

OIG-INTV-001361

CaseMap Facts Report

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Case: FBI in Military Zones

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Date & Time	Fact Text	Source(s)
Thu 09/11/2003 - Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker recalls that while he was OSC in Iraq, a leader in Ansar al-Islam, (b)(6) was captured. [REDACTED] Chris Swecker heard that personal Attorney General approval was necessary for these proposals and that these were not approved. (b)(6) was interviewed elsewhere by an Federal Bureau of Investigation team - [REDACTED] and an analyst - every day for three weeks. [REDACTED]	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker was located in Iraq in a former regime resort area at the Baghdad Airport with his base of operations at the Bagdad Operations Center. Thomas V. Fuentes was his predecessor. His successor was Edwin L. Worthington. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that his duties as OSC were to interview HVDs, continue the DOCEX (document exploitation) project with the Iraq Survey Group, looking for terrorism information, and performing a counter-intelligence function re activities in the US, investigate bombings where US citizens were targeted, looking for Federal Bureau of Investigation fugitives, Sensitive Site Exploitations, and looking for foreign fighters. He never participated directly in an interview of a detainee. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that he received his instructions for his OSC mission from Frankie Battle and [REDACTED] in Counter Terrorism Division - FBI. Larry A. Mefford was the AD of the Counter Terrorism Division - FBI and he also briefed him on his mission. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker recalled that during a military operation in Mosul, Iraq, against Ansar-Al-Islam insurgents, the Federal Bureau of investigation was asked to come in and fingerprint them. The prisoners were brought in to a compound around 3 am one night with yelling in Arabic and	Chris Swecker Interview 1

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	English through bull horns and loud rock music being played, and having them stand up and squat in the middle of a compound. Also, the use of hoods on detainees was commonplace. The Federal Bureau of Investigation does not do that, but he did not view that as abuse. No one was being smacked around or anything like that. He believed that this was the way the military did things. *	
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says did not receive any briefing or instruction as to what was appropriate under military guidelines in terms of detainee interrogation techniques. However, he does recall bringing all of his team together in Iraq, probably after the Mosul incident, but possibly before, and told them that we were not going to "get bad habits" (the military way of doing things) there in Iraq, but would do interviews there the way they did them back in the US. He told his personnel that on several occasions during his time in Iraq.	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that a few times one of his agents would come back from an interview and if a military intelligence guy was there, his agent would remark about how differently the military did things. The military came at things from a very harsh angle, whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation is report-based. Chris Swecker once said to Barbara Fast, Ambassador McManaway (pb), and [REDACTED] that they needed to have a carrot, and not only a stick. With only a stick, these detainees were not going to talk to them. His suggestion was more or less "waived off." His agents commented on the harsh tones and the confrontational attitude of the military interrogators, but he does not recall specific agents or interviews. It seemed as though the military thought they would break detainees by being harsh. None of his agents ever described any physical abuse, any humiliation or sexual touching by military personnel. "None of that at all. Nobody ever relayed that. I don't think they would have done that in front of us." Chris Swecker has no indication that the military personnel ever waited for the Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel to leave before getting rough with the detainees. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker established the Federal Bureau of Investigation's relationship with the military at Abu Ghraib Prison due to the move up from Camp Cropper to Abu Ghraib Prison right after Chris Swecker got to Iraq. He toured Abu Ghraib Prison and established protocols with military intelligence and the military police for Federal Bureau of Investigation access in order to do interviews and obtain fingerprints of detainees there. Chris Swecker went to Abu Ghraib Prison a couple of other times but did not sit in on any interviews. Chris Swecker described Abu Ghraib	Chris Swecker Interview 1

