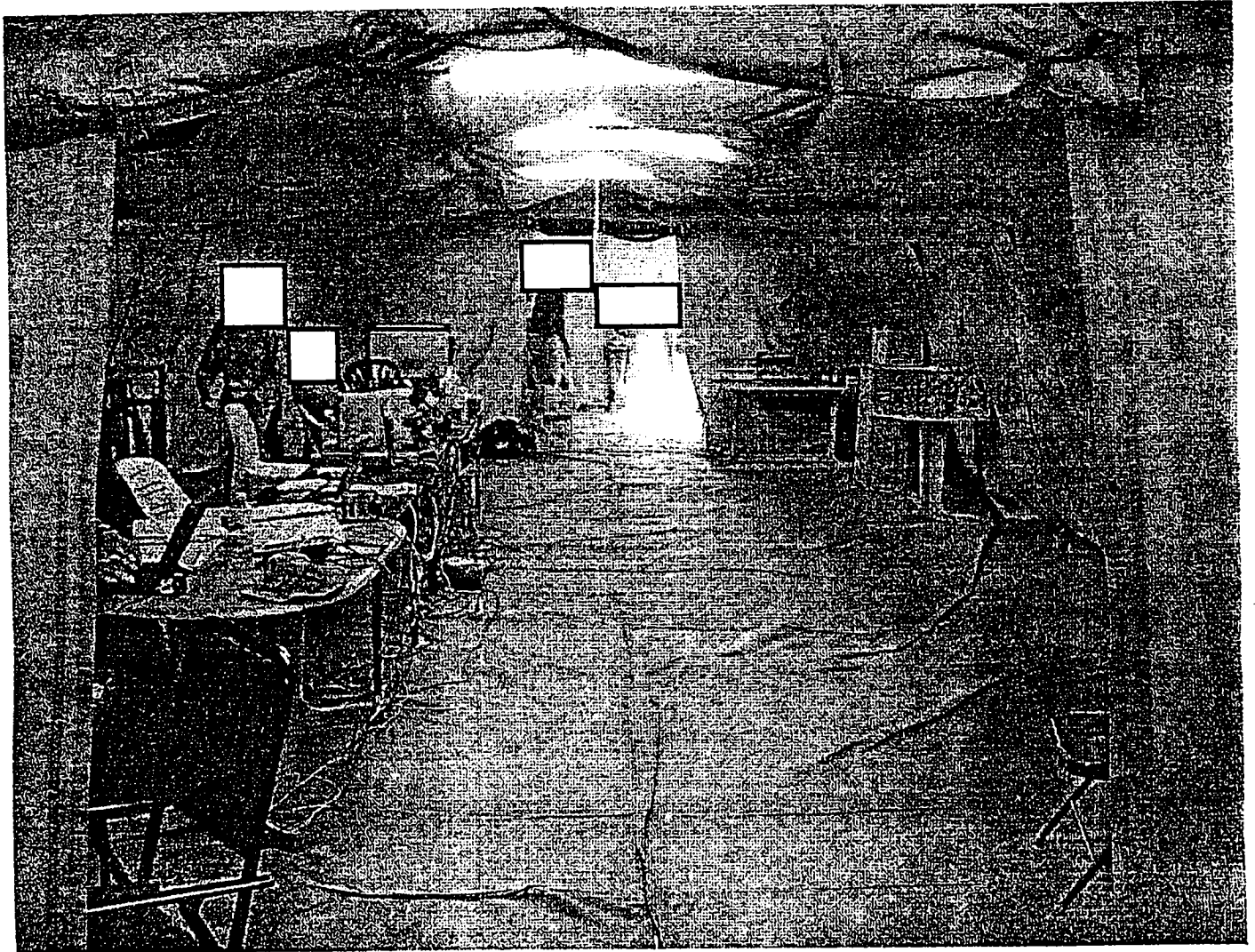


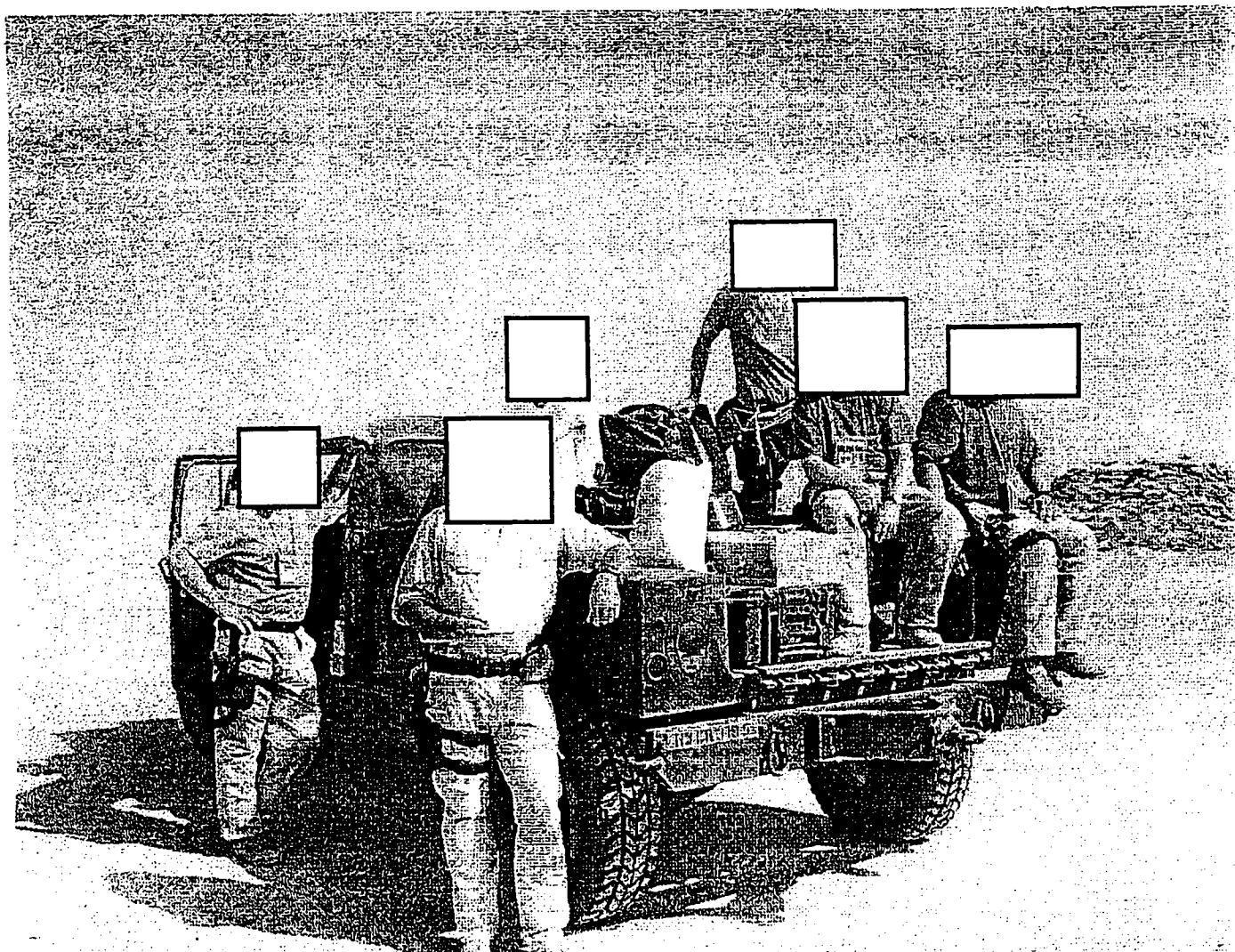
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DETAINEES-3543

From: [redacted]@leo.gov> b6 -1
 To: [redacted]@leo.gov>, [redacted]@leo.gov> b7C -1
 Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2004 2:16 PM
 Subject: [redacted] Update

b6 -1

b7C -1

Attached is an update from [redacted]. He would like it to be forwarded to [redacted] b6 -1
 and [redacted] and also to [redacted] for her to forward to the applicable b7C -1
 mailing list. I'm also sending a few pictures that can be put with the
 update on the web page. Comments for the pictures are below, but the
 pictures will come separately, since LEO is a pain to use. Enjoy!

