
Section 1 — ISG SUPPORT TO THE CAPT SPEICHER INVESTIGATION

SUMMARY

~~(C)~~ The ISG/POW Division, more commonly known as “Team Speicher,” began active operations as part of the ISG in Baghdad on 23 June 2003 and stood down on 6 May 2004. Team Speicher’s mission was to find information relating to the treatment and fate of CAPT Michael Speicher, USN, shot down over Iraq on 17 January 1991 and classified by the Secretary of the Navy as “Missing/Captured.”

(U) This report covers information obtained by Team Speicher during its assignment in Iraq. It also represents only significant actions by ISG Team Speicher to obtain and report intelligence acquired inside Iraq that supports the CAPT Speicher investigation. The ISG findings were included in the IC’s 2005 Interim Report that represents the extent of IC knowledge from November 2002 to the present — the last IC CAPT Speicher assessment was published in November 2002.

Site Exploitations

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

~~(C)~~ The ISG Team Speicher conducted 28 major site exploitation missions. 



(b)(1),1.4 (c)


■ ~~(C)~~ 



Neither CAPT Speicher nor any evidence of his captivity was found. The initials “M.S.S” were found in a cell at Baghdad’s Hakemiyah Prison by US Forces and on a carport I-beam near the former Iraqi Air Force Academy in Tikrit.

(b)(1),1.4 (c)



(b)(1),1.4 (c)

■ ~~(C)~~ The Speicher crash site was visited 10 times: 



(b)(1),1.4 (c) [redacted] No new material evidence belonging to CAPT Speicher was found at the crash site.

Document Exploitation

~~(C)~~A [redacted]

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

- ~~(S)~~ The documents obtained and reviewed thus far (primarily from MFA sources) indicate the Iraqis had little knowledge of the events following the crash of CAPT Speicher. The MFA documents delineate Iraq's effort to answer the US government's 2000 and 2002 requests for information on CAPT Speicher. MFA officials provided the MFA documents in a plastic shopping bag to a US representative after learning of US interest.
- ~~(C)~~ Whether these documents represent the totality of official Iraqi holdings on the CAPT Speicher case is unknown because a large number of official documents were systematically removed or were hidden or destroyed by Iraqi security forces prior to and during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF).
- ~~(C)~~ The US government continues to review or obtain additional MFA, Iraqi Intelligence Service (IIS), Special Security Organization (SSO), and Special Republican Guard (SRG) documents for additional information on CAPT Speicher.

Human Exploitation

~~(C)~~ Over 200 Iraqi government and Ba'ath Party officials, senior and junior military officers, intelligence and security officers, former regime prisoners, and private citizens were questioned for any information on the fate of CAPT Speicher. [redacted]

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

■ [Redacted]

High-Value Detainees

~~(S)~~ Every High-Value Detainee (HVD) apprehended since April 2003 was asked about CAPT Speicher during the initial interrogation. At least 80 HVDs were subject to one or more follow-up interrogations by ISG Team Speicher or the HVD's handler. All professed no knowledge of CAPT Speicher being found or held in captivity.

■ ~~(S)~~ At least 18 enemy POWs were identified as potentially having knowledge of CAPT Speicher and were questioned. All professed no knowledge of CAPT Speicher being found or held in captivity.

■ ~~(S)~~ Saddam Husayn was questioned by US interrogators and said he had no knowledge of CAPT Speicher.

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

■ ~~(S)~~ Several Iraqi sources reported on the association of [Redacted] with the CAPT Speicher case.

Non-Detained Iraqis

~~(S)~~ The ISG Team Speicher also interviewed a number of Iraqis who were not detained, but who were assessed by the ISG or IC POW/MIA Analytic Cell as having potential knowledge of CAPT Speicher. None professed any knowledge of CAPT Speicher being held in captivity or found deceased near his crash site. Among those interviewed were the following:

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

■ [Redacted]
■ [Redacted]
■ [Redacted]
■ [Redacted]
■ [Redacted]

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

■ ~~(S)~~ [Redacted] who were able to query the membership of any knowledge they had.

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

■ ~~(S)~~ [Redacted] supervisor, who buried remains delivered by the Iraqi intelligence and security services.

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

■ (S) [Redacted]

(b)(1),1.4 (e)

■ (S) [Redacted]

Bedouin Sources

(b)(1),1.4 (d)

■ (S) Team Speicher [Redacted] began meeting with Bedouin tribal leaders in October 2003. The objective was to locate any individuals with knowledge of CAPT Speicher's fate immediately following the shoot-down or who were present during the 1995 [Redacted] investigation. Bedouin nomads transit the Speicher crash site area, a winter grazing range, during the rainy season from approximately November to February. Liaison with the Bedouin resulted in several leads with negative results. (b)(1),1.4 (c)

(b)(1),1.4 (b),1.4 (c),1.4 (d)

■ (S) [Redacted]

(b)(1),1.4 (b),1.4 (c),1.4 (d)

■ (S) In February 2004, the ISG Team Speicher visited the [Redacted] that transit the desert regions of Iraq, Jordan, Syria, and Saudi Arabia to seek his assistance.

(b)(1),1.4 (e)

■ (S) [Redacted]

(b)(1),1.4 (e)

□ (S) [Redacted]

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

■ (S) A [Redacted] of this story claimed secondhand knowledge of a body buried near the crash site. [Redacted]

(b)(1),1.4 (e)

[Redacted]

