

Motion Picture and Television Liaison



To: (b)(6)
From: (b)(6)

Wednesday, 07 April at 1700

4 Pages, including this cover page

(b)(6)

Attached is the suggested dialogue for Hodges to admit the "Bin Laden" letter into evidence. Note that if Hodges is the only person with knowledge of the letter, he would be forced to testify to its existence. (if Hodges were a witness in the case, he would no longer be a suitable defense counsel) Therefore, someone else has to testify about the letter. I suggest the following:

When the note is slipped under Hodges' hotel room door in Yemen, he should immediately share it with Captain Hustings, "What do you make of this, Skipper?" Hustings would look at it briefly and reply, "Oh, we get these a lot. Nothing to worry about, but I'll send a copy to State Department to be safe."

Hodges pockets the note and goes on. The next we see of it is in court. Hodges calls Hustings to the stand and questions him about the letter. As the Operations officer for all Marine Security Guard detachments at U.S. Embassies in the Middle-East, Hustings is also an expert in the regional threat. He's a good witness to support the Defense argument that there was a Jihad presence at the protest the day of the shooting.

Biggs would definitely find the letter objectionable... he probably never would have allowed it to be entered as evidence in the first place. The only explanation was that it slipped by him -- he was asleep at the wheel. He's surprised by the letter's introduction in court and has to scramble to object only after his assistant counsel produces the document. It's unlike Biggs to miss something like this, but remember... the guy's been under terrific political pressure.

Biggs does succeed in having the letter removed, but Hodges gets his point across: (1) There was a Jihad presence in Yemen (2) The Jihad had the ability to supply its supporters with weapons, and (3) Civilians with guns ain't civilians no more.

(b)(6)

Since 1775... America's 911 Force

Motion Picture and Television Liaison



To:

(b)(6)

From:

(b)(6)

Wednesday, March 10, 1999 6:51PM

Number of Pages

3, including this cover page.

**If you have any problems or questions regarding this transmission,
please call.**

(b)(6)

Hope you can use these notes. Spoke with (b)(6) and (b)(6) seemed quite receptive to our ideas. Thanks so much for keeping the dialogue channels open!

Respectfully,

(b)(6)

Since 1775... America's 911 Force

(b)(6)

03/10/99 06:34 PM



To: (b)(6)
cc:
Subject: RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

(b)(6)

(b)(6) asked us try to come up with some ideas to possibly make the execution of the radio operator a bigger factor in the case against Col. Childers. The following is what developed from a quick brainstorming session (working from the white pages of 1/20/99).

1. Pg 10, scene 11 Hodges' POV should reveal that the dead NVA radioman is bound at the wrists, hands behind his back. This would make him think that this particular dead NVA was different than the ones that were piling up around him during the firefight. Rather than realizing what happened, he should be confused... just aware that something isn't quite right. Is this a narcotic-induced hallucination, or did Lt. Childers... ? The bound NVA prisoner would be the key to Hodges' reflection later in scene 61.

2. Pg 61, scene 77-- Hodges has a flashback-- Suggest this flashback be brought on from reading notes from Col. Cao's (as he was once a communist, he's probably living in the U.S. under an assumed name) deposition (Hodges' deputy defense counsel (Grant?) could have deposed Cao while Hodges was in Yemen and faxed him the notes). Hodges finally, after all these years, puts the pieces together. Now he knows what happened at Ca Lu. As he reads the deposition, a cocktail of emotions dance across his face. He flips through the list of prosecution witnesses, and we see a lone Vietnamese name on the list.

3. Pg 65, scene 82-- Hodges confronts Childers-- "What were they? Just a bunch of ragheads? Like "gooks..." not really people? Just like that NVA POW that you executed? Childers responds with, "Are you through?", decks him, and says, "Shooting that POW saved your sorry ass. You should be thanking me every fucking day of your life... look at you... you went all the way to Yemen and the only thing you've proved is that you're still a drunk."

Pg 106, scene 100-- Not likely that Cao would be a surprise. The prosecution would have had to share the information about Cao with the defense (hence the deputy defense counsel's opportunity to depose Cao and fax notes to Hodges).

