

BGS (Int)

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INTERROGATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Reference: BGS(Int)/1/16 dated 8 November 1971.

1. I have the following comments on the draft directive to GOC Northern Ireland:

- a. Para 1 For "Armed Forces Team" read "Joint Service Team".
- b. Para 6b (i) Add "or that the spirit of the instructions at References A, B & C are not being observed"
- c. Para 7 last line Delete "Director of Military Operations" and substitute "BGS(Int)".
- d. In addition, I think the directive should make clear that the Joint Service Team will only support the RUC in interrogation if prior GB Ministerial sanction for interrogation of the particular subject or subjects involved has been given.

2. I consider that the next step is for you to submit a revised draft of the directive to VCGS for his approval and subsequent despatch to GOC Northern Ireland.

- AUS(GS) .....
- DS 10
- Asst Sec .....
- Principal .....
- GSO 2(a) .....
- HEO(a) .....
- HEO(b) (2) .....
- GSO 1 .....
- GSO 2(b) .....

*R. E. Leahy*

DHO

9 November 1971

- DS 7
- Asst Sec .....
- Principal(a) .....
- GSO 2(a) .....
- HEO(a) .....
- Princ-ops(b) .....
- GSO 2(b) .....

19 NOV 1971

File No. 53/44/45  
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INTERROGATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

1. I attach a first draft of an interrogation directive to GOC Northern Ireland, as instructed.
2. Reference C will be based on the outcome of the Compton Report, on the Bremner report, and on Sir Dick White's report (for the present I have merely referred to the last named). It is impossible to compose it yet.

*Anna Lewis*  
 J M H TULLIS  
 Brigadier  
 BSS(Int)DIS

8 November 1971

*Separate Copy*  
 AUS(GS) .....  
 DS 6 .....  
 Asst. Sec .....  
 Principal ..... *Seen*  
 GSO 2(a) .....  
 HEO(a)(1) .....  
 HEO(a)(2) .....  
 GSO 1 .....  
 GSO 2(b) .....

DS 7  
 Asst Sec .....  
 Principal(a) .....  
 GSO 2(a) .....  
 HEO(a) .....  
 Principal(b) .....  
 GSO 2(b) .....

- 9 NOV 1971

*File No. 153/441*

*SECRET*  
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OPPOSITE  
INATION  
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SECRET - PERMANENT UK EYES ONLY

DIRECTIVE FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE ARMED FORCES  
TEAM, WHEN IN SUPPORT OF THE ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY  
DURING INTERROGATIONS IN DEATH IN ULSTER

- Reference A. JIC(65)15 dated 17 Feb 65 as amended by
- B. JIC(65)15 dated 10 Feb 67
- C. INT 21(71)1 Draft of 2 Nov 71 (or superseding document)

1. The Armed Forces Team, provided by Joint Services Interrogation Wing, is under your command at all times when in Northern Ireland.
2. The Team will be employed solely in support of the R.U.C. in their interrogation in depth of persons detained under the Civil Authorities (Special Powers) Act (Northern Ireland) 1922. The Team thus constitutes the Armed Forces support element of No 25 Communications Unit (No 25 Comms Unit). When operating the Team will be commanded by an officer of field or equivalent rank.
3. The Team will only be employed within the confines of the Hut 60 complex of Ballykelly Camp.
4. The role of the Team is to:
  - a. Advise the senior Police Officer of the RUC element, 25 Comms Unit, in the application of the general principles of handling and interrogating detained persons. In this they are to be guided at all times by the controls and limitations imposed by reference A as amended. (See also para 7 below).
  - b. Provide watch keeping and intelligence support staff in the Control Room of the unit.
  - c. Monitor the questioning phase of all interrogations and to provide the interrogators of the RUC element with any intelligence advice necessary or asked for.

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d. Operate the Technical facilities and to provide staff for monitoring the questioning phase, c. above refers, and to maintain the equipment required for it. At NO time is any member of the Armed Forces Team to search, handle or question any detained person.

5. Overall direction of the whole Interrogation procedure must remain the responsibility of the Civil Power in the person of the Senior Police Officer of the RUC present at the time. In particular only he or members of the RUC may handle or question detained persons.

6. By virtue of the Armed Forces providing the support element you are to:-

a. require the Civil authority to keep you informed in advance of the name and address of each person who is to be interrogated in depth, and at the same time to give the reason why this step is considered necessary.

b. Charge the officer in command of the Armed Forces support team to report directly to you, having so advised the senior Police Officer, of any instances where:-

(i) he considers the controls and limitations imposed have been contravened.

(ii) His advice has been rejected.

(iii) He believes that the RUC is not properly exploiting the situation.

7. You will issue your own directive to the Team covering the above points as they affect the Team, and additionally including special instructions covering the specific application of

/approved

approved techniques as listed in Ref. C. If you are in any doubt as to which techniques may be employed, or for how long, you will refer to the Director of Military Operations.