

2. Exhibits

a. Are all items offered (whether or not received) or considered as evidence individually numbered or lettered as exhibits and attached? YES

b. Is an index of all exhibits offered to or considered by investigating officer attached before the first exhibit? YES

c. Has the testimony/statement of each witness been recorded verbatim or been reduced to written form and attached as an exhibit? YES

d. Are copies, descriptions, or depictions (if substituted for real or documentary evidence) properly authenticated and is the location of the original evidence indicated? NA

e. Are descriptions or diagrams included of locations visited by the investigating officer (Appendix C-3, AR 15-6)? NA

f. Is each written stipulation attached as an exhibit and is each oral stipulation either reduced to writing and made an exhibit or recorded? NA

FOOTNOTES: Explain all negative answers on an attached sheet.

Use of the N/A column constitutes a positive representation that the circumstances described in the question did not occur in this investigation.

SECTION IV—FINDINGS

The (investigating officer), having carefully considered the evidence, finds: SEE MEMORANDUM

SECTION V—RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the above findings, the (investigating officer) recommends: SEE MEMORANDUM

SECTION VI—AUTHENTICATION

THIS REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE.

(TEXT REDACTED)

(Investigating Officer)

SECTION VII—ACTION BY APPROVING AUTHORITY

The findings and recommendations of the (investigating officer) are:

a) Approved. (TEXT REDACTED)

b) Approved with the following modifications:

(4) The following recommendations are modified as follows:

The Mental Health Evaluation/treatment priority will apply to Service Members at ALL gates HK (TEXT REDACTED)

[Signed]—NOV102021

RONALD P. CLARK,
Lieutenant General, USA, Commanding.

UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND,
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER,
MacDill Air Force Base, FL, 22 Nov. 2021.

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Thru: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
From: General Kenneth F. McKenzie, Jr.,
Commander, U.S. Central Command
Subject: Abbey Gate AR 15-6 Investigation

MR. SECRETARY, I have reviewed the AR 15-6 investigation completed at my direction by U.S. Army Central (ARCENT) and concur with and endorse its findings and recommendations. The investigation was exceptionally comprehensive in its scope, as appropriate to the tragic events that precipitated its initiation. The investigating team, led by BG Lance Curtis, conducted 70 separate interviews, many of which were held in a group setting to facilitate a free flow of information. A total of 139 people were interviewed at seven different locations spanning five countries. Interviews ranged from between one hour and six hours in duration, with the average interview lasting between two and three hours, and the average transcription totaling nearly 11 pages. I specifically concur that:

The task organization worked. This was in large part due to pre-existing or quickly

forged relationships among leaders at the highest echelons and adaptability at the lower echelons;

By 25 August 2021, Abbey Gate was the main effort for "walk-up" gate operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport;

There was no complex attack; it was a single suicide bomber not accompanied by enemy small arms fire;

There is no evidence that Afghans were killed by return fire from U.S. forces in the immediate aftermath of the attack;

The attack was not preventable at the tactical level without degrading the mission to maximize the number of evacuees;

The attack was not the result of any act of omission or commission by forces on the ground;

The wounds sustained by the service members Killed in Action were so catastrophic that none could be saved; and

Although not assigned as a task to ARCENT or the investigating team, it is my judgment that all injuries sustained by U.S. personnel incident to the Abbey Gate attack occurred in the line of duty and were not due to any misconduct by the killed or injured U.S. personnel.

I further concur with the recommendations detailed in the ARCENT investigation. Accordingly, I have directed the following actions:

The Findings and Recommendations will be forwarded to all USCENCOM Service Component Commanders to ensure that all U.S. servicemembers at Abbey Gate during the attack, and present in any of the blast zones detailed in the investigation, are afforded the opportunity to be evaluated for Traumatic Brain Injury (Recommendation (a));

The Findings and Recommendations will be forwarded to all USCENCOM Service Component Commanders to facilitate prioritized access to appropriate mental health evaluations for personnel involved in executing entry control point operations from 17-26 August and personnel involved in the medical response to the attack on 26 August (Recommendation (b));

The investigation will be forwarded to the Joint Staff to inform any efforts that might be undertaken to develop interagency doctrine for Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (Recommendation (c)); and

Relevant portions of the investigation will be forwarded to U.S. Marine Corps Forces Central for appropriate action regarding the potential serious injury or death of an Afghan civilian on or about 20 August 2021 resulting from the alleged improper deployment of a flash bang grenade by a U.S. Marine from 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment (Recommendation (d)).

Based on the totality of the facts and circumstances detailed in the ARCENT investigation, I do not believe that any adverse administrative or disciplinary action is necessary or appropriate for any U.S. personnel involved in our operations at Abbey Gate.