4. Pg 118, scene 108-- Hodges and Biggs interact-- Perhaps Hodges can say, "Well, I assume that in light of Cao's testimony, you'll be pushing for new murder charges."
Biggs could reply with, "Not on your life, colonel... I couldn't convict him of 23 murders that took place less than 3 months ago... I'm sure as hell not about to take my chances on a 30 year old case with the lone testimony of a former NVA colonel, what court would believe him? Of course, if I had another witness who could tell me--
Hodges could cut him off with, "Son, right now, if you can tell me the life expectancy of a second lieutenant serving in the Vietnam combat zone in 1968, I'll tell you whatever you want to know about Ca Lu."
Biggs says, "One week?"
Hodges says, "Sixteen minutes, major. Sixteen minutes. And we made it out. Now if you'll excuse me, I've got a fishing trip to start."

Saved rounds--Childers comes across as a bona fide nut case in the shrink's office... needs to be toned down. (b)(6) will be at the helm for me until March 30. (b)(6) can be reached at (b)(6)

If you need to contact me, I'll be at (b)(6) (12-15 Mar and 22-30 Mar) and (b)(6) (15-22 Mar).

R/S,

(b)(6)

CC: (b)(6) via fax)

(b)(6)

02/12/99 07:42 AM



To: (b)(6)
cc:
Subject: ROE

----- Forwarded by (b)(6) LA/PA/HQMC on 02/12/99 07:38 AM -----
(b)(6)

02/11/99 04:08 PM



To: (b)(6)
cc:
Subject: ROE

(b)(6)

I know these notes are probably a long shot, but maybe you can find some worthwhile morsels in this laundry list. You'll notice a few redundancies regarding things that you've already pointed out, but I did these up for (b)(6). Thanks for the help and all the dialogue!--TV

----- Forwarded by (b)(6) LA/PA/HQMC on 02/11/99 03:48 PM -----
(b)(6)

02/11/99 02:08 PM



To: (b)(6)
cc:
Subject: ROE (SPELL CHECKED VERSION)

----- Forwarded by (b)(6) LA/PA/HQMC on 02/11/99 02:04 PM -----
(b)(6)

02/10/99 06:26 PM



To: (b)(6)
cc:
Subject: ROE (SPELL CHECKED VERSION)

1. Use the phrase "say again" in place of "repeat" in all radio transmissions unless the intent is to repeat the last fire mission.*
2. sc 5, pg 3 RADIOMAN or HODGES should say, "Delta two, situation report, over"

3. sc 5, pg 4, Not likely that Hodges would take the time to explain his situation in the middle of an ambush. If he must, change the dialogue to "Delta three, Delta two, taking casualties, heavy contact to our front and flanks. I say again--"
4. sc 6, pg 5, Regarding Hodges' radio transmission about the arty, he should say, "I'm calling in a fire mission, danger close. I say again, I'm calling in rounds on my own pos."
5. sc 8, pg 6, Radioman would not likely say "call in assets," he would say "arty" or "fire mission" instead.
6. sc 9, pg 7, Childers would probably already have a round chambered in his pistol. Why not make Tuan the trigger man? Tuan could be brought back to support the prosecution's claim that Childers has a history of issuing unlawful orders (see note 37). We don't learn until much later that Childers never ordered Tuan to do the radioman in. Even Hodges has the morphine-hazed memory of a dead NVA and Childers standing nearby holding a pistol.
7. sc 10 and 11, pg 9, Hodges would not be shucking and jiving about the club before demanding a corpsman to attend to his injured Marine. Childers would adjust the artillery fire himself. Have him say, "Bulldog 6, Delta 3, shift fire to northern edge of the ville to on call target AB001... fire for effect" The corpsman would not act as a stretcher bearer in fact there'd probably be only one... have Marines transport the wounded to the doc via ponchos.
8. sc 12-13, pg 11-13, Majors in the Marine Corps do not conduct themselves as "Flirtatious and/or funny" when dealing with superiors. No colonel for that matter is going to be seen dancing cheek to cheek with a major. Suggestion: make Sarah Grant a civilian secretary or paralegal on Hodges' staff or, make her a lieutenant colonel who has been selected for colonel. If she remains military, though, the flirting should be toned way down. Childers' line at the bottom of pg 13 should read, "can fight" or "is a fighter."
9. sc 15, pg 16, "Pulled good service" does not sound authentic... "Did a lot for the Corps" or "Served the Corps well" sounds more believable.
10. sc 17, pg 17, No indoor salutes.* Not likely that this young lieutenant will be outwardly nervous about a possible fight. He would display excitement. Have the Lt. inform Childers that the briefing will go at 0600.
11. sc 18, pg 18, Rework dialogue so that the ambassador or NSA requests Childers presence on the ground. Briefing should be more specific. I would think that non-essential personnel would be flown out ASAP, with the ambassador and his staff staying on until the last minute.
12. sc 20, pg 19, where are the Cobras?
13. sc 23, pg 21, To make Moran look like a real wet noodle, have Childers say, "Mr. Ambassador, my orders are to evacuate non-essential personnel... need I remind you that you've still got an embassy to run... unless you're throwing in the towel." The ambassador could reply with, "Shut up and just get us the hell out of here!" This gives Moran more reason to harbor a grudge. Also, "helos," not "choppers."
14. sc 27, pg 23, The pilot would not be able to hear Childers. He should rap on the helo's hatch and signal the pilot to lift off.
15. sc 30, pg 24, The Flak Jacket won't stop gunfire. Put all of the Marines in shock vests.
16. sc 37, pg 30, Court martial convenes or begins, not "sits." General Perry would not likely be the covening authority. He seems to lack impartiality.
17. sc 41, pg 33 Fitness reports, not efficiency reports.* Also, Hodges wouldn't make colonel with lousy

