

Date : 21/11/2019
Location : Alice Springs Police Station.
Conversation Between : DSC1C Emma CARTER and Sgt Lee BAUWENS
Also Present: DSC Brett WILSON
Conversation Commenced : 5:05 p.m.
Conversation Concluded : 06:20 p.m.

Transcript accuracy disclaimer:

I, Constable First Class Amy BENNETT of the Northern Territory Police, have checked the accuracy of this transcript and it appears to be a true and correct copy of a recorded statutory declaration made by Lee BAUWENS in the presence of Emma CARTER and Brett WILSON.

CARTER: The time is now 5 past 5 p.m. um, on Thursday the 21st of November 2019. Speaking is Detective Senior Constable First Class, Emma Carter of the Major Crime Squad, Northern Territory Police. There's another Police Officer present, if you could provide your details for the recording?

WILSON: Detective Senior Constable Brett WILSON, registered number 2169.

CARTER: And this is an audio recorded Statutory Declaration of ah, Lee BAUWENS which is being conducted at the Alice Springs Police Station. Lee could you state your full name?

BAUWENS: Lee BAUWENS.

CARTER: Your date of Birth?

BAUWENS: [REDACTED].

CARTER: And your occupation?

BAUWENS: Ah Sergeant, Alice Springs Police.

CARTER: Ah, with the Northern Territory Police?

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: I wish to talk to you about a matter that you may have information about. Do you understand it is an offence to make a Statutory Declaration that is false in any material particular?

BAUWENS: Yes I do.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: I'll have you repeat after me. Ah, I Lee BAUWENS –

BAUWENS: I Lee BAUWENS –

CARTER: - solemnly and sincerely declare –

BAUWENS: - solemnly and sincerely declare -

CARTER: - the following to be true.

BAUWENS: - the following to be true.

CARTER: Okay, so your providing this Statement to help us establish um, circumstances surrounding the conception of IRT, ah which will include training and um policies and procedures.

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: Um, what you say in your Statement is entirely up to you Lee. You're the person with the information, you'll be doing most of the talking um, and I will ask you though to explain everything in as much detail as possible. If there meetings, emails, people that were present, as much detail as you give me in the first instance will ah reduce the questions afterwards.

BAUWENS: Yes.

CARTER: Um, if I ask you a question you don't know the answer to, just simply say I don't know and I'll move on and ah, same if there's something that you don't recall, just explain that you don't recall -

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: - and don't force your memory to answer a question and we'll move on. Do you have any concerns about providing this Statement today?

BAUWENS: No.

CARTER: Okay. Do you want anyone with you?

BAUWENS: No.

CARTER: Okay. Have you taken any medication or alcohol prior to - ?

BAUWENS: No.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: Alright. Um, so Lee I understand you're a Sergeant within the Northern Territory Police Force, um just tell me everything um, about your knowledge of the IRT, the Incident Response Team.

BAUWENS: Immediate.

CARTER: Immediate Response Team, ah that's within the Northern, Alice Springs Police Station.

BAUWENS: Yeah, sure. Um, well I've, I got sent, I came to Alice Springs in, about 5 years ago -

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - um from Darwin, posted from TRG where I was for ten years. Ah, in that time we trained with the cor-, then it was called the Cordon and Containment Team -

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - um in Alice Springs. So I had a bit of a knowledge of that. Um, and obviously I transferred down here because I wanted to change to Alice Springs. Um as a result also I wanted to build up the Cordon and Containment Team. Um, and turn into a um, a viable Section. 'Cause at that stage it was basically, it wasn't viable, there was, there was no training, there was no nothing, there was just a couple of guns in a, in a Store -

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - and a few names on a bit of paper saying that they were part of it, which wasn't satisfactory. So I endeavoured to um, develop this, the Team into a um, ah, an asset which could be used in the Southern Command. Um, went through lots of lots and hoops and um, a lot of changes. So, its sort of hard to go through all the changes as we went but I guess some of the changes initially,

we had some good members which had previous experience from Interstate Police, ah from New Zealand and ah soggy in ah, in Victoria. So that enabled us to sort of build up the credibility and myself and we got the Section moving a bit more forward. Um, and we ran some courses and got some people trained and we incorporated, we liaised with TRG um, in, we brought them into the um, equation, so, to provide (inaudible) training.

CARTER:

Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS:

And we run a couple of courses and we got some more people on. Um, during that time the Section sort'a developed from a Cordon and Containment ah, Team which was in its inception was to, if a high risk incident would happen we'd just contain it and wait for TRG to come down and deal with it. Um, we developed from that, with best practice for um, from ah, the ah, Siege Management Strategy and um, I, the NCTC, National Counter Terrorism Committee ah, Standards where a ah, tactical response, in case of emergency is required during that cordon. So our Team developed um, to at that stage it was just a Cordon and Containment Plan and we um, through approvals, not a lot of approvals, ah we became ah, trained and approved to do, I call an IEA, which is an Immediate Emergency Action. So that was a developing time for the Team and basically explaining what that is, is if we have a high risk incident which we Police control and it's a cordon, um, if something were to happen where lives are at risk within the, we call it the stronghold or the house or the situation, whatever you call it, ah we have a Team which is trained to respond and go in and to save lives. So it's basically the same level of what the TRG do, um with their skills. So that was a big step and we got approval for that 'cause it was seen as a, a severe risk that I've we're controlling the situation that we actually haven't got a plan if something was to go pear-shaped really badly. Um, we had to fight for that but we got it. Um the bosses realised there was a risk involved. Um, and with that we also ah, obtained new weapons. We um, were able to get

approval for less lethal weapons, but mean, namely the Beanbag shotgun. Um, and through TRG we got trained and ah authorised to use that. So we've been liaising a lot with TRG, Management and the Alice Springs Southern Command to build up the Section to where it is today where we've got ah, well we did have fifteen people um. So its solely part time, ah we work within the GD's to respond to a ah, incidents whether being high risk or a general support role. So, um that's, in that mean time we've also, our equipment has increased greatly. Through my connections with TRG we've basically got all their old equipment at no cost, helmets, balli- ballistic vests, weapon accessories, like torches um, fore-end scopes. So ah, we inherited a lot of equip-, their old equipment. Um, so basically yeah, we've become um, helped us to fulfil the roles that we ah needed to do. Um, in that time ah, with paperwork also developed. Um, I think about two years ago we had the SOP's signed off. We also had the SOP's for the Beanbag shotgun approved. Um, Mike WILLIAMS was ah, who has previously left, he was um, Senior Sergeant at the time and he developed in coordination with myself the SOP's for um, the Team. Which basically, it just outlines general support in high risk incidents, what the um, approvals are needed um, procedures, so, and that was all approved. Um, yeah, I guess that's, and that's basic, we're at the level we are now. Um, we, do you want me to keep on going what we're recording stuff on, I could just babble on –

CARTER: Yes please, go.

BAUWENS: - for quite a while. Let me know if you want to be more specific.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, obviously we ah, we started recording for the last two years all our jobs on a Promis journal log. Um, I haven't got the numbers in front of me

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - but I can provide those. Um, that isolates, that indicates, ah situation, who approved it, what our role was, members –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - ah outcome. It's all documented. Ah we've also um, record our , training on ah, a um, program called Spectre which is ah, a program we adapted or we got from TRG. So, um every training day we ah, record members, what we did, ah results, um outcomes from that. Ah, training is one ros-, oh every roster period we have one day training, which generally falls on my training day. Um, and then through that, through rosters we try and get as many people on the Team as possible to attend. Ah obviously due to Leave and ah some other commitments, that doesn't always happen.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: Um, so yes. Alright. What else?

CARTER: That's good, I can go into some specifics –

BAUWENS: Yeah go into –

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Alright. So um, just for the tape, what's TRG Lee?

BAUWENS: Oh Tactical Response Group –

CARTER: Okay and -

BAUWENS: - or Territory Response Group.

CARTER: Okay and you were in the TRG um, prior to coming down to Alice Springs five years ago?

BAUWENS: Yeah, for ten years I was in there.

CARTER: Ah for ten years.

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: And the Cordon –

BAUWENS: I was a Sergeant in there.

CARTER: - the Cordon and Containment Team –

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: - that was in existence in Alice Springs, was that already in existence before you transferred to Alice Springs?

BAUWENS: Yes it was.

CARTER: Okay. Um and you said that you had been involved in some of the training from your TRG role?

BAUWENS: Correct. Yeah we on occasions we came down and provided training and we, I think one occasion we, we sent some guys up to Darwin for a drill styled exercise. Um, but through attrition and people leaving and that and basically it just went down to the wayside and it wasn't, it wasn't manage and it, it wasn't something that I would call a viable Section at that stage.

CARTER: Yep, okay.

