ANNEX B
Joint Review Board Report of Administrative Inquiry For 14-15 September 2012 Insurgent Attack on Camp Bastion

DETAILED CHRONOLOGY OF 14-15 SEP 12 ATTACK ON CAMP BASTION

~~(S//REL TO ISAF, NATO)~~ **< 142209D*SEP12**: Eight (8) Harrier Fighter Jets (AV-8B) are parked under sunshades on the Lima Ramp at the North end of the BLS flight line. The AV-8s have full fuel tanks. They are numbered one to eight from South to North. Lima ramp has four principle buildings, from south to north, the passenger hanger (VMR), the hangar, the maintenance building, and the headquarters building. Only the headquarters building is surrounded by concrete barriers, the others do not offer cover from small arms fire (SAF).

< 142209D*SEP12: Towers 15, 17, and 18, along the eastern perimeter of Camp Leatherneck/Bastion complex, are manned by Tongan forces for the evening. Towers 16 and 19 are unmanned.

< 142209D*SEP12: 15 adult males (INS) approach Camp Leatherneck/Bastion from the East using a small wadi for concealment. The INS cut a hole in the perimeter fence between towers 16 and 17 using bolt cutters. There is no observation of the INS approach. There is a clear line of sight from towers 16 and 17 to the INS breech point. The INS are all similarly armed with AK-47s, tactical vests with rounds, grenades, food, and spray paint. An unknown number of INS possessed rocket propelled grenade launchers (RPGs) and PK Machine Guns (PKM). The INS wore gray digital United States Army Uniforms with name tapes and running shoes.

< 142209D*SEP12: The INS divide into two groups of five and ten. One group of ten maneuvers west towards Juliet Ramp. One group maneuvers northwest toward Lima Ramp. These groups stopped for unknown periods of time inside the wire as evidenced by areas of packed earth where water bottles and batteries were discarded.

< 142209D*SEP12: The group of INS maneuvering north cuts two breeches in the constantina wire across from Lima Ramp. One group of INS cross the road to the south side of the ramp. One group of INS crosses the road near the northern end of Lima Ramp.

< 142209D*SEP12: The group of INS maneuvering west divides into two groups of five. One group maneuvers towards the (b)(1)1.4g on the east side of the road. Another group maneuvers south of the (b)(1)1.4g towards Juliet Ramp.

142209D*SEP12 - Towers 15 and 17 report SAF, a map showing the position of these towers may be found at Annex B. (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4g (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4g Decision taken to stand up (b)(1)1.4g (BSN internal QRF) and (b)(1)1.4g BELLEAU WOOD external QRF).

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142211D*SEP12 - (b)(1)1.4a observes three individuals running along the inside of the fence line. It was later determined that these three individuals were Tongan guard forces. Marines at VMA 211 hear a second explosion and see fire on Lima Ramp. The Marines take up their weapons and are engaged by SAF from outside the maintenance building shortly thereafter.

142214D*SEP12 – (b)(1)1.4g tasked to react to the 3 individuals running along the fence line. (b)(1)1.4g in the south and (b)(1)1.4g in the north collapsed into (b)(1)1.4g tasked to move to the south gate and hold.

142212D*SEP12: The Commanding Officer and Executive Officer of VMA 211, (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c are outside at the VMA 211 billeting area approximately 1.2 km south of VMA 211. Upon hearing the second explosion the CO sets a security plan with the VMA 211 Sergeant Major. The CO and XO then drive to VMA 211.

<142214D*SEP12: Marines at VMA 211 engage in a protracted small arms fight with the INS. During this time the Marines hear at least ten RPG rounds fired. The CO arrives at approximately 2230 and leads Marines out of the maintenance building to counter-attack the INS. Six of the AV-8B are on fire. While back inside the maintenance building continuing the counter-attack, an RPG strikes the north side of the maintenance building. Fragmentation from the blast strikes the CO in the right side of his neck, killing him. (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c VMA 211, then leads the VMA 211 Marines to headquarters building, which offers cover. At this point the Marines are able to maneuver to the north of the INS and successfully engage them.

