTERVIEW

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Person Interviewed: AL-OQAII, MUNEAM OUDAH BALE
Place of Interview: DOUBLETREES HOTEL, ISTANBUL
Date of Interview: 21/01/2014
Time Commenced: 09:20 Time Concluded: 09:55
Duration of Interview: 35 minutes
Audio tape reference nos:
Visual image reference nos:
Interviewer(s): IHAT 6
Other Persons Present: IHAT 7, IHAT 4

Police Exhibit No: Number of Pages:

Signature of interviewer producing exhibit:

Person Speaking

Text

IHAT 6

OK once more we are recording; we're in room 207 at Doubletree Hilton Hotel in Istanbul and my name is IHAT 6 and I'm an Investigator on the Iraq Historic Allegation Team and the time now is 9.20 am and it's Tuesday the 21st of January 2014, I've got two colleagues in the other room, IHAT 7 and IHAT 4 and they're both Investigators on the Iraq Historic Allegation Team and can you please introduce yourself?

MA

My name is Muneam Oudah.

Interpreter

My name is Interpreter

IHAT 6

Thank you. Muneam we've spoken at length about the incident in May 2003 and we've finished

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the process of asking questions in relation to that event. The next stage of the interview is that I'm going to give what's called a Statement of Truth to ^{Interpreter} who's going to read it out in Arabic and after ^{Interpreter}'s read the whole statement, I'm going to invite you to sign at the end of the statement. I'm also, the last stage of the process was called, is a Victim Impact Statement and that means I'm going to ask you to tell me the impact on what happened in May 2003 has had on your life, your family, your physical health and also your mental wellbeing as well. I'm just going to hand over this, it's called a Statement of Truth to ^{Interpreter} to read to you.

Interpreter Do you want him to sign that or...?

IHAT 6 Yeah can you write his full name in English at the very top as well?

Interpreter Yeah, yeah.

AR Thank you.

Interpreter Here? And one here?

IHAT 6 His name there, 'statement of...'.
[REDACTED]

Interpreter Oh yeah, yeah. The first day we started which day was it? On the 17th?

IHAT 6 The 18th.
[REDACTED]

Interpreter 18th, yeah 18th. And the number of interviews after today?

IHAT 6 This is the 11th interview.
[REDACTED]

Interpreter 11th interview?

IHAT 6 OK.
[REDACTED]

Interpreter Thank you and I'll be just the first one and are we the witness or the...?

IHAT 6 Yeah that's fine.
[REDACTED]

Interpreter (inaudible) he doesn't need any (inaudible)...?

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IHAT 6

No.

Interpreter

(inaudible), this one?

IHAT 6

And is that all correct? Have you checked that?

Interpreter

OK.

IHAT 6

Just contact numbers.

Interpreter

Yep. Anyway, we try to know his height...

IHAT 6

OK.

Interpreter

This doesn't require any signature; it's only for information.

IHAT 6

Yes that's fine (inaudible).

Interpreter

I think this is extra because there's no point in, it's saying, it's says the same, anyway he can signature, signature.

IHAT 6

Can we show him the bottom of that as well?

Interpreter

And this is the (inaudible), why this is shifting because (inaudible)

IHAT 6

OK, I'll get these done (inaudible). (inaudible) this is a day for many signatures, this next piece of paper is to authorise Leigh Day, your Solicitors firm to disclose your personal details relating to compensation claim relating to the death of Said SHABRAM and also authorising Leigh Day to disclose/release any medical records they may hold in respect of yourself and those documents will be released to the Iraq Historic Allegation Team for investigation purposes.

Interpreter is going to read it in Arabic to you and if you agree, to sign at the end of each...

Interpreter

This title should be 2003 rather than...

IHAT 6

Oh OK, could you strike that and correct it, thanks.
Could I ask Muncam just to initial the correction from 2013 to 2003?

Interpreter

Yes, there's another spelling mistake which I...

IHAT 6

OK.

Interpreter

...(inaudible) as well.

IHAT 6

If I could ask you to put his initials next to that. Thank you very much. Muneam you'll be pleased to know that we're nearly there, so what I want to ask you now is what I spoke about signing, before signing these forms was how you're interaction with British Troops and how the events of the date in May have affected your life, have affected your family life and just generally the impact that event has had on your life from May 2003 to the current day.

