

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

AUTHORITY: Title 10 USC Section 301; Title 5 USC Section 2951; E.O. 9397 dated November 22, 1943 (SSN).
PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: To provide commanders and law enforcement officials with means by which information may be accurately identified.
ROUTINE USES: Your social security number is used as an additional/alternate means of identification to facilitate filing and retrieval.
DISCLOSURE: Disclosure of your social security number is voluntary.

1. LOCATION
94th RRC, Devcns, MA [REDACTED]
2. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
2004/05/28
3. TIME
1455
4. FILE NUMBER
5. LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME
[REDACTED]
6. SSN
[REDACTED]
7. GRADE/STATUS
SGT/E-5
8. ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS
6th Battalion, 98th Division (IT), Ayers, MA

9. [REDACTED], WANT TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT UNDER OATH:

I am currently a Sergeant assigned to the 6th Battalion (BN), 98th Division (Institutional Training), Ayer, MA, as an Intelligence Analyst (MOS 96B). I graduated from the Intelligence Center and School, Fort Huachuca, AZ, and was granted MOS 96B in Dec 02. I returned to my reserve unit to serve as an Instructor/Trainer, but was home only about a month when I volunteered for duty at the Detention Facility at Guantanamo Bay (GTMO), Cuba. I returned to Huachuca 03 via the Readiness Processing Center at Fort Benning and attended a three to four week "Tiger Team Course" intended for 96Bs deploying to GTMO. The course provided a brief overview of interrogation operations and principles, a brief discussion of approved interrogation approaches, procedures for coordinating information acquired from interrogations, how to work hand and hand with interrogators, and a brief discussion of the Geneva Convention, but there were no practical interrogation exercises, for the analyst portion of the training. I then deployed to GTMO on 14 Feb, and remained there until early Oct 03. While at GTMO, I worked closely with interrogators and had some first hand knowledge of interrogation procedures and techniques. In early Oct 03, I was sent as part of a Tiger Team to Abu Ghraib (AG) in Iraq. MG MILLER, the GTMO Commander, had just returned to GTMO from a week-long assistance visit at AG, because it looked, statistically speaking, that there was little information coming out of AG. I was part of the follow-on team with the mission to identify systemic problems at AG and recommend corrections and solutions based on the GTMO experience. The GTMO Tiger Team consisted of [REDACTED] (Team Leader and MOS 351E), [REDACTED] (96B), US Marine Corps [REDACTED] analyst, equivalent to 96B), and myself. We arrived at AG via BIAP in early Oct 03 (I can not recall the exact date) and remained at AG until approximately 16 Dec 03. We were greeted at AG by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] issued us ammunition for our 9MM pistols since we did not have any, and we were moved into the barracks. COL PAPPAS was at AG quite frequently, but I didn't have much contact with him. I did deal with [REDACTED] frequently. The entire GTMO team with the exception of [REDACTED], who was busy with [REDACTED], were briefed by [REDACTED] of the 519th MI BN. [REDACTED] briefed the general operations at AG, the history of AG, and presented her slide which stated the Intelligence Rules of Engagement (IROE), of which she was quite proud. From a "professional interrogator perspective", I did not see anything terribly alarming, and assumed that some of the more "rough and tumble" techniques beyond those listed in FM 34-52 (those listed on the right-hand column of [REDACTED]) were occasionally approved because Iraq was a war zone, and GTMO was more of a garrison environment. Because I was the junior GTMO team member (I was a Specialist at the time) and because I did not want to come across as being a "know it all" from GTMO, I did not really question the advanced techniques listed on the slide. [REDACTED] did voice his concern over one of the exceptional techniques listed on the right-hand side of the slide, but [REDACTED] responded that these techniques were, when approved, used at AG and that such techniques were under "constant review". I was assigned to one of the preexisting "Former Regime Loyalists" section interrogation Tiger Teams. [REDACTED] (97E) was the team leader and [REDACTED] was the interrogator and I was to provide analyst support and observe how the Tiger team concept was working at AG. In late Nov 03, I was moved from the FRL section and worked with the GTMO detachment where I worked on Analyst Support Packages, and I continued in this capacity until I departed AG on 12 Dec 03. From my arrival at AG in early Oct 03 to late Nov 03, I logged in approximately fifty-seven interrogation booth hours. The first interrogation in which I participated was in early Oct 03. It took place in one of the wooded booths and I observed from behind the glass. [REDACTED] was the lead interrogator, [REDACTED] was there as an analyst, and there was an Interpreter/Translator (I/T) whose name I can't recall. He was known to me as the "crabby old bastard", and was an elderly "middle eastern" man with a horse-shoe balding pattern, long white hair, squat and compact, had a poc-marked nose (most notable facial feature), and always wore full Desert Combat Uniforms (DCUs). Although our team was concentrated on Former Regime Loyalists, this detainee in this interrogation was a "force protection" detainee who was supposedly involved in a mortar attack on AG. This was the attack in which [REDACTED] was injured, and it concerned me that he was going to participate in the interrogation of the very detainee who was suspected of injuring him. When I realized this, I asked him right before the interrogation began if he was OK with this and he said he didn't have a problem with it and continued into the interrogation booth. [REDACTED] had the detainee roll

