



MOD-198-0002041-A

**SECRET**

Statement of: [REDACTED] N1788

Form MG11(T)

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**WITNESS STATEMENT**

Criminal Procedure Rules, r27.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5b

Statement of: [REDACTED] N1788

Age if under 18: (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation: SO1 CAMPAIGNS J3

This statement (consisting of page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature:

Date: 15/08/2018

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded  (supply witness details on rear)

I am the above named person whose full particulars appear on a Witness Matrix signed by me. I have been afforded the nominal N1788 under the provisions of the RMP/DSF protocol.

I am currently employed [REDACTED] at HQ DSF and have been since [REDACTED] Dates Given. I am due to leave post in [REDACTED] Date Given. I have been given the opportunity to review the first statement I provided to the SIB (dated 13 May 16 (13/05/2016)) and wish to clarify some minor points.

Firstly, on page 1, para 6, remove 'EXSUM' (Executive Summaries) and replace with 'OPSUM' (Operational Summaries). Secondly on page 2, para 1, remove Training, Tactic and procedure and replace with Tactics, Techniques and procedures. Lastly in the last paragraph of page 3, I would like to clarify that [REDACTED] N4571 was actually an OC of one of the [REDACTED] APU1 [REDACTED] SUs not the CO of [REDACTED] APU1.

SSgt SMITH has today shown me the following exhibits, to which exhibit labels have been attached and marked as follows:

JLW/1 - Folio pertaining to DSF TTP Review

JLW/1a - Op [REDACTED] B, review of [REDACTED] SU1 TTPs: Final Report

SSgt SMITH and I have each signed the exhibit label. I will make reference to JLW/1 and JLW/1a during the course of this statement.

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Further to my statement dated 13 May 16 (13/05/2016), I wish to add the following:

I have been asked by SSgt SMITH to outline the parameters in which I operated in to produce the TTP Review. The dates were outlined within paragraph 3 of item 3 within JLW/1, and outlined in para 1, page 2 of my original statement. I cannot recall working to any specific dates due to the time elapsed, nor can I elaborate any further.

I have been asked to comment on why the specific 11 DDOs feature as operational examples within Annex B to exhibit JLW/1a. At the beginning of the review, I tasked my SO2 J35 Campaigns, N2444 to collate a number of operational examples that featured issues whereby the relationship between the [REDACTED] SU [REDACTED] and our Afghan partners had diminished due to an increase in kinetic activity, or whereby an operation had been, or was under internal investigation in the form of an SIR or FIR. Lastly, examples of where a pre-established compound clearance TTP had changed, resulting in increased kinetic activity. I will elaborate on this TTP later in this statement. These examples were drawn from pre-existing records held within DSF.

What followed was an organic review process, outlined within my previous statement, resulting in the 11 operational examples featured in the JLW/1a. It is worthy of note that the 11 operations contained within JLW/1a may have been decided on prior to my Afghanistan deployment or during. I cannot recall exactly why they feature over other operations of a similar nature. There may have been others identified during the review, but these are the examples N2444 and I used to illustrate the review. In my previous statement, within para 1 or page 2, I make reference to 6 or 7 operations that were reviewed. These are highly likely to have been some of the operations that feature within JLW/1a, Annex B. Again, due to time frame, I cannot recall whether this is the case. Additionally, I cannot say with any degree of certainty that operations prior to the [REDACTED] SU1A [REDACTED] deployment were reviewed, however the 11 operational examples all relate to [REDACTED] SU1A [REDACTED] operations. During the review process, no comparison or analysis was made to previous [REDACTED] SU [REDACTED] deployments, however I was able to draw on my own knowledge and experience of the TTP.

In [REDACTED] Date Given [REDACTED], I deployed [REDACTED] in a Sub-Unit command appointment [REDACTED], where the compound clearance TTP was first used by [REDACTED] the SU [REDACTED]. As a Force Protection measure, principle householders were used to assist in the searching of compounds, removal of curtains and the opening of doors in order to facilitate the search. At this time, the principle householder, would be plasticuffed and allowed to carry out the aforementioned tasks which uninterferred

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with, it is my belief. This proved to be time consuming, therefore the TTP evolved to a similar practice, however, cuffs were sometimes being removed and the principle was followed closely by a member of the [REDACTED] SU. A further aggravating factor of this 'evolved' TTP was that the Afghan Partners were not always present.

Any concerns or observations I held regarding any material I reviewed during the process are outlined within para 9 and 10 of JLW/1a. I addressed these concerns or observations to N1802, N1466 and N1786 by making recommendations within para 3 of JLW/1a.

I have been given the opportunity to review the Operational Staff Work (OSW) relating to the 11 operational examples featured in ref B to JLW/1a. There is enough information within this document to inform this statement and a review of the OSW is not necessary.

SIGNED:

SMITH L W

RMP (SIB)

Signature:  
2020

Signature witnessed by:

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