	Prison as dismal, run down, had been looted, ramshackle, and medieval, was "grossly understaffed," and had the tent area outside the main prison compound. It was like nothing you would ever see in the US, and even the guards lived in bad conditions. Chris Swecker set the policy as to time of day that Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel would be present. Abu Ghraib Prison was being mortared every night and TEDs were found every morning. So Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel did not go to Abu Ghraib Prison until mid-morning, and left well before dark. They did not spend the night there. *	
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says his principal military contacts in Iraq included General Barbara Fast, often with (b)(3):10 U.S.C 130(b)(6) and personnel in the 311th Military Intelligence Brigade. Also, (b)(3):10 U.S.C 130 was an aide to Fast. His other military contacts included Military Police commanders (b)(3):10 and (b)(3):10 U.S.C 130(b) [REDACTED] [We'll ask Swecker to follow up for other such contacts.]	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that when [REDACTED] was captured in Iraq, he called back to OGC here for legal advice on whether to Micanize him, and may have spoken to Merica E. "Spike" Bowman.	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker did not believe for a moment that battle hardened insurgents were going to be made to talk simply because they were yelled at. Most of the Military Intelligence folks were young (in their 20s), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation folks got comments like "Gee, how did you get that" information from detainees. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker recommends that we talk to the two employee translators the Federal Bureau of Investigation had in Iraq because they sat in on most of the interviews: Bernard Togin and Hesham A. Elganniel. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that the only instance where a detainee's condition due to treatment before his interview came up was one that happened before Chris Swecker got there - during Thomas V. Fuentes's rotation. (b)(1) captured a guy in an SSE and had transported him for a long period on the hood of a jeep and he "got fried" because it was so hot. No Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel were present when this occurred but heard about this, and relayed this to Chris Swecker. The Federal Bureau of Investigation wanted to interview him in connection with Yassin but had to delay the interview until he was well enough to be interviewed.	Chris Swecker Interview 1

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	The Federal Bureau of Investigation interviewed him when the military had improved his medical condition, but his burns were still apparent. The first Federal Bureau of Investigation interview may have occurred before Chris Swecker got there. Swecker was told that the military had no other way to transport him, or that they had to leave the scene of the SSE hurriedly, and that they did not know he was being burned because he was unconscious, or something like that. *	
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that he probably expressed to HQ personnel such as Frankie Battle about the ineffective techniques used by the young military personnel, but he cannot recall specifics. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that the military really liked the Federal Bureau of Investigation going along on Sensitive Site Exploitations, and asked for Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel to go along, although they did not do too many of them while he was there. The military was rightly, in Swecker's opinion, squeamish about Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel going these high-risk operations, and Federal Bureau of Investigation HQ wanted to be sure it was worth it. Chris Swecker had to clear each one with John S. Pistole. Swecker spoke to John S. Pistole about once each week. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that while in Iraq, he sent back to HQ either daily or weekly "Sitreps" - written situation reports - and that [redacted] took care of that, as Reports Officer. These went to John S. Pistole and had a wide distribution within HQ. Frankie Battle of [redacted] would know where file copies of those were kept. The headings corresponded to the different missions. Chris Swecker thinks that maybe concerns about detainee treatment, such as the Jeep burns, would have been mentioned in such sitreps. His personnel generated Investigative Intelligence Reports (IIRs) by extracting the intelligence information from the 302s for their interviews, and the IIRs were then distributed to the intelligence community, as the Federal Bureau of Investigation's vehicle for sharing information. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that he does not recall any agent telling him that a detainee had alleged abuse. However, since military intelligence guys often sat in with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel, the detainees may well not have wanted to say anything about how they were being treated by the military in front of them. There was no Federal Bureau of Investigation protocol for reporting abuse because the problem did not arise. For example, no one said "hey I think my guy got worked over before he came in" or something like that. Allegations of abuse would and should have been included in interview 302s, agents would have brought such to Chris Swecker's	Chris Swecker Interview 1

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	attention, and Chris Swecker would have brought serious problems like beatings to the attention of Barbara Fast. Chris Swecker himself was not sure how far the military could go, and is sure his personnel were also unclear. He thinks his agents would not have been concerned about most military techniques thinking it was just normal military procedure in a battle zone, so may not have really known what constituted abuse under military rules. *	
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that he reviewed the detainee interview 302s but that [redacted] did a much closer review of them. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that it would have been helpful for the agents to have had a better idea of what the military rules for interrogation and what military conduct they were to report. This was not a part of the briefings he received and he is sure the briefings the agents received.	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says he does not recall seeing military working dogs at Abu Ghraib Prison, or learning of their use as an interrogation technique. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 09/11/2003 to Wed 11/12/2003	Chris Swecker says that while he was there, the Federal Bureau of Investigation started the interviews of Mujahedin-E-Khalq personnel out at Camp Ashraf, Iraq. Also in October 2003, he and his personnel went up to Sulamania and worked with the PUK, a Kurdish political party in northern Iraq, who had arrested a lot of Ansaar al-Islam personnel. Folks from Department of Justice Criminal Division, including [redacted] met the Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel there and were looking for evidence to use back in the US in a terrorism case. Also, his personnel, including [redacted] interviewed detainees in Mosul occasionally. That was with the 101st Airborne - a really professional outfit - and their head of military intelligence was "squared away." Chris Swecker would be "very, very surprised if there was any type of abuse up there." *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Fri 04/30/2004	Chris Swecker says he recalls the exchange of e-mails (4515-4517) between Chris Swecker and M. Chris Briese concerning the Director's question concerning Federal Bureau of Investigation knowledge of abuses at Abu Ghraib Prison. Chris Swecker does not know what allegations in the past that M. Chris Briese was describing. Chris Swecker thinks that M. Chris Briese's reference to there having been no need for referrals related to either OPR misconduct referrals re Federal Bureau of Investigation employees or to criminal referrals. Chris Swecker's says his e-mail response suggests to him that he did not have Federal Bureau of Investigation misconduct in	Chris Swecker Interview 1

