



MOD-83-0000688-A

Dated: 29 March 2023

**In the matter of an investigation into the deaths of Radhi Nama and Mousa Ali**

**and**

**In the matter of an investigation into the death of Ahmed Jabbar Karim Ali**

Inspector: The Rt Hon Dame Anne Rafferty DBE

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FIRST WITNESS STATEMENT OF

SO94

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I, state as follows:-

1. I make this statement for the purposes of the investigation into the deaths of Radhi Nama and Mousa Ali and the investigation into the death of Ahmed Jabbar Karim Ali, in response to the List of Questions provided by the investigation dated 15 March 2023. Insofar as the contents of this statement are within my own personal knowledge, they are true, otherwise they are to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I have signed this statement having first been given an opportunity to amend it where necessary.

**A. Background**

2. I joined the Army in [REDACTED]. I was a Guardsman Infantry in the First Battalion of the Irish Guards. [REDACTED]. From around 2004 until I left the Army I was based at various locations in the United Kingdom.
3. Whilst serving with the Irish Guards I did two tours, both in Iraq. The first was with “No 2 Company” in 2003 and the second was with “Support Company” in 2007. My role involved frontline fighting.
4. At some point after my first tour of Iraq I was diagnosed with PTSD. [REDACTED]. I eventually went back to the Army, went on sick leave for a period and obtained counselling. I later returned to normal duties, although I recall that at some point between my first and second tours of Iraq, I was not deployed to Afghanistan because of my PTSD. [REDACTED]
5. [REDACTED]
6. I left the Army in around 2012, although I cannot recall the exact timing.
7. I have not given any previous accounts in relation to the incidents under investigation.

8. I could not speak Arabic in May 2003.

**B. Training and Instruction**

9. I recall receiving training, briefing or instruction on the following matters at some point prior to the end of May 2003:

- a. The Rules of Engagement in the post-war fighting phase of Operation TELIC; and
- b. Maintaining law and order and the prevention of looting

10. I do not recall the details or the contents of the training.

11. I am not sure whether I received training, briefing or instruction on the following matters prior to and including May 2003:

- c. The detention of individuals;
- d. The use and dangers of water during detention;
- e. The use of restraint techniques;
- f. Prisoner handling; or
- g. The processing of detainees and the requirements for medical examination.

12. As I set out below, I do not recall being stationed at “the Gymnasium”. Nor do I not recall receiving training, briefing or instruction specific to a role there.

**C. The Gymnasium**

13. I do not recall ever being stationed at “the Gymnasium” or Camp Stephen. I do not otherwise recall either of these sites or operational matters relating to them.

14. I do not recall being aware that the Black Watch were stationed at Camp Stephen. As I have said above, I do not recall being stationed at “the Gymnasium”. I am therefore unable to comment on any relationship between the Black Watch and the Irish Guards.

15. I recall being stationed at a palace type building during my first tour of Iraq in 2003. I do not recall its name.

**D. Group Orders**

16. I do not recall attending “Group Orders” so do not know what matters were discussed.

17. I am not sure if there were incidents in which looters were caught by troops who might not have had the capacity to deal with them.

18. Outside “Group Orders” I do not recall if any orders were given to use water as a deterrent. Nor do I know if commanders were made aware of water being used as a punishment or deterrent.

**E. Post-war phase**

19. I cannot remember the situation once combat operations ended. I cannot remember looting or the attempts made to respond to it.

## **F. Deaths of Radhi Nama and Mousa Ali**

20. I cannot remember becoming aware whilst in Iraq that Radhi Nama and Mousa Ali died after being held at Camp Stephen. The first time I learned of their names was in connection to this investigation.

## **G. Culture in Regiment**

21. My recollection of my first tour of Iraq in 2003 is that it was rough, we were at war. No one wanted to be there, everyone was scared, and no one knew what was going to happen. While in Iraq, my impression is that everyone in my Regiment got along better, we were looking out for each other and watching each other's backs.
22. I cannot remember how Iraqi civilians were generally viewed and/or treated by those in my regiment (or who I worked alongside or with).
23. I cannot remember how detainees were generally viewed and/or treated by those in my regiment (or who I worked alongside or with).
24. I understand the term "beasting" to relate to physical training we undertook which tested or pushed us to our physical limits. For example, running, crawling, doing 50 push ups.
25. I cannot remember ever seeing the mistreatment of detainees or civilians.
26. I cannot recall seeing any threats to detainees.
27. I do not recall being aware that British military personnel were mistreating detainees.
28. I cannot recall seeing or hearing troops complaining about the treatment of detainees and/or civilians.
29. I cannot remember the degree of oversight commanders had of troops.
30. I cannot remember the degree of freedom that NCOs and /or patrol commanders had over those under their command. I cannot remember whether any NCOs were particularly influential.

## **H. Existence and awareness of 'wetting'?**

### ***a. 'Wetting' generally***

31. I do not understand the term "wetting".
32. I did not see detainees being (i) placed into water, (ii) threatened with being placed into water, and/or (iii) transported to bodies of water (including canals, rivers, ditches, and pools). Nor did I witness any force being used on detainees whilst they were being placed into water or restraining devices being placed on detainees before they were placed into water.
33. I am not aware that detainees were placed in water, any practice of doing so, why that would have occurred, or what would have happened to detainees in the water.
34. I cannot recall any incidents of soldiers on patrol putting detainees into water or throwing them in to the Shat Al-Arab River.

***b. Reporting of 'wetting' incidents***

35. I do not know if there was a requirement to report incidents of detainees entering or being placed into bodies of water. I am not sure if incidents were nevertheless reported.

***c. Chain of Command***

36. I do not know if senior commanders were aware of water being used on detainees (including detainees being placed in water).

37. I do not know if any directions were given to use water generally as a deterrent to looting.

38. I cannot recall any direction by commanders about the use of water on detainees or placing detainees into water.

39. I was not aware of a practice of using water on detainees.

I believe that the facts stated are true.

Signed.....

SO94

Dated: 29 March 2023