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26 Aug 98

**1 QLR SERIOUS INCIDENT REPORT NO 01/98**  
**OMAGH VBIED 15 AUG 98**

References:

- A. 1 QLR NIREP No 345 DTG 152300 Aug 98.
- B. 1 QLR NIREP No 346 DTG 162358 Aug 98.
- C. 1 QLR NIREP No 347 DTG 172358 Aug 98.

**INTRODUCTION**

1. On Saturday 15 Aug 98 at 1506 hrs a **OS** VBIED detonated in OMA town killing 28 civilians. This report is written to record the detail of events carried out by the Bn in response to this incident. It will also detail the agencies involved in the incident and outline lessons learnt. A map detailing the location of the device and cordon positions is at Annex A.

**DETAILS OF INCIDENT**

2. The sequence of events covers the period 15 1445 - 21 1100hrs Aug 98 and includes all military deployments until the closure of the incident. All timings have been extracted from the log and are summarised:

- a. 15 1440 hrs Aug 98 - The RUC received a bomb warning for OMA town and began clearing the town centre starting from the courthouse. Detail overheard by Int Cell 1 QLR monitoring RUC net. ATO, QRF, Ops 2 OC and Bde informed
- b. 15 1445 hrs Aug 98 - Target confirmed as the courthouse. RUC begin clearing the area starting from the courthouse.
- c. 15 1506 hrs Aug 98 - Device detonates.
- d. 15 1511 hrs Aug 98 - Gaz 5 on Task. Seat of Explosion confirmed as High St/ Market St junction. Casualties confirmed.
- e. 15 1516 hrs Aug 98 - QRF to deploy with military ambulances.
- f. 15 1530 hrs Aug 98 - ATO and E0A deploy. Puma 7 tasked to TCH. 4 fatalities confirmed.