



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
COMMANDING GENERAL, UNITED STATES ARMY ACCESSIONS COMMAND/
DEPUTY COMMANDING GENERAL FOR INITIAL MILITARY TRAINING
90 INGALLS ROAD, BUILDING 100
FORT MONROE, VIRGINIA 23651-1065

ATAL-C

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Record of Phone Conversation with (b)(6)

1. On Friday, 21 Nov 08, at approximately 1435 hrs, I conducted a telephonic interview with (b)(6) of (b)(6) Recruiting Station, (b)(6) Recruiting Company, Houston Battalion. The purpose of this interview was to collect background information as part of an AR 15-6 investigation into the death of SSG Aron Andersson on or about 6 Mar 07. The line of questioning pertained to his relationship with SSG Andersson and any indicators of suicidal thoughts/behavior in his past history. (b)(6) offered the following testimony:

a. (b)(6) has been assigned to (b)(6) since 2004. He stated that he was in the Color Guard with SSG Andersson. He thinks recruiting was difficult for SSG Anderson. He appeared to be proud and "squared away"; it was difficult for him to transition from the infantry.

b. (b)(6) thought command climate may have been a contributing factor. It was not uncommon for SSG Andersson to go home at 2300-0100 hours. He stated that he heard about the Feb 06 "Beat Down" Training Session where SSG Andersson was humiliated in front of a company training session. Recruiting duty was the most difficult, demoralizing job SSG Andersson had experienced since joining the Army. He was under a constant grind; incredible pressure; he just became numb. (b)(6) said that the, "climate has improved a lot since Henderson's suicide". There was no predictability, can't plan anything at home ... said it forces you to compromise your Army Values -- Integrity.

c. I asked about 79Rs vs. detailed recruiters and he replied that "79Rs do everything to cover each others' backs"; a detailed recruiter "will go down before a 79R". He did not want anything to do with the organization. "Rank comes with the ring, not leadership abilities". He said that everyone calls 79Rs the "USAREC Mafia"; they can do whatever they wish and work you long hours.

2. (b)(6) fully understood his rights and all implications of the Privacy Act Statement, providing full testimony without coercion and undue influence. I can be reached for further comment on this phone conversation at (757) 788-4718.

F. D. Turner
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Deputy Commanding General