142220D*SEP12: Marines at Juliet ramp engage INS crossing the road moving west towards Juliet Ramp.

142225D*SEP12 - (b)(1)1.4g engaged by SAF and RPG from location near the (b)(1)1.4g gained PID and returned fire from near Juliet Ramp. (b)(1)1.4g (b)(1)1.4g was tasked to escort fire section to Lima Ramp after it was reported that a number of AV-8Bs were on fire. Shortly after moving on task they reported CONTACT SAF. The C/S was able to PID and returned fire.. It was reported that the INS were wearing US desert camouflage uniforms and ANA uniforms. This was later determined to be all US Army grey digital camouflage. (b)(1)1.4g was called at this time by the CJOC but was quickly changed to (b)(1)1.4g

142240D*SEP12 – (b)(1)1.4g moved to (b)(1)1.4g ocation. On arrival the C/Ss received accurate SAF and sustained 1 x CAT A casualty (Gun Shot Wound to leg). It was reported that the Main Entry Point (MEP) reported receiving SAF, (b)(1)1.4g (b)(1)1.4g were tasked to hold the ground at the MEP.

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142245D*SEP12 - Op CONGO called by the CJOC. Tactical Logistics Group (TLG) Chief Clerk contacted the Battle Captain (BC) stating that he had 4 personnel trapped within the MT compound near the Juliet Ramp and fuel farm due to two possible UXOs at the entry point to the compound. Sector reaction force tasked to put cordon in place. (b)(1)1.4g were extracted from the South Gate and tasked to support (b)(1)1.4g (b)(1)1.4g who were still in contact. Deconfliction of UK and US FP C/S was conducted by the CJOC.

142248D*SEP12 - Sector 8 commander reported that there was no UXO and the individuals from the TLG MT compound had been extracted. The Role 3 (R3) hospital reported that they had 9 patients who they were extracting back from the central aid point (which had been established at the airfield gate central) to the R3. The R3 informed the CJOC they had 7 x BFA, 1 x MASTIFF and 2 x LAND ROVERS that would be used to extract casualties from the Central Aid Point to the R3 if required. At this stage it was determined that 2 of (b)(1)1.4g JACKAL Protected Mobility Vehicles (PMVs) had sustained a direct hit with an RPG and accurate SAF resulting in 1 x GSW (CAT A), and 4 x RPG shrapnel wounds (CAT A). Photographs of the stricken vehicles are at Annex F. Due to these direct hits, (b)(1)1.4g heavy weapons were disabled, leaving them only Individual Weapons (IWs) to suppress the INS position. (b)(1)1.4g (USMC COBRA AH) and (b)(1)1.4g (UK APACHE AH) engaged the enemy position, suppressing it. This allowed (b)(1)1.4g to extract another casualty (head injury from ricochet) to R3. Enemy fire was sporadic from this point until (b)(1)1.4g (who were extracted from the hold location at the MEP) arrived at the position. Communications checks were then completed with the Perimeter Towers. Sector commanders began to report in at this time. RFS reserve stood to (b)(1)1.4g (b)(1)1.4g.

142330D*SEP12 - (b)(1)1.4g OC RFS (b)(1)1.4g (b)(1)1.4g takes command of all C/S. Possible INS position indentified, (b)(1)1.4g and clear through possible position with mounted (b)(1)1.4g providing fire support. Compound cleared, nothing found. C/S received SAF from a hardened position just to the South of the compound. INS utilized PKM, AK47, and grenades. C/S (b)(1)1.4g cleared the position resulting in 5 x EKIA. C/S went into all round defense and conducted reorganization.

142359D*SEP12 - MERT FP cabins engaged by multiple rounds of accurate SAF. MERT FP provided all round defense IVO the cabins.

150015D*SEP12 - CSLR FP stood up to go to the fire section to provide FP for the fire fighters. They were subsequently re-tasked to resupply ammunition to the RFS (7.62mm and 50 Cal). (b)(1)1.4g were tasked from the MEP to provide FP for the fire engines and water tankers to deal with the fires on the flight line.

