

Would you like to contribute to the current debate about legacy investigations in connection with Op Banner and other operations, and what should be the legal regime for future military operations?

BAFF would welcome contributions from members on these very topical and challenging subjects.

As an organisation, BAFF has consistently argued over the years that no one is above the law; that credible and timely allegations of misconduct against members of the Armed Forces should be properly and fairly investigated; but that historic allegations should not be reopened without new and genuinely compelling evidence.

In 2011, for example, our spokesman told the Telegraph that:

Our concern is that some of the allegations being investigated by IHAT [Iraq Historic Allegations Team] have little or no evidential basis and that even if there were indications that something had occurred, it is now far too long after the events for there to be any realistic chance of a just resolution.

On a practical level, we offered a free basic legal advice package from an outside legal firm for any existing BAFF member approached by the IHAT or Op Northmoor inquiries, even simply as a witness.

While our main focus in such matters has been on protecting the legitimate interests of serving personnel and veterans, we have never argues for impunity from the law. Indeed, anyone who encourages our soldiers to imagine they are above the law is an enemy of their true interests.

BAFF's 800-odd list of full members and registered supporters includes a remarkable range of operational experience covering most if not all recent conflicts. Some have been witnesses to war crimes and crimes against humanity by local warring factions