



ARMED FORCES INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY
Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner
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Rockville, MD 20850
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AUTOPSY EXAMINATION REPORT

Name: BTB Spah, Dham

SSAN: NA

Date of Birth: Unknown

Date/Time of Death: (b)(6) 2003

Date/Time of Autopsy: 25 Aug 2003

Date of Report: 24 Oct 2003

Autopsy No.: (b)(6)

AFIP No.: (b)(6)

Rank: NA

Place of Death: Abu Ghraib

Prison, Iraq

Place of Autopsy: Camp Sather, Iraq

Circumstances of Death: This Iraqi enemy prisoner of war was an inmate of Abu Ghraib Prison. On or about (b)(6) 2003 (b)(6) was brought to the gate by other detainees and was noted to be pulseless and apneic.

Authorization for Autopsy: Armed Forces Medical Examiner, per 10 U.S. Code 1471

Identification: Presumptive by US Army Criminal Investigative Division (CID).
Antemortem fingerprint, dental, and DNA records non-existent.

CAUSE OF DEATH: Arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD)

MANNER OF DEATH: Natural

FINAL AUTOPSY DIAGNOSES:

- I. 3 vessel moderate to severe coronary artery atherosclerotic stenoses
 - A. Ischemic cardiomyopathy (525 grams)
 - B. Left ventricular hypertrophy (1.8 cm)
 - C. Focal bridging of the left anterior descending coronary artery (LAD)
 - D. Pulmonary congestion (1600 grams)
- II. Mild decomposition
 - A. Postmortem freeze artifact
 - B. Postmortem bile toxicology consistent with decomposition
- III. Fibrous pleural adhesions

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body is that of a well-developed, thin, muscular, 70 inch tall, 150 pounds (estimated) male whose appearance is consistent with an estimated age of 40-60 years. Lividity is posterior, purple, and fixed. Rigor is indeterminate secondary to postmortem freezing. There is mild decomposition consisting of clouding of the corneas, early skin slippage, and slight green discoloration of the right lower quadrant of the abdomen.

Identifying marks include a 3/4 x 1/2 inch scar on the skin overlying the right patella.

The scalp is covered with straight black hair in a normal distribution. Corneal clouding obscures the irides and the pupils. The external auditory canals are unremarkable. The ears are unremarkable. The nares are patent and the lips are atraumatic. The nose and maxillae are palpably stable. The teeth appear natural and adequate.

The neck is straight, and the trachea is midline and mobile. The chest is symmetric. The abdomen is flat. The genitalia are those of a normal adult male. The testes are descended and free of masses. Pubic hair is present in a normal distribution. The buttocks and anus are unremarkable.

The upper and lower extremities are symmetric and without clubbing or edema.

CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

None.

MEDICAL INTERVENTION

None.

EVIDENCE OF INJURY

None.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

HEAD:

The galeal and subgaleal soft tissues of the scalp are free of injury. The calvarium is intact, as is the dura mater beneath it. Clear cerebrospinal fluid surrounds the partially frozen 1450 gm brain, which has unremarkable gyri and sulci. Coronal sections demonstrate sharp demarcation between white and grey matter, without hemorrhage or contusive injury. The ventricles are of normal size. The basal ganglia, brainstem, cerebellum, and arterial systems are free of injury or other abnormalities. There are no skull fractures. The atlanto-occipital joint is stable.

NECK:

The anterior strap muscles of the neck are homogenous and red-brown, without hemorrhage. The thyroid cartilage and hyoid are intact. The larynx is lined by intact white mucosa. The thyroid is symmetric and red-brown, without cystic or nodular change. The tongue is free of bite marks, hemorrhage, or other injuries.

