

ARMED FORCES INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner

1413 Research Blvd., Bldg. 102 Rockville, MD 20850 1-800-944-7912



AUTOPSY EXAMINATION REPORT

Autopsy No. (b)(6)

AFIP No.: (b)(6)

Name: (b)(6) SSAN: N/A

Date of Birth: Unknown Rank: N/A

Date/Time of Death: (b)(6) 2005, 1817h Place of Death: 115 Field Hosp., Iraq Date/Time of Autopsy: 3 MAY 2005, 1100h Place of Autopsy: Port Mortuary Dover

Date of Report: 24 MAY 2005

Circumstances of Death: Deceased is reported to have been a civilian who was involved in an altercation with US Forces during which he shot at them. These forces returned fire, striking the deceased in the right flank. He was brought to a CSH for initial treatment and was later transferred to the 115 Field Hospital, Abu Ghraib, Iraq, where he expired from what were noted as complications secondary to a gunshot wound to the right flank.

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

Identification: The decedent is identified at the time of autopsy as a detainee with Internment Serial Number (b)(6) by identification bands about the right wrist, and by a toe tag. A right index fingerprint is recorded, a DNA comparison specimen collected, and photographs of the face are taken, without currently known source for comparison.

CAUSE OF DEATH: Single projectile wound to the right hip and flank

MANNER OF DEATH: Homicide

FINAL AUTOPSY DIAGNOSES:

- 1.0 Single penetrating, healing, indeterminate range projectile wound to the right hip and flank
 - 1.1 Entry on right hip 75 cm below the vertex of the skull and 22 cm to the right of the posterior midline, wound measuring 8×4 cm
 - 1.1.1 Extensive wound healing with resultant obscuring of other possible wound characteristics
 - 1.2 Path directly from right-to-left and slightly anterior
 - 1.3 Impact on right iliac bone
 - 1.3.1 Comminuted fractures of right iliac bone with extensive surrounding hemorrhage
 - 1.3.2 Pulpefaction of the mid-portion of the right psoas muscle
 - 1.4 Recovery of a single large metallic fragment from within pulpefied psoas and fragmented iliac bone in the right iliac area
 - 1.5 Status post laparotomy with dressing of open wound 1.5.1 Insertion of two (2) abdominal cavity drains
 - 1.6 Diffuse peritonitis with organizing peritoneal adhesions
 - 1.7 Right lower lobe bronchopneumonia
 - 1.8 Fatty Liver (3,000 gm liver weight)
 - 1.9 Prominent pulmonary congestion and edema
 - 1.9.1 Right lung weight 1,000gm, left lung 890 gm
 - 1.9.2 Bilateral serosanguinous pleural effusions, 100 ml each
 - 1.10 Status post therapeutic intervention
 - 1.10.1 Left thoracotomy tube incision (2 cm, sutured)
 - 1.10.2 Nasogastric tube
 - 1.10.3 Orotracheal tube
 - 1.10.4 Urinary catheter
 - 1.10.5 Intravenous line, left upper chest
 - 1.11 Healing decubitus ulcers (2), one each on the left buttock (2.0 cm diameter) and of the upper right back $(3 \times 2 \text{ cm})$
- 2.0 Results of toxicologic analysis:
 - 2.1 Carboxyhemoglobin saturation 9%

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- 2.2 Acetaklehyde trace detected in blood; quantitated in bile at 6 mg/dl
- 2.3 Ethanol 29 mg/dl in blood; 77 mg/dl in bile
- 2.4 Cyanide negative in blood
- 2.5 Midazolam detected in liver; quantitated in blood at 0.18 mg/L
- 2.6 Diphenhydramine quantitated in liver at 0.6 mg/kg
- 3.0 Moderate postmortem decompositional changes

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ANCILLARY STUDIES

TOXICOLOGY - Blood (chest cavity), bile, gastric contents, liver, lung, spleen, kidney, brain, adipose tissue, psoas are collected.

DNA - Psoas

EVIDENCE - One (1) large metallic projectile fragment measuring 5.4 x 1.4 x 1.0 cm

TISSUES in formalin for possible future use.

PHOTOGRAPHS - Total body; head/scalp, brain in situ; wound on right hip; superficial ulcerations of back

RADIOGRAPHIC STUDIES – Total body showing comminuted fractures of the right iliac bone and two (2) metallic fragments within tissues near fragmented bone, one large and the other very small.

DISSECTED ORGANS are forwarded with body

PERSONAL EFFECTS are released to the appropriate mortuary operations representatives.

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OPINION:

This young male, reported to have been an Iraqi detainee, died from the complications of a single projectile injury, reported to have been a gunshot, to the right hip and flank that was sustained during an altercation with US forces. Wound features were obscured by healing that occurred during a sixteen-day period of hospitalization. The results of toxicologic analysis reflect therapeutic administration of medications. The ethanol is likely the result of endogenous production due to postmortem decomposition. A 9% carboxyhemoglobin saturation can be seen in smokers and some city dwellers, and is not by itself indicative of abnormal exposure to carbon monoxide. The manner of death is homicide.

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