

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE UNITED STATES SOUTHERN COMMAND OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER 3511 NW 91ST AVENUE MIAML, FL. 33172-1217

SCCC

5 February 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR Mr. Uldric L. Fiore, Jr., Assistant Inspector General and General Counsel, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Defense, 400 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202

SUBJECT: Army Regulation (AR) 15-6 Investigation into Alleged Abuse of Detainees at Joint Task Force — Guantanamo

- 1. Enclosed for your review is a copy of the AR 15-6 investigation recently conducted into allegations raised to the Inspector General of the Department of Defense by Lieutenant Colonel Colby C. Vokey, USMC, on 4 October 2006.
- 2. Colonel Richard C. Bassett, USA, concluded his investigation on 22 January 2007, and I approved his findings and recommendations, except for Recommendation 2, on 5 February 2007.

Encl

as

J. STAVRIDIS Admiral, U.S. Navy

CF:

Mr. Eric S. Edelman, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Mr. William J. Haynes H., General Counsel, Department of Defense Gen Peter Pace, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

	STIGATING OFFICER/BC	O OF OFFICERS	
IF MORE SPACE IS REQUIRED IN FILLING OUT AN	5-6; the preponent agency is OTJAU.	A AND THO ALL STREET	- 1 1
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SECTION :	- APPOINTMENT		
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promise by	(Appointing authority)	·P. '"	19-
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13 October 2006 (Attach inclosure 1: Letter of appointment (Date)	or summary of oral appointment data	i.) (See para 3-15, AR 15-6.)	
SECTIO	N 11 - SESSIONS		
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n 13 October 2006 (If a formal board met for more than one	services' check here [] Indicate to	n inclusive the time each 200	cion beam and
present: (After each name, indicate capacity, e.g., President, Recorder, Mami			
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and completed findings and recommendations at		on 22 January	
	(Time)	(Date	<u> </u>
	ECKLIST FOR PROCEEDINGS		·
A. COMPLETE IN ALL CASES			YES NO NA
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Are all items offered (whether or not received) or considered at ovidence individually numbered or lettered as exhibits and attached to this report? Is an index of all exhibits offered to or considered by investigating officer or board attached before the first exhibit? Has the testimony/statement of each witness been recorded variating or been reduced to written form and attached as an exhibit. Are copies, descriptions, or depictions (if substituted for real or documentary evidence) properly authenticated and is the location of the original syndence indicated? Are descriptions or diagrams included or locations visited by the investigating officer or board (para 3-66, AR 15-6)? It each written signal on attached as an exhibit and is each oral stignalation either reduced to writing and made an exhibit or recorded in a verbation record? If official notice of any matter was taken over the objection of a respondent or counsel, is a statement of the matter of which official notice was taken attached as an exhibit (para 3-16d, AR 15-6)? Eas a quantum present when the board voted on findings and recommendations (paras 4-1 and 5-2b, AR 15-6)? MPLETE ONLY FOR FORMAL BOARD PROCHEDINGS (Chapter 5, AR 15-6) is a quantum present at every resident of the board (para 5-2b, AR 15-6)? For members, witnesses, reporter, and interpretent from, if required (para 3-1, AR 15-6)? say members who whed on findings or recommendations were not present when the board received some evidence, ones the investment of the order form fraction themselves with that evidence (para 5-2d, AR 15-6)? OMPLETE ONLY IP RESPONDENT WAS DESIGNATED (Section II, Chapter 5, AR 15-6) Office to respondents (para 5-5, AR 15-6):	XXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
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	500 100	
Was the date of delivery at least five working days mine to the first session of the board?		
Does each letter of notification inflicate —	- -	
	- 	
		├
(2) the matter to be investigated, including specific allegations against the respondent, if any?		Ļ -
(3) the respondent's rights with regard to counsel?		1 2
(4) the name and address of each witness expected to be called by the recorder?		
(5) the respectdent's rights to be present, present evidence, and call witnesses?		
I. Was the respondent provided a copy of all unclassified documents in the case file?		
Lifthern were relevant classified materials, were the respondent and his counsel given access and an opportunity to examine them?		
If any respondent was designated after the interestings began (or otherwise was absent during part of the proceedings):		7-70
a. Was he properly notified (para 5-5, AR 15-6)?		T
b. Was record of proceedings and evidence received in his absence made available for examination by him and his counsel. (non-5-4c, AR 25-6)?	- ` ,	. -
Comusel (parce 3-6, AR 15-6):		
c. Was catch respondent represented by counsel?		The same
Name and business address of counsel:		
Name and mames sources or compat.		
(If counsel is a lawyer, check here 🔲)		
		بجسب
b. Was respondent's counsel present at all open sessions of the board relating to that respondent? c. If military counsel was requested but not made available, is a copy (or, if oral, a summary) of the request and the	-	
action taken on it included in the report (para 5-6b, AR 15-6)? When reproduce the latest and the latest actions for many vacting manufacture for latest actions and latest the latest actions for latest	- 1	
If the respondent challenged the legal advisor or any voting member for lack of importantly (para 5-7, AR 15-6):		
a. Was the challenge properly denied and by the appropriate officer?		╅—┼
b. Did each member successfully challenged cease to participate in the proceedings?		
Was the respondent given an opportunity to (para S-8a, AR 15-6):		77.29.6
a. Be present with his counsel at all open sessions of the board which deal with any matter which concerns that respondent?		
b. Examine and object to the introduction of real and documentary evidence, including written statements?	\top	
c. Object to the astimany of winterses and cross-examine winterses other than his own?		7
d. Call witnesses and otherwise introduce evidence?	\top	1 1
e. Testify as a witness?	-+-	
f. Make or have his counsel make a final statement or argument. (para 5-9, AR 15-6)?		-
If requested, did the specifier assist the respondent in obsaining evidence in possession of the Government and in	 	- it :
arranging for the presence of winesses (para 5-86, AR IS-6)?		֓֞֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓
l		<u></u> -
Are all of the respondent's requests and objections which were denied indicated in the report of proceedings or in an inclosure or exhibit to it (para 5-11, AR 15-6)?		
OTNOTES: 1 Notate all regardes activers on an attached shiet.	, <u> </u>	
I Use of the NIA column constitutes a positive representation that the circumstances described by the giberion did not occur in this investigation.		-
e 2 of 4 pages, DA Form 1574, Mar 83		USAFA