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Fri 04/30/2004	mind. * Chris Swecker describes the other persons to whom M. Chris Briese's e-mail was sent (exchange of e-mails (4515-4517). Edward L. Lueckenhoff was the OSC in Iraq after Edwin L. Worthington. [redacted] may have been Edward H. Lueckenhoff's deputy. [redacted] was Edwin L. Worthington's deputy. [redacted] was Chris Swecker's deputy. Div13 refers to Counter Terrorism Division - FBI. Ricky Maxwell, [redacted] Frankie Battle, Gary M. Bald and T.J. Harrington were in Counter Terrorism Division - FBI and involved in the Iraq project. Div6 is Criminal Investigative Division - Federal Bureau of Investigation. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Fri 04/30/2004	Chris Swecker's statement in exchange of e-mails (4515-4517) that he was in Abu Ghraib Prison many times refers to what were probably no more than four trips there. His suggestion that they canvas the CJIS and HRT personnel was prompted by frequent presence at Abu Ghraib Prison of HRT escort personnel, and [redacted] was fingerprinting not only the people the Federal Bureau of Investigation interviewed but as many people as he could, so he and his team would have been in a position to see most of what was going on at Abu Ghraib Prison. [redacted] never told Chris Swecker that [redacted] was concerned about detainee treatment based on what he was seeing. While in Iraq, the CJIS and HRT personnel reported to Chris Swecker. Chris Swecker's statement that he did not see any abuses related to the kinds of things we were seeing on television and in the newspaper. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
05/??/2004	Chris Swecker thinks he spoke to Valerie E. Caproni about Abu Ghraib Prison abuse allegations but was not asked the 12 questions we have seen. He does not recognize the page containing the 12 questions (5265), nor does he recall anyone running through them with him. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 03/17/2005	Chris Swecker says that his EOD is 6/13/1982. Worked on organized crime and drug matters in Charlotte office, then the Oklahoma City office; Legal Counsel Division in civil litigation (1985-1987); drug cases in Miami office where he was promoted to Field Supervisor (1987-1995); ASAC in Houston for drug cases; Inspector at HQ for 15 months; SAC in Charlotte from 1999 to 2004; Assistant Director Criminal Investigative Division - Federal Bureau of Investigation since July 2004. He was OSC in Iraq from 9/11/2003 to 11/12/2003. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 03/17/2005	Chris Swecker says that no one before today has interviewed him or asked him questions about his experience in Iraq, but he has given several talks about the Federal Bureau of Investigation mission in Iraq to public groups in Charlotte. No one has "conte at it" with him from the angle of how the Federal Bureau of Investigation interviewed detainees, how the Federal Bureau of	Chris Swecker Interview 1

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	Investigation personnel interacted with military personnel, and any concerns that Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel had about how detainees were treated. However, he did respond to an e-mail in the April to June of 2004 from Valerie E. Caproni asking if he had observed or heard about any detainee abuse, and his answer was "no." If he had been asked if he had observed or heard about non-FBI policy interrogation techniques, his response would have been different. *	
Thu 03/17/2005	Chris Swecker thinks [ ] served in Iraq several times, that he and his team would have seen a lot of things there, and had been to Afghanistan. Chris Swecker says that [ ] is now detailed over at the White House. *	Chris Swecker Interview 1
Thu 03/17/2005	Chris Swecker says that no one in the Federal Bureau of Investigation has contacted him for documents that may be responsive to the IG's document requests. He has no knowledge of allegations of detainee abuse by Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel.	Chris Swecker Interview 1