



UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND
 OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
 7115 SOUTH BOUNDARY BOULEVARD
 MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 33621-5101

21 May 2013

TO: LTG William B. Garrett, Deputy Commander, U.S. Army Forces Command

SUBJECT: Investigation into U.S. Accountability re: the Complex Attack on the Camps Bastion, Leatherneck and Shorabak (BLS) Complex in Afghanistan on 14-15 September 2012

- Ref: (a) (U) Army Regulation (AR) 15-6 (2 October 2006)
 (b) ~~(S//REL USA, ISAF, NATO)~~ Regional Command (Southwest) Joint Review Board Initial Report of Administrative Inquiry of the 14-15 September 2012 Insurgent Attack on Camp Bastion (24 September 2012)
 (c) ~~(S//REL USA, ISAF, NATO)~~ Administrative Enquiry into 14/15 Sep 2012 Insurgent Attack on Camp Bastion
 (d) ~~(S//REL USA, ISAF, NATO)~~ Supplemental Review of 14-15 September 2012 Insurgent Attack at Camp Bastion Focusing on the Response to the Joint Staff Integrated Vulnerability Assessment (JSIVA) (12 November 2012)
 (e) ~~(S//REL USA, ISAF, NATO)~~ USCENTCOM Memo Subj: Receipt of 17 March 2013 Memorandum on 14-15 September 2012 Camp Bastion Attack (22 March 2013)
 (f) ~~(S//REL USA, ISAF, NATO)~~ Camp BLS Special Forces Protection Assessment Report (18 April 2013)

1. (U) This memorandum appoints you, per AR 15-6, *Procedures for Investigating Officers and Boards of Officers*, to inquire into U.S. accountability re: the subject attack as delineated in paragraph 3 below. You will follow the guidance provided in chapters 3 and 4 of AR 15-6 in conducting your investigation. Before conducting your investigation, also review references (b) through (f). You may rely on the information in those references as you deem appropriate in making further determinations per paragraph 3 below.

2. (U) (b)(6), (b)(7)c CENTCOM Judge Advocate Directorate (CCJA), is appointed as your legal advisor. You will consult with (b)(6), (b)(7)c prior to collecting any additional evidence or information with respect to this investigation. You may also request additional personnel be appointed to your investigative team and my deputy commander or chief of staff will designate those personnel in writing pursuant to your request.

3. (U) Investigate the circumstances surrounding the complex attack by insurgents on the Camps Bastion, Leatherneck and Shorabak (BLS) Complex in Afghanistan that occurred on 14-15 September 2012 and report any fault, negligence, or failure of responsibility. You will make findings of fact and recommendations regarding the accountability of U.S. commanders and staff at all levels for the planning and conduct of force protection operations at the BLS Complex in regard to the 14-15 September 2012 complex attack. In doing so, you will address matters relating to the sufficiency of actions relating to intelligence, operations, logistics, and command and control. In addressing those matters, you will specifically focus on the following:

a. (U) The facts and circumstances regarding the force protection status and capabilities at BLS on 14 September 2012 to include physical layout, guard force, communications capabilities, weapons systems, proficiency and command and control.

b. (U) What was the enemy threat at and near BLS on 14 September 2012 and what, if any, actions were taken to address the threat, and whether those actions were sufficient.

c. (U) Whether force protection vulnerabilities at BLS were identified to anyone in the chain of command prior to 14 September 2012; what, if any, actions were taken to address those vulnerabilities; and whether those actions were sufficient in light of all facts and circumstances.

d. (U) What was the command and control laydown for the purpose of force protection at BLS on 14 September 2012.

e. (U) Whether the friendly force reaction to the insurgent attack on 14-15 September was sufficient and whether the forces that did respond were adequately trained and equipped.

4. (U) The BLS Complex is a multinational base. The focus is on U.S. commanders and staff at the BLS Complex. You may not compel a foreign witness to provide a statement during the course of this investigation. Should you need to interview foreign personnel or gather foreign-generated information, first coordinate with both the CENTCOM and USFOR-A/ISAF SJAs, so they may also facilitate coordination.

5. (U) All witness statements will be recorded and, whenever possible, be reduced to writing and sworn. You should use DA Form 2823, *Sworn Statement*, as the format for written statements. If it is not possible to obtain a written and/or sworn statement from a particular witness, you will swear to the accuracy of any transcription or summary of such witness testimony in whatever form it appears within your investigative report. Pursuant to paragraph 3-8.e. of reference (a), you will provide witnesses with a Privacy Act statement before you solicit any personal information from them. Your legal advisor will assist you in determining when this may be required.

6. (U) No U.S. military or civilian witness can be ordered to provide information that may incriminate him or herself. You may order any U.S. military witness to provide statements if you believe that they have relevant information that would not incriminate themselves. If, in the course of your investigation, you suspect any specific person may have committed a crime, you will promptly consult with your legal advisor. If you suspect a U.S. military witness has committed a crime, you must first provide him or her advice and warnings pursuant to Article 31b, UCMJ, before you elicit a statement.

7. (U) The complete investigation will include an executive summary. Ensure each paragraph, page and exhibit included in your report of investigation is properly marked with the requisite classification markings. Ensure that each part of the investigation is classified no higher than necessary.

8. (U) This investigation is your priority and you will have the complete support of USCENTCOM directorates and subordinate commands for administrative support, security,

movement, coordination and any other assistance you require. You may seek legal advice from your appointed legal advisor and the USCENTCOM Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) during the course of this investigation.

9. (U) You will forward your final, complete report of investigation, through the USCENTCOM SJA for Commander, USCENTCOM no later than 21 June 2013. If, the USCENTCOM Deputy Commander, or the USCENTCOM Chief of Staff may grant an extension. All requests for an extension will be in writing and specifically detail the reason(s) why additional time is needed to complete the investigation.


LLOYD D. AUSTIN III
General, U.S. Army

Copy to:
CJCS

Approved for Release

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28 May 2013

TO: Major General Thomas M. Murray, Commanding General, USMC Training and Education Command

SUBJECT: Appointment as Deputy Investigating Officer (IO) into U.S. Accountability re: the Complex Attack on the Camps Bastion, Leatherneck and Shorabak (BLS) Complex in Afghanistan on 14-15 September 2012

(U) This memorandum appoints you to be the deputy IO, per AR 15-6, *Procedures for Investigating Officers and Boards of Officers*, to inquire into U.S. accountability re: the attack indicated in the subject line above. You will assist the IO, LTG William B. Garrett, in all matters deemed necessary. Refer to his appointment memorandum dated 21 May 2013 (see attached) for relevant instructions.


LLOYD J. AUSTIN III
General, U.S. Army

Encl:
LTG William B. Garret Appointment Letter (21 May 2013)

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10 June 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR LTG William B. Garrett III, Investigating Officer, Complex Attack on Bastion-Leatherneck-Shorabak (BLS) Complex, 14-15 September 2012

SUBJECT: Request for 30 Day Extension

Your request for a 30-day extension (from 21 June 2013 to 21 July 2013) for completion of the above referenced investigation is approved/~~disapproved~~.


LLOYD J. AUSTIN III
General, U.S. Army

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21 July 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR LTG William B. Garrett III, Investigating Officer, Attack on Camp Bastion-Leatherneck-Shorabak Complex, 14-15 September 2012

SUBJECT: Approval of Extension Request

Your request for an extension from 21 July 2013 to 9 August 2013 to complete the above referenced investigation is:

Approved.

Disapproved.


LLOYD J. AUSTIN III
General, U.S. Army

Approved for Release

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