BAUWENS: Ah they didn't get used for basically anything.

CARTER: Yep, no worries.

CARTER: And so, we're, if we're talking five years ago, what year did you transfer to Alice Springs?

BAUWENS: Oh that'd be '14 or '15 I think.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Oh, yeah.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: It's just coming up to 5 years now, so.

CARTER: Yep, alright.

CARTER: And um, you said that you then started running um, more specific courses to get people trained. Ah when, when did that start?

BAUWENS: Pretty much ah, well, there was, the Cordon Team had ah, very few initial members left, I think it was four or five people, that had done the initial course.

CARTER: Mmm.

BAUWENS: Um, so I can't give you the specific dates but ah, we organised to have TRG and we ran a um, another course to get ah, some more people on there to get it up to a level we could um use. Initially I think it was myself, the ah, Queensland, sorry the New

Zealand um, members, Mike WILLIAMS and Liz WILLIAMS and um, Hayden HUNT, we went initially to Darwin I think, to do a bit of training and Train the Trainer. So they trained us so we could in future, in ah hand train um our guys.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: So um, that was all documented.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um so from that point on we, we were able to become ah, trained, train our own guys. So TRG assisted with running, I think, one or two courses and from the last course, where, Induction Course ah was run completely in-house by IRT –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - with myself and another ex-TRG member.

CARTER: And who is that?

BAUWENS: Oh C [REDACTED] V [REDACTED].

CARTER: Yeah but that was the last Induction Course that you ran here in Alice Springs?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Alright, so I'll just still take you back to while, while your still the Cordon and Containment Team. So the four of you went up there to TRG and then you've come back um, and expanded the Cordon and Containment Team? Is that right?

BAUWENS: Correct. Ah, we, we ah, got a course happening, um and run a course as soon as we could.

CARTER: And how did you recruit members for that course?

BAUWENS: Um, well it wasn't along the same lines as TRG. It was obviously a lot less ah, ah, regimented and rules. So, basically we put an Expression of Interest out, through internal email. We got the list, um, there was, they had to provide their previous experience ah, how long their going to stay in Alice Springs for, um what they

wanted to get out of the Section, why the wanted to be there. Just to um, yeah, just get an idea. Um, and from that point on um, we ah, short listed to a group, um and it was myself, I think Commander CURRIE, I think was back then one of them, and ah an Independent um, eh, person was on the e-pan- oh just a situation like here, at a table where we'd have a look at all the applications um, and decide. And decisions were made on previous experience, um obviously previous military experience was ah, desirable 'cause they use the same weapons and some of the same tactics. Um, but that wasn't a, that wasn't a prerequisite, some, we got a lot of people that were fresh and that's always a good way to go as well so they don't have pre-conceived ideas. Um, good, one of the better things we have, 'cause we work with people here, we get an idea of their work history, what their like and we can use that to make a really good judgement calls on whether we think their going to be suitable for the Team.

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: Um, and that was probably one of the bigger ones, just their, their personality, ah their work ethic, um profess-, professionalism, keenness is another good thing.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, and that's how we made our decisions which you know, sometimes I think is, gives us a little bit of an edge on TRG where we're a bit more personal on who we choose and that's my personal opinion, probably not for here but (laughs).

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: It means we get some um, people that we really think are suitable.

CARTER: Yep. So um, and I guess just for the purpose of this interview Lee, um Cordon and Containment Team and IRT, their not a permanent Unit here within the Alice Springs Police Station are they?

BAUWENS: No, their not.

CARTER: So explain how that works?

BAUWENS: Well yeah everybody just has their normal job.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So, ah, which makes time to dedicate to the Section ah, hard and sometimes it's, you gotta provide, turn up in your own time to do things, go over your own Kit, because training days are pretty much just for training. Um, so yeah everybody's got their own role, GD's, so when we do get call-outs it's often, it really interferes with rosters and people have to you know, um we try and get people on their days off but to, so it doesn't interfere with ah general roster. But um, yeah so, but everybody has got their own job, including me.

CARTER: Yep, so –

BAUWENS: Um,

CARTER: - so you all have your own roles within the Police Force –

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: - and this Unit um is it, could, is it fair to say a voluntary ah -

BAUWENS: Oh he's definitely gotta wanna do it. Its –

CARTER: - participation, so?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: There's no on-call –

CARTER: Nope.

BAUWENS: - um and there's no, well there is an expectation that you make a commitment to the Team, when a call-out happens that you ah come, obviously that's the, the ah nature of the Team is um to go when required. So ah, there's no, and it's just through their um, you know, keenness and professionalism whether they want to be part of this section, that they, that they do that -

CARTER: Mmm.

BAUWENS: - they enjoy the work and they wanna be a part of it.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: Um alright, so and we will cover –

BAUWENS: There's no extra money or anything.

CARTER: - that further um, Lee as we go through the interview.

BAUWENS: Sure.

CARTER: Yeah so there's no extra money, it is just a, it's an extra job on top of their own role what they already do –

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: - including yourself?

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: Um, okay so then you've come back, you're still working with the Cordon and Containment Team and you've done now some more training. Um, then you said it, ah, evolved to the SOP being created.

BAUWENS: Mm-hmm.

CARTER: Which was approximately 2 years ago, is that correct?

BAUWENS: Yeah in 2017 I believe.

CARTER: 2017.

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: And is that, oh when did the name change from Cordon and Containment Team to IRT?

BAUWENS: About that. It was, it went from the Cordon and Containment Team to the, to CSU at some stage, just trying to think what CSU stands for. Um, then it went, we had another couple of bosses and it went to IRT.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Um, yeah. When it went to IRT it, ah it became a bit more formal and they, the ah Management said well, get some SOP's

happening, um, and which we did and ah, yeah, we ah, and we did SOP's with the shotgun as well, so.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: Are they separate?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: You said, said that.

CARTER: So you've got one SOP for IRT, do you have a separate Standard Operating Procedure for the um Beanbag shotgun?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Just outlines the rules on how to use and what, you know when your deployment, for instance an example would be when we load to it we have to have someone else to ju-, check the ammo -

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: - just to make sure that there's no live rounds getting in there.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: 'Cause that does happen, in the, around the world it has happened.

CARTER: Yeah.

CARTER: And is that specific to IRT, that SOP?

BAUWENS: It's pretty much the same what TRG use.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: But it has been –

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: - it is yours?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Okay. We'll locate that one.

CARTER: Um, Willow oh sorry, Brett have you got any questions, just up until now, before I continue?

WILSON: No that's fine.

CARTER: Alright.

CARTER: Um, alright so, Commander CURRIE –

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: - ah, sorry, no, no that's incorrect, it was Michael WILLIAMS you said created those SOP's, is that right?

BAUWENS: Yeah he was Senior Serge-

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - he was ah, put in as ah Senior Sergeant of the Team –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - um, and I went to Sergeant, Management, at the lower end, he was ah OIC at the time so he had a bit of time to do some paperwork.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: He –

CARTER: And he consulted you throughout that process?

BAUWENS: Yeah, yeah. We basically consulted on that and he drew them up.

CARTER: Yep and um, you were ah, happy with the outcome of the SOP's –

BAUWENS: Yes.

CARTER: - as they were?

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: Um and then they went to Commander CURRIE, is that correct?

BAUWENS: I believe so, I think they were all, I think the process was, our Management sent it to TRG to, for approval and um, to get their

notes, we're, everything we do gets ah, flagged through TRG, so they can have their opinion on it.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, and they were happy with that and ah, yeah, got approved as far as I know.

CARTER: So do you know who did have a look at it in TRG back then?

BAUWENS: Oh, it may have been um, Senior Sergeant GRAY-SPENCE.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: He's been probably the ah main one that we've been dealing with.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: And ah, and to your knowledge did Commander CURRIE sign off on those SOP's as you saw them last?

BAUWENS: Yes.

CARTER: Yep, okay.

CARTER: Um anything on that Brett?

WILSON: No.

CARTER: No.

CARTER: Ah, then you mentioned the Promis Journals. So since um, you've been I-, IRT and the SOP's, so for the last two years you've been running a Promis Journal?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: We started running one the last year but then we backdated it one year, we went through our jobs and added them to the job.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Um, and that was a recommendation through, I think it was um, AC BEER, um, because we were wanting um, equipment and things like that and she says '*well show me some jobs and you need to record*',

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - which yeah, was correct. So we've um, we backdated it and we've also done this year.

CARTER: Okay and who's responsible for updating the Promis Journal?

BAUWENS: Me. Me.

CARTER: Its you? Okay.

BAUWENS: Or the person in charge of the job, but generally I do it.

CARTER: Yep, okay.

CARTER: Um, alright and then we'll go into the training. So I'll just um, go into our specific questions for you Lee. So what's your primary role within NT Police, aside from IRT?