The ARCENT investigating team and the ARCENT Commander, LTG Ron Clark, briefed me in person on 11 November 2021 regarding this investigation. The presentation was as comprehensive as the investigation itself, and it included detailed PowerPoint slides, embedded video, and exceptionally well scripted speaker notes that complemented the written investigation and facilitated an informative exchange of questions and answers. I highly recommend you take the brief in person, and set aside two hours to this purpose. If you concur, my headquarters will work with your staff to make the ARCENT team available.

Enclosure: AR 15-6 Investigation (Enclosures and Exhibits available via Sharepoint)

TRIBUTE TO PAT AND SHARON O'TOOLE

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, at the 110th Wyoming State Fair, Senator LUMMIS and I will have the pleasure of introducing Pat and Sharon O'Toole as 2022 inductees to the Wyoming Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Pat and Sharon O'Toole are ranchers who, along with their family, own and operate the Ladder Ranch. It is a large-scale cattle and sheep operation, established in 1881 by A.W. and Anna Louise Salisbury. This was 9 years before Wyoming became a State. The Ladder Ranch has been in Sharon's family for six generations. Located outside of Savery, WY, along the Little Snake River, the ranch straddles the State line with Colorado.

Pat met Sharon Salisbury while they both attended Colorado State University. Following marriage, they returned to Sharon's family ranch in 1977 where they went to work managing the ranch and raising a family. Since then, Pat and Sharon have been shining examples of resource conservation, land stewardship, and partnership development.

The conservation legacy of the Ladder Ranch will affect agriculture, wildlife, and water for generations to come. Their ranch is host to one of North America's largest elk herds. It provides habitat for mule deer, sage grouse, and fish. They participate in the Sage Grouse Initiative, the Conservation Stewardship Program, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Partners for Fish and Wildlife program. They also have a stretch of land along Battle Creek recognized as an Audubon Bird Area.

In addition to managing a successful cattle and sheep operation for 45 years, Pat served in the Wyoming Legislature for three terms from 1986-1992. He is the current president of the Family Farm Alliance, representing irrigators in 17 Western States. The alliance ensures the availability of reliable, affordable irrigation supplies to Western farmers and ranchers.

Pat is a strong advocate for efficient irrigation and effective management tools for agriculture. He has testified many times before committees in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. As the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I invited him to testify in June 2022. Pat spoke on solutions to extreme drought in the Western United States.

Pat gives his time to numerous organizations including AGree, which addresses international food and agriculture policies. He also serves on the boards of the Intermountain Joint Venture, Partners for Conservation, Farm Foundation, and Solutions from the Land. President Clinton appointed him to the Western Water Policy Review Advisory Commission in 1997.

In addition to full-time ranching, Sharon is a published author and writer. Her work has been featured in the Washington Post. She has a monthly

column in the Shepherd magazine. She currently blogs on western issues and life for the Western Folklife Center. She is an avid poet, having performed at the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering. She was chosen to write the poem featured at the Wyoming Stock Growers 150th anniversary celebration. Her writing includes two children's books, highlighting the connections between family and the land.

Among many prestigious awards, the O'Toole family and the Ladder Ranch were awarded the Wyoming Leopold Environmental Stewardship Award in 2014. Two years later, the ranch received the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust Kurt Bucholz Conservation Award.

The Ladder Ranch is truly a family endeavor. Pat and Sharon's three children all contribute to the success of the operation. Their daughter Meghan O'Toole Lally works full-time on the ranch with help from her husband Brian and their four children. The O'Toole's son, Eamon O'Toole, his wife Megan and their two sons, also reside on the ranch, working alongside the family. Their daughter, Bridget O'Toole and her husband Chris Abel help with the ranch from their home in Arizona.

Pat and Sharon O'Toole's unmatched passion for family, Wyoming agriculture, wildlife and animal conservation, and cultivating partnerships, makes them an outstanding choice for the Wyoming Agriculture Hall of Fame. It is a great honor to participate in their induction. They continue to represent Wyoming and Western interests with dedication and distinction. My wife, Bobbi, joins me in congratulating Pat and Sharon O'Toole as 2022 inductees into the Wyoming Agriculture Hall of Fame.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE VAN BUREN LIONS CLUB'S 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise to recognize and congratulate the Van Buren Lions Club as it celebrates 100 years of service to western Arkansas.

The Van Buren Lions Club was chartered on October 10, 1922, only 5 years after the creation of Lions Club International. Since its founding, its members have committed themselves to making a difference in the lives of people in the community and around the world.

