



The Iraq Historic Allegations Team Quarterly update

The purpose of this document is to fulfil IHAT's obligation to ensure that the public can access information about its progress. It details the following:

Noteworthy developments during the reporting period
Number of cases referred to the IHAT
Number of cases at each stage of the IHAT process

Information regarding the nature of the allegations; completed cases; number of cases discontinued (and the reason why) can be found elsewhere on the IHAT webpage.

30 June 2014

IRAQ HISTORIC ALLEGATIONS TEAM (IHAT) QUARTERLY UPDATE – April – June 2014

Overview

In April, the then Attorney General, Dominic Grieve, visited IHAT and was brought up-to-date on progress made by IHAT since his previous visit in January 2012. He was reassured by the clear plan and direction of work.

In May the International Criminal Court announced it would be making a preliminary investigation of the UK's response to allegations of abuses British troops against Iraqi civilians.

At the end of June, IHAT hosted a small delegation from the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) from the International Criminal Court (ICC). The IHAT team worked hard to ensure that the delegates had a sound understanding of the enormity of the IHAT's task and the investigative processes in place to undertake it.

The focus was on ensuring that the visiting delegates had clear visibility of the amount of time and effort that had been put into ensuring our operating and business process were effective, efficient, and also capable of flexing within an ever changing portfolio of work.

The OTP delegation took on board the major issues set out in a series of presentations. They returned to The Hague fully aware of the complexities of the work of IHAT and its scope of its caseload (in terms of both volume and geography).

This quarter also saw three deployments of the specialised achieving best evidence (ABE) interview teams. Video interviews with 26 witnesses were undertaken.

IHAT current strategic objectives:

- Allegations of unlawful killings in the custody/care/control of British Forces
- Allegations of the unlawful killings of juveniles
- Allegations of unlawful killings outside of custody
- Allegations of serious ill-treatment including GBH, rape, sexual assault
- Allegations of ill-treatment that may meet the war crimes threshold
- Allegations of ill-treatment not meeting war crimes threshold

Cases allocated to IHAT

The tables below detail IHAT cases and show at which stage those cases are at in the IHAT pre-investigation and full investigation process.

As at 30 June 2014, the IHAT caseload consisted of 146 cases involving 243 victims. 52 of these cases, which involve 63 victims, relate to allegations of unlawful death. A breakdown of these cases is provided in Figure 1 below. The remaining 94 cases, involving 180 victims, relate to cases of alleged mistreatment or abuse. A breakdown of these cases is provided in Figure 2 below.

Figure 1

FIGURE 1: STATUS OF CASES OF ALLEGED UNLAWFUL KILLING ASSIGNED TO THE IHAT AS 30 JUN 2014		
By Status Category		
Status Category	Subjects	Cases
Pre-investigation process	26	26
Joint Case Review Panel	5	5
Tasking and Co-ordination Group (awaiting allocation)	1	1
Investigation	17	16
Referred to Judicial Process	0	0
Complete	14	4
Total	63	52

Figure 2

FIGURE 2: STATUS OF CASES OF ALLEGED ABUSE ASSIGNED TO THE IHAT AS OF 30 JUN 2014 by Status Category		
Status Category	Subjects	Cases
Pre-investigation process	131	71
Achieving Best Evidence Interview	5	4
Further case assessment	15	10
Investigation	25	5
Complete	4	4
Total	180	94