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Abstract

Extraordinary rendition is the CIA activity of "transferring" or "flying captured terrorist suspects from one country to another for detention or interrogation". The purpose of this paper is to help inform you of what Extraordinary Rendition is and how it applies to the safety of this country. There are many people out there trying to convince the public that this action is nothing more than smoke and mirrors. The one percent of the population is falling back on old international laws that were written prior to this complex war. The method used to retrieve the information was through research of the internet and reading of books specified in the reference page. As you read this paper, you will see that for the safety of this nation we have concluded that the practice of extraordinary rendition is a viable piece that's needed for war on terror. There is no hard evidence that proves this action to violate any laws. As you will see and probably have already heard human rights groups screaming for a look at the prisoners in Guantanamo Bay were given just that. After the Red Cross visited the prisoners, they could not find any hard evidence that any abuse accrued. We stand by this nation's decision to continue the process of extraordinary rendition

Extraordinary Rendition and POW

Extraordinary rendition is the CIA activity of "transferring" or "flying captured terrorist suspects from one country to another for detention or interrogation". This is all done without the benefit of "formal legal proceedings. Donald H. Rumsfeld once made a reassuring statement that the Pentagon intends to treat our enemy combatants so that it would be in accordance with the Geneva Convention. The U.S. has been committed to treating its detainees/prisoners of this war on terrorism in a manner consistent with established international standards. The war in Afghanistan and Iraq is a different kind of conflict than the ideas put together in the 1949 Geneva Conventions. With this "war on terrorism," the somewhat old definition of "prisoner of war" should be interpreted lightly. Al Qaeda and Taliban fighters do not automatically gain prisoner of war status under the standards of the Convention. Some organization like the Harvard law school thinks the United States should officially recognize them as POWs. They seem to think the United States abides by international standards of humane treatment on a whenever basis. Even though the holding of the detainee enemy combatants seems to violate the Geneva Convention, It is very important for the United States to continue the handling of its captured combatants in the same manor because the handling of the current prisoners is keeping a tight rein on the terrorist group that attacked the United States. This is also sending a clear message to others groups of terrorist that may be thinking of attacking the United States. Al Qaida attacked the United States without provocation from within its front door. The detainment and interrogations of these prisoners is essential for the continued safety of this country.

Extraordinary rendition can violates the Geneva Convention in some cases. One such case is the capture and detention of Khaled el Masri. In December 2003, Kuwaiti-born German

national Khaled el Masri was said to have boarded a bus in his home of Ulm, Germany. He was traveling to Skopje, Macedonia. When he arrived at the Macedonian border on December 31, he was taken away by Macedonian police on a bus. The police confiscated his passport so he could not go anywhere. The police then kept him for over three weeks. On January 23, 2004, a jet plain with the identifying registration markings N313P, belonging to company called "Premier Executive Transport Services". This was thought to be a CIA front-company. The plane arrived in Macedonia from the island of Majorca. El Masri was then handed over to what was said to be the CIA officials. According to El Masri there were men wearing black masks and black gloves. These men beat him, cut off his clothes, and then injected him with some sort of drugs. He was put on another airplane and flown to Baghdad, and then to Kabul. While in Afghanistan the U.S. CIA agents interrogated him and held him in solitary confinement for almost five months. In May 2004, he was released and taken back to Central Europe a checkpoint on the Albanian border. He later learned he was held because of mistaken identity.

Extraordinary rendition is considered by human rights groups to be a hidden form of human rights violation. This brings together elements of arrest, disappearance, forcible transfer, torture, no access to consular officials, and of impartial tribunals. These allegations by human rights watch groups bring stories of black sites and black flights by the CIA for transfer of enemy combatant to covert operated prisons in European, African and other countries. None of the allegations of course have been proven.

Even though extraordinary rendition seems violates the Geneva Convention, It is very important that we do not change any of our policies and continue the handling of our detained combatants. We must keep a tight rein on the terrorist group that would like to attack the United States. This will continue to send a clear message to others. An example of this is on September

13, 1995, local police in Croatia seized Egyptian national Talaat Fouad Qassem, and then handed him over to CIA agents. Qassem ran from Egypt after the Egyptian government accused him of being involved in the assassination of Anwar Sadat; As you know Anwar Sadat was a pro American leader. The Egyptian government tried and sentenced him to death even though he was not present. The CIA agents took him by sea and interrogated him. He was then delivered to Egypt, where he disappeared. There is a human rights reporter in Egypt that believes he has been executed. He supposedly provided very important evidence that lead to others being considered for this assassination.

Another example of why the handling of the current prisoners is keeping a tight rein on the terrorist group that attacked the United States and is sending a clear message to others is through some of the un restricted interrogations. We have learned of other terror cells within our country through these interrogations. The interrogations have also led the U.S. and all its allies on the war on terror to better understand the inner workings of these cells. The detainees held in Guantanamo bay have provided so much invaluable information to the U.S. that it would be crazy to not continue this operation. The U.S. would not be where it is at in the war on terror without the free ability to interrogate it current detainees. If we want to avoid another attack on American soil, then we must continue with the current procedures.

The most important reason that the United States should continue its handling of its captured combatants is because Terrorist attacked the United States without provocation within its front door. This will happen again if not kept in check. The detainment and interrogations of these prisoners are essential for the safety of this country. We must continue to pick up these individuals as they show themselves. Just recently CNN new released a disturbing report that will help you see why we should continue our current policies on extraordinary rendition. The

country of Yemen recently set free one of Al Qaeda masterminds of the USS Cole bombing attack that killed seven US service members. This individual Jamal al Badawi was captured and sentenced to death by the Yemenis court. The Yemen government later commuted his sentence to 15 years in prison and of course he did not like this so he escaped. He recently called the Yemen government and was given a deal. The deal goes like this, by pledging loyalty to Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and denouncing terrorism he would be set free. Jamal al Badawi turned himself in and he was set free. This is exactly what happened and now we have a man that swore to kill the American way of life free again to continue his terror..

So you can see that although extraordinary rendition may seem to violate the Geneva convention, so far it has stopped any further attacks on American soil. The policies of the US should continue to keep another 911 from happening again. There has not been any proven documentation that shows the US has violated the Geneva Convention or any other international laws. Although the Abu Grab incident gave the US a big black eye, the evidence shows the troubles at the detention facility were a result of some poorly disciplined soldiers and not part of a US conspiracy to mistreat detainees. The individuals who perpetrated this crime like