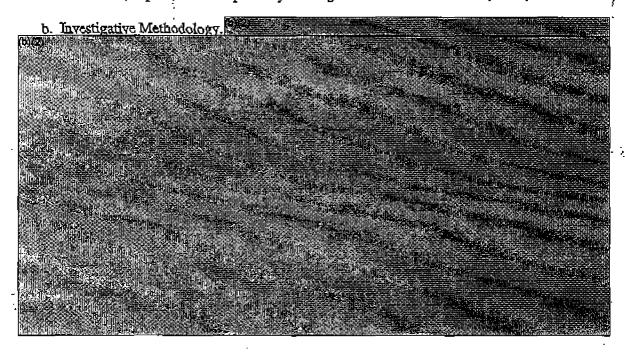
SECTION IV - FINDINGS (pare 3-10, AR 15-6)

The (investigating officer) (board), having carefully considered the evidence, finds; See Attached.

SECTION V - RECOMMENDATIONS (pure 3-17, Alt 15-6)

In view of the above findings, the (investigating officer) (board) recommends: See Attached.

- I. Appointment and Investigative Methodology.
- a. Appointment. GEN Bantz J. Ctaddock, Commander, United States Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM), appointed me the Army Regulation (AR) 15-6 investigating officer on 13 October 2006 to examine the allegations made in a swom affidavit by Sgt Heather Cerveny USMC (Tab A), and determine if any Joint Task Force-Guantanamo (JTF-GTMO) personnel violated the UCMJ, U.S. laws, or DoD directives (Tab B). After RDML Harry B. Harris, Commander, JTF-GTMO, and Commander, JTF-GTMO SJA, received further allegations (Tabs C and D, respectively), ADM James Stavridis, the new Commander, USSOUTHCOM, expanded the scope of my investigation on 23 October 2006 (Tab B).