Thanks, b6 -1
 [redacted] b7C -1

Comments

theTeam Left to right [redacted] (Boston), [redacted] (CJIS), [redacted] b6 -1
 [redacted] (Boston), [redacted] (CJIS), [redacted] (HQ), [redacted] b7C -1
 (Boston) Here at Camp Bucca, we carry weapons pretty much all the time in
 case anyone comes over the walls or the detainees decide to riot

workArea The tent where we are set up to process detainees. They bring
 them in about 10-15 at a time. We are doing interviews with each of them,
 which makes each process about 20 minutes.

thePen This is where the detainees stay. Believe it or not, they had an
 escape back in April. I guess someone dug under [redacted], climbed over
 the [redacted] in front of [redacted], climbed up out [redacted] b2 -5
 [redacted] and climbed over the [redacted] behind [redacted] made b7E -2
 it to the [redacted] then through the [redacted]. Gotta admire the
 determination of that guy. By the way, did I mention that it's hot?

theWork Left to right [redacted] (CJIS), [redacted] (Iraq), [redacted] b6 -1,2
 [redacted] (Boston), [redacted] (Interpreter), [redacted] has a towel draped over b7C -1,2
 his shoulders. They soak these in water and wear them during the heat of
 the day to keep cool.

[redacted] Works [redacted] (CJIS) taking the first fingerprint of a Camp b6 -1
 Bucca detainee on May 21, 2004 b7C -1

[redacted] Update b6 -1
 [redacted] Update b7C -1

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9/20/2004

Iraq Update

This is an informal update which supplements official Bureau communications already sent describing the mission and work of the CJIS-led team currently in Iraq as part of the FBI's Deployment # 8 to the combat theater. It is sent for the benefit of the CJIS staff which works to support these overseas missions, and its intent is to give an overall view of what the deployment team faces while in the field.

The mission tail hooked to Deployment # 8 was initiated and negotiated by CJIS teams in Deployments 4, 6 and 7. It embeds this team, a CJIS Supervisory Special Agent, a CJIS ITMS technician, an FBIHQ investigative analyst, and three Special Agents from the Boston Division, in the detainee population at Camp Bucca, Southern Iraq. This camp is becoming America's next Guantanamo Bay, Cuba facility. The camp is set up for long-term interment of hard-core fighters and coalition enemies - bomb makers, foreign fighters, terrorists - and has a population of about 2,400. The entire population of Abu Ghurayb, the prison outside of Baghdad where previous CJIS teams did much processing, is being moved about 300 at a time, every three days or so, to Camp Bucca, and the population is expected to top 4,000.

Most at this camp have never been biometrically processed - the military persists in its practice of trying to track detainees through name, photo and ID bracelet databases - and it is target rich for the CJIS team. The mission on this deployment is twofold: 1) To process the detainees for fingerprints, photos, biographical information and oral DNA swabs for inclusion in IAFIS and the NCIC VGTOF, 2) To interview detainees in an attempt to identify those who are particularly dangerous or who should be otherwise of continuing interest to the FBI. The mission mirrors similar missions by CJIS teams in Afghanistan, which produced information leading to the identification of terrorists and terrorist organizations within the U.S. The mission to Iraq is similarly important, and is being closely monitored by FBIHQ and Counter Terrorism.

We are 10 days into our deployment, and to date have processed about 100 detainees. We are running at about 20 percent answering yes without hesitation to the following questions: Do you consider yourself to be a Jihadi, Holy Warrior? Are you willing to conduct a martyrdom mission? Will you continue Jihad upon your release? Our team is operating under what even the U.S. military refers to as "austere" conditions, to include 120 degree heat, tent quarters, lack of air conditioning, no running water, limited facilities as to latrines, showers, chow and morale / welfare entertainment. There is also nothing to look at when you are outside. It is flat desert all around, with a hot, 30 mile per hour prevailing wind called the "shalma," that blows all summer and shakes the tent noisily at night. Our processing area is also a tent, and the conditions will test our equipment's ability to withstand heat, dust and foraging camel spiders (which can be one foot across).

