

**SWORN STATEMENT**

I am Sgt [redacted] (b)(3),(b)(6),Burgundy USMC. I am a fiscal comptroller with [redacted] (b)(6)

During Jul 08, I had been a driver gunner for the RCAC located at Camp Blackhorse, Kabul, Afghanistan since 21 February, 2008. I was then temporarily sent to Embedded Training Team (ETT) 5-3 at Camp Blessing when LtCol [redacted] (b)(3),(b)(6) OIC ETT 5-3, needed additional Marines to help cover the pending rotation of Cpl [redacted] (b)(3),(b)(6) and 4-day pass for Sgt [redacted] (b)(3),(b)(6). I was subsequently sent to Wanat to aid in the security and control of the Wanat base.

Zulu  
Elm  
Aqua

On 10 July, I flew to Wanat by helicopter accompanied by a 15 man ANA platoon. In all the Wanat ETT consisted of 25 ANA soldiers and three Marines (myself, Cpl [redacted] (b)(3),(b)(6) and Sgt [redacted] (b)(3),(b)(6),Aqua I had only been with this platoon for about two or three days. The Marine ETTs arrived with [redacted] (b)(2)High

Elm

[redacted] (b)(2)High I carried 8 magazines on my body and around five or six other magazines in my ditty bag. I carried a Camel Back, two canteens, and three or four bottles of water in my Alice Pack. We planned to carry a 2-3 day supply of water even though we were told that a re-supply of water was going to be delivered to our location. Water supply was not a problem for the ANA platoon due to a nearby well where they could draw water.

Thereafter, I believe 1LT Brostrom called in for a re-supply of water, MRE's and ammo on 10 July, 2008. The water and MRE re-supply was slow and took 2 days to get to Wanat. By 12 July, 2008, the ETT Marines started to run short of water.

The only construction equipment I saw was a Bobcat used by the engineers. The Bobcat ran out of fuel on the second day. I believe the engineers gerry-rigged it to work at some point. No other construction equipment or engineer support arrived during time at Wanat with the exception of the engineer survey team.

My impression of Wanat when I arrived was that it was the worst place to locate a base. Chosen Co, 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon generally decided the location of the ANA defensive positions, but there was not adequate standoff from the base perimeter to the neighboring village. I was told, by 1LT Brostrom that this location was selected over more suitable locations because the Army was unable to secure property rights to a more optimal area.

INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT [redacted] (b)(3),(b)(6)

Burgundy

Before we left Camp Blessing we received the enemy situation brief. We learned that Wanat was not friendly to coalition forces and that there might be an attack on the Wanat base. When we got to Wanat, we received information from the Army, that the mayor and chief of police left the area. I was told by an Army Lt that this was never a good sign. In addition, we were told every night by the ANA soldiers and by locals that we would be attacked at Wanat.

I believe that we needed more manpower in the Wanat area to cover the perimeter and remove the blind spots that were later used during the attack. Our defensive abilities were limited by a lack of manpower to cover blind spots. I spoke with 1LT Brostrom of regarding the dead space and lack of manpower to cover the area. I believe 1LT Brostrom requested additional bodies with no success.

I also had concerns with members of my ANA platoon. The ANA soldiers were reluctant to go on patrols and did not conduct any patrols in Wanat. They lacked motivation and would only go on patrol if it was to their advantage, such as receiving the next day off or getting off early that particular day. The ANA soldiers also did not follow simple tasks such as rationing their MRE's. Despite our instructions, they would eat all their MRE's on the first day and become upset if we did not use our SIF money to purchase them fresh meals from the local community.

In my opinion the ANA soldiers were not trustworthy. They reminded me of another ANA unit that was infiltrated by AAF. I did not feel comfortable to guard the perimeter with them. The ANA troops would often sit with local elders and other local civilians instead of us. For example, we had two interpreters attached to the ANA platoon. One interpreter was reluctant to pass information to the U.S. Military and the other was shunned by the ANA for refusal to pray throughout the day and for associating closely with the U.S. Military.

On the day we were attacked, we prepared a 0500 ANA patrol to scout an OP position on one of the mountains to the SE of base for OP. At 0420, while the ANA platoon was preparing to form up for the march off, we took our first RPG fire from insurgents. I heard the Top Side OP on a hot mic requesting backup and supplies while taking heavy [Elm] fire. Cpl [b)(3),(b)(6)] and I took a M240 and some ammo and sought other support to go offer fire OP top side to the enemy.

[Elm] Cpl [b)(3),(b)(6)] and I entered OP Top side and saw a collection point for the wounded. We dropped the 240 rounds and gave the 240 to an individual who could better use the weapon. We then proceeded to the Northern part of the OP and utilized the SAW. During this time we were receiving fire from the tree lines north to northeast of our position. From this position we could not even see someone within 10 meters of us. We received 3 RPG's from the tree line and then we were

INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT [b)(3),(b)(6)]

Burgundy

Page 2 of 3

reinforced by an Army soldier. We also received 2 RPG's from the north toward the valley.

I personally believed ANA soldiers were paid off or coerced into not fighting off the insurgents during the Wanat attack. My ANA platoon suffered one burn casualty and sustained no other injuries. I felt other ANA soldiers were withholding from the battle and allowed the enemy to come within 5-10 meters of the perimeter to fire on our locations. I believe enemy forces were firing over the ANA and that the ANA made no effort to repel the enemy attack

After the battle at Wanat, I was medevac'd back to JAF and was told by LtCol (b)(3),(b)(6) that personnel from Wanat were being withdrawn from Wanat. **Zulu**

**AFFIDAVIT**

**Burgundy**

I, (b)(3),(b)(6), HAVE READ OR HAVE HAD READ TO ME THIS STATEMENT WHICH BEGINS ON PAGE 1 AND ENDS ON PAGE 3. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ENTIRE STATEMENT MADE BY ME. THE STATEMENT IS TRUE. I HAVE INITIALED ALL CORRECTIONS AND HAVE INITIALED THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE CONTAINING THE STATEMENT. I HAVE MADE THIS STATEMENT FREELY WITHOUT HOPE OF BENEFIT OR REWARD, WITHOUT THREAT OF PUNISHMENT, AND WITHOUT COERCION, UNLAWFUL INFLUENCE, OR UNLAWFUL INDUCEMENT.

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

**Burgundy**

atement)

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a person authorized by law to administer oaths, this 25 day of October 2009 at Ft Caventish, IL

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

(Signature of Person Administering Oath)

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

(Typed Name of Person Administering Oath)

Judge Holcomb  
(Authority To Administer Oaths)

WITNESSES:  
  
(b)(3),(b)(6)

ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS

INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT

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

**Burgundy**