BAUWENS: Um, Sergeant, just General Duties Sergeant.

CARTER: Yep. On a Patrol Group?

BAUWENS: Yeah, PG1.

CARTER: Yep. PG1. Okay.

CARTER: So, then explain your role with, within IRT?

BAUWENS: Ah, OIC.

CARTER: Okay and what does that entail? What responsibilities do you have as the OIC?

BAUWENS: Well basically running the whole, running the whole thing. Um, managing training –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

CARTER: - um, managing resources and numbers of people that we've got. Um equipment, I've just finished a business case for all new um, ballistic vests, helmets and um, plate carriers.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: Which is going to be approved, hopefully.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, yeah so and ah, yeah just keeping, just the general running of it and being in control of it.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um which means a lot of um, stuff in my own time. Um, organising training, ah, for when we do it. Um, and just keeping track of ah, equipment, ah run a maintenance schedule for the ah, firearms.

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: So I'm in charge of the um, when we do the ah, oh its, the ah lists for the ah Station Inspections. Um, any weapons transfers and things like that, I, I look after that.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So yeah, just the basic, the runnings of the, of the Team.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: Um, and how often is IRT utilised?

BAUWENS: Well it ah, it's hard to say. Some months we get used three or four times and some we might not do any for two months and then we have a busy period. Um, but ah I think so far this year, we've probably done fifteen to twenty jobs I would say if I was looking at the, roughly the Log, I haven't prepared anything before this interview, so I'm only going from memory.

CARTER: Yep, okay. No that's fine.

CARTER: Um, and from your memory, has there ever been any request of IRT that you haven't responded to?

BAUWENS: No.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Not that I know of.

CARTER: And um, just and I know that there's nothing in front of you, so this is all from your memory, um, what sort of jobs do IRT respond to? What, what are the requests?

BAUWENS: Lot are just general support. Um, arrest targets, um, social order, social, oh yeah, disorder in the Communities. Um, pro-, providing our assistance to the um, local, all the members in the Community. Um, I've been used for some local, local ah jobs, bit of surveillance um, yeah but just, just ah civil order stuff, ah in the Communities, um and ah, getting arrest targets.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: That's probably the main thing that we've been used for a lot lately.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Just where, you know, they haven't got the manpower or the skills to, to um, to get the people they want, yep.

CARTER: Brett you got any questions on that?

CARTER: Um and other than the two SOP's that we've already discussed, are there any other policy and procedures in place that you are required to have knowledge of?

BAUWENS: Um no I think there the main ones. I haven't got any other thing that's um, that I can recall.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: And the (inaudible) the IRT SOP, how is that disseminated to the members within IRT?

BAUWENS: Oh it's not really.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: What, in your opinion is their level of knowledge of the SOP's?

BAUWENS: Oh, they, the SOP's just duplicate what we talk about all the time regarding our role. So, it's something we talk about all the time, um you know, High Risk Response, General Response and that's how we train so. While they may not read it and know it as or have read it, its, it's something that's brought forward with their training all the time.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: And just on that, what's a High Risk Response?

BAUWENS: Ah High Risk Response is basically the same as a TRG High Risk Response. It's just um, when there's a, suspect there's an imminent threat, a life ah threat through ah the person's intent to cause harm to other people with a weapons, um, so yeah basically that.

CARTER: And what would be a General Response?

BAUWENS: General Response is providing manpower to the Community. Um going after ah, people who have escaped custody, um who the local members in the community are having trouble to locate or their a bit of trouble in the community um. Ah, violent offenders, where they've just, its not within their scope to try and get these people, or they, they don't want to be found-

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - and their finding it very hard to find them through, 'cause they just run off.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So just providing that higher level of response and commitment and um, yeah, training that enable us to catch the people they can't.

CARTER: And when you say '*in the Community*' Lee, what do you mean by that?

BAUWENS: Oh the Aboriginal Communities, like –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: We've been to um, Docker River on numerous occasions, Borroloola, um we've been to Yuendumu ah previously, Ali Curung.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, all done work out there.

CARTER: Yep, okay.

CARTER: Um alright and I'll just go into ah, the training which I know is extensive, so we'll try and um –

BAUWENS: Mm-hmm.

CARTER: - get through it bit by bit. Um, so I will, I'll ask this 'cause we may have covered a little bit but what skills are required prior to joining up IRT, are there any skills that you specifically require?

BAUWENS: There's no specific skills and like I said, we don't have pre-requisites which you know, you have to have Military experience, that's not the case.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Um, it's we, we look to people who are, show a keenness, a desire to be there, um who we think are trainable.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, and who we think, through their, that they've shown through their work ethic that they are suitable for the job.

CARTER: So are there any physical attributes that you require?

BAUWENS: Yeah, you gotta be, have a level of fitness.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: For sure.

CARTER: Um, alright so, what IRT specific training do you provide?

BAUWENS: The training is on two fronts, I, I guess, well that was, and that mirrors what we do on the course. We have what we call ah, '*Green Role*' which is um, where it's so, cam concealment, where your um, a lot of bush work, bush tactics.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um patrolling, um inserting into a situation, doing OP's, observations um and cordoning in a bush environment 'cause obviously we, a lot of the stuff we deal with is in bush.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So they call that 'Green Role', its so the same TRG. Um, and then we have what they call 'Black Role'.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Which is when the situation goes to a stronghold or a house or any sort of structure. Um, or it can even be um, out bush I guess when you, and that is ah where we train through um, entry. We have um, we, methods of entry which are, ours are all manual so, keep, expedient entry, ah, house clearing.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: So we go in through, to clear to house to locate the offender, um, um and yeah, arrest, withdraw. So, Green Role, Black Role which is basically on the same lines of TRG.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: And who runs the training for Green Role?

BAUWENS: Me.

CARTER: Yep, with anyone else?

BAUWENS: Um, well C [REDACTED], at that stage, last course, C [REDACTED] V [REDACTED] –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - was um, the other Instructor.

CARTER: And C [REDACTED] V [REDACTED] is an ex-TRG member from Darwin –

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: - as well?

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: Yep, currently full time in Alice Springs?

BAUWENS: Yeah, he's just on leave at the moment.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: Um and who takes the training for Black Role?

BAUWENS: Ah, me and him, we both.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: We just –

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: - do it all.

CARTER: And um, how long does the Green Role training go for?

BAUWENS: The course is two weeks.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So we break it up, um you know, couple of days Green Role and probably we spend a little bit more time on - Another thing for Black Role is CQT, Close Quarter Resolution or CQR –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - they call it CQB, its ah, there's a few different terms, CQR, yeah.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Close Quarter, Close Quarter Resolution.

CARTER: Yep, that's part of Black?

BAUWENS: Yeah that's what Black Role is.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Okay, so Green Role goes for two weeks –

BAUWENS: One week.

CARTER: Oh sorry.

BAUWENS: The whole course is two weeks.

CARTER: Oh so you do Green Role and Black Role together?

BAUWENS: Yeah, it's all –

CARTER: Alright.

BAUWENS: - part of the course.

CARTER: So Green for one, Black for one

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Yep, and –

BAUWENS: That's, yeah.

CARTER: How often do you run that two week block of training?
BAUWENS: Well that's, that's the Induction Course.
CARTER: Ah, okay.
BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: So, only for new people coming in?
BAUWENS: Correct.
CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: And so, the existing members only have to do that block of training once?
BAUWENS: We, from that we, our training day every month is we build up on those skills –
CARTER: Yep.
BAUWENS: - and just reinforce them.
CARTER: Okay.
BAUWENS: That's it.
CARTER: Yep. Excellent. Um, alright. So -
BAUWENS: And –
CARTER: Oh –
BAUWENS: - and incorporate new things when we, when we find them, or we use 'em.
CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Um, where is this training conducted?
BAUWENS: The, we go to the Range on um, nearly every training day, we just do, what we have ah, modified oh, um Range qualification shoot, which is adapted from the TRG one.
CARTER: Yep.
BAUWENS: Which is adapted from the ah, which is not adapted, it is, it's the ANZNCC, NCTC qual. shoot.
CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Which is used through all, through all the Police Tactical Groups in Australia and New Zealand. So that's, basically incorporates um, full Kit, primary weapon, shooting a target 12 metres and then um it's, fifteen shots primary, six shots ah, secondary, which secondary's a Glock.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: And we go through a process where we do walking turns, when stoppages occur we deal with them and ah, their scored.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: So, we run basically the same test as that as TRG but our scoring area is just a little bit bigger because obviously, we just um, don't shoot everyday like they do.

CARTER: Yep, okay. So –

BAUWENS: It's not much difference at all.

CARTER: Yep, so that's, so that's your firearms training and, and you do that most training days?

