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Chronology of Investigation

NOTE: All times in Zulu (Afghan = Z+4:30)

1. 14 Oct:
 - a. 1830 – Introductory overview brief of mission and related events.
 - i. Discussed intel that located hostage.
 - ii. Viewed ISR video of actions on the objective.
 - iii. Discussed items found during SSE.
 - b. 2030 – Investigative team discussed objectives of investigation and task organization.
 - c. 2100 to 2359 – Team begins organizing data, authored initial documentation, and coordinated travel for British team members and the team’s Legal Advisor (LA) from Kabul to Bagram AF (BAF).
2. 15 Oct:
 - a. 1000 to 1200 – Team continues to organize data, build briefing to show details of assault, collect list of potential questions, and compile accurate chronology of all events related to OBJ (b)(2)High.
 - b. 1215 – British Brigadier and LA arrive from Kabul.
 - c. 1230 – Read-ins for Brigadier and LA.
 - d. 1345 to 1445 – Introductory overview brief of mission and related events to Brigadier and LA.
 - e. 1600 to 1645 – Team reviews plan for (b)(2)High (JBAD) trip (team will split into (b)(2)High)
 - i. (b)(2)High team will conduct interviews of key personnel and collect sworn statements
 1. Discussed methodology for interviews
 2. Set the team members who will be present during interviews
 - ii. BAF team will continue to organize exhibits and other documents and begin authoring the final report
 - iii. Reviewed list of investigative actions to be completed in the next 24 hours
 - f. 1700 to 1745 – Imagery analyst helps team understand enemy fighter and hostage movements, Assault Force (AF) actions and subsequent Enemy Killed In Action (EKIA) locations
 - g. 1745 to 0010 – Team continues to work through investigative actions list, refine exhibits, review multiple ISR video feeds of actions following assault, label products, and develop list of questions for AF members
3. 16 Oct:
 - a. 0745 – UK legal team member arrives BAF
 - b. 1000 – UK legal team member is read-in

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- c. 1010 to 1100 – Team reviews new “frame by frame” video prepared by imagery analyst and reviews timeframe following grenade detonation to assist in chronology refinement
 - d. 1300 – (b)(2)High team departs for flight
 - e. 1300 to 2359 – (b)(2)High team continues to work through investigative actions list, author MFR, label exhibits and enclosures, refine video evidence products, and finalize chronologies
 - i. Team also coordinates to receive final UK team member and obtain travel from (b)(2)High on 17 Oct
 - f. 1600 to 2300 – (b)(2)High team conducts interviews of Assault Force team members
4. 17 Oct:
- a. 0800 – (b)(2)High Team receives final UK team member
 - i. Views latest video “storyboard” and discusses current status of investigation with team members
 - b. 1030 – COL (b)(3), (b)(6) departs for flightline and air transport to JBAD
 - c. 1030 to 0030 – (b)(2)High team continues to write/refine MFR, index electronic exhibits, prepare draft briefing for GEN Mattis
 - i. Additional effort taken to refine “storyboard” video
 - ii. Coordinated with 82nd Sustainment Brigade first aid clinic doctor to correct Ms. Norgrove’s death certificate; the original was dated incorrectly
 - d. 1300 to 2300 – (b)(2)High team continues their interviews and prepares for 18 Oct departure back to BAF
5. 18 Oct:
- a. 0930 to 1215 – (b)(2)High team edits latest version of Memo of findings and recommendations, continues to refine the unclassified EXSUM
 - b. 1215 – (b)(2)High team arrives BAF
 - c. 1230 to 1330 – MG Votel assesses status of investigation with direct reference to the GEN Mattis appointment memo and directs further actions to include a clear division of labor to complete remaining tasks
 - d. 1430 to 1530 – Coordinated for computers and working space for court reporters to begin transcribing personnel interviews
 - i. Computer issues prevent transcriptions from beginning right away
 - e. 1600 to 2015 – MG Votel leads meeting to scrub sequence of events based on witness statements and lay out a method for describing the situation and events
 - f. 2100 to 2359 – Team continues with investigative tasks:
 - i. Coordinate an interview with the crew of an ISR aircraft that produced the best video of the incident
 - ii. Court reporters continue to transcribe witness statements (knock off for the night at 2230)
 - iii. Refine chronology of events