We were initially delayed in Doha for about four days due to the very heavy fighting in Southern Iraq. We made the best of that. A few highlights of

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this deployment thus far

* We visited Centcom in Doha, with the FBI agents who will be doing the document exploitation mission with military intelligence. While there, we were asked to give a Power point presentation of the FBI efforts in the combat theater. Word is trickling down that DOD is requiring that prints be gathered to FBI standards, and the operational officers - Colonels, Lt Colonels and Majors - wanted to know what that was. We used the same presentation that we used for White House staff. While at the camp, we also renewed DOD IDs. These were first issued last May and had expired, which is an indication of how long we have been going to this combat theater.

* We conducted our first ever exchange of fingerprints with the Government of Qatar, a continuation of negotiations initiated during other deployments. We had brought with us electronic and hard copies of two ten-prints - a dead suicide bomber who had been shot before he could set off his car bomb in Irbil, Iraq, and the prints of Abu Abbas, the Palestinian terrorist who masterminded the Achille Lauro cruise ship takeover and killing of wheelchair-bound Leon Klinghoffer (Abbas died of a heart attack while in coalition custody). We also brought a latent print - a single print lifted from one finger recovered at the site of the Assassin's Gate suicide car bombing. The prints were non-ident. But we now have access to this system, a 1.2 million print Morpho Sagem system that ITMS tech [REDACTED] evaluated for future electronic exchanges. Simply because of proximity to Iraq, I would expect to eventually experience "hits" against this system.

b6 -1
b7C -1

* We traveled to Basra on the 19th by British C-130. There was an acrobatic finish to the flight, when the pilot saw what he believed to be ground fire, and we got out of the plane and saw nothing but desert, flat and dry, with the flames of natural gas wells and black smoke plumes on the horizon. The convoy to Camp Bucca, an hour and a half on deserted highways in full battle rattle -- helmets, kevlar, rifles with armored Humvees front and back -- was through the tank battlefields of the 91 Gulf war and fields where camels grazed in large numbers. Our HRT advance team did an excellent job securing us a tent, work space and a Humvee, to the doors of which we have affixed a fingerprint card, to mark it as the CJIS Humvee. A U.S. contractor was shot by insurgents at the front gate about eight hours after we passed through, and the risk of attacks remain high.

* This deployment could represent an interesting opportunity, in that this camp is being stood up as this theater's Guantanamo Bay, which was the final holding facility for detainees from the Afghan conflict. Construction of huge outdoor holding pens, converting barbed wire enclosures to more permanent structures, is at a feverish pace. The long-term interview groups, to include military intelligence and other agencies, are in the process of moving down as the detainees are shifted from Abu Ghurayb and other facilities, like those in Mosel, to here. There is no criminal population here, unlike Abu Ghurayb, which held coalition enemies and garden variety thieves, robbers and rapists. The detainee population will likely double, as will the U.S. presence. What we have found here, which is not a surprise considering what we found in other parts of Iraq, is that there is

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no consistent way in which detainees are processed or tracked. We found a broken BATS machine, incapable of taking prints or any other biometric markers, and a group of MP and Military Intelligence officers doing the best they can, which means tracking via Excel-type spreadsheets. There is still no group doing ten prints in the combat theater except for the FBI.

* This is a critical situation. Databases in theater are stove piped to the point that the MPs and MI officers in the camp can't tell you why detainees are being held. They can't tell you where they were picked up, or how long they have been in custody. The detainees by now, many having been in custody for as long as a year, know this and it is reflected in interviews, where they claim they were just walking on the street and American soldiers arrested them. As an interrogator, you have no records - arrest, interview, etc - that you can consult to refute these claims. It is quite frustrating, and I think it is an issue that FBI command staff should be continually broaching with the military. It is my opinion, as an FBI agent, that were this prison on U.S. soil, a judge would release almost every detainee for lack of evidence. The reasons for arrest and detention simply have not been tracked, and neither have the detainees, none of whom were ten-printed prior to the arrival of the FBI team. Eighty percent came to this camp after being arrested / captured outside of Baghdad, and so are unlikely to have been processed at some earlier time by an FBI team.