- 2. Summary of Events. This report is divided into three parts to accurately reflect the expansion of the investigation over time with Part 1 focusing on those events surrounding the investigation into Sgt Cerveny's affidavit; Part 2 focusing on those events surrounding the statement presented by RDML Harris; and, Part 3 focusing on those events surrounding the JTF-GTMO Joint Intelligence Group (JIG) summary of detainee complaints. In some instances, information gained from one part of the investigation overlaps with another.
 - a. Part 1 (Sgt Cerveny's Affidavit).
- (1) Background. Sgt Cerveny provided a swom affidavit to her supervisor, LtCol Colby C. Vokey USMC, on 4 October 2006. Upon receipt of Sgt Cerveny's statement, LtCol Vokey added a cover letter, and forwarded the packet to the DoD Inspector General (IG) requesting a full investigation. Subsequently, the matter was forwarded to U.S. Southern Command and GEN Craddock initiated this investigation. In Sgt Cerveny's affidavit, she specifically identifies four U.S. Navy personnel by name of nickname, their general description, and where she believed they worked within JTP-GTMO. She identified the four personnel as follows:

- (a) two Naval Expeditionary Guard Battalion (NEGB) personnel with the names or nicknames of
 - (b) a Camp America postal clerk, with the name or nickname of
 - (c) a female who works in intelligence by the name or nickname of

Prior to my arrival at Guantanamo Bay, the JTF-GTMO SIA and the NEGB chain of command sought to identify the four named individuals. In short order, they had potentially identified but had not identified but upon my arrival at GTMO, but had not identified but upon my arrival at GTMO, but had not identified as my investigative assistant.

provided me with the identities of the NEGB was identified as was identified as was identified as was identified as the NEGB.

(a) 10 CSC was identified as 10 CSC COM (b) a former Camp America postal clerk who had returned to his ship, (b) the new many first afternoon at GTMO, and after an e-mail name search, I was able to identify a member of the Joint Intelligence Group (JIG).

(b) Interview of Principals. Over the course of the next two days and I interviewed the three personnel who were still located at GTMO.

(c) Interview of Principals. Over the course of the next two days and I interviewed the three personnel who were still located at GTMO.

interviewed the three personnel who were still located at GTMO.

were both accused by Sgt Cerveny of bragging about abusing the detainees, and therefore, were suspected of violating the UCMJ. Accordingly, prior to questioning either of them, I advised both of them of their rights (Tabs F and G). After I read their rights, both agreed to cooperate fully, answer my questions, and make swom written statements (Tabs H and I). It is a was considered a winess and was not suspected of any wrongdoing, and therefore, was not advised of her rights.

The provided a swom written statement (Tab J): Finally, I successfully contacted as and scheduled an interview with the investigation and provided a swom statement (Tab K).

The provided a swom wrongdoing. Despite the fact that Sgt Cerveny accused of bragging about tampering with detainee mail, which is a violation of the UCMJ and US law, I ruled out the possibility of wrongdoing based on my interview of the detained and provided as a violation of the UCMJ and US law, I ruled out the possibility of wrongdoing based on my interview of the detained and the deta

handling procedures precluded has been from having direct contact with any detainee mail, thus making it impossible for him to have committed the acts of which he was accused.

(3) Additional Interviews. In addition to the personnel identified in Sgt Cerveny's affidavit, I felt it necessary to pursue an understanding of the JDG environment, and policies under which the JDG guards operate. In pursuit of understanding I interviewed In addition to the interviews, I received a tour of Camps 2/3 and 4. Based on the knowledge I gained from my interviews and the tours, I decided to interview a medical professional from the JTF GTMO Joint Medical Group (JMG) to determine if any medical personnel had identified any injuries sustained by the detainees that could be indicative of abuse. I interviewed

who served as the primary medical care provider for detainees at Camps 2/3 and 4 (Tab M).

(4) Narrative. After interviewing the four potential suspects and witnesses identified by Sgt Cerveny, and receiving their sworm statements, it was apparent that their recollections of the night of 23 September 2006, and early morning hours of 24 September 2006 are reasonably consistent with one another. (Note: During the interview process, I determined that however the statement of the special process.)

So they are rarely together as a friend.

Solution of the other named individuals, and, as previously stated, had departed GTMO on 30 September 2006, prior to Sgt Cerveny making her statement. These are pertinent facts with regard to comboration of statements

and, as previously stated, had departed GTMO on 30 September 2006, prior to Sgt Cerveny making her statement. These are pertinent facts with regard to comboration of statements between the potential suspects and witnesses. I found no evidence of collaboration between the potential suspects and witnesses. Each individual was not specifically told why they were meeting with the same and me until they arrived for their interviews. Each individual was forthooming with his/her recollections and was understandably concerned).