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150019D* SEP12 – BC received call from Med Group Watchkeeper stating that all enemy dead were to be handed over to the R3. All UK and US C/S were informed that they are not to search EKIA until they have been cleared by EOD.

150025D*SEP12 - BC received call from BAG stating that all ANA were stood to and now armed.

150030D*SEP12 - (b)(1)1.4g (C130) released illumination at the request of ground C/S. The RFS CSS chain were tasked to bring water, illumination and body bags to the casualty evacuation point at Central Gate.

150100D*SEP12 - CSLR forward move to the airfield central gate with a mastiff to provide assistance and support with control of entry.

150102D*SEP12 – (b)(1)1.4g reorganize and prepare to clear the eastern side of the airfield South to North.

150115D*SEP12 - RFS clear through the airfield from South to North, receiving support from Pedro specialists en route. Multiple SAF engagements ensued with a unknown number of INS and CQB engagements take place within the buildings and hangers on the airfield. (b)(1)1.4g (USMC AH) PID INS at LIMA Ramp and engaged on 4 x INS. 2 INS confirmed KIA and 1 WIA. Second strike resulted in a further EKIA. RFS C/S also gained PID and engaged.

150145D*SEP12 (b)(1)1.4g (ARMY STRYKER) provided a screen on the taxiway to the West allowing RFS to advance North. As part of their screening STRYKER was tasked to locate 8 U.S. MIAs.

150218D*SEP12 – (b)(1)1.4g (mounted C/S) received SAF while clearing north, PID gained and fire returned resulting in 1 x EKIA. All buildings on LIMA Ramp cleared. 5 x EKIA confirmed.

150230D*SEP12 - All Sector Commanders confirmed that all personnel were accounted for and (b)(1)1.4g was in force. CAMP LEATHERNECK also reported full lockdown. Two Interpreters were reported missing from Sector 1 (BSN 1). Their names were (b)(6), (b)(7)c This resulted in 1 x Foxhound patrol from the RAF Police Ops Team utilized to conduct searches. These individuals were subsequently found. Throughout this time the TACP had a number of UAV and CAS assets in support of RFS ground C/Ss. The assets provided situational awareness. RAF Police Ops team providing security to the PHF which was full of passengers that had arrived on a TriStar and C17. This cover was provided throughout the incident.

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150315D*SEP12 - (b)(1)1.4g reported that the batteries to the acoustic detection equipment were about to expire. RAFP patrol was utilized to provide FP allowing (b)(1)1.4a, (b)(1)1.4g to proceed with battery changes at their Southern sites.

150345D*SEP12 – All SAF ceased. All CF C/Ss went firm awaiting first light before continuing a sweep across the ground. 1 x RFS pax CASEVACed back to R3 with a fragmentation wound to the leg which had been sustained during the RPG direct hit.

150407D*SEP12 - Information received identifying 2 X KIA (USA). (b)(1)1.4g tasked to retrieve the fallen. One was recovered. The other could not be recovered due to the fires burning on the airfield.

150445D*SEP12 - RAFP Ops Team re-tasked to provide an escort for tanker driver to refuel the vehicle so they could refuel the fire section vehicles.

150505D*SEP12 - TACP lowered Air requested to Immediate Pri from TIC.

150530D*SEP12 – CF ground C/Ss given permission to clear from North to South. (b)(1)1.4g pushed to the North with a USMC C/S. RFS C/S began a clearance patrol from the North to South, marking all EKIA locations and providing information on hazard locations for EOD and other Emergency Services. Two further RFS individuals were evacuated to R3 due to shrapnel wounds. R3 hospital guards reported that an ISO container door had been opened that had been shut previously in the compound opposite the entrance. RAFP Ops team were tasked to investigate and cleared the area.

150841D*SEP12 - (b)(1)1.4g in force.

151720D*SEP12 – UK and US EOD declare runway clear.

151730D*SEP12 – SATCO clears runway for restricted flight operations.

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