



United Kingdom, SAS Operators' Identities Leaked Online. Army Chief Orders Immediate Investigation

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A serious security incident shakes the United Kingdom. The *Sunday Times* revealed that the identities of some members of the **Special Air Service (SAS)**, British special forces unit, were **inadvertently published** in an internal magazine produced by the **Grenadier Guards**, and subsequently spread online.

According to reports, the publication included a **list of names** of military personnel, some of whom are directly or indirectly linked to the operations of the UK's special forces. Such an exposure is considered **extremely dangerous**, especially as it could compromise not only the safety of the operators involved but also that of their families and ongoing or archived missions.

General Sir Roly Walker furious over the incident

The head of the British Army, **General Sir Roly Walker**, who has an operational background in the SAS, reacted with **extreme severity** to the news, describing himself as “furious” about what happened. He immediately ordered an **urgent internal review**, aiming to fully clarify the dynamics of the information leak and establish **new guidelines for the management and protection of sensitive data**.

Walker also emphasized that protecting the identity of special forces members is “a vital national security issue” and promised that the Army “will not tolerate carelessness or superficiality in handling classified information.”

An error that could have operational and diplomatic consequences

The incident comes at a delicate time for the United Kingdom, involved in **numerous operational scenarios** globally, many of which involve the discreet and confidential deployment of SAS personnel and other special forces.

Exposing the names of such operators could:

- put their **personal safety** at risk;
- compromise past and present missions;
- offer advantages to terrorist groups or hostile intelligence;
- generate **diplomatic tensions** with allied countries or those involved in joint operations.

A spokesperson for the Ministry of Defence stated: *“We are aware of the situation and are working with the Army command to determine how this could have happened. The safety of our personnel remains our top priority”.*

The SAS and the culture of confidentiality

The **Special Air Service**, created in 1941 during World War II, are considered among the most efficient and respected special forces in the world. Their operations, by definition **clandestine and extremely high-risk**, are based on a culture of **absolute discretion**, where the identity of operators is protected even after discharge.

This incident represents a **serious violation of that culture** and could lead to a broader review of internal communication policies and the management of sensitive data throughout the British Ministry of Defence.

The investigation initiated by General Walker will not be limited to the single episode but aims to review the entire system of personal information security within the Armed Forces. The case has also raised questions about possible **systemic negligence** and the effectiveness of current protocols.

In the current global context, characterized by increasingly pervasive hybrid and cyber threats, the United Kingdom considers incidents of this type not only embarrassing but also potentially devastating. The world of security and defense is closely watching the developments of this affair, which could represent a turning point in the management of confidentiality within the British special forces.