(a) Sgt Cerveny's Affidavit. Sgt Cerveny stated that she went to the Windjammer Club to meet with some other Marines she had earlier met in the gym. When she could not locate them, she joined a group of Sailors who were bragging about abusing detainees. She identified has bragging about beating detainees. She identified

as a guard in Camps 5 and 6 who bragged about harassing detainees (Note: The NEGB was responsible for Camps 2/3 and 4. The Army guard element was responsible for Camp 5, and Camp 6 was under construction and unoccupied). She identified the construction and unoccupied as boasting that he tampered with detainee mail. Finally, she identifies the construction are mail.

stating that everyone was drinking. She states she had one drink, and that no one showed signs of being intoxicated. After about an hour with them, she states that she told them that she worked for a detainee defense attorney, whereupon everyone in the group got quiet.

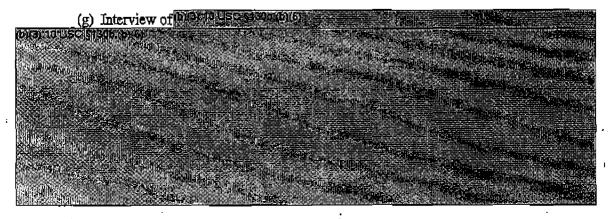
(b) Sworn Statements of Although there are some minor inconsistencies between the statements of these four individuals, which I attribute to consumption of alcohol affecting their memories, the statements of these Sailors are fairly consistent. All individuals admit to being in the Windiammer on the evening of 23 September 2006, and to being in the company of Sgt Cerveny. All individuals were drinking alcohol, except for by 100 \$30 (3010) Based on the preponderance of evidence, I believe the following occurred: All personnel previously identified were present at the Windjammer late on the evening of 23 September 2006, at approximately 2300. The Windjammer is an all-hands club, and the personnel present were enjoying a typical Saturday night's festive environment. At one time or another over the course of the next hour or so. meach talked with Sgt Cerveny at the met and remained with Sgt Cerveny for the majority of the night. As the Windjammer was closing, with the Windjammer, with the Windjammer, all involved moved to "the bus," a converted school bus known throughout GTMO as a party bus. While on the bus, all involved save continued to drink alcohol.: After

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		CTION VII - MINORITY R			
the extent indicated	in Inclosure,	the undersigned do(es) ${f n}$	ot concar in the finding	s and recommendations	of the board.
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being on the bus for an hour or so	ing
being on the bus for an hour or so. The personnel involved continued to party both on	_
the bus and in the housing area for sometime until the party ended, because of	
excessive noise and the late hour. Throughout the evening, very little of the group discussion	
individual conversations concerned contact with detaines. Though	
all state they talked in generalities about their work at	(100100221)
JTF-GTMO with Sgt Cerveny, all vehemently state that at no time did anyone individually or	in
a group boast about beating or harpssing detainees, or tampening with their mail.	SECOLOGICAL
(c) Other Individuals at the Windjammer. Neither	
could recall the names or identities of any other individuals present at the Windjammer on the	
evening of 23 September 2006 (Tabs N and O) (September 2006 (Tabs N and O) (September 2006) arrived at the	.
Windjammer on the night of 23 September 2006 with 000000000000000000000000000000000000	OTAN
departed before Sgt Cerveny arrived at the club. Additionally, could	i .
not recall the names or identities of any other individuals present at the Windjatumer (Tab O)	
(d) Interviews of the latest the latest to fully investigate the	······································
allegations of abuse, I needed to understand the IDG environment, specifically as it applied t	Ģ į
the NEGB, and the policies under which they operate. I interviewed the	
(b)(3):10:150 (1:30b)(b)(6) to gain additional	
information on (6/3) 10 USC \$1300 (0)(5) 11 (Tab P). First P(2) 10 USC confirmed the	at a
review of the Detainee Information Management System (DIMS), a computer database	
maintained by revealed no record of any incident of alleged detainee abuse involving	ıg
either (017) 5 (1300 (016) She further indicated that, prior to her arrival at IT	F-
GTMO had been in some previous disciplinary trouble in	
(a) Carting and Ca	
px3):10 USC(\$1:305,0)(5) also relayed to m	3
that the previous 1003 1000 Sections 1006) had informed her that	
had previously gone to Combat Stress and had told them that he had abused detainees.	
(b)(a) 40 told (c)(a) 10 2 SC \$ (30b)(b)(5) claims were reviewed and found	
unsubstantiated, and were attributed to the fact that he was pending disciplinary action at the	ı
time he made the statements. With regards to the statements with regards to	as a
good Sailor who did his job, and had not been in any trouble since their arrival at GTMO.	
However to their unit's	
arrivel at GTMO kicked a detainee role player for calling him a racial slur.	
was temporarily removed from the exercise, and received some counseling and retrain	ning.
He subsequently returned to his unit without any further incidents.	
(-) I-4	-1
(e) Interview of other NEGB Personnel. Per my direction,	
several personnel who serve directly with (2007) 2005 3500 (2007). These interv	.cws
revealed that neither individual has a reputation for engaging in abusive behavior towards	
detainces and no allegations of detainee abuse were disclosed (Tab ()). However ever the companies of the co	
who was 000 100 Square supervisor 000 100 square that she overly counseled him affect heading runner that he had made make in the call blocks	'Atrianaean Tara
that she orally counseled him after hearing rumors that he had made noise in the cell blocks rattling chains to annoy detainees 1000 100 1000 reported that she had caught	Oyi /: F
ratining chains to annoy detainees:	
where the converge of the property of the property $\{\phi_{ij}^{(m)}\}_{i=1}^{m}$. The property $\{\phi_{ij}^{(m)}\}_{i=1}^{m}$. The property $\{\phi_{ij}^{(m)}\}_{i=1}^{m}$. The property $\{\phi_{ij}^{(m)}\}_{i=1}^{m}$.	-3 - 5

