

27 February 2012

Interview of

(b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c

[BG Watson advised (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c of his UCMJ, Article 31 rights for possible violations of UCMJ Article 92, dereliction of duty, Article 107, false official statements, and Article 134, service discrediting conduct. (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c waived his right to counsel and agreed to make a statement.]

[BG Watson administered the oath to (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c.]

(b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c **U.S. Army, first being duly sworn, did testify in substance as follows:**

I am (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c and I am assigned to 535th MP [Military Police] Battalion, Task Force Tarheel. My title is the (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c I work for the Battalion Commander as (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c. I am not a member of the COIN [counterinsurgency] team. I am the (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c for the 535th MP Battalion, more so for the rear detachment. I am an (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c, but for this deployment; (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c made me the (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c. My normal position is the (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c for the rear detachment. I came with this battalion as they deployed as the (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c.

I know (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c very well. I have a personal relationship with (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c. It is a totally professional relationship. I've known (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c for the past year, year and a half. I am the officer that made sure (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c is a friend, (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c is a good (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c and a good Soldier. I am (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c and (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c is a (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c. I do consider myself to be a coach or mentor to (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c.

When (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c came to the (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c office on Saturday and told me that they were conducting a search of the library, I was not surprised. For the last month to six weeks, they had been discussing this operation. The TIG [Theater Intelligence Group] and the S2 [staff intelligence] were trying to get in the library, but because the library was a brigade S2 asset, it hadn't happened yet. The library works for the brigade S2; that's my understanding, but I've never researched it. I was in the loop about all of this because I know the CI [counter intelligence], MI [military intelligence], and TIG people; they work with me and follow up on (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c issues. This is how I know the people involved.

Around the first or second week of January, during a Saturday morning BUB [Battle Update Brief], the Battalion Commander asked (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c how information was being passed in the cell blocks with the detainees. (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c could not answer that question. The Commander did not give (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c any guidance. (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c had just recently come off of R&R [rest and recuperation].

Being the (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c, I am always dealing with a lot of the guard force managers and NCOs [non-commissioned officers]. During that time frame, several of the guard force managers and NCOs had come to me at different times and said that the librarian was passing

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notes between detainees. This information never came up at a BUB meeting. I had this information because of the relationship I had with my linguists, the guard force, and the CI guys. I did have cognizance that there were a lot of suspicions about the library. There was nothing formally briefed at the battalion meeting talking about the library being searched.

That Saturday, I was in the office. It was probably in the afternoon and (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c came to my office. (b)(6) said that (b)(6) had finally gotten the librarian out of the area so they could go in to the library. I did offer up some of my linguist support to (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c. However, (b)(6) told me that they did not need linguist support because the TIG – CI people had their own linguists. (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c told me several times that between him and the CI that they were going to do the operation. I did not go into advising (b)(6) because I am not in that chain of command.

(b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c asked me if I wanted to come over there because there was an investigation going on. I walked over there to see what was going on, but I was not a part of the investigation. I'm not sure if I went out of curiosity, but I mostly went to see what linguists were there. I wanted to see if any of my linguists were there, that was the main thing. I walked into the library and I could only name two of the CI people there, (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c and I think a (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c that's all I know. (b)(6) wears civilian clothes all of the time, but I've been told (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c I recognized (b)(6) because (b)(6) has come to talk to (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c on occasion over issues with linguists.

I do not know who the two linguists were. I could point them out, but I don't know their names. They were not mine. I know there were two CIs there for a fact, but there could have been three. I walked to the back of the library and people were to the front and rear of the library. I went to the back and (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c was there, and I talked to him. During this time, (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c and (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c who was named (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c two linguists, (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c, and (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c were also in the library. They told me to put the latex gloves on in case I touched any books. I picked up a book or two off of the shelves; they were dictionaries. I just sat there, everything was really dusty. I listened to them talk. (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c was saying that they were trying to find evidence. They would open up books and notes would fall out, and they were collecting it for evidence. I stayed there for five maybe ten minutes at most and then I walked out. I never went back to the library after that.

I have a working relationship with the S2 Shop, (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c and the (b)(6), (b)(7)c because I also have a (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c and JPAS (Joint Personnel Adjudication System) access so I'll frequently assist as a security manager as part of my additional duties.

Most of the books that I remember were on the shelves. The CI guy was with a linguist who had white hair. They were going through the books and sorting them. When I entered the library, I walked through the front door and went all the way to the rear. I do not remember there being any books on the floor. I think I recall seeing a book cart. I remember that they had water bottles; they had a sorting system, and they were using the water bottles to denote what they had gone through and what was left to do. Everyone seemed to be in a good mood. They were going through books, and I was watching them. They would open a book and a note would fall out on either white or yellow paper. Someone would then collect it up but I didn't watch them assemble

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the process. They said if they found any notes written inside the book that they would take pictures.

The linguists in the library did not seem upset. I figured it was because they were the CI linguists, and they were already vetted and working for the CI. For all I know, they might have been American soldiers because they weren't in civilian clothes, but I was told they were CIs linguists.

I do not recall any conversation about any of these books being Qurans. I don't remember any books being separated. I remember the linguists saying if there was any extremist material, specifically a Quran. I want to say that's why they had the linguists, in case there was any religious material. I was only there briefly. I spoke with (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c, and they were just doing their job and what they thought they were supposed to do. Everybody was going through books. There was no discussion about what was going to happen to the books. I knew what was going on as far as the investigation in the library, but I knew nothing about what they were doing with the evidence.

When (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c came to my office; initially, (b)(6) said that they were finding extremist material and notes. I never heard (b)(6) use the word Jihadist. (b)(6) never discussed getting the stuff out of the library.

After I left the library, I walked back to my (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c manager's office and went back to work. Around 1800 hours, I went to eat. I usually meet up with (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c for dinner. That night, I met up with (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c and (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c to go to the mess hall. After we ate our dinner meal, I told them that I needed to walk back through the cell blocks and check on my linguists. I believe that was between 1900 to 2000 hours that evening. (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c, (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c and (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c, my assistant manager, walked through the housing units with me to check on my linguists and make sure they were doing their jobs. We walked through the housing units for about an hour, and then we left for the night.

The next morning, as we were walking into the DFIP, (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c asked me if I knew what happened the previous night. I told (b)(6) I didn't know of anything happening. (b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)c said (b)(6), (b)(7)c didn't know specifically what happened, but (b)(6) knew something big happened.

I've been as truthful and honest as I can be.

[Interview terminated.]