MA

From the psychological point of view I would say, after the incident I suffered from nightmares, I kept remembering the incident, so I wasn't feeling alright for a while and from the psychological, sorry, social point of view, I was a bit, I just felt I don't have the will to go out and keep isolated, whenever you go if you see your friends, for instance, they, when they first see you they would ask you about the incident and how it happened, if you meet, for instance, your uncle, the first thing they'll ask you 'why didn't you try and help Said'. So I, we have been through this incident and on top of it I had the blame from the rest of the family, they just got, I didn't help him or I wasn't able to help and these all impact (inaudible) affected my life, they just thought I'm elder than Said and I should help him and this on top of it has affected me as well. So I became isolated and hesitant to go outside and meet my friends and I started to get agitated and angry. If, for instance, it's late or lunch is late I would be very angry and started shouting, even if I ask for glass of water and my family are a bit late in providing it, the water for me I'll be very angry and I gradually started to forget about the incident and then I eventually improved. Up until now I would still say I'm still getting angry and become agitated very (inaudible). From the financial point of view, it affected me in terms of finding a job. In 2003 obviously the British Forces were in charge in Basrah and everything was under their control, for instance if I, I was told that there is a job that I could do and submit an application, if I know that the British Forces are involved in this, I would be hesitant to go because I was afraid of the, having contact with them. So people were employed, let's say they work with security, companies or even within the Police, I ask them first is the British Forces involved in hiring you and if they say no then I would refrain from going there and submitted my application. So I started to get very annoyed because of this, so I started working in the private sector, so if for instance there are, I use, if there is a job for instance involving me to load/unload trailers and if it's, let's say, near a checkpoint I refrain from going there as well, so this is, so I said unless I, there is a job which doesn't involve any British Forces I can't go and work. Even my wife kept saying we don't have money to survive, you have to go and find a job and she said this incident had happened and finished and you should keep trying to find a job, I said you haven't been through what I have been through and I started feeling better when the British Forces later on left Basrah and withdrew. So I was deprived from being able to find a job in any establishment as a result of this incident because I was afraid to do so. I have brothers who are younger than me and they are working with the Police and their salaries are much better than mine, they are quite happy with their life and they said because of your fear, you weren't able to find a proper job.

IHAT 6

What about in the present day, what do you do for a job?

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MA Casual work. I don't belong to any official establishment.

IHAT 6 And in terms of there being any physical affects as a result of what happened to you?

MA My body is fine but I am suffering from my stomach, I am on medicine with regards to my pain and the person, the chaperone who brought us, he knows about this, he knows that I'm taking medicine and obviously I'm following the Doctors advice and instruction, for instance I don't drink tea and he said any spicy food I should avoid, this is what I was advised, I don't smoke cigarettes, even if I am offered because I used to smoke before, I say no thank you, I can't. So I'm following the Doctors instructions in order to keep well. I don't suffer from any other illnesses.

IHAT 6 And when, have you been diagnosed with any gastric problem?

MA Yes I have, my own records and I left them back home and I was told that I have some sort of fungus in my stomach, when I take a medicine I feel better, when I finish my medicine, I go and re-buy the medicine, each packet have four pills, each packet were 13,000 (inaudible) and I have all my medicine and the prescriptions left, as I said, (inaudible) can see it with [REDACTED], this person which I mentioned, he's not far from where I live, I can send it with him.

IHAT 6 Muneam is there anything else you want to say?

MA No.

IHAT 6 OK, I'm just going to pop in and speak to my colleagues, to see if there is anything else we need to ask you.

MA OK.

IHAT 6 Muneam I understand you're going to the hospital later on today and I've got no further to questions to ask, it's just, I'd just like to thanks very much for your attention throughout the last four days, I know it must have been quite painful recollecting certain events but you have been very attentive and professional and on behalf of the Iraq Historic Allegation Team, I thank you for that. Thank you.

MA I also thank you very much for (inaudible) and for your reception and reflected a very good image about how the investigation is done.

IHAT 6 OK thanks very much and I'm terminating the interview at 10.55 am. Thank you.

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END OF CD