

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

28 May 03

Subject: Telephonic Interview, [REDACTED]

Purpose of the interview was to clarify possibly conflicting statements concerning detainees being stripped naked and held in cells in the 1A area. MP [REDACTED] stated it was not uncommon to see people without clothing and that the whole nudity thing was an interrogation procedure used by MI. Statements by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] reflected that detainees in 1A were often placed there for extended periods of time; statements by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] tended to contradict this. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] might have been the one who designated which detainees would be stripped and held naked. [REDACTED] contradicted the statement made by [REDACTED]

1730 - 1740, 27 May I conducted a telephonic interview of [REDACTED] A Co, 519th MI Bn, Fort Bragg, NC. A call was placed to his cell phone, [REDACTED] from my extension at Metro Park [REDACTED]. I explained to [REDACTED] that I was following up on his previous interview and had just a couple of questions about intake, screening and placement of detainees awaiting interrogation.

[REDACTED] explained the detainees were dropped off/delivered by capturing unit or escorted by MPs from capturing unit. Initial screening was done by [REDACTED] and the screening section, mainly by reviewing capture tag and some limited questioning. This was mainly to determine MI potential and whether to put on MI Hold or into general prison population. Early on, all were moved to Ganci or "Tent City" as cell block 1A did not become operational and used by MI until early to mid-September. [REDACTED] indicated that they were under pressure from Bde and higher to use it earlier, but it was not really available or suitable. [REDACTED] said he had pushed for a FRAGO to force the issue if Bde really insisted, but one was never cut.

There was no MI written policy about mandatory clothing or stripping the detainees. However, if an interrogator wanted to temporarily strip a detainee as a psychological ploy to assist in interrogating him, it would have required a written request submitted with the interrogation plan. [REDACTED] does not recall ever processing or reviewing one during his tour of duty. Further, it would have to have been bucked up the line for approval (he believed it would go to COL Pappas for approval). [REDACTED] felt that it was mainly a MP call and that detainees might be stripped for security purposes, but that would be only for a specific inspection or shakedown. The MP preference was for detainees to be in jumpsuits, but [REDACTED] did not know if there was a formal, written policy to that effect.

He remembered one occasion where [REDACTED] found out about a detainee being kept either nude or in underwear and asked the MPs who stated that it was MP SOP to strip detainees of their civilian clothing when they came to 1A and give them jumpsuits. If there was no jumpsuit, then the detainee would stay in his skivvies. [REDACTED] told the MPs that was unacceptable and to get the detainee some clothing; if they did not have a jumpsuit, return his original civilian clothing. He reconfirmed his previous statements that he had not seen any naked detainees or detainees in women's underwear.

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[REDACTED] also stated that at one time, exact date unrecalled, MG Fast had informed him that the MPs had asked for more jumpsuits in the supply system and received underwear instead. He did not know if they were men's or women's underwear.

I then mentioned to [REDACTED] that some mention had been made by others of detainees being kept nude in their cells in 1A for periods of time and wrapped in sheets or blankets when brought out for interrogation. He stated that he had not seen any of that, nor was it reported to him by any of the interrogators or interpreters.

[REDACTED]
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