* The military has been extremely accommodating in our mission. We have full access throughout the camp, including laundry, mail, PX, chow halls, weight room, and the plywood basketball court. We have three MPs assigned to us each day, who do the hot, sweaty work of moving the detainees and guarding them while we process. We also have three translators per day, as few in this population speak English. (We are totally dependent on the military for translators.) We attend the camp All Hands meetings, command staff meetings and threat level meetings. We are arranging a convoy to the British detainee facility to determine its population. We have extremely long days - 7 am to whenever, with an evening full of paperwork. We are drinking lots and lots of water. Dehydration has sent one soldier to the infirmary each day we have been here. (Imagine the large plastic coke bottles that you buy for outdoor picnics. Typically, minimum intake is eight of those full of water every day.) We also have begun to get bug bites, despite anti-malarial drugs and slatherings of DEET. We are told that the record for flies killed in an hour in a guard tower - the MPs in the towers are issued a fly swatter along with rifle ammunition - is 300. That is controversial, as some claim the tower was "baited" with a spilled coke. The record holder claims they were clean kills.

Regards,

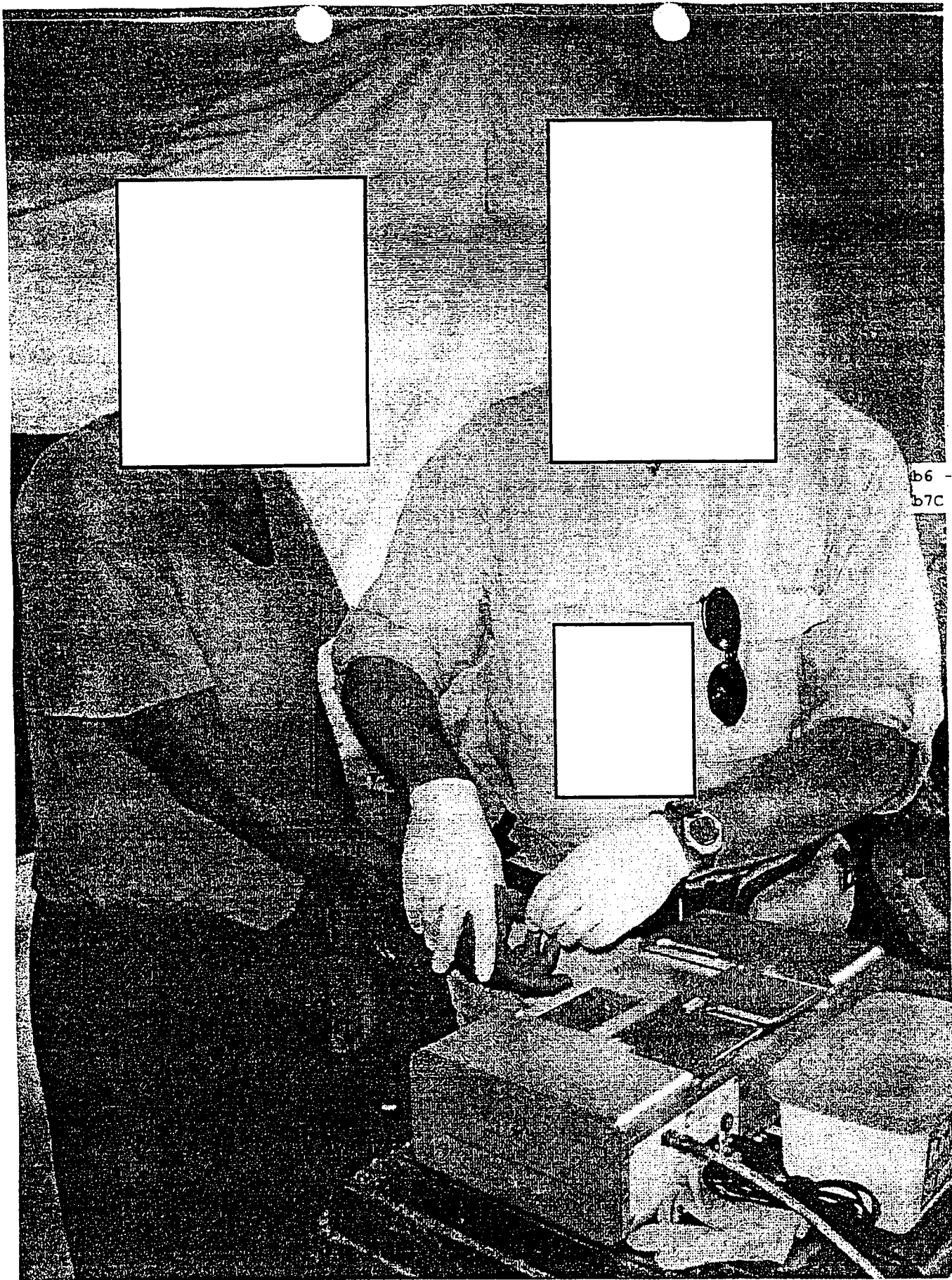


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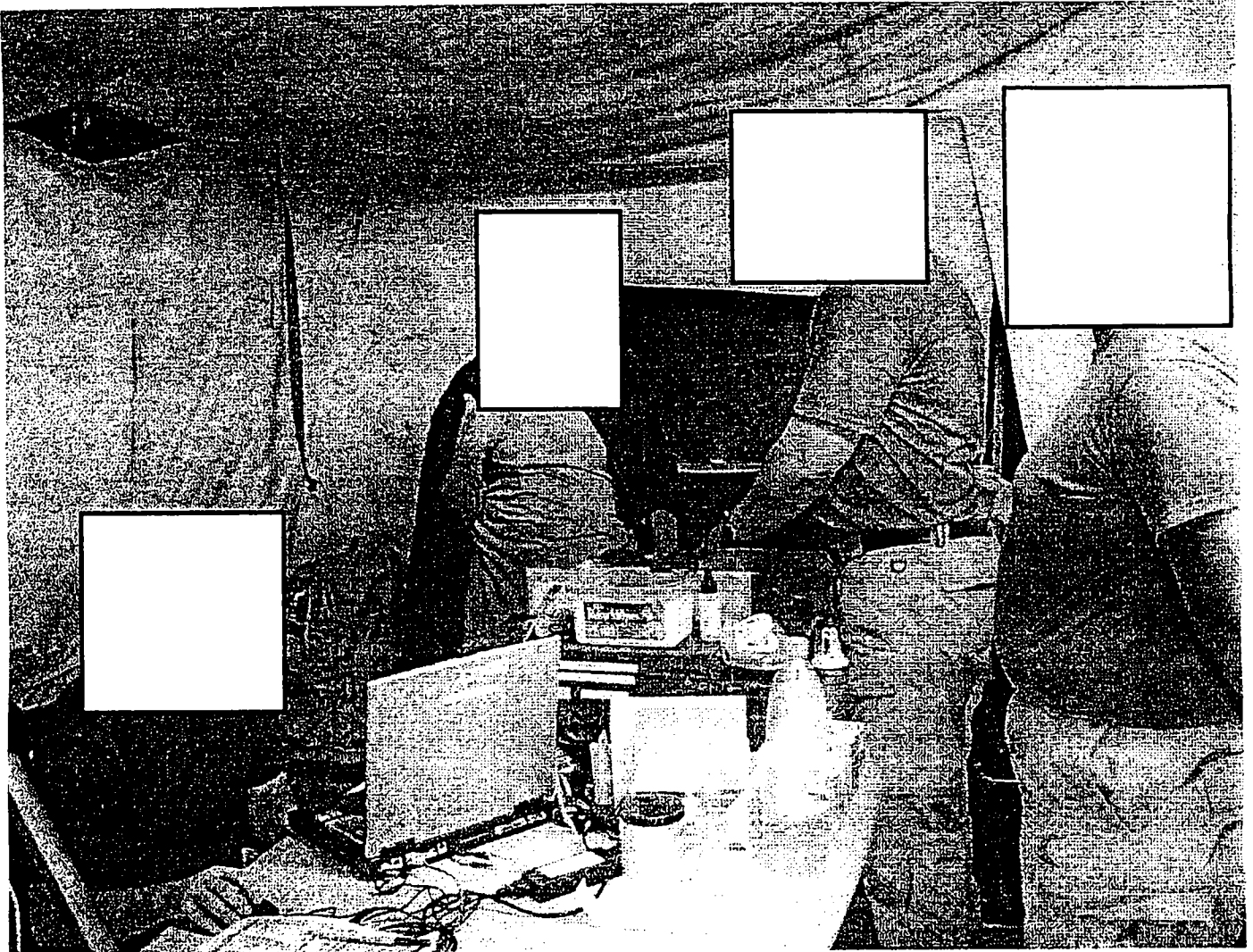