BODY CAVITIES:

The ribs, sternum, and vertebral bodies are visibly and palpably intact. No excess fluid is in the pleural, pericardial, or peritoneal cavities. There are fibrous adhesions in both pleural cavities. The organs occupy their usual anatomic positions.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

The right and left lungs weigh 850 and 750 gm, respectively. The external surfaces are smooth and deep red-purple. The pulmonary parenchyma is diffusely congested and edematous. No mass lesions or areas of consolidation are present.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The 525 gm heart is contained in an intact pericardial sac. The epicardial surface is smooth, with minimal fat investment. The coronary arteries are present in a normal distribution, with a right-dominant pattern. Cross sections of the vessels show 50-75% multifocal stenoses of the proximal portion of the left anterior descending coronary artery with focal bridging, a focal proximal 90% stenosis with calcification and 75-90% multifocal stenoses of the mid portion of the right coronary artery. There is a focal 75% stenosis of the proximal left circumflex coronary artery. No acute changes (plaque hemorrhage, rupture, or thrombosis) are noted. The myocardium is homogenous, red-brown, and firm. The valve leaflets are thin and mobile. The wall of the left ventricle is hypertrophied measuring 1.8 cm in thickness. The endocardium is smooth and glistening. The aorta gives rise to three intact and patent arch vessels. The renal and mesenteric vessels are unremarkable.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM:

The 1400 gm liver has an intact, smooth capsule and a sharp anterior border. The parenchyma is tan-brown and congested, with the usual lobular architecture. No mass lesions or other abnormalities are seen. The gallbladder contains a minute amount of green-black bile and no stones. The mucosal surface is green and velvety. The extrahepatic biliary tree is patent.

SPLEEN:

The 150 gm spleen has a smooth, intact, red-purple capsule. The parenchyma is maroon and congested, with distinct Malpighian corpuscles. There is an adjacent 10 gram accessory spleen near the hilum.

PANCREAS:

The pancreas is firm and yellow-tan, with the usual lobular architecture. No mass lesions or other abnormalities are seen.

ADRENALS:

The right and left adrenal glands are symmetric, with bright yellow cortices and grey medullae. No masses or areas of hemorrhage are identified.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

The right and left kidneys weigh 200 gm each. The external surfaces are intact and smooth. The cut surfaces are red-tan and congested, with uniformly thick cortices and sharp corticomedullary junctions. The pelves are unremarkable and the ureters are normal in course and caliber. White bladder mucosa overlies an intact bladder wall. The bladder is empty. The prostate is normal in size, with lobular, yellow-tan parenchyma. The seminal vesicles are unremarkable. The testes are free of mass lesions, contusions, or other abnormalities.

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT:

The esophagus is intact and lined by smooth, grey-white mucosa. The stomach contains approximately 10 ml of green liquid. The gastric wall is intact. The duodenum, loops of small bowel, and colon are unremarkable. The appendix is present and unremarkable.

ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

- Documentary photographs are taken by (b)(6)
- Specimens retained for toxicologic testing and/or DNA identification are: blood, vitreous, liver, kidney, brain, bile, and psoas muscle
- The dissected organs are forwarded with the body
- Personal effects are released to the appropriate mortuary operations representatives of the 54th Quartermaster Company.

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION

Selected portions of organs are retained in formalin, without preparation of histologic slides.

TOXICOLOGY

Toxicologic analysis of bile revealed an ethanol concentration of 47 mg/dL, acetaldehyde 8 mg/dL, and trace amounts of 2-propanol and 1-propanol all of which are consistent with decomposition. No illicit substances were detected.

OPINION

This Iraqi male prisoner of war died of arteriosclerotic coronary artery disease. Significant findings of the autopsy included severe narrowing of the blood vessels supplying blood to the heart and enlargement of the heart. No external or internal trauma was noted.

The manner of death is natural.