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- iv. Plan way ahead for completion of entire report
 - v. Edit memos and EXSUMs
6. 19 Oct:
- a. 0730 to 2359 – Investigative team shows for duty and continues to work on tasks:
 - i. Coordination for statement from secondary sensor operator on (b)(2)High (statement taken at 2245)
 - ii. Edits to Unclass EXSUM
 - iii. Edits to overall memo
 - iv. Reviews of witness statements for typos and to gain additional SA of actions on the objective
 - v. Coordination for IPR with GEN Mattis
 - vi. Court reporters continue to transcribe statements
 - vii. Coordination for statement from Flight Surgeon at JBAD
7. 20 Oct:
- a. 0930 to 2100 – Team continues to complete investigative tasks:
 - i. More editing of conclusions and findings memo
 - ii. Continued reviews of witness statements for typos and to gain additional SA of actions on the objective
 - iii. Court reporters continue to transcribe the last few statements
 - iv. Refine exhibit list and apply all exhibits to facts in memo
 - v. New information comes to light which requires re-interviewing some team members
 - 1. 2 completed by phone
 - b. 2100 – VTC between MG Votel, Brigadier Nitsch and GEN Mattis
 - c. 2200 to 2215 – Team discussed Way Ahead and guidance received from CENTCOM/CC
 - i. Monday 25 Oct meeting while GEN Mattis will be in Kabul
 - 1. To include GEN Petraeus, LtGen Allen, LtGen Bucknall (GBR) and VADM McRaven, either in person or by VTC
 - d. 2200 to 2359 – Team began focusing on Way Ahead tasks and organizing for the next day's activities
8. 21 Oct:
- a. 0900 to 2359 – Team continues to complete investigative tasks:
 - i. Continued reviews of witness statements for typos and to gain additional SA of actions on the objective
 - ii. Court reporters continue to transcribe the last few statements
 - iii. Refine exhibit list and apply all exhibits to facts in memo
 - iv. Several AF team members travel to BAF for re-interviews
 - 1. They also bring their weapons in to be secured/isolated
 - v. Findings and recommendations are incorporated into main report

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- vi. Classified and Unclass EXSUM edited and prepared for final review
- vii. Coordination for meeting in Kabul on Monday, 25 Oct
 - 1. Time set for 1600 Afghan time (1130Z, 0730EST)

9. 22 Oct:

- a. 1100 to 0100 – Team continues to complete investigative tasks:
 - i. Continued reviews of witness statements for typos and to gain additional SA of related events
 - ii. Additional witness interviews conducted
 - iii. Court reporters continue to transcribe the new statements
 - iv. Refine exhibit list and apply all exhibits to facts in memo
 - v. Classified and Unclass EXSUM continue to be edited and prepared for final review
- vi. Final coordination for meeting in Kabul on Monday, 25 Oct
 - 1. New time set for 1345 Afghan time (0915Z, 0515EST)
 - 2. ASR submitted for flight to ISAF Soccer Field
 - 3. Coordinated on VTC details for US participants (VADM McRaven and possibly ADM Olson)
- vii. MG Votel reviewed Fly Through video and another video and provided comments
- viii. Due outs for 23 Oct:
 - 1. Murder board of facts, findings, recommendations
 - 2. Coordinate meeting with BG Townsend

10. 23 Oct:

- a. 1000 to 1400 – Team continues to complete investigative tasks:
 - i. Passed edits to graphics team and video team on Fly Through video and another video
 - ii. Worked on slides for Monday brief to GEN Mattis
 - iii. Court reporters continue to transcribe the new statements
 - iv. Edited witness interview transcripts to pull information classified above ~~S//REL USA, GBR~~
 - v. Pass all exhibits to SSO for classification review
 - vi. Classified and Unclass EXSUM continue to be edited and prepared for final review
- b. 1400 to 1645 – Majority of team conducts “murder board” on final memos
- c. 1400 to 0130 – Rest of team continues to complete investigative tasks

11. 24 Oct:

- a. 0930 – MG Votel meets with BG Townsend
- b. 1000 – 2300 Team continues to complete investigative tasks:
 - i. Finalize slides for Monday brief
 - ii. PP brief rehearsal

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1. Fine tune videos
- iii. All memos receiving final edits
- iv. Exhibits being uploaded to portals

12. 25 Oct:

- a. 0830 – Portion of team travels to Kabul to brief GEN Mattis, GEN Petraeus, LtGen Bucknall and ADM Olson and McRaven via VTC
 - i. Briefing went well. GEN Mattis comment was “in all the investigations we’ve done, this generated the least questions of any I’ve seen”
 - ii. LTC (b)(3), (b)(6) remains behind at Kabul where he is currently deployed
- b. 0900 to 1800 – Rest of team continues to refine investigative package, prepare for mailing
 - i. Electronic documents copied to DVDs
 - ii. Final edits to memos, awaiting final conclusion of autopsy, due now to be officially released 8 Nov
 - iii. Work on a special brief for delivery to family at conclusion of investigation
 - iv. Team members make travel plans to return to home bases

13. 26 Oct:

- a. 1300 to 1400 – Final team meeting to examine draft family brief, make final edits to memos and EXSUMs
- b. Part of team departs this day (all 3 UK officers and SEAL)
- c. USSOCOM members plan to depart on 27 Oct