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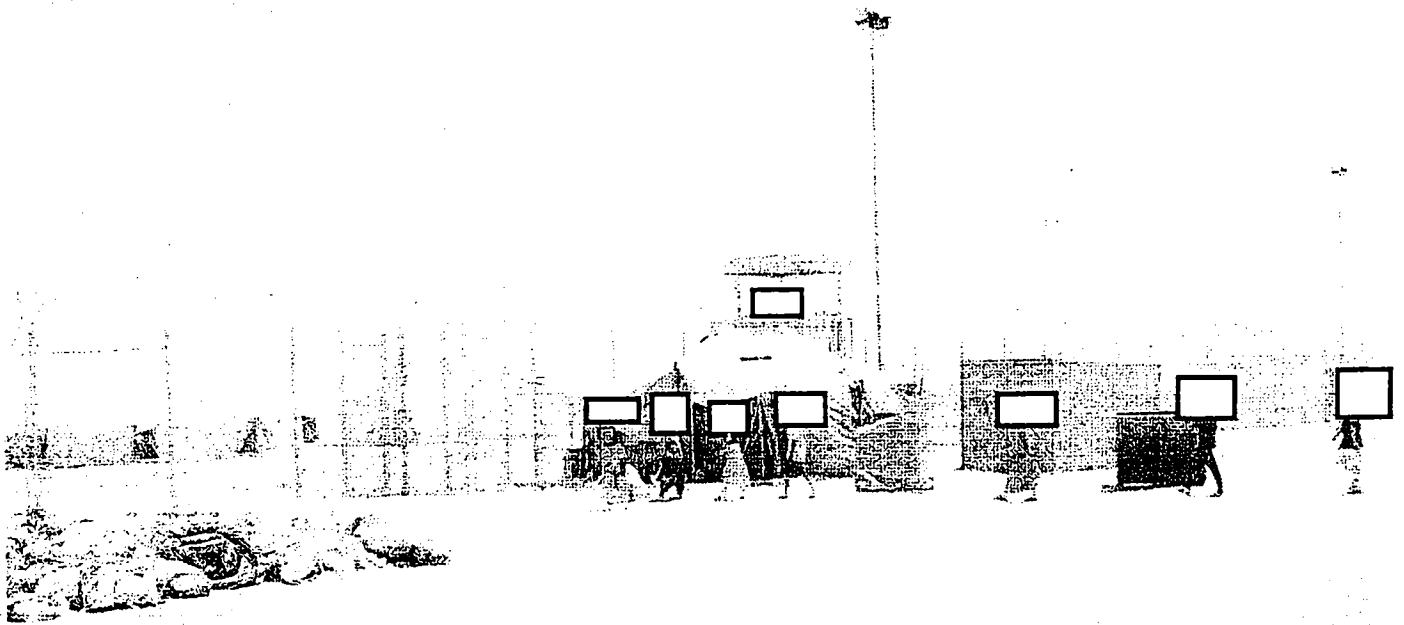
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