10. EXHIBIT
[REDACTED]
11. INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT
[REDACTED]
PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

ADDITIONAL PAGES MUST CONTAIN THE HEADING "STATEMENT _____ TAKEN AT _____ DATED _____"

THE BOTTOM OF EACH ADDITIONAL PAGE MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE PERSON MAKING THE STATEMENT, AND PAGE NUMBER MUST BE BE INDICATED.

9. STATEMENT (Continued)

his orange jumpsuit down to his waist and insinuated that he would be stripped further if the detainee did not cooperate. The interrogation ended rather quickly when the I/T objected to the tactic and refused to continue with the interrogation. The tactic seemed to be on the edge and I reported the incident, both the rolling down of the jumpsuit and the fact that the I/T had walked out on the interrogation, to [REDACTED] and he said he would "take care of it". I asked [REDACTED] about it and he responded that it was an operationally effective technique because that particular detainee was a hard case that they had been trying to break for awhile. I never discussed the incident with [REDACTED] brought it to [REDACTED] attention that such treatment would likely negate any progress that might have been made with the detainee thus far, but she responded with words to the effect that [REDACTED] knew what he was doing. [REDACTED] did come back to me sometime later and asked why I had reported the I/T for walking out on the interrogation, saying that the I/T was one of the better ones. However, he never asked or confronted me about why I had reported him for the incident. Also in early Oct 03, I participated in what would have been my third or fourth interrogation. We were interviewing a detainee for the first time; though this was not a screening or KB interview and [REDACTED] asked me if I thought we should place one of the detainees in solitary confinement for a few hours in the middle of the interrogation. I told him that I did not think it was a very effective tactic and would harm any rapport with the detainee, but that he was the interrogator and it was his call. [REDACTED] decided to place the detainee in solitary and an MP came to the both to escort him to Cell Block 1A. The MP jammed a rag over his head, grabbed the handcuffs restraining the detainee, and said some thing like "come with me piggy" and he lead the detainee to solitary. We went to lunch and the incident continued to bother me. [REDACTED] and I returned to 1A after lunch (we did not have an I/T with us) and entered the detainee's cell. We found him lying on the floor, completely naked except for a hood that covered his head from his upper lip, whimpering, but there were no bruises or marks on him. I was simply unprepared and horrified at what I saw. We instructed the MPs to clothe the detainee, which they did. I asked [REDACTED] if he knew the MPs were going to strip the detainee, and he said that he did not know. All I could think about was how disastrous the incident was. I didn't even think to ask the MPs why they had done it. The MP made the statement "I want to thank you guys, because up until a week or two ago, I was a good Christian". The statement was almost "TV-like" perhaps uttered for theatric effect, and I am not sure what the MP meant by it. From digital photographs shown to me this day, I believe the MP was either [REDACTED] Both look very similar and I only saw the MP one time, so I can not say with certainty which one it was. The MP did not wear glasses. After the detainee was clothed, we escorted him to the general population and release him without interrogating him again. The "stripping incident" was never reported in any "interrogator notes" or "interrogation plan": to my knowledge. This was not uncommon, and the general lack of interrogation notes was one of the GTMO Tiger Team findings. I reported this incident to [REDACTED] and he said that he would report the incident to COL PAPPAS. Sometime in mid-Oct 03, I had my first experience in the hard site. [REDACTED] and I were escorting a detainee from the central paddock and transferring him to solitary confinement. I do not know the reason or circumstances since interrogators made such decisions. [REDACTED] a Military Policeman (MP) on duty at the hard site, met us as the door to Cell Block 1A. [REDACTED] went into a "drill sergeant intimidation" role, bellowing at the detainee (the detainee likely didn't understand him anyway), but I did not observe any abuse or anything out of the ordinary in any of the area of the hard site that I observed on that visit. [REDACTED] did not remove the detainee's clothes. During one interrogation, a detainee walked unescorted and unrestrained from the barbed wire paddock holding area in the central AG courtyard to the interrogation. This struck me as strange, since at GTMO all detainees moving to interrogations would be restrained and escorted. This was the first interrogation during which the detainee could see me. Prior to this, and at all interrogations at GTMO, I had always been behind glass. In late Nov 03 there was a shooting incident in the hard site. At about 1730 hours, [REDACTED] called a meeting at the dining facility, explained that over the past few days there had been some things brought into AG and it had culminated in a shooting incident at the hard site. He asked for volunteers to go down to the hard site. I volunteered along with [REDACTED] there were a number of others but I do not recall their names and we grabbed our battle rattle and weapons and arrived at the hard site about a half hour after the actual shooting. There was an MP captain and several MPs already on the scene and a group of several Iraqi Police (IPs). The IPs were lined up and were taken one by one to be searched and questioned about their possible involvement. The detainees were all secured in their cells. My responsibility was to guard the IPs and transport them from the holding area to be search. Some of the IPs were strip-searched and two were left only in their underwear and held in the hallway. Someone at the site said [REDACTED] was in charge of directing the interrogations, though I did not see him conduct one personally. I saw one interrogation in the hallway, but was concentrated on watching the IPs, so I did not see much of what else was occurring. There were working dogs present, but I did not see, nor hear of, working dogs being used in any interrogations. I heard the next day that [REDACTED] and the I/T [REDACTED] were working together, but I did not see them that night. I also found out the next day that [REDACTED] had been bitten by one of the dogs. I stayed throughout the night and finally departed at about dawn. I heard about the incident where a detainee supposedly died of congenital heart problems during an OGA interrogation at AG, but I did not believe it until I saw it on the news, about four months after my release from active duty. I also heard about an incident that involved [REDACTED] walking a naked detainee out of an interrogation, but I do not have any first hand knowledge of the incident. We never used stripping or nakedness as a technique at GTMO, nor did we use military working dogs. We never advised any personnel at AG to utilize any of these techniques. Sleep deprivation and management had been discontinued much earlier than the GTMO detachment visit to AG. There was one occasion in which my AG Tiger Team requested that a detainee be placed on Sleep management but my detachment had departed AG before the request was processed and I am not personally aware of any sleep management being employed at AG. I never gave a tour of AG facilities to incoming personnel, and, to the best of my knowledge, no one from the [REDACTED]

INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT

PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

5. STATEMENT (Continued)

GTMO Team ever gave such a tour. While at AG, I never saw, nor heard of, any unauthorized photographs or videos of detainees. I saw, nor heard of, any working dogs being used in the course of interrogation operations. Other than the incidents described above, I am unaware of any detainee abuse. In early Dec 03, the original GTMO Tiger Team came back together and sat down to do a final assessment of AG interrogation operations. We had come together periodically to discuss observation and made recommendations to the AG Command, but this was the final discussion. [REDACTED] eventually briefed [REDACTED] but also briefed the AG Command before departing AG. [REDACTED] of the 519th MI BN was also present for this meeting and was knowledgeable of the findings and recommendations. During this meeting, we discussed the incidents types like the ones described above; how they should be avoided and other recommendations but did not make reference to specific events. I was ordered by MG Fay this day not to discuss the inquiry or my role in it with anyone other than officials I know to be involved with the inquiry. I have nothing further to add to this statement. [REDACTED]

//////////////////////////////////END OF STATEMENT//////////////////////////////////

NOT

USED

AFFIDAVIT

[REDACTED] HAVE READ OR HAVE HAD READ TO ME THIS STATEMENT WHICH BEGINS ON PAGE 1, AND ENDS ON PAGE 3. [REDACTED] FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ENTIRE STATEMENT MADE BY ME. THE STATEMENT IS TRUE. I HAVE INITIALED ALL CORRECTIONS AND HAVE INITIALED THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE CONTAINING THE STATEMENT. I HAVE MADE THIS STATEMENT FREELY WITHOUT HOPE OF BENEFIT OR REWARD, WITHOUT THREAT OF PUNISHMENT, AND WITHOUT COERCION, UNLAWFUL INFLUENCE, OR UNLAWFUL INDUCEMENT.

[REDACTED]
(Signature of Person Making Statement)

WITNESSES

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a person authorized by law to administer oaths, this 28th day of May, 2004 at 94th Regional Readiness Command, Devens, MA

[REDACTED]
(Signature of Person Administering Oath)

[REDACTED]
(Typed Name of Person Administering Oath)

5 U.S.C. 303

(Authority To Administer Oaths)

ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS

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INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT

PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

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