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## How Did Specialist Ciara Durkin Die?

Soldier In Finance Unit At Bagram Air Base Said To Have "Discovered Things" Is Found Dead

BOSTON, Oct. 4, 2007

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### Military Death Questioned

The family of Ciara Durkin, who was killed under suspicious circumstances while on deployment in Afghanistan, is demanding answers from high-ranking military officials. Kelly Wallace reports.

(CBS/AP) Exactly how Ciara Durkin died remains a mystery. The Army National Guard soldier from Massachusetts was found dead with a gunshot wound to the head in Afghanistan last week, and now her family is demanding answers from the military.

Initially the Pentagon reported that Durkin, part of a finance unit deployed to Afghanistan in November 2006, had been killed in action, but then revised its statement to read she had died of injuries "suffered from a non-combat related incident" at Bagram Airfield. The statement had no specifics and said the circumstances are under investigation.

Durkin had a desk job doing payroll in an office about three miles inside the secure Bagram Air Base. About 90 minutes after she left work last Friday, her family says she was found dead near a chapel on the base with a single gunshot wound to the head.

The 30-year-old soldier, who was born in Ireland and came to the U.S. as a little girl, felt safer deployed in Afghanistan over Iraq, her family told CBS News correspondent Kelly Wallace. Yet she was found dead within a highly secure base, with few answers.

"The family has been informed that she was in the compound, and she was shot in the head," Durkin's sister, Fiona Canavan, told the Boston Globe. "She was in a secure area of the compound, which, even though the investigation is not complete, leads the family to believe it was what is called friendly fire," she said.

Adding to the mystery is something the Army Specialist told her family: if something happened to her in Afghanistan, they should look into it. She was concerned about things she was seeing over there, one of her eight brothers and sisters said in an interview.

Canavan told the Quincy, Mass. Patriot Ledger on Wednesday that when her sister was home three weeks ago, she told her about something she had

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come across that raised some concern with her: "She was in the finance unit and she said, 'I discovered some things I don't like and I made some enemies because of it.'"

Canavan revealed that Durkin said if anything happened to her, to make sure it was investigated.

"At the time we thought it was said more as a joke," Canavan told the paper.

The family is also wondering whether Durkin's sexual orientation - she was gay - played a role in her death.

"We just want full disclosure, that's all we want - to know what happened to our sister," Diedre Durkin said.

Massachusetts Senators Ted Kennedy and John Kerry and Rep. William Delahunt are pressing for answers.

“ We just want full disclosure, that's all we want — to know what happened to our sister. ”

Diedre Durkin, sister of Ciara

brother just hours before she died.

"I thought it was cute at the time," Pierce Durkin said. "Now it's priceless."

The family's grief, made more torturous by the limited information being released and rumors, is not helped by remembrances of past instances where misinformation followed the deaths or injuries of service members.

The military initially said Army Ranger Pat Tillman was killed in an enemy firefight in Afghanistan in 2004, even after evidence came to light that he had been killed by friendly fire.

There were also reports circulated that captured Army pfc. Jessica Lynch had bravely fired upon insurgents after being wounded, though she testified later that that was not so.

Sgt. Patrick McCaffrey and 1st Lt. Andre Tyson, killed in Iraq in 2004, were first reported to have been killed in an insurgent ambush, when they were actually killed by two Iraqi soldiers they were training.

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for all of you saying the military is not a respectable position...let's see how you feel about that if there is a draft and YOU get drafted. your comments are repulsive.

Posted by LVAM at 04:58 PM : Oct 04, 2007  
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JSmithCSA--As someone who knows of the soldier. There was no reason for suicide. She was about to come home and see her fiance in only a few short months. She loved her family very much and was not depressed nor anything else. If it were suicide..there would have been a gun or something.

This was work from the inside...why else would she have told them to investigate.

I would have also left a letter to the family or someone telling what I saw and why it is possible im on a hit list as well.

Posted by godblessher at 04:08 PM : Oct 04, 2007  
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To you people being rude and heartless... omg.. you will pay one day.

I knew Ciara ... and this was NOTTTTTTTTT suicide!!!! She has an amazing girlfriend who was waiting for her at home and she had EVERY reason in the world to live!!! She was an amazing woman- funny as hell and so fun to be around... she would give you her last penny if you needed it. The world has lost a good soul :(

And there was absolutely NO reason for this to happen.. other than to cover up someone else's DIRTY LITTLE SECRET!! And of course- I'm sure it concerned the world's number one evil-MONEY.

I hope Ciara has peace now... and I know her family will not stop until the truth is found out. I will help in any way I can.

For those of you who had kind words- thank you. To the others who are spamming/trolling, or otherwise being ignorant- picture the person that was killed being a member of YOUR family. How would it feel?

R.I.P. Ciara... your mission is complete.

Posted by KeIIIIlyK at 04:07 PM : Oct 04, 2007  
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Posted by SaveTheUS at 02:18 PM : Oct 04, 2007  
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Man, what a bunch of heartless low life losers making light of a person's death. She had a lot more guts than any of you. Do the world a favor...go put a bullet in your own head.

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Posted by newsreader2 at 02:16 PM : Oct 04, 2007  
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OMG....another Area 51 conspiracy theory! Perhaps she discovered who REALLY killed Kennedy. Or maybe where Jimmy Hoffa is buried? Or maybe she found Elvis!

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Posted by SignOf4 at 01:31 PM : Oct 04, 2007  
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She probably stumbled across a payroll fraud involving her CO and when she reported it...  
Cherche l'argent.

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Posted by Nancy\_Naive at 12:31 PM : Oct 04, 2007  
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Ah ok i give in US5555, I'm tired....That was a good laugh though.

You all just got trolled...

WOOOO!

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Posted by vbnvbn at 12:25 PM : Oct 04, 2007  
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Actually, vbnvbn, since you stated that this soldier got what she deserved," I meant that perhaps you could have put a bullet in her head, yourself. I had nothing sexual in mind.

Would you mind informing the rest of us what you thought she did to deserve to die?

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Posted by JCYK58 at 12:22 PM : Oct 04, 2007  
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dnc are like john adams and want to give the jihadist their lunch money hoping they will leave us alone,,,

gop are like thomas jefferson and want to spend their lunch money on weapons and go kick the jihadists in their arses,,,

What Thomas Jefferson learned from the Muslim book of jihad,,,

Thomas Jefferson knew about fascist nazi islam,,, he killed plenty of them,,,

In 1786 Jefferson and John Adams went to negotiate with Tripoli's envoy to London, Ambassador Sidi Haji Abdrahman or (Sidi Haji Abdul Rahman Adja). They asked him by what right he extorted money and took slaves. Jefferson reported to Secretary of State John Jay, and to the Congress:

The ambassador answered us that [the right] was founded on the Laws of the Prophet (Mohammed), that it was written in their Koran, that all nations who should not have answered their authority were sinners, that it was their right and duty to make war upon them wherever they could be found, and to make slaves of all they could take as prisoners, and that every Mussulman who should be slain in battle was sure to go to heaven.[1]

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First\\_Bar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Bar)

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[http://www.usvetdsp.com/jan07/jeff\\_quran.htm](http://www.usvetdsp.com/jan07/jeff_quran.htm)

muslim justifies slavery and piracy...

<http://www.hawaiiireporter.com/story.aspx?6bdec278-6a71-4436-bc4d-29d1c5>

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Posted by lars008 at 12:20 PM : Oct 04, 2007

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