

UK military interrogation manuals discovered

GUARDIAN ONLINE

The British military has been training interrogators in techniques that include threats, sensory deprivation and enforced nakedness in an apparent breach of the Geneva conventions, the Guardian has discovered.

Training materials drawn up secretly in recent years tell interrogators they should aim to provoke humiliation, insecurity, disorientation, exhaustion, anxiety and fear in the prisoners they are questioning, and suggest ways in which this can be achieved.

One PowerPoint training aid created in September 2005 tells trainee military interrogators that prisoners should be stripped before they are questioned. "Get them naked," it says. "Keep them naked if they do not follow commands." Another manual prepared around the same time advises the use of blindfolds to put prisoners under pressure.

A manual prepared in April 2008 suggests that "Cpers" captured personnel be kept in conditions of physical discomfort and intimidated. Sensory deprivation is lawful, it adds, if there are "valid operational reasons". It also urges enforced nakedness.

More recent training material says blindfolds, earmuffs and plastic handcuffs are essential equipment for military interrogators, and says that while prisoners should be allowed to sleep or rest for eight hours in each 24, they need be permitted only four hours unbroken sleep. It also suggests that interrogators tell prisoners they will be held incommunicado unless they answer questions.

The 1949 Geneva conventions prohibit any "physical or moral coercion", in particular any coercion employed to obtain information.

The revelations come after the Guardian published US military documents leaked to the whistleblowing website WikiLeaks revealing details of torture, summary executions and war crimes in Iraq.

All the British classified training material was produced after the death of Baha Mousa, the Iraqi hotel receptionist tortured to death by British troops in Basra in September 2003. Some of it was created after a UK army inquiry into the abuse of Iraqi civilians concluded, in January 2008, that while a number of cases had been a cause for "professional humility", ill-treatment had not been endemic.

450 skeletons found in Bosnian

AP, Sarajevo

Bosnian and Serbian authorities say they've recovered 450 pieces of human skeletons from the banks of a lake partially drained this summer for maintenance.

Officials from the Bosnian and Serbian Commissions for Missing Persons said yesterday 372 pieces were found on the Bosnian bank of Perucac lake and 79 on the Serbian side.

Authorities say that, by counting the different right femurs, they've determined the remains belong to at least 97 people, but only DNA analysis will show the total number and their identities.

Most of the victims were killed by Serbs at the start of the 1992-1995 war in the nearby town of Visegrad, but on the Serbian side experts found the remains of what they presume to be 11 Albanians killed during the Kosovo war.

US defends Iraq record after WikiLeaks furore

AFP, Washington

US officials defended the US military's record probing civilian deaths and abuse in Iraq after graphic revelations in leaked secret documents triggered worldwide concern and condemnation.

The whistleblower website WikiLeaks released an unprecedented 400,000 classified US documents, which recount widespread torture in Iraqi prisons and purport to show 15,000 more civilian deaths than previously disclosed.

General George Casey, the top officer in the US Army who earlier headed forces in Iraq for three of the bloodiest years in the war, on Monday denied that the United States "turned a blind eye" to prisoner abuse.

"That's just not the case. Our policy all along was when American soldiers encountered prisoner abuse, it was to stop it and then report it immediately up the American chain of command and up the Iraqi chain of command," he said.

Casey also denied undercounting civilian deaths, saying US forces regularly inquired at morgues about death tolls.

French strikes lose steam

AP, Paris

France's finance minister declared that anti-austerity protests had reached "a turning point" yesterday as garbage collectors began tackling Marseille's reeking mounds of trash and a few French oil workers halted their strike.

Nationwide strikes and strikes over government plans to change the retirement age from 60 to 62 have disrupted French life and the country's economy for weeks, cancelling trains, causing school closures and shutting down one gas station in four.

University students, pledging to keep the momentum going, organized demonstrations in 20 French cities Tuesday. Unions have called for another nationwide day of protests Thursday but by then, the retirement reform will have passed its final hurdles in France's parliament.

Iran fuels first nuke reactor

BBC ONLINE

Iran has begun loading fuel into the core of its first nuclear power plant, state television has reported.

It marks a key stage in the firing-up of the Bushehr plant, which is set to produce electricity from 2011.

Russia will operate the facility in southern Iran, supplying its nuclear fuel and taking away the nuclear waste.

Iran's separate uranium enrichment programme has alarmed Western nations, who distrust Iran's claims it is solely for peaceful purposes.

Iran has been subject to four rounds of UN sanctions because of its nuclear programme.

Experts say that as long as the Bushehr plant is Russian-operated and supervised by the UN nuclear watchdog the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), there is little chance of proliferation.

German engineers began work on the Bushehr nuclear facility in the 1970s. The project has been plagued by delays, but was completed with help from Russia.

Iranian and Russian engineers initially began to move nuclear fuel into the reactor in August, amid great media fanfare, but the work was again delayed - Iran says due to a leak in the central pool of the reactor building.

"Fuel injection into the core of the reactor has begun," state TV announced on Tuesday.

Mohammad Ahmadian of Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation said some 160 fuel rods would be placed in the core of the reactor - a process Iranian media report will take about 20 days.

"The reactor will [then] hopefully be ready to become operational," Mr Ahmadian said - though it will then take a month or two to begin producing electricity at full capacity.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast said Iran's nuclear programme was "progressing well according to the fixed timetable despite all political pressures and sanctions", reported official Iranian news agency Irna.



This photo released by North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) yesterday shows North Korean leader Kim Jong-il (2nd R) and his son Kim Jong-un (C) meeting with a group of Chinese officers, led by Guo Boxiong (2nd L), vice chairman of China's Central Military Commission, during a visit to Pyongyang on Monday.

UK Police step up training for Mumbai-style attack

AFP, London

Security forces are increasing training for an attack similar to the Mumbai bloodshed two years ago, following reports that a similar plot was foiled in Europe last month, the BBC said yesterday.

Police marksmen and special forces units are undergoing exercises while police armed response units are being given more powerful weapons to combat any attackers with automatic weapons, the BBC said, without identifying sources.

While there is no indication such an attack is imminent, the BBC's story comes after reports last month that an al-Qaeda plot to launch attacks in Britain, France and Germany by seizing hostages in a manner similar to Mumbai had been foiled.

The attacks in November 2008 left 166 people dead in the Indian city.

The BBC reported that a unit from the SAS (Special Air Service) would be stationed

in London during the 2012 Olympic Games.

Britain's official terror threat level currently stands at severe, the second highest, meaning an attack is highly likely.

The Home Office played down the report, saying in a statement: "The police regularly train and exercise for a variety of scenarios with a variety of partners."

"The police have established procedures in place to deal with a terrorist incident which are constantly updated."

"It is right that we learn the lessons from previous incidents."

Home Secretary Theresa May is in Pakistan discussing issues including counter-terrorism.

Britain has previously said that three-quarters of terrorist plots it investigates have links to Pakistan and May said continued cooperation between the two countries was essential.

"The whole point of discussions that we have been having is the recognising that

there is mutual benefit in working together in the fight against terror," she told a news conference in Islamabad on Tuesday.

"This is the threat that both our countries face."

"Pakistan has made enormous sacrifices as a result of terrorism in Pakistan and we are very conscious of that. So this is something we need to fight for both our countries' sake."

Pakistan's Interior Minister Rehman Malik added that there was "total cooperation" between intelligence agencies over such threats.

"The world has become a global village," Malik said.

"Terrorists sitting in Karachi will be sitting in UK tomorrow and the next morning, he will be in New York. International intelligence agencies are now working in total cooperation to avert any such incident if it is reported."

EDCL ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED
395-397, TEJGAON INDUSTRIAL AREA
DHAKA-1208.

INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

EDCL Invites short dated International Tender for supply of Pharmaceutical Raw and Packing Materials on C&F@ Chittagong by Sea/Dhaka by Air/Benapole by Road basis:

Sl. No.	Tender No. Date	Name of the Item	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last date of Closing & Opening
1.	IMP/R&PM/SEM/15/2010-2011 dated 25/10/2010	Pharmaceutical Raw and Packing Materials: 01. Diazepam BP'2010 02. Drotavarin HCL INN 03. Alu. Alu Blister Packing foil (Bottom) Width: 200mm 04. Empty Hard Gelatin Shell # 3 (Green Colour/LT Green colour)	Tk. 1500.00/ set Equivalent to US\$ 21.00 Non-refundable	Closing : 10/11/2010 At : 11.00 AM. Opening : 10/11/2010 At : 11.15 AM.

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited, Dhaka on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays).
No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.
EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

N.B. This information is also available at our Website: www.edcl.gov.bd

(Md. Feroze-ul-Alam)
Director Operation & Incharge,
Planning & Procurement Deptt.
For : Managing Director.

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH
TENDER NOTICE

INVITATION FOR INTERIOR DECORATION OF MULTI-PURPOSE HALL ROOM
For the IUB Campus at Bashundhara

- Sealed tenders are hereby invited from bonafide contractors for **Interior Decoration of the Multi-purpose Hall Room for Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)** campus at Bashundhara, Dhaka. The bidders will be required to submit a complete offer including the cost with detail design, drawing and specification.
- The bidder will apply in their official letterheads to the undersigned along with the following documents:
 - The experience certificate from the employer for Interior Decoration Works.
 - Copies of the latest Trade License, Income Tax and VAT Registration Certificates.
- The bidder shall furnish as part of the bid, an earnest money of 2.5% of the bid amount in favour of Independent University, Bangladesh in the form of a bank draft/pay order from a schedule bank located in the country.
- Interested bidders are requested to collect the Tender Schedule from the office of the undersigned between 9:30 am to 4:00 pm from 31 October 2010 to 2 November 2010 on payment of Taka 2,000/- only in cash (non-refundable) for each schedule.
- The tenders will be received at the office of the undersigned up to 2:00 pm of 9 November 2010 and shall be opened at 2:30 pm on the same day at the same place in presence of the bidders who may like to attend the tender opening.
- IUB reserves the right to accept only the technically responsive tender without any consideration of the lowest bid and shall have the right to reject any tender without assigning any reason whatsoever.

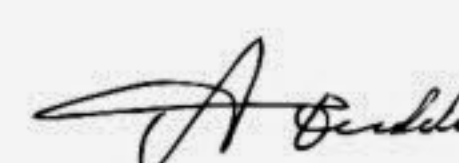
Director, Planning & Development
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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that our client BANK ASIA LIMITED, Tea Board Building (1st floor), 111-113, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000 is considering to purchase the land particulars of which are described below, from its owner Md. Younus Hossain Bhuiyan son of Late Ismail Hossain Bhuiyan and Musammata Fatema Begum at 2, Sukrabad, Mirpur Road, Dhaka, hereinafter referred to as the "SELLER". In such situation, all concerned are requested to contact with the undersigned if any body has any sort of claim, objection or ownership over the schedule property within 07 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. In default, it shall be deemed that the schedule land is un-encumbered and undisputed and any kind of claim or objection will be treated as rejected and unacceptable after elapsing the said period.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of land measuring 6.5 (six and half) katha more or less situated within District-Dhaka, Police Station-Mohammadpur, Sub Registrar Office-Mohammadpur, under Dhaka Collectorate Touzi J.L. No. C.S. 260, S.A. 83, R.S. & Dhaka City Jarip-2, Mouza-Sukrabad, Khatian No. C.S. 102, S.A. 170, R.S. 3018, 911, 106, Dhaka City Jarip-122, 124, D.R. 913, Dag No. C.S. 310, S.A. 308, R.S. 901, Dhaka City Jarip-1029, Holding No. 2, Sukrabad, Mirpur Road, Dhaka; butted & bounded by: On the North: Road, On the South: Hazi Md. Badshah Miah, On the East: Navana Apartment and On the West: Mirpur Road.


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