

RESTRICTED

Form MG11(T)

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WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r.70)

Statement of: HOYLE, DAVID LESLIE

Age if under 18: OVER 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: WING COMMANDER

This statement (consisting of 7 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signed: David L HOYLE

Date: 25/01/2006

I am David Leslie HOYLE and I live at an address known to Hampshire Police. I am a Medical Support Officer in the Royal Air Force.

In November 1973 I joined the Royal Air Force as an Aircraftsman in the Medical Secretarial trade and undertook basic training at RAF Swinderby and was posted to the Institute of Health and Medical Training at RAF Halton. I obtained a distinguished pass in trade training.

Between March 1974 and October 1975 I was stationed at the Princess Alexandra's RAF Hospital, Wroughton on medical clerical duties as a Leading Aircraftsman. I was promoted to Senior Aircraftsman in November 1974.

Between October 1975 to November 1975 I was accepted for Student Nurse Training and posted to RAF Hospital Ely. I qualified as a State Enrolled Nurse in October 1977.

Between November 1977 and June 1981 I was posted to Princess Alexandra's RAF Hospital Wroughton and employed on the male orthopaedic and medical wards, including the Coronary Care Unit. I was awarded the Corner Memorial Cup (RAF equivalent of Nurse of the Year) in 1979. I was detached on ambulance duties during the two ambulance strikes during this tour of duty.

Between June 1981 and November 1984 I served at RAF Hospital Wegberg, Germany initially on the orthopaedic ward. I was detached to the RAF Winter Survival School, Bad Kohlgrub,

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Bavaria from November 1983 to March 1984 as the medical instructor and first aid cover for the Arctic Survival Course for NATO aircrews.

Between November 1984 to February 1988 I served at the Princess Mary's RAF Hospital Halton, employed on medical and surgical wards. I was promoted to Corporal in 1984 and qualified as a Flight Nursing Attendant for aeromedical evacuation duties in 1986.

In February 1988 I was accepted for commissioning as an officer. I attended Initial Officer Training course at RAF College Cranwell until June 1988. I was awarded the 'D' Squadron Commander's prize and the RAF Regiment award. I was commissioned as a Flying officer in the Medical Secretarial branch.

Between June 1998 and August 1990 I served at the Institute of Community and occupational medicine at RAF Halton. I qualified as an Instructor on the General Instructional Techniques course and was promoted to Flight Lieutenant in June 1990. I was involved as the RAF co-ordinator for the medical staff deployed on the London Ambulance Service strike 1989-1990. I also qualified as a NATO Medical Tactical Evaluator (TACEVAL) during this tour.

In August 1990 I was posted internally to be Unit Administration Officer of the Institute. I attended and passed the Officer Command Course at RAF Henlow in October 1990 I was detached to the Gulf on Operation GRANDBY between October 1990 to March 1991 as the Aeromedical Evacuation Co-ordination Officer based at RAF Akrotiri, Cyprus. I was awarded the Order of St John as a servicing officer in December 1990.

Between January 1992 and April 1993 I served at HQ RAF Germany as a Medical Administration Staff Officer, responsible for the administrative affairs of all RAF medical centres in Germany, Holland, Belgium and Italy.

In 1993 I was posted to RAF Hospital Wegberg, Germany and permanently detached to BMH Rinteln. I was admitted as a Member to the Institute of Health Services Management (MHSM) in July 1994.

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In December 1994 I was promoted to Squadron Leader and posted to the Defence Medical Equipment Depot as the Finance Manager. In 1995 on the formation of the Medical Supplies Agency I was appointed the Agency's Deputy Director of management services.

Between December 1996 and January 1999 I served at the Royal Hospital Haslar as the Patient Services Officer. This post was responsible for all the clinical administration aspects of the hospital, including the clinical departments of main outpatients and the orthotic services. This post was the focal point for both the Primary Healthcare and regional hospitals authorities for patient administration and contracting.

Furthermore I was the hospital Complaints Manager dealing with every aspect of patient, consultant and local health facility and authority issues of concern. I developed and issued local policies to improve the hospital's administrative services to the patient. I was the focal point for both the Primary Healthcare and regional hospitals authorities for patient administration and contracting.

Between January 1999 and September 2000 I served in the Permanent Joint Headquarters in Northwood where I was the Staff Officer for all medical operational issues. I was the medical planning officer for the UK's operations in Bosnia, Kosovo and Sierra Leone.

In September 2000 I was promoted to Wing Commander and posted as the SO1 Medical Operational Policy for the Royal Air Force to the Director General Medical Service's Department, HQ RAF Personnel and Training Command, RAF Innsworth.

Between October 2004 to date I am stationed in the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, in Belgium. Although my position is that of Staff Officer Medical Policy, I have been filling the post of the Medical Operations Staff Officer for NATO. I am responsible for the medical policy and strategic planning for NATO operations.

As I have previously stated, between 1996 and 1999 I was a Squadron Leader at the Royal

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Hospital Haslar and served as the Patient Support Officer.

In that role I was responsible for the development of local policy relating to all medical administration issues. I recollect that there had been some problems with transferring civilian patients from the Royal Hospital Haslar to receiving hospitals in the local area. This issue had been exacerbated during the recent winter bed crisis. The issue centred on the lack of sufficient information being made available to the receiving facility at the time of the patient's transfer. Following discussions with the Local Health Authority and Trusts, I instructed my deputy, PSO Warrant Officer Ian Brown (RN), to prepare a Patient Administration Information Notice, form NH72, a local Community Transfer Form, detailing the relating the requirements for staff to ensure that all the civilian patient's documents accompanied them on transfer from the Royal Hospital Haslar to the local community hospitals, which I have signed, David L HOYLE. The form is dated 11th March 1997 and this was the date that the policy was put into place.

The form states:

1. 'With immediate effect all civilian patients transferred to Elderly Medical bed placements in Gosport Community Hospitals must take notes (F Med 9 and enclosures) with them. Failure to do will result in the transfer being refused and patient will have to remain in Royal Hospital HASLAR, thereby blocking a bed'.
2. 'In the case of discharge/referral to the Dolphin Day Hospital the hospital notes must be sent to Central Medical Records for attention of CMR Manager, immediately on the patient's discharge for onward transmission'.
3. 'To facilitate this requirement a LOCAL COMMUNITY TRANSFER FORM NH72 has been produced and is at the Enclosure. These forms are to accurately and correctly completed and securely attached to the front of the F Med 9 in all cases. The are to be locally produced in the short term until available from stores'.
4. 'All notes sent with patients will be returned for summary to the CMR, RH HASLAR within

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three weeks, for onward transmission to the consultant named on the NH72'.

Enclosure:

1. NH72 LOCAL COMMUNITY TRANSFER FORM

Dist: Full (175)

Gosport War Memorial Hospital for Logistics Manager, Services Manager Community Hospital and Medical Records Manager.

The identification of the F Med 9 and all enclosures in the Patient Administrative Information Notice was to ensure that all the patient's notes from the clinicians and the results of all tests (laboratory x ray etc) would accompany the patient on transfer. The ward staff were responsible for ensure that the notes went with the patient and would sign to say that the notes had been delivered with the patient to the respective hospital. Unfortunately I am unable to recollect whether the policy was strictly adhered to. However I do not recollect the issue of data on civilian patient's transferring to the local community being a topic for further investigation or action.

David L HOYLE

I produce a copy of the said Royal Hospital Haslar patient administrative information notice exhibit reference DLH/DW/1 .

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