

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
Vehicle Accident (LN death)  
1-8 CAV, 2/1CD  
10 March 2007

1. Facts.

On the evening of 07, a section from D/1-8 CAV was conducting a patrol on the (b)(2)High on the (b)(2)High. The platoon, which consisted of (b)(2)High, was moving south in the right lane at approximately 20 mph with its headlights on. Around 2040, in the vicinity of (b)(2)High a white civilian van passed the lead tank at (b)(2)High mph. The lead tank commander did not warn the trail tank commander that this van was approaching.

As the van approached the second (b)(2)High the second (b)(2)High gunner began rotating the main gun tube towards the oncoming traffic, purportedly to scan down an alley. The gun tube struck the side of the van, crashed through the rear driver side window, and exited through the passenger side windows. The van had three civilian passengers: (b)(6) his wife (b)(6) and their young son. (b)(6) suffered head trauma and died from her wounds at Al Kinde Hospital later that night. (b)(3)(b)(6), 2/2 ID Commander, approved a \$7,500 payment to (b)(6) on 17 April 2007.

2. Findings. The patrol was traveling at a safe speed and proceeding with caution. The civilian van was traveling at a high rate of speed, and the van's driver was inattentive to his surroundings.

3. Recommendations.

a. IO recommended that: (1) no actions be taken against the Soldiers; (2) (b)(2)High (b)(2)High; and (3) patrols carry accident form in Arabic and English to help collect information at the accident scenes.

b. BCT Cdr concurred with the IO's findings and recommendations, *except* for the finding that the driver's actions were the sole cause of the accident. The BCT Cdr stopped short, however, of finding the Soldiers to be responsible for the woman's death.