BAUWENS: Yeah we, we definitely like to um try and get the weapon handling skills –

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: - and to reinforce that every training day. Then ah, the second part of the day we generally go through, ah, gets some houses –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - through Territory Housing.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: And we do some um what we call, CQT, or CQR training –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - through the houses and um, yeah do that.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Okay. So sorry, I'll just, just for the um, Green Role and Black Role, does that incorporate the firearms training as well?

BAUWENS: For their course?

CARTER: Yes –

BAUWENS: Yeah lots of firearms, yes.

CARTER: - so the two week course has, so it incorporates the firearms as well?

BAUWENS: Definitely, lots of firearms.

CARTER: So that, that two week block does have pretty much all your training in that one, two week –

BAUWENS: Yes it has.

CARTER: - as an Induction for the new members?

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: And then you build on that every training day.

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: Now how often are the training days?

BAUWENS: Ah once every, ah roster.

CARTER: And who takes them?

BAUWENS: Me.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: And ah, do you have a Second that helps you with that?

BAUWENS: Um, yes, oh, um, C [REDACTED] V [REDACTED] sometimes or some of the more experienced guys, they assist and ah run the training as well, have some ideas. Um –

CARTER: Yep, within IRT?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: The experienced guys.

CARTER: Yeah, who were they?

BAUWENS: Ah well Zac ROLFE was one of those.

CARTER: Yep, okay.

CARTER: Um, alright and are those training days compulsory for your IRT members to attend?

BAUWENS: They're rostered.

CARTER: They're rostered?

BAUWENS: Mm-hmm.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: Alright, very good. I just have um, some questions straight from the SOP's Lee. Again, you don't have a copy there, just, you'll know it, I don't –

BAUWENS: Mm-hmm.

CARTER: - so that's why I'm asking.

CARTER: Um, so we've just talked to about the Method of Entry which is the 'MOU', is equipment used for that Method of Entry training?

BAUWENS: Yeah we do um –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - yeah we've got the MOE equipment.

CARTER: Which is?

BAUWENS: Ah, oh sledgehammers, ah knock-knock's, K-tools, ah Reamers.

CARTER: Okay and that's all issued ah, IRT issue equipment

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: - that you have? Yep.

BAUWENS: And it was all pre-existing.

CARTER: And you did briefly mention before the um, IEA, the Immediate Emergency Action –

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: - can you explain what that is?

BAUWENS: Yeah sure. Um, well when we were the Cordon Team, we identified a ah, Departmental Risk that we, if something was to

happen um, for instance we'd put a cordon around a house and Police are controlling the, that situation, so we own it, um if ol' mate inside started killing his wife inside or screams and/or gunshot, well there had to be a plan. And the, the plan is, through um the Siege Management Strategy, is to ah commit to an IEA, which is an Emergency Immediate Action, Immediate Emergency Action. Which is basically, get into the house and save the lives of the ah, the peop-, the people. Um, which is the same plan as TRG employ. So, um, yeah that was identified that we didn't have that Plan and ah we couldn't count on TRG fulfilling that role because they are three or four hours away.

CARTER: Mmm.

BAUWENS: Um, so it was risk to the Department that that we um, we couldn't fulfil. So that was how the IEA came about and that's how our training expanded to do CQR.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Um, and to ah, fulfil that role.

CARTER: So that um, so the Immediate Emergency Action is a Plan on how to enter?

BAUWENS: Yeah. It's how to enter, it's a, there's um, its how to enter, um and what to do when you're in there, like ah, where do you think the offender is, maybe tactics, there could be ah, entry points, areas of responsibility for the, the two teams. You got two teams, we were only small so we probably only had one team. So yeah, primary entry point, alternate entry point, um if that one doesn't work. So that's b-, so, it's a, it's a more of a basic plan. The next level up from an IEA is an EA.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Which in ah, the tactical world, TRG do, we're not, we don't do that 'cause –

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: - EA is a plan you develop after one hour. Um so it's, our role is, we just deal within the Emergency.

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: Um, it's nothing to say the IEA Plan we can't build up on that when we get the best Intelligence from the cordon –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - ah which we do. Then after the EA Plan is called a DA. Which is, we don't do that either.

CARTER: You don't do that either?

BAUWENS: No.

CARTER: So, so IRT are only trained and will only enact an IEA?

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: Yep, okay.

BAUWENS: Someone's life's gotta be at risk before we enter –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - at a designated high risk incident –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - for- forced entry to save someone's life.

CARTER: And who would make that call?

BAUWENS: Well it, that's the um, well that's an AC level and the high risk level, high risk situation is um, you gotta work through to the whole protocols of ah Tactical Commander, being in charge of all the tactical ah, decisions. Police Forward Commander still runs it –

CARTER: Alright.

BAUWENS: - um, if there's any Sergeant on the, if I was the Sergeant there I would be writing the Plans out. We have ah, formulated Plans -

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - um, which adapted from TRG Plans. I would write out the Plan from the best information, I'd give it to the Tactical Commander –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - he'd approve it and then the Tactical Commander's gotta sell it or give it to the Forward Commander.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: For him to approve it.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: So its ah, we have that, all that same process that's TRG.

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: If it's a designated high risk incident.

CARTER: Okay, so the process of the IEA is, is, is that?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: It goes up the chain?

BAUWENS: Yeah, its all gotta be approved. Sometime, yeah, it's exactly the same lines as TRG use.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: Um and I think we've, we've covered the Close Quarter Tactics?

BAUWENS: Yeah, which I is ah, entry and room clearances of a house.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, its also um, Arrest Plans, it could be an open arrest where someone's outside, it sort of fills in that, sort of a bit of Green Role, Black Role thing. Vehicle apprehensions is probably, another thing that we do.

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: Where if some of the offenders in a hou-, in a vehicle –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - ah, we train for that. Um, not in the course so much but we just in-, develop it with our training.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Try and just build up on any scenario that we think might happen.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: And um, just on that Close Quarter Tactics, Lee, there's ah in the SOP it says there's a fine, '*five room test*'? What's that?

BAUWENS: 'Five room test'. That's basically, um where you ah, enter the house or the stronghold, ah clear it and clear the five rooms and just do that correctly.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Um, alright, so I'll just ah get you to concentrate now on the Firearms Training that IRT do. So we've covered off that you go out to the Range and we did cover off on the shoots that you do.

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: But what firearms are IRT trained in?

BAUWENS: We've basically only got ah, oh, got four I guess, ah, we have the AR Platform Rifle, or the M4, which is, or ours is called the MMP, AR15.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um which is exactly the same as the Patrol Rifle, which we've got, it's just a different brand.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: And same gun the TRG use, just a different brands. They all look the same.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Ah, 223 ah semi-automatic.

CARTER: Right.

BAUWENS: Um, I think TRG's used to be fully, ours is ah, semi.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Ah, obviously just a Glock. Ah, we have the normal shotgun so –

CARTER: Mmm.

BAUWENS: - and we have the Beanbag shotgun.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Um and their, their ah distinguished by different stocks, so not to be confused. Got two designated Beanbag shotguns and one -

CARTER: Mm-hmm

BAUWENS: - or only just recently, one real one. Um and we've also got some 308 rifles ah, with scopes that um, mainly I use 'cause I

was a marksman within the TRG, so, I've got a couple there for um, to use if, if needed.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Um, are the AR15's personally issued to the IRT Team members?

BAUWENS: Yes.

CARTER: And how are they recorded?

BAUWENS: Ah, well their recorded on a, um Station Inspection -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - an ah, my Maintenance Schedule.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, ah, and their ah, distinguished by the Kit numbers. Um in the Armoury they've got a Kit number and each one, a serial number and their placed under the serial number.

CARTER: And linked back to the individual member?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Yep, okay.

CARTER: Um and sorry, where are they stored?

BAUWENS: Oh, there downstairs in the Armoury.

CARTER: Yep and does IRT have a ah, their own Armoury or is it joined with the rest of the Station?

BAUWENS: No its our own Armoury.

CARTER: Okay, which is downstairs in the Alice Springs Police Station.

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: Okay, um and AR15 qualifications, how often do they have to requal in that firearm?

BAUWENS: They still gotta through their normal GD's ah, requal's for those things but we shoot them every, every month and we've got

Firearms Instructors, or we did have EBERL is a Firearms Instructor and we also incorporate getting our other guys out. Um, so initially we still had to use, go through the GD's requal's -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - um, but just recently with our own Firearm Instructor, we were signing ourselves off for doing, just, just so it less impacts on the roster and we were doing our own training with them so, um –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - um, yeah. So we, to answer your question, it's the same as the General Duties, we have to get signed off for requal's for all those.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Okay, but now you do it, I guess, within IRT because

BAUWENS: We did it for the last -

CARTER: - EBERL'S a Firearm's Instructor?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: For that last time we did it with, with internally.

