

REUTNER

WITNESS STATEMENT

For use of this form, see AR 195-10 - TB PMG 3; the proponent agency is Office of the Provost Marshal General.

PLACE Fulda (Hesse), Germany	DATE 9 Jan 70	TIME 1000	FILE NUMBER FUL-16-70
LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME NEU, David Herbert	SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NO.		GRADE Crim Inves
ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS Det C, 9th MP Gp (CI), APO New York 09026			

SWORN STATEMENT

I, David H. NEU, WANT TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT UNDER OATH:

At 1315, 7 Jan 70, at the Fulda Field Office, Det C, 9th MP Gp (CI), Fulda, Germany, CPT James A. REUTNER, Air Cav Trp, 14th Armd Cav, Fulda, Germany, was advised of the nature of the investigation. He was advised of his rights under military law. He replied that he understood his rights, did not want a lawyer at the present, was willing to answer any questions but wanted to talk to a lawyer before he furnished a written statement. REUTNER orally stated that he was assigned to the 123d Avn Bn Company B during March 1968 and that on the My Lai mission he flew as co-pilot in a UH1B gun ship with either WO1 BROWN or LT Brian LIVINGSTON or LT Gerald WALKER as pilot. Their mission was to support Co C, 21st Inf during the My Lai operation, and they arrived over My Lai at about 0930 hours. They had made several passes over the village and he noticed about 15-20 bodies of men, women and children dressed in civilian clothing scattered throughout a 1000 square yard area. He recalls observing a woman and child laying together, but he does not recall more than a couple of bodies in a specific place. While at My Lai he heard sporadic firing but he did not observe anyone shooting or anyone get shot. The ground troops requested suppressive fire on a tree line about 100 yards south of the village of My Lai because of sniper fire. His gun ship made four or five passes over the tree line and expended about 70% of their ammunition. He said they ran low on fuel so they returned to base. REUTNER stated that he fired the 40MM gun while passing over the tree line. He said that it appeared as if other gun ships had been at My Lai prior to his arrival. He said the gun ships that had been there were from the 176th Americal Div known as the Fire Birds. REUTNER said WO THOMPSON was also on the mission and flew a small observer helicopter and that he observed THOMPSON rescue three children by having the children hand onto the helicopter skids and flying them to another location. He said THOMPSON was flying at tree top level or lower and stayed in the area longer than any of the other helicopters. REUTNER said that all the pilots from his unit went together and informed their Commanding Officer of what they observed when they arrived at My Lai. He said that THOMPSON made remarks to the effect that his gunner had to point his weapon at a trooper in order for them to rescue some children and that some of the bodies at My Lai appeared to have been shot with mini guns. REUTNER said that WO1 BAKER and a Warrant Officer with a Polish name known as SKI were two other pilots assigned to his unit. He said he knew one pilot by the name of CW2 WHEELER that was assigned to the 176th but does not know if he was assigned to Viet Nam at the time of the My Lai incident.

Crim Inves Ronald O. OAKES, Fulda Field Office, Det C, 9th MP Gp (CI), was present during the interview of CPT REUTNER.

||||| /End of statement/ |||||||

EXHIBIT	INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT <i>DA</i>	PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES
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ADDITIONAL PAGES MUST CONTAIN THE HEADING "STATEMENT OF TAKEN AT DATED CONTINUED." THE BOTTOM OF EACH ADDITIONAL PAGE MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE PERSON MAKING THE STATEMENT AND BE INITIALED AS "PAGE OF PAGES." WHEN ADDITIONAL PAGES ARE UTILIZED, THE BACK OF PAGE 1 WILL BE LINED OUT, AND THE STATEMENT WILL BE CONCLUDED ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF ANOTHER COPY OF THIS FORM.

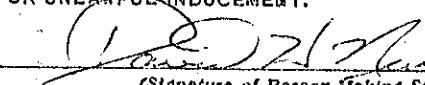
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I, David H. NEU

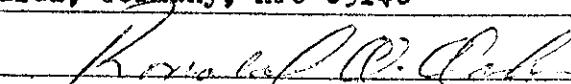
HAVE READ OR HAVE HAD READ TO ME THIS STATE-

MENT WHICH BEGINS ON PAGE 1 AND ENDS ON PAGE 1. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ENTIRE STATEMENT MADE BY ME. THE STATEMENT IS TRUE. I HAVE INITIALED ALL CORRECTIONS AND HAVE INITIALED THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE CONTAINING THE STATEMENT. I HAVE MADE THIS STATEMENT FREELY WITHOUT HOPE OF BENEFIT OR REWARD, WITHOUT THREAT OF PUNISHMENT, AND WITHOUT COERCION, UNLAWFUL INFLUENCE, OR UNLAWFUL INDUCEMENT.


(Signature of Person Making Statement)

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a person authorized by law to administer oaths, this 9th day of January, 1970
at Fulda, Germany, APO 09146

ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS


(Signature of Person Administering Oath)

ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS

RONALD O OAKES
(Typed Name of Person Administering Oath)
Art 136 (b)(4), UCMJ

(Authority To Administer Oaths)

INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT

DAN