



Sgt Alexander Blackman also known as Marine 'A' was convicted on 8 November 2013 of murdering a Taliban insurgent in Afghanistan. He has now nearly served three years of a minimum term 8 year to life sentence.

Sgt Alexander Blackman had an unblemished career in the Royal Marines for 15 years, serving the Queen, Country and its people on numerous tours in Northern Ireland, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Whilst fighting the war in Afghanistan in 2011...

Sergeant Blackman was posted to the remote command post Omar, with 15 younger Royal Marines under his command. They lived for more than six months in a small mud enclosure, in appalling conditions of physical discomfort. Daily, they patrolled on foot for up to 10 hours in a large hostile area where the Taliban were most active. IEDs, or improvised explosive devices, the roadside landmines favoured by the Taliban, were a constant threat, to the extent that the troop seldom used their vulnerable Jackal vehicle, preferring to patrol on foot instead. They were aware that hundreds of their comrades had already been killed or maimed by IEDs. The psychological impact was devastating. Firefights with the Taliban were common. So, too, were deaths and life-threatening injuries. Overall, 42 Commando lost seven men, and a further 45 were injured, many of them very seriously indeed.

On 15 September 2011, towards the end of their fraught tour, Sergeant Blackman and his patrol were directed to an insurgent who had been fatally wounded by gunfire from an Apache helicopter. Horribly exposed in a known hotspot for enemy activity, they knew that other insurgents were in the area. They dragged the fatally wounded man to cover and began to administer first aid. Having declared that the man had died, Sergeant Blackman then shot what he believed to be a dead Taliban insurgent who had been shooting at his fellow Royal Marine colleague's minutes earlier.

We believe that this is a gross miscarriage of justice and feel that this government has let down one of our own after serving our country proudly. On the 28th of October at 1130hrs we will be standing shoulder to shoulder at Parliament Square, London to show our support for one of Her Majesty's finest Royal Marines.

Sgt Alexander Blackman fought for our freedom, now it is time we fight for his.

For more information on how you can help visit:

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