CARTER: Yep, but how often do the AR's have to be requal-ed? How often is that, once every six months, once every 12 months?

BAUWENS: Oh, I think it's only one or two a year.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: Um, and –

BAUWENS: And we shoot them every month, so.

CARTER: Yes. Okay, so that's the training for them.

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: And you said that there, Beanbag shotgun is the other one.

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: And ah, same, they, you train with them every training day, once a month?

BAUWENS: Ah, we don't shoot them every training day –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - 'cause there's about ten dollars a shot –

CARTER: Oh.

BAUWENS: - so which is pretty cheap actually but no –

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: - we don't ah, ah, shoot them every day. Um, sometimes we take just a shotgun out and shoot them, which is basically the same thing but –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - ah, probably get onto your next question. They have, I think its six monthly requal. -

CARTER: Yes. Okay.

BAUWENS: - through um, TRG. We cant do that internally yet.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: We have to go through um, get signed off through TRG for the requals.

CARTER: And, so what does that look like, how, how do you do that?

BAUWENS: Its only a two hour, um, down the Range and –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - have a shoot and just basically ah, re-assess where the forward shot is and also to go over the target areas of –

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: - and the distances to what the um, the shoot, just a refresher.

CARTER: But a TRG member comes down to take that, every six months?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Yeah, okay.

CARTER: And where's that one recorded, Lee?

BAUWENS: Ah, it's normally –

CARTER: The qualifications?

BAUWENS: - just ah, well TRG hopefully should have ah, register of, 'cause they conduct the training for it, so –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - it should be on one of their um lists and we probably record it on ah Spectre as well.

CARTER: Okay. So that one, that is one that would be recorded on Spectra?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: And same as the AR15?

BAUWENS: Yeah, we –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - write, we write down um, we, generally the for the NCTC test we put in all our scores. Um I think I put on the last ones that we were all signed off at the ah GD's, yeah from my memory. But if the other guys do training previously, if they get signed off through ah, General Duties, you know, with their Glock and do the normal sign off –

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: - that wouldn't make it to Spectre –

CARTER: No.

BAUWENS: - 'cause I don't know when they get signed off.

CARTER: No.

CARTER: So, but that's monitored from their GD's role –

BAUWENS: Yeah that's their –

CARTER: - so we're just talking about the AR15's –

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: - and the, and the Beanbag shotguns. So yep, their requal for that - six months,

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: AR's – 12 months and its probably recorded on Spectre?

BAUWENS: Yeah the um, the IRT qualification or the um, like I said to you, the shoot, 12 metre shoot walking turns, that's recorded.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, and ah, yeah.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: And the other GD's one's is a recorded internally.

CARTER: And whose responsible to ah, monitor the expirations of the IRT members qualifications in the Firearms?

BAUWENS: Oh well OSTT are doing it for the, basically the same. Ah, for the
–

CARTER: For the Glock?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: But they do Glock in GD's. Do they also do um, the

BAUWENS: AR –

CARTER: - Beanbag shotgun -

BAUWENS: No, not the Beanbag –

CARTER: - and the AR –

BAUWENS: - that's me.

CARTER: So you, so, okay.

CARTER: So let's start that again. So, OSST take care of every other firearm but you are responsible for um, to ensure that all of your men are current or all of your IRT members are current –

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: - in the, um -

BAUWENS: Beanbag.

CARTER: - Beanbag shotgun.

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: Have you got any questions about the Firearm aspect Brett?

WILSON: No, no.

CARTER: Um, do you, are you required to inspect the firearms?

BAUWENS: Everybody, every persons required to inspect their own firearms.

CARTER: Okay, but as OIC of IRT is there a requirement for you to do audits or inspections on any of the firearms?

BAUWENS: I do ah, maintenance schedules um, semi-regularly.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, and I, every time, I keep my Glock in the Armoury so I do a visual inspection nearly every day.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

BAUWENS: I make sure, oh if there's, see, you soon see if a guns a missing -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - 'cause there's a hole there. So, yeah they get inspected pretty regularly through that. And like I said my, my um, people are always leaving and coming and changing guns, so the maintenance schedule is a very living document, its -

CARTER: Yep, okay.

CARTER: No that's good. So, Lee other than the um, the standard GD's accoutrements um, and the Bean, um the Beanbag shotgun, is IRT trained in any other less-lethal weapon?

BAUWENS: Ah, no.

CARTER: Less than lethal weapon?

BAUWENS: Less than lethal.

CARTER: No.

CARTER: I'll ask a question on that then. Um, if, if I said are you trained or have you done any training in the stun-grenades?

BAUWENS: Oh -

CARTER: What would that mean?

BAUWENS: Yes. Stun-grenades is a sound and flash device. Which is a little ah, throw down thing that goes bang -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - very loudly. Ah we have ah, done training on those and we have got some. Um their not as, that's not classified as less-lethal, it's a –

CARTER: Oh.

BAUWENS: - distraction device.

CARTER: Okay, good, thank you for clearing that up, alright.

BAUWENS: So um, yeah and that was something, if we ever use those, that would have to be approved.

CARTER: By?

BAUWENS: Um, we'd only use them in a high risk incident –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - so it would have to be approved by the Police Forward Commander in the end.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: So, um.

CARTER: Alright.

CARTER: Nothing else on that?

WILSON: No.

CARTER: No.

CARTER: Um, do you have any other input as to the training that is conducted with IRT? Oh actually I do sorry Lee, what are your qualifications on the train- on being a Trainer for all of, everything that you do with IRT?

BAUWENS: Yeah, well I was a Trainer in TRG as well.

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: For, I was a Sergeant in TRG, so I trained um, I was a Marksman Trainer um, I was Trainer in oh, other areas as well, like um, CQT. Um, for Marksman I ah, was a Team Leader, did the National PTG courses. Um two of those, so. Ah, yeah basic, basically all the training here I use to train –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - our TRG guys.

CARTER: Okay and is the TRG Training for Trainers, is that done with, in-house or have you got external qualifications for that as well?

BAUWENS: Ah, it, there's, the training ah, is given to senior members and its generally ah, ah, enhanced by people that have done Interstate courses. Um which is like the PTG course which I said to you, which I've done.

CARTER: Which, what does that stand for?

BAUWENS: Police Tactical Group.

CARTER: Okay, thank you.

BAUWENS: So each year, um all the Police Tactical Groups get together and they put forward members to do National training –

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: - um whether it be in Holsworthy, or New South Wales or some-, um. So they all get there and they all do the same training. So and they all work so that, to enhance intra-operability –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - and to make sure everybody's on the same page. Which we all are 'cause we all train under the ANZCTC um, Structure.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So if an incident was to happen in any, any other State, everybody can tag onto a Team. Which we've done many, many times –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - go help Interstaters. Um, their all on the same page.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So generally when you come back from those you have a higher level of understanding and your generally classified, you can, as internally as a, as a Trainer, well that's how it used to be.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um.

CARTER: And once you have those training qualifications, do you have to keep them current?

BAUWENS: Ah, there is no, as far as I know there is no sort'a Trainer, Trainer qualification requal's. What we do, do and um, we have um, requested and we liaise with TRG, is to go up there to get refreshed.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, to let them (inaudible) assess us –

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: - to make sure that we are still on the same level as we should be. Um, and that's something that we've put forward um a few times to ah assess but being a part-time Section is very hard to ah, get things but. Or another instance generally when TRG come down here, we try and um, utilise them –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - to ah come out with us and assess and have a look.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: But it, it happens sometimes, so.

CARTER: So, just to clear, have you, have you been up to Darwin um –

BAUWENS: No I haven't recently, no.

CARTER: No, to do any further training with TRG?

BAUWENS: No.

CARTER: No, okay.

CARTER: Um, no more on training?

WILSON: Nothing on training.

CARTER: Anything else on training in relation to IRT Lee that you can think of, that I may have missed?

BAUWENS: Ah, no, no –

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: - in think that's ah, that's pretty much it.

CARTER: Yep, okay.

CARTER: Um, so I just want to talk about the equipment and the Kit that's provided to IRT members –

BAUWENS: Mm-hmm.

CARTER: - what is that?

BAUWENS: Oh it comprises of a um, ballistic vest, ah which has plates front and back, um, appears, oh put it, um, bullet proof vests. Oh and a Kit is basically the old TRG gear, which they got rid of a couple of years ago.

CARTER: In what, what sort of gear?

BAUWENS: Sorry?

CARTER: What sort of gear?

BAUWENS: It's a um, oh I could show you a picture on the phone but it doesn't really (laughs) –

CARTER: Sorry, I'll just, sorry, a bit more specific, are you talking about clothing?

BAUWENS: Yeah it's a –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - it's a over-vest with plates.