paper. Probably couldn't get away with being an alcoholic either.

18. sc 48, pg 44, Childers would **NOT** have a government issue pistol at his home. Lose the holster and put the pistol on the desk or in the drawer.

19. sc 49, pg 45-47, Give Biggs some "sirs" in his dialogue with Hodges.

20. sc 57, pg 51, If the embassy has been abandoned, why do we still have an American presence in Yemen? Who is Capt. Hustings? If there is a threat, shouldn't he be driving in a non-military vehicle? Maybe he should be a Brit or a Canadian.

21. sc 61, pg 53, Not likely that Hustings would be taking a siesta in the vehicle, given the current threat.

22. sc 82, pg 65, Hodges should say, "You gave the order to shoot'em, didn't you? Didn't you?"

23. sc 86, pg 67, Change "John" to "head."* Have Hodges use rank when he publicly refers to Childers in the courtroom.

24. sc 86, pg 68, "Dirty job" sounds as if the mission was already "bad." "Tough mission" would be more appropriate.

25. sc 87, pg 69, Hodges wouldn't be so incompetent that he doesn't immediately object to Biggs' line of questioning with Dr. Gilpin. There should be some sort of record of Moran's call to request the NEO.

26. sc 88, pg 71, The Marines did not retreat, they conducted a Non-combatant Evacuation Operation.

27. sc 89, pg 73, The judge should tell Biggs to "refrain from leading the witness," not watch his conclusions.

28. sc 89, pg 74, Again, the judge should warn counsel about leading the witness, not conclusions. "Counselor, I'll not warn you again about leading the witness."

29. sc 91, pg 84, Biggs should just say, "the witness," not "the national security advisor." No need for the judge to tell Hodges to proceed carefully. He should simply tell him to rephrase the question.

30. sc 91, pg 85, Major Biggs, not "Mr. Biggs."

31. sc 94, pg 92, Childers should say, "... with a contingency to evacuate the embassy if the situation deteriorated further."

32. sc 97, pg 94, "Redman," not "Buckskin." Orders would not likely have come from the White House.*

33. sc 98, pg 95, Hodges should be more specific than "around the way."

34. sc 98, pg 98, Biggs should ask, "Did the ROE for this operation allow for you to return fire?"

35. sc 98, pg 99-101, ROE varies from operation to operation and are fluid and subject to change depending upon a myriad of factors. THERE IS NO STANDARD, ON THE SHELF ROE! No need to say "live combat," just "combat" will do.

36. sc 98, pg 104, Change exceed to disobey/disregard/fail to follow. Childers would not display such contempt for rules.

37. sc 100, pg 106, Suggestion: Transform this character into Tuan, the interpreter. Very unlikely that

the Cao character would come forward. If he had pulled off the trick of fighting for the communist and entering the U.S. as a refugee, he would definitely want to keep a low profile.

38. sc 107, pg 117, No mention of sentencing.

39. sc 108, pg 118, Needs to be crystal clear that Childers has just been convicted of a felony, and there is no chance in hell for him to get his MEU back.

Errrrrrr,

(b)(6)