in a lie when he attempted to secure a better duty position. Finally had neither a history or reputation for any violence (Tab R).

(f) Review of Procedures. From the interviews with reading applicable portions of the Camp Delta Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), and touring Camps 2/3 and 4, I gained a good understanding of the guard procedures and environment. I observed no indications of inappropriate procedures or conduct by the guard force. I also found that the chain of command fully understands and appreciates the sensitivities involved in their mission, and I found the chain of command properly supervises their subordinates in the accomplishment of said mission.



(h) Review of Records. In addition to the DIMS database, which is maintained by the DIMS also requested a review of the files maintained by the ITF-GMTO SIA and the IDG Investigations office for any record involving either DIMS.

The SIA's DIME to the revealed no reported allegation of mistreatment or abuse involving DIME (Tab S). Likewise, the IDG Investigations office found no case listing either DIMS (Tab S). Likewise, the IDG Investigation of detainee abuse (Tab T). Lastly, I requested a review of the records maintained by the Joint Medical Group and Detention Hospital for any record of detainee abuse during the time period that DIMS (Tab S). The IMG Commander found no reported detainee abuse cases or records of detainee injuries suggestive of abuse in the detainee medical records during that time period (Tab U).

(3) Findings. Based on a preponderance of evidence, I find the following:

Einding 1: There is insufficient evidence to substantiate the alleged physical abuse or other mistreatment of detainees by \$\frac{\text{Exp. (1.55)}}{\text{Exp. (1.55)}} \frac{\text{Exp. (1.55)}}{\text{Exp. (1.55)}} \frac{\text{Given the}}{\text{Given the}} \frac{\text{Given the}}{\text{SIA, or JMG record of detainee abuse involving either }\frac{\text{Exp. (1.55)}}{\text{Exp. (2.55)}} \frac{\text{Exp. (2.55)}}{\text{Exp. (2.55)}} \

Finding 2: There is insufficient evidence to substantiate the allegations of detained mail tampering by

Finding 3: The Camp Delta Standard Operating Procedure, dated 15 October 2006, was properly written to ensure the best possible care and well-being of all detainees under the responsibility of the JDG.

Finding 4: The IDG chain of command, specifically the NEGB chain of command, fully understands their role in accomplishing this very sensitive mission, and the chain of command provides proper leadership and oversight to ensure an environment that adheres to the most stringent standards.

Finding 5: The current practice within the NEGB to the second sec

b. Part 2 (Statement presented by RDML Harris).