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: With a ah, ballistic plates in it and pouches for ammunition –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - water, radios, that's our main Kit as you call and plus a helmet.

CARTER: And a helmet, okay.

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: What about um, so shirt or pants, boots?

BAUWENS: Oh we have an IRT uniform which is –

CARTER: Yes tell me about that.

BAUWENS: - is independent. Yeah its ah multi-cam uniform.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: Ah which is different from the TRG one.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: They run on an A-Tac, it's just the design.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: So it's a different camouflage uniform. The, it's um, been approved at a low, at Alice Springs level but it's also the same uniform which the Uniform Committee have been sitting of for several years, to ah role out to the whole of NT Police Force.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: So we are in the process of having that uniform rolled out to the NT.

CARTER: Oh okay.

BAUWENS: Whoever needs it.

CARTER: Yeah, right.

BAUWENS: So if the Crime guys need to hide in the bush somewhere, they can go to the Stores and get a, you know -

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: So just, so at the moment, IRT Kit is um, so Camo, Shirt –

BAUWENS: Uniform pants.

CARTER: - pants and boots?

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: A Ballistic Vest?

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: Which includes everything you just described, the pockets to put everything in.

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: A helmet?

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: The AR15?

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: Is there any other personally issued Kit that each –

BAUWENS: Glock -

CARTER: - IRT members gets.

BAUWENS: Ah just the –

CARTER: Apart from our normal accoutrements.

BAUWENS: Um, I think that's it really. Oh goggles, ah, we have gas masks as well –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - which we don't often use.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: Um, ah we sometimes may have a different set, different belt ah which has a leg, on your thigh, your leg –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - to get away from, 'cause it interferes with the um, the vest.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um –

CARTER: So just for that recording, that's a holster that –

BAUWENS: Yeah correct.

CARTER: - is on the thigh, yep.

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Um, yeah that's about it really.

CARTER: Okay and is it compulsory for that Kit to, ah for the individual IRT member to take everything that's um issued to them in that Kit on each deployment?

BAUWENS: No.

CARTER: Okay, tell me why that's the case Lee?

BAUWENS: Well that's at their discretion, whoever requests us.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Um sometimes we go out in um, ah, uniform um, and sometimes its GD's uniform.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Generally if its um, specific to the, the case, ah we've been to Communities a lot, especially around the Docker River area where we go out in cams because we have to sneak into a ah, Outstation and hide in the bush and wait for someone to come out so we can facilitate an arrest.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So obviously blue uniforms not suitable.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: Um, so its basically at the, just something the um, person who is being called out, like if I was or something, called out to a job, I'd say *'oh look I would like to have some Cam's 'cause its going to be ah, for the pat- tactics we use and I need those'*, and the Super would go *'yes that's fine'* or he'd go, *'oh no I want you in Blues'*. So basically up to whoever authorises us to come out, they have an idea of what they want from our deployment.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, whether they ah, they want uniform or they do and its fifty-fifties, um but generally if we ah, have any tactical stuff to do, any hiding we generally try go into the cams if we can.

CARTER: Okay

CARTER: So the Authorising Officer does have a say in what uniform you wear.

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: But who um, who has the say in what specific equipment, like the Kit that's issued to IRT members, on what they take?

BAUWENS: Ah generally the Team Leader will have, for instance, it, it's, its all dependent. Um, we generally take a lot of our stuff.

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: Because there's no use going 200k's away and going *'oh shit'* –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - *I really, wish I had that bit Kit back at the Station'*. So we generally take it –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - full Kit, that's my, as a Team Leader that's my um, my plan all the time. I always take a full Kit –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - for if it's needed.

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: 'Cause the situation could escalate.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, and we need it. So, if we don't have it, we're not an effective Team. Whether de-, deploy with it is um, dependant on the situation. Um and like I said it's generally discussed prior to deployment with whoever requested us.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: And what, what our role is.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: So your preferred method is to take everything, like you just dis–

BAUWENS: We take it in the car –

CARTER: - like you just said?

BAUWENS: - it doesn't mean we use it, or –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - if we're not allowed to use it, we, we wont use it.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: But generally the stuff that we do take is, a lot of it, apart from the uniform is nearly GD's stuff. Like, the Patrol rifle, its, we, we can take that as a um, as a support weapon. We got the Beanbag that we normally so I take, so.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: You know, it's a lot of stuff we don't really need that approval 'cause it's just a part of the General, General Duties um, deployment.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: But the Beanbag shotgun isn't part of General Duties -

BAUWENS: No we –

CARTER: - deployment. Neither is, oh the Ballistic Vest, there's a difference part, sort of Ballistic Vest.

BAUWENS: There's two vests.

CARTER: I guess my question is, is there an Order anywhere that says that when you're deployed, do IRT members have to take all their Kit? Or is it, is it up to the individual IRT member on what they take?

BAUWENS: There's, there's no Order saying what we take for each job.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: There's um, what we wear. There's, we're told at deployment level what we take.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: And what we take on a job is irrelevant to what do we use on a job. Like I said, we, my ex-, my personal preference, I always tell the guys, especially if we're driving somewhere and it's far away and we're far away from the Station –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - we always take our vests and our other guns because ah, we can finish that job and they go '*holy crap, it's going off at Yuendumu, go there now*' and its no good if we haven't got our gear.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: It's the same thing that TRG do, it's, if you've, going around as a Team, you wanna have all your equipment with you, if another situation were to develop. Doesn't mean we're going to use it for that job.

CARTER: Yes.

CARTER: So is it fair to say its best practice to take everything but it's not compulsory to take everything?

BAUWENS: Its best practice and its basically um, I guess it's at the discretion of who's running the, the job at the moment, the Team.

CARTER: You –

BAUWENS: I mean though that's the IRT Team.

CARTER: The I.T. yep –

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: The IRT Team Leaders role.

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: You got any questions about that Brett?

WILSON: Um, so is that all that equipment stored at the Station or stored at their place, house like –

BAUWENS: Oh if we go to a Station, we just chuck it in the Armoury.

WILSON: Yep.

BAUWENS: Yeah.

BAUWENS: We generally, like when we went to Borroloola we just drop it in their Armoury and just have it there if we need it. So, um and then we just go about our normal tasking, whether it be GD's uniform. We always take all our guns and all our vests and just leave it in the Armoury.

WILSON: Yeah.

BAUWENS: So like if it is needed.

WILSON: But if someone's deployed from here, um all their equipment, obviously guns are stored here, um but vests and clothing and all that is home based?

BAUWENS: Ah I keep everything at that Station.

WILSON: Yep.

BAUWENS: Some people keep their cams at home, um I don't see, I try, try and keep everything here if we can.

WILSON: Yep.

BAUWENS: But um –

WILSON: So everything –

BAUWENS: - we also have the Kit bags which, like a fly-away Kit, all our clothes and everything so we can just grab our bag and go. Some people might leave that at home.

WILSON: Yep.

BAUWENS: I try and keep it, everything at the Station if we can.

CARTER: Done?

WILSON: Yep.

CARTER: And I think Lee, um sufficiently covered off on why you would wear the Cam uniform. Why would an authorised Officer um, ask you to wear the Blue uniform for deployments?

BAUWENS: Oh, there's different trains of thought. Um, maybe they may find it as a, higher level or they only want the GD's response or they only want to be perceived as a GD's response.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, maybe they think the ah, it's too confrontational maybe. Um you know, there's difference opinions on that. I have a different opinion but you know, that's ah, that's, it's at the discretion of whoever, whoever um, call us out.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Okay so they make that decision?

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: Yep, alright.

BAUWENS: When it's their Community and it's their thing and they want, it's what the image they want to portray.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: And their role that they want us to fulfil and that's basically what we do with, you know, we ah fill that, that role that they want us to do.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

BAUWENS: If it's dangerous, I go, you know, if they say '*oh we want you to stalk up into the house and hide*' and they go '*but you're only wearing your Blues*' I go '*no*'.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

BAUWENS: '*It's not going to happen* –

CARTER: Mmm.

BAUWENS: - *you can send someone else cause it's dangerous'*. So it's not going to be, interfere with anything that ah, it's not tactically sound.

CARTER: Yes okay. Alright, good.

CARTER: So going into that I guess, um I just want to talk about how is the deployment of IRT organised in the first place? How does that happen?

BAUWENS: Ah, well if high risk is easy it just goes, which we haven't actually had a designated high risk job –

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: - yet. So, but that's, goes through um, a stringent Command levels as stated. The ah, the next level is, is General Support. Um and basically it just comes down, General Support is ah Commander level, um and they request, they generally speak to ah, me

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: - or if I'm not available sort of the next highest um, one of the Senior Members to organise.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, to answer your question, we haven't got a structured ah call-out or ah next person to see. It's a little bit, I guess it's just one of those times consuming things that we haven't organised because being a small Station, most people know everybody that's ah, and who they would call.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, so yeah.

