DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HEADQUARTERS, COMBINED/JOINT TASK FORCE (CJTF)-82
BAGRAM AIRFIELD, AFGHANISTAN
APO AE 09354

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

CJTF-82 19 November 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Interview with SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) USA, Regarding Operations in the Ganjgal Valley on 8 September 2009

1. Sergeant First Class (b)(3), (b)(6) USA, serves as Mortar Platoon Sergeant, 1-32 Infantry Regiment (TF Chosin), and held this position during the planning and execution of the subject operation.

2. The substance of SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) 17 November 2009 statement is summarized below:

a. SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) does not have a platoon leader. His platoon leader was relieved after he committed an act of misconduct.

b. At 0530 on 8 September 2009, SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) heard the initial sounds of the engagement in the Ganjgal Valley over the ridgeline and ordered his Soldiers to get their equipment together, man the mortar pit and tube, and point the tube toward Ganjgal Valley. The (b)(2)High that is usually at FOB Joyce was located at (b)(2)High prior to 8 September. SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) had one (b)(2)High on FOB Joyce during the subject operation.

c. SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) did not know of the mission, however, he was aware the TF Chosin scout element had deployed earlier in the morning.

d. Immediate suppression missions were called after 0530. The mortar team plotted them as they were not pre-set.

e. The over-watch scout element communicated on the TF Chosin (b)(2)High SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) had three radio nets and was monitoring each of them.

f. SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) did not attend a mission rehearsal and was not aware of any fire plan for the mission into Ganjgal.

g. SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) recalls firing only three missions. He believes the three missions were fired at 0600, 0615, and 0630. Later in the day he fired another mission in support of the quick reaction force (QRF) at approximately 1600.

h. SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) stated that he moved the mortar tube 12 times that morning based on the requests for fire he heard over the radio nets. He recalls firing the mortar only three times during the morning.

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i. SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) recalls the TOC denying at least three missions because the locations were too close to civilian structures and homes.

j. SFC (b)(3), (b)(6) was not contacted to give a statement in the AR 15-6 investigation conducted by MAJ (b)(3), (b)(6)

3. The points of contact for this memorandum are the undersigned.

(b)(3), (b)(6)

COL, USA

(b)(3), (b)(6)

(b)(3), (b)(6) LT, USMC