(1) Background. Upon my arrival on 18 October 2006 at GTMO. me a memorandum from RDML Harris outlining additional allegations of detainee abuse. RDML Harris wrote the statement based on an e-mail he received from with the IIG. The statement related the details of a conversation had on the firing range with an individual named (1) 112 1130 (1) stated that (1) related information about block guards who purposely antagonize and harass detainees (for example, shortening the time in the shower, verbally and physically abusing the detainees (derogatory remarks and rough handling), interrupting prayer, searching cells, waking the detainees, and general disruption aimed at antagonizing the detainees). bothered by the fact that the guards treated the detainees in this way. believed that the behavior of the guards was unprofessional, and it made job harder (i.e., trying to escort a harassed detainee). I made an appointment to interview and was under the impression was going to bring with with with anived with a subordinate of [9] in the JIG. Upon questioning a subordinate of [9] was not present on the range. was on the range, and whad related his conversation with the principle of the ongoing investigation, came forward with the e-mail to RDML Harris. I interviewed and received swom written statements from (Tabs V and W). The statements given by didn't provide any additional relevant information. contacted 200 to the a NEGB training officer, who provided me with a roster of all personnel who attended the range on 6 October 2006 (Tab X). The roster included additional ganges that occurred on 29 September and 13 October 2006. Ireviewed the roster for any named or any variation thereof. There was no on the list with the name or any variant. With the assistance of the NEGB leadership, we contacted each on the roster, and were unable to identify but during the process, that a portion of their SRT was conducting training at Foit Leonard Wood, Missouri. located the deployed SRT leadership and requested to talk to the two who were... present for training. During the telephone conversation

(3) Findings. Based on a preponderance of evidence, I find the following.

Finding 6: There is insufficient evidence to substantiate the allegations raised in e-mail to RDML Harris of detainee abuse by the guard force.

Finding 7: his demonstrated poor judgment in telling a story knew to be false about a very sensitive subject.

.....c. Part 3 (IIG Summary of Detainee Complaints presented by

(a) Background. Based on the e-mail from asked the JIG to provide any recent relevant complaints made by the detainees to their interrogators. Based on the JIG Top of the Complaints of the JIG provided a 16-page summary with complaints dating back to June 2006. The complaints were all from Camp 2/3, Blocks M, N, O, P, Q, and S: I reviewed the complaints to determine the likelihood of guard abuse of detainees and I contacted the JDG Investigations Office, whose purpose is to investigate these types of allegations. At the JDG Investigations Office, I met with the JDG investigations into detainee abuse. Additionally 1993 1995 described the procedures involved in the JDG investigations — upon receipt of an allegation of abuse, regardless of where it comes from (JDG, JIG, JMG, etc.), the allegation is forwarded to the JDG Commander, who, after review of the allegation (JDG).

JDG Investigation Office's records showed from June through October 2006, 14 investigations were conducted into allegations of abuse, of which one was substantiated. The substantiated allegation involved an guard in Camp 5 who threatened to beat a detainee (no physical contact involved). The guard was subsequently punished by his chain of command. While an allegation similar to the allegation that took a detainee's head and slammed it into the cell block was raised, it involved a different guard. There were no substantiated allegations of abuse in Camps 2/3 or 4, the camps for which the NEGB is responsible. I reviewed the JIG summary provided by and compared it to the JDG Investigation Office's records, and I determined the complaints on the JIG summary either did not rise to the level of an allegation requiring investigation, had already been investigated and found unsubstantiated, or were contently being investigated. A summary of the allegations is contained at Tab Z.

(b) Findings. Based on a preponderance of evidence, I find the following:

Finding 8: The allegations of detainee abuse raised by the JIG either did not warrant further inquiry, had already been appropriately investigated, or were currently being investigated by JTF-GTMO.

Finding 9: The current procedures for investigating allegations of detainee abuse are efficient and effective. All JTP-GTMO personnel (whether in the JDG, JIG, and JMG) know and follow the proper reporting procedures.

3. Recommendations. Based on the above findings, I make the following recommendations:

Recommendation I: Trecommend no action be taken against

Recommendation 2: (9)(5)

Recommendation 3: I recommend that receive a letter of counseling from her immediate supervisor outlining her lapse in judgment and reminding her of the sensitivity of the JTF-GTMO mission.

Recommendation 4: I recommend the NEGB organize their guards into

(b)(2)

I further recommend the NEGB leadership

(c)(2)

Recommendation 5: I recommend the IDG continue to treat their SOP as a living document to ensure they are efficiently and effectively accomplishing their very sensitive mission.

Recommendation 6: I recommend the JTF-GTMO chain of command continue to adequately train and actively supervise all personnel involved in detainee operations.

Recommendation 7: I recommend that Commander, JTF-GTMO, in coordination with the Commanding Officer, Naval Station Guantanamo, ensure that the "party bus" is a properly authorized vehicle/activity.