CARTER: So Commander?

BAUWENS: Could –

CARTER: Gives the authorisation for IRT to be deployed?

BAUWENS: Correct.

CARTER: Okay

BAUWENS: I go through them.

CARTER: And, and that comes from the, the Remote Community, if they need someone –

BAUWENS: Well it could be –

CARTER: - do they put in a request directly to them?

BAUWENS: - it could be anybody. It could be the Watch Commander –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - it could be an OIC of a Station. Um, and they just ring them up and say yeah 'we'd like' or email -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - 'IRT'. There is no ah, official request forms for the, for the ah, call out.

CARTER: Okay, yep.

BAUWENS: Um, and then yeah, the ah, Commander and the Super, generally, generally runs down to a Super as well –

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: - um to make the call of what they want, what they want from us.

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: Um, and it will go from there.

CARTER: Okay. So you said there's no um, 'designated request form'?

BAUWENS: There's no formulated um, set of forms that need signing I believe –

CARTER: No.

BAUWENS: - for ah, general support. For high risk there is, um –

CARTER: But you've never had a high risk since –

BAUWENS: No.

CARTER: - since IRT's been existence?

BAUWENS: No.

CARTER: No. Okay.

CARTER: So um how would the, if it comes down, filter, to say Superintendent, how would they um contact you and make the request?

BAUWENS: Ah they'd normally just ring me up and say ah, '*we need a team to go to certain area to do this or to do that*'. Um and ah, yeah, I say well try and get four, you know a number of people and we work out and I generally, yeah they speak to me about what they want an I sort'a say what I need to do that or what you know, what, what we can do, what we cant do, um and probably just give 'em a basic concept of Op's and how we're gonna do it and if their happy with what we're got, the Plan we have -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - um and they go from there.

CARTER: '*They*' go from there? So - ?

BAUWENS: Yeah then we um, then we deploy.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: So that could be a verb-, all verbal conversation to you from the Superintendent?

BAUWENS: Yep.

CARTER: Do you record that anywhere, the verbal conversation you've just had?

BAUWENS: Not every, not as ah, a thing, but it is recorded um on Promis on the Journal as Authorising Officer who authorised us.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um and what our role is, um which is yeah basically what the gist of the conversation. Yeah, okay so you record it on Promis -

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: - yourself after that -

BAUWENS: On the Promis Journal.

CARTER: - on the Promis Journal.

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: And then um, how does it flow from there then Lee. So it's gone from the Super to you as the OIC –

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: - and then what happens after that?

BAUWENS: Well I'm gonna call-out ah, the Team –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - or call-out as, people, I generally have a look at the roster and see who's available first.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um -

CARTER: And I will just clarify that because what roster are you looking at to see who's available?

BAUWENS: Just General Duties Roster.

CARTER: And you're seeing who's either working or who's rostered off, how does that work? What are you looking for when you look at the General Duties Roster?

BAUWENS: To see who, well it's a combination of both. I have an idea in my head who I want to put in.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, and I'll obviously have a look at the Roster to see if it has less impact on the um, on the thing, so I'm not gonna get anybody who's asleep from nightshift.

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: Um, but yeah, if we can just pick guys on days off and it's not gonna impact on the Roster too much, that's beneficial but, if we need certain people that I want, well (inaudible) we have to get them off the Roster.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: And if you, what would you be looking for in the certain people that you want?

BAUWENS: Um, just ah, a level of experience and just um yeah.

CARTER: Yep. (inaudible).

BAUWENS: Everybody's pretty much good on the experience, but sometimes you ah might want certain people on the job and that's just through personal preference or you know -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - um, for instance, if you know someone's fit and their really good runner you go - well -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - we'll get that guy.

CARTER: So that's how you determine what members you call-out?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: And then what happens?

BAUWENS: Ah, then we generally bring 'em to Station, I give 'em a quick them a quick Briefing of what's going on -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - um, ah run-down basically if it's just SMEAC situation, mission, what we're gonna do, how we're gonna do it. Um logistics -

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - which is generally very problematic. Um, yeah all go from there. And generally liaise with the Supe- or Requesting Officer, pretty well and say yeah when we're leaving, um and when we get there, we give them a heads up, um -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - and generally if we're going to a Station, obviously we liaise with the OIC there and they get the information. Sometimes we don't, um a lot of the times we go to the Communities, ah we do it very covertly because we don't want them to get a heads up that anybody's there -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - 'cause they, especially if they know their being, maybe gonna be arrested, any, any whiff –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - they just go run, running, so.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Ah, with the job so we you know, get an unmarked car, leave from here, go look at Docker River for instance and camp out, 5k out of town –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - um and then insert to where we think they are. Walk in and we'll go from there.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: So you said that um, SMEAC Briefing, what does that stand for?

BAUWENS: Sorry?

CARTER: SMEAC Briefing, what does that stand for?

BAUWENS: Oh Situation, Mission, Execution, ah Admin and Conclusion, all that sort of thing.

CARTER: Yep, okay.

CARTER: And um is there any Standard Briefing document or checklist or anything that IRT has?

BAUWENS: We have got one that was, we did one ah, that was five months ago which I, we haven't ah, implemented yet. Um there is no ah, Plans as, you know like the EA Plan ah, Cordon and Containment Plan which is a formulated document and has to be signed off, there is none of those.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: If we get time um and I've done it in the past, I'll do an a, I'll do a PowerPoint up -

CARTER: Mmm.

BAUWENS: - and do some Plans saying this is where we're gonna go, this is the house, true Google images –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - to give the guys an idea. If we haven't got time it'll be just – get there um, and have a brief Plan when we um, arrive there or at the IRT office.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Um, which is, you know, similar what TRG do as well.

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: They sometimes write their Plans on their cars on the way out to a job.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: 'Cause it, to be just expedite, expediency –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - to get there. So um -

CARTER: So verbal Briefing to the members you've called in –

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: - prior to being deployed from Alice Springs Station?

BAUWENS: Yeah, while their getting ready, the Cordon Team in the IRT office–

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: - I could be doing something on the whiteboard.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Got the offenders profile, you know, who we're looking for

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - considerations, maybe some ah, if I get time, we could do some ah, overlays of ah Google earth and come up with a quick plan -

CARTER: Yes, okay.

BAUWENS: - however we want to do it.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Um Lee I'll just ask you some things that may or may not be involved in Briefings um as general practice again, or as best practice and you can just tell me whether they are or not. Um, is

Use of Force ever discussed in your Briefings prior to deployment?

BAUWENS: Le-, the less lethal components are generally discussed. Um what their going to bring for way of less-lethal.

CARTER: Yes.

BAUWENS: You know, like Tasers, Spray, which is GD's and obviously the Beanbag shotgun.

CARTER: Yes, okay.

BAUWENS: Um –

CARTER: So there's a plan put in place for less-lethal?

BAUWENS: Yeah make sure we've got everything -

CARTER: - options?

BAUWENS: - who's got it and what we've got.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Um, what about like formulated arrest plan?

BAUWENS: Depending on the situation. Um yeah definitely um, we always have a Plan of what we're gonna do we get there and um it may be for instance ah, sitting off a place and watching for 5 hours or watching all night,

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: - and wait for if he comes out in the morning and –

CARTER: (oh not again). Alright, just for the record, we're just running on one um, audio ah, being WILSON'S. It's not gonna do anything, sorry about that.

BAUWENS: - or it could be yeah, just a Plan of um -

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - ah just of going up, walking up to houses

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - um, doing the old ah, quick cordon and ah tactical door knock.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Seeing whose there, which is you know, which what we do if it's not high risk, it's ah –

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: And what about um, risk assessments, as in a low, medium, high and you've already said that in, in your that in your opinion there's been no high, ah risk -

BAUWENS: No not, not the official high risk jobs.

CARTER: - deployments? Yeah.

BAUWENS: Um obviously we look at the person who we're, who we're looking at, um and we just do a ah, you know, everybody does a risk assessment for everything that we do.

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: There's no document that we fill out. There are documents which exist -

CARTER: Yeah.

BAUWENS: But we just generally don't sit there and have time to -

CARTER: No okay so -

BAUWENS: - fill them out and -

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: - get 'em signed and um, it's just something we work out with the Team Leader um, you know. We do the risks.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: If any things like the Promis, if he's got Alerts, ah what his history is and things like that.

CARTER: Yep, okay.

CARTER: So, but its not in writing, it's their, their -

BAUWENS: But we haven't used it.

CARTER: - it's all verbally um -

BAUWENS: Yeah. There's no um -

CARTER: - conducted (inaudible)

BAUWENS: - written risk assessments -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - that we've completed.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: Um and just on the Team Leader, we've mentioned that a few times. So um you're a Sergeant and we consider you the IR, OIC of IRT –

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: - um, if you're not available either for a Briefing or for a deployment, who, how's the next Team Leader determined?

BAUWENS: Ah generally through experience. Um look we have one other Sergeant in there, Sergeant LOCK, he was called a bit, but um, also just the more experienced members, obviously um Shane MCCORMACK is an experienced member -

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - um, and generally the people ah, call these people, for the next level, next one down. Like I said, there's nothing documented of level of structure of who to call for the next one. Um, it just 'cause people obviously moving around and all the time and –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - it wouldn't be documented, it's just constantly ah, ah, amended.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So like I said, it's a small Station, people generally know who's, who the experienced members are.

CARTER: Yep, but it is determined on level of experience as opposed to rank?

BAUWENS: Ah, we try and do rank –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - ah like I said we had Sergeant LOCK who was ah, used, utilised but um, yeah and um I think Shane's a –

CARTER: Shane –

BAUWENS: - Senior Connie.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So um, he's been in the job for a while, so.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Yeah, their, that's how it worked previously.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: And it hasn't worked, I mean, I generally ah, (inaudible) you know, someone calls I'm generally duty all the time –

CARTER: Yeah. Okay.

BAUWENS: - I'm not often off.

CARTER: Mmm.

BAUWENS: But there's been quite a, there's, recently there's been a lot of incidences which has worked effectively where other members have been called.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: So is, it incorporated into you training who would take charge if those three people you've mentioned weren't in the actual deployment team?

BAUWENS: We haven't, at, we haven't actually come up with a formulated plan of who's

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: - next in line or a structure of call this guy, call this guy.

CARTER: Yep, okay. No that's good.

CARTER: Um, alright and Lee I'll just get um to the incident that occurred on the 9th of November –

BAUWENS: Mm-hmm.

CARTER: - ah where were you on the 9th of, Saturday the 9th of November?

BAUWENS: Darwin.

CARTER: You were in Darwin and were you on-duty or off-duty?

BAUWENS: Off-duty.

CARTER: Off-duty?

BAUWENS: Light-duties.

CARTER: Okay. Um –

BAUWENS: I was actually, sorry, I was on Rec. Leave.

CARTER: You were on Rec. Leave?
BAUWENS: Yeah I took some Rec. Leave, 'cause I was on light-duties.
CARTER: Yep, okay.

CARTER: Um, on the 9th of November, which is the actual day of ah, the incident, were you phoned by anyone and consulted in anyway in relation to the deployment of those IRT members?
BAUWENS: Ah, not prior, no. I was emailed apparently, I, I didn't have my phone or anything but ah, ah Shane MCCORMACK, ah he gave me an email Briefing.

CARTER: A Briefing? Yep.
BAUWENS: Oh the, he um, basically a cut and paste from, it was the ah, from the Journal from the Promis um, situation, who authorised, what we're doing, who we're after, um but I didn't see that 'cause I didn't have my phone.

CARTER: No and because you were on Annual Leave.
BAUWENS: Yeah.
CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Um, Brett have you got anything about that?
WILSON: Um just to cover, so would it be fair to say that most of your jobs are general support?
BAUWENS: Yes.
WILSON: Yep.

WILSON: Um and with those, most of the time their gonna role out in Police blue uniform?
BAUWENS: Yeah it's about half, half.
WILSON: Half, half. Okay.
BAUWENS: Yeah.

WILSON: Um if you, if you were to get a high risk job, does that automatically role out in your greens?

BAUWENS: Yes.

WILSON: Yep.

WILSON: Um so when the guy's role out, um as you're aware of this job from the 9th, um would that be more or less just determined as a general support job? Do you -

BAUWENS: Well it all depends on what the, what the -

WILSON: Well they had an arrest target -

BAUWENS: Yeah.

WILSON: - um and um -

BAUWENS: Look I'm not privy to the conversation with the Super and um Shane what was, what they requested.

WILSON: Yep.

BAUWENS: I've seen the email and it was to um, locate and arrest target.

WILSON: Yeah.

BAUWENS: Um and I think there was some general support stuff around the community as well

WILSON: So that's what I mean. So a job like that, is that what they class as a general support?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

WILSON: Or is it like um, obviously they've requested you guys being the IRT -

BAUWENS: Yep.

WILSON: - (inaudible)

BAUWENS: Its just general support to assist in um -

WILSON: Yep.

BAUWENS: - an arrest, which is fairly common.

WILSON: Yep.

CARTER: And when did you return to Alice Springs Lee?

BAUWENS: Ah, I think it was ah, two days after.

CARTER: Okay, after the incident?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: So Sunday, Monday?

BAUWENS: Yeah, would'a been Monday night.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: That's correct.

CARTER: Okay. Um so how did you, who notified you that there had been um a shooting out at Yuendumu for that IRT deployment.

BAUWENS: Shane, that night.

CARTER: Shane MCCORMACK?

BAUWENS: Yeah.

CARTER: That night?

BAUWENS: Mm-hmm.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: Do you recall the conversation?

BAUWENS: Um yeah briefly. He just said um '*there's been a ah, shooting incident at ah Yuendumu*'.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: And um did you talk to any of the members involved, after that incident?

BAUWENS: No.

CARTER: Okay. You haven't spoke to Zac ROLFE since –

BAUWENS: Oh –

CARTER: - the shooting?

BAUWENS: - since, oh yes, for sure.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

CARTER: Um, the first time that you spoke to Zac ROLFE after the incident?

BAUWENS: Oh it would'a been a couple of days after. I um, yeah, he wasn't ah, responding to, I think he's ah phone doesn't work out there. Um, yeah it would'a been a couple of days.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Ah, yeah and obviously since then I've spoken to him a couple more times.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Mmm.

CARTER: But the first time you spoke to him, what was that conversation about?

BAUWENS: I'm trying to think actually when it was.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: Um yeah look I can't even recall the exact day. It was, obviously, I think it was when I've arrived back into Alice Springs.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: It was definitely while I wasn't in Darwin.

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

BAUWENS: From memory. Um yeah. I didn't um, do you wanna know what he said, or -?

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, I, he didn't give me any specifics –

CARTER: Mm-hmm.

BAUWENS: - um, he just said ah, it was, it was all good. I said are you (inaudible) he's like 'yeah' I said, basically 'yeah no, no its all good mate'. Um –

CARTER: And what did he mean, what do you think he meant by that, just –

BAUWENS: It was a, justified (inaudible).

CARTER: Yep. Okay.

BAUWENS: So he, I didn't ask him for any details –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - um but um no he goes '*it was, it was all justified and it was all good*'.

CARTER: Okay.

BAUWENS: So um and that was basically it.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: And um, have you had any de-briefs with the Team from Yuendumu since your return to, to work?

BAUWENS: Oh, the only people I've um, not as such, not about the incident. I've just give, provided welfare.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, I think I met with ah, EBERL and Tony um before they went to move out or before they went on their break. Um, yeah it was just a, a welfare check with them.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: Um, nothing was discussed about the ah, thing.

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: So like I said, I don't want to know what, it'll all come out in the long run and I'm not in a position to, I don't wanna know.

CARTER: Yep. Okay, no that's good, we can live with that.

BAUWENS: Been around long enough not to –

CARTER: Yep.

BAUWENS: - wanna know.

CARTER: Yep.

CARTER: Um, Brett have you got any further questions -

WILSON: No, I've got nothing.

CARTER: - for Lee?

WILSON: No.

CARTER: No neither have I.

CARTER: Lee is there anything that you think I would have asked that you were waiting for me to ask in relation to this whole matter, that I haven't?

BAUWENS: Um, nah look I think that's ah, covered. Yeah, no I –

CARTER: Yep and anything further to add to your Stat. Dec. at this time?

BAUWENS: Mmm, no.

CARTER: Okay.

CARTER: Alright. Um, in that case, I'll just get you to read out this for me please and keeping in mind that today's the 21st.

BAUWENS: Cool. I further state this declaration is true and I am aware it is an offence to make a Statutory Declaration that is false in any, in any material particular. I make this Declaration in Alice Springs on 19th January 2001.

CARTER: Sorry on the –

BAUWENS: 2-

CARTER: - 21st today.

BAUWENS: 21st, sorry, um of ah November 2019.

CARTER: Excellent. Thank you.

CARTER: And I Detective Senior Constable First Class Emma CARTER of the Northern Territory Police state that I have witnessed the recording of this Declaration in it, in its entirety. My business address is Major Crime Squad, ah Peter McAulay Centre in Berrimah. My phone number is [REDACTED] and the time is now ah, 6:20 p.m. on the same date, November 21st 2019 and this concludes the recording.