AUTOPSY REPORT AFIP (b)(6)
BTB Spah, Dham

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Medical Examiner

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH (OVERSEAS) Acte de décès (D'Outre-Mer)			
NAME OF DECEASED (Last, First, Middle) Nom du décédé (Nom et prénoms) BTB Spah, Dham		GRADE Grade	BRANCH OF SERVICE Arme
ORGANIZATION Organisation Detainee in Iraq		NATION (e.g. United States) Pays Iraq	DATE OF BIRTH Date de naissance
RACE Race		MARITAL STATUS État Civil	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAUCASOID Caucasique	<input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE Célibataire	<input type="checkbox"/> DIVORCED Divorcé	<input type="checkbox"/> PROTESTANT Protestant
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGROID Nègre	<input type="checkbox"/> MARRIED Marié	<input type="checkbox"/> SEPARATED Séparé	<input type="checkbox"/> CATHOLIC Catholique
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify) Autre (Spécifier)	<input type="checkbox"/> WIDOWED Veuf	<input type="checkbox"/> JEWISH Juif	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify) Autre (Spécifier)
NAME OF NEXT OF KIN Nom du plus proche parent		RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED Parenté du décédé avec le sué	
STREET ADDRESS Domicile à (Rue)		CITY OR TOWN AND STATE (Include ZIP Code) Ville (Code postal compris)	
MEDICAL STATEMENT Déclaration médicale			
CAUSE OF DEATH (Enter only once cause per line) Cause du décès (N'indiquer qu'une cause par ligne)			INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH Intervalle entre l'attaque et le décès
DISEASE OR CONDITION DIRECTLY LEADING TO DEATH ¹ Maladie ou condition directement responsable de la mort ¹			Arteriosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease
ANTECEDENT CAUSES Symptômes précurseurs de la mort	MORBID CONDITION, IF ANY, LEADING TO PRIMARY CAUSE Condition morbide, s'il y a lieu, menant à la cause primaire		
	UNDERLYING CAUSE, IF ANY, GIVING RISE TO PRIMARY CAUSE Raison fondamentale, s'il y a lieu, ayant suscité la cause primaire		
OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS ² Autres conditions significatives ²			
MODE OF DEATH Condition de décès	AUTOPSY PERFORMED Autopsie effectuée <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES Oui <input type="checkbox"/> NO Non	CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DEATH DUE TO EXTERNAL CAUSES Circonstances de la mort suscitées par des causes extérieures	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NATURAL Mort naturelle	MAJOR FINDINGS OF AUTOPSY Conclusions principales de l'autopsie		
<input type="checkbox"/> ACCIDENT Mort accidentelle			
<input type="checkbox"/> SUICIDE Suicide	NAME OF BATHY COURT Nom du natyhniste (b)(6)	DATE Date 25 Aug 2003	AVIATION ACCIDENT Accident à Avion <input type="checkbox"/> YES Oui <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO Non
<input type="checkbox"/> HOMICIDE Homicide			
DATE OF DEATH (Hour, day, month, year) Date du décès (Heure, le jour, le mois, l'année)	PLACE OF DEATH Lieu de décès		
(b)(6) 2003	Abu Ghraib, Iraq		
I HAVE VIEWED THE REMAINS OF THE DECEASED AND DEATH OCCURRED AT THE TIME INDICATED AND FROM THE CAUSES AS STATED ABOVE. J'ai examiné les restes mortels du dé luntet je conclus que le décès est survenu à l'heure indiquée et à, la suite des causes énumérées ci-dessus.			
NAME OF MEDICAL EXAMINER Nom du médecin militaire ou du médecin spécialiste		TITLE OR DEGREE Titre ou diplôme	
(b)(6)		Medical Examiner	
GRADE Grade	INSTALLATION OR ADDRESS Installation ou adresse		
(b)(6)	Dover AFB, DE 19902		
DATE Date	(b)(6)		
12 Aug 2003			
¹ State disease, injury or complication which ² State conditions contributing to the death, but not related to the disease or condition causing death. ¹ Préciser la nature de la maladie, de la blessure ou de la complication qui a contribué à la mort, mais non le manière de mourir, telle qu'un arrêt du cœur, etc ² Préciser la condition qui a contribué à la mort, mais n'ayant aucun rapport avec la maladie ou à la condition qui a provoqué la mort.			

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REPLACES DA FORM 3565, 1 JAN 72 AND DA FORM 3565-R (PAS), 26 SEP 75, WHICH ARE OBSOLETE.

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