While it began as a club to support local causes and provide networking for businessmen, a larger mission came into focus after Helen Keller spoke at the Lions Club International convention in 1925. She challenged all Lions to be "Knights of the Blind" and her eloquent plea transformed the organization, making support of sight-related programs the group's primary mission.

Throughout its 100-year history, the Van Buren Lions Club has worked tire-

lessly to make a difference for this cause. It hosts annual fundraisers and works with area eye doctors to recycle glasses, donating them to people who cannot afford them. In addition, members support local eye examination programs as well as the Arkansas Eye Bank and Laboratory, Lions World Services for the Blind, Mid-South Sight and Hearing Service, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Lions Clubs International Foundation, Diabetes Education and Prevention, Sight First, and the Lions of Arkansas Foundation.

As an optometrist, I am proud of the great work done by this club and Lions chapters around the world. I congratulate the Van Buren Lions Club on its 100th anniversary and hope these Knights for the Blind continue to prosper in their mission for years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO BILL MILLS

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I have the distinct honor of recognizing the retirement of one of the leaders in water policy from the great State of Montana. Mr. Bill Mills is retiring after 57 years as a giant in Montana's water industry and as a respected leader nationally.

Bill retired from the Air Force in 1965 and spent the next 12 years in the pump industry, focusing on the water business. In 1977, he formed the 2M Company in Billings, MT, with a \$10,000 loan from his aunt and an SBA loan. His goal was to provide "legendary" service and support to the water well contractors and pump installers that provide water to homes, farms, ranches, and businesses throughout Montana. From those humble beginnings, he formed a 14-branch operation that covered the Rocky Mountain States and the Pacific Northwest. Bill served on the Water System Council Board in the 1990s and was a force behind Federal investment in programs to address rural residential and agricultural water issues.

In 2006, Bill expanded his vision and focus globally by helping form Water 4 Kids, an international organization that provides permanent, safe drinking water solutions for at-risk communities. To date, Water 4 Kids International has positively impacted over 3,000,000 lives in communities in Uganda, Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, and the Philippines. In 2008, Bill was recognized as Montana's Small Business Person of the Year.

In 2017, one of Bill's oldest and most trusted manufacturing partners, Franklin Electric, acquired 2M and other leading water equipment distributors around the country to form the Headwater Companies. Bill served on Headwater's board of advisers until April of this year.

Please join me in congratulating Bill on a remarkable career that has positively impacted hundreds of employees, thousands of water industry professionals and helped provide millions of

people with clean, reliable sources of water around the world.●

REMEMBERING THOMAS TRESSSELT

• Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and memory of a dear friend, Thomas Tresselt, who passed away on July 12 in Hartford.

Tom was an American classic. He grew up in Indiana where he was the star of his high school's basketball team before taking his talents to Yale University. In his first year, he scored 16 points on future NBA player, U.S. Senator, and Presidential candidate Bill Bradley's Princeton team. While he was not destined for the NBA, he never lost his love of basketball. In the early 80s—before computers were commonplace—he and a friend started their law firm's March Madness pool, providing comprehensive round-by-round standings, calculated manually using brackets drawn by hand.

Tom went on to the University of Michigan Law School where he married the love of his life, Sally. Sally and Tom would be married for 57 years. Following law school, Tom was commissioned an officer in the U.S. Navy, where he served in Beachmaster Unit 2 from 1969 to 1971. After the Navy, Tom and Sally moved to San Francisco where Tom worked as a litigator for Orrick, Herrington, Rowley, and Sutcliffe.

"Tired of always arguing for a living," Tom moved back to Connecticut, the place he and his family would call home for the next nearly 50 years. From 1974 to 1977, he was assistant dean of Yale Law School before joining Shipman and Goodman, where he practiced corporate law until 2008.

A leader in every sense of the word, Tom was an extremely active member of his community. At Asylum Hill Congregation Church, he served as moderator, was cochair of the capital campaign, served on the board of Christian service, was a deacon, and performed in the Boar's Head Festival as a king, log carrier, Beefeater, and other roles for nearly 20 years. He also served on the board of Loaves and Fishes, the American School for the Deaf, and Leadership Greater Hartford—3rd Age Initiative.

I knew Tom as a great friend and co-worker of my father who, like Tom, made Shipman and Goodwin his work home for five decades. To me, Tom was a legend. Thoughtful and kind, with this big, booming, smiling personality that drew people to him. That person in your life that everyone just wants to be around. He was a man of action who led by example and was committed to his country, his family, and his community.

Tom battled Alzheimer's at the end of his life, but never lost his sense of humor, compassion, and love for his family and friends.

I only wish I could have known him better. But I knew him well enough to