



ARMED FORCES INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY
Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner
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FINAL AUTOPSY REPORT

Name: [b)(6)-4]

SSAN: [b)(6)-4]

Date of Birth: Unknown, appears middle aged

Date of Death: 7 August 2003 ± 1915 hrs

Date of Autopsy: 24 August 2003

Date of report: 29 September 2003

Autopsy No: ME 03-385

AFIP No.: 2892215

Rank: n/a

Place of Death: Diwania, Iraq

Place of Autopsy: 54th QM Co,
Baghdad Intl. Airport, Iraq

Circumstances of Death: The decedent was an enemy prisoner of war detainee at the Biap prison who was being transported in a bus when he became short of breath, hypotensive and tachycardic. A medic with the 115th MP Battalion administered an IV bolus, which briefly improved his symptoms and signs, but he soon arrested. When examined later in the day by a physician, rigor and lividity were established, but "no visible markings, wounds, lesions, deformity" were seen. No body temperature was recorded in the records available for review.

Authorization for Autopsy: Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner, IAW 10 US Code 1471

Identification: Positive identification is not established because of a lack of antemortem exemplars. Postmortem dental exam and x-rays, DNA specimen and fingerprints are obtained for possible future reference.

CAUSE OF DEATH: Undetermined atraumatic cause

MANNER OF DEATH: Natural

FINAL AUTOPSY DIAGNOSES:

- I. No evidence of significant natural disease, within the limitations of this autopsy.
- II. No evidence of trauma
- III. Toxicological examination
 - Blood and urine were negative for ethanol
 - Blood was negative for prescription and illicit drugs

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body is that of a well-developed, well-nourished appearing 72 inch tall, 210 pounds (estimated), middle eastern male who appears middle aged. (Date of birth is unknown.). Lividity is inapparent due to postmortem changes. Rigor is passed, and the temperature is cold.

The scalp is covered with black, straight, long hair in a normal distribution and there is a full beard and mustache. The irides are difficult to determine due to cloudy cornea, but appear brown, and the pupils are round and equal in diameter. The external auditory canals are free of blood and unusual secretions. The ears are unremarkable. The nares are patent and the lips are atraumatic. The nose and maxillae are palpably stable. The teeth appear natural and in fair repair.

The neck is straight, and the trachea is midline and mobile. The chest is symmetric. The abdomen is flat. The genitalia are those of a normal adult male. The testes are descended and free of masses. Pubic hair is present in a normal distribution. The buttocks and anus are unremarkable.

The upper and lower extremities are symmetric and without clubbing or edema.

CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

The following clothing items and personal effects are present on the body at the time of autopsy:

- Green knee-length shirt
- Buff colored boxer shorts

MEDICAL INTERVENTION

- A 500 mL bag of lactated Ringer's solution connected to an IV cannula that apparently fell out of the right antecubital fossa.

RADIOGRAPHS

Radiographs are unavailable at this location.

EVIDENCE OF INJURY

There is no evidence of injury following a complete postmortem examination.

Decompositional changes consist of skin slippage, marbling, foul odor and a green color to the anterior thorax and abdomen.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

HEAD:

The galeal and subgaleal soft tissues of the scalp are free of injury. The calvarium is intact, as is the dura mater beneath it. Clear cerebrospinal fluid surrounds the 1400 gm brain, which has unremarkable gyri and sulci. Coronal sections demonstrate sharp demarcation between white and grey matter, without hemorrhage or contusive injury. The ventricles are of normal size. The basal ganglia, brainstem, cerebellum, and arterial systems are free of injury or other abnormalities. There are no skull fractures. The atlanto-occipital joint is stable.

NECK:

The anterior strap muscles of the neck are homogenous and red-brown, without hemorrhage. The thyroid cartilage and hyoid are intact. The larynx is lined by intact white mucosa. The thyroid is symmetric and red-brown, without cystic or nodular change. The tongue is free of bite marks, hemorrhage, or other injuries. There is no soot staining of the larynx or the trachea.

Incision and dissection of the posterior neck demonstrates no deep paracervical muscular injury and no cervical spine fractures.

BODY CAVITIES:

The ribs, sternum, and vertebral bodies are visibly and palpably intact. No excess fluid is in the right pleural, pericardial, or peritoneal cavities, although there is scant decomposition fluid. The organs occupy their usual anatomic positions.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

The right and left lungs weigh 950 gm and 1050 gm, respectively. The external surfaces are smooth and deep red-purple. The pulmonary parenchyma is diffusely congested and edematous. No mass lesions or areas of consolidation are present.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The 270 gm heart is contained in an intact pericardial sac. The epicardial surface is smooth, with minimal fat investment. The coronary arteries are present in a normal distribution, with a right-dominant pattern. Cross sections of the vessels show no significant atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease. The myocardium is homogenous, red-brown, and firm. The valve leaflets are thin and mobile. The endocardium is smooth and glistening. The aorta gives rise to three intact and patent arch vessels. The renal and mesenteric vessels are unremarkable.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM:

The 1250 gm liver has an intact, smooth capsule and a sharp anterior border. The parenchyma is tan-brown and congested, with the usual lobular architecture. No mass lesions or other abnormalities are seen. The gallbladder contains 15 mL of green-black bile and no stones. The mucosal surface is green and velvety. The extrahepatic biliary tree is patent.

SPLEEN:

The 260 gm spleen has a smooth, intact, red-purple capsule. The parenchyma is maroon and diffuent, with indistinct Malpighian corpuscles.

PANCREAS:

The pancreas is firm and yellow-tan, with the usual lobular architecture. No mass lesions or other abnormalities are seen.

ADRENALS:

The right and left adrenal glands are symmetric, with bright yellow cortices and grey medullae. No masses or areas of hemorrhage are identified.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

The right and left kidneys weigh 75 gm and 75 gm, respectively. The external surfaces are intact and smooth. The cut surfaces are red-tan and congested, with uniformly thick cortices and sharp corticomedullary junctions. The pelves are unremarkable and the ureters are normal in course and caliber. White bladder mucosa overlies an intact bladder wall. The bladder contains approximately 170 mL of hazy, pink urine. The prostate is normal in size, with nodular, yellow-tan parenchyma.

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The seminal vesicles are unremarkable. The testes are free of mass lesions, contusions, or other abnormalities.

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT:

The esophagus is intact and lined by smooth, grey-white mucosa. The stomach contains approximately 100 mL of grey, pasty, partially digested, unrecognizable food. The gastric wall is intact. The duodenum, loops of small bowel, and colon are unremarkable. The appendix is present.

ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

- Documentary photographs are taken by OAFME photographer MSgt (b)(6)-2
- No trace evidence is collected.
- Specimens retained for toxicologic testing and/or DNA identification are: cavity blood, liver, spleen, urine, gastric contents, brain, bile, and psoas muscles.
- The dissected organs are forwarded with the body.

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION

Selected portions of organs are retained in formalin, without preparation of histologic slides.

OPINION

This Middle Eastern male, (b)(6)-4 died as a result of an unknown non-traumatic and nontoxic cause. The manner of death is natural.

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Colonel, Medical Corps, US Army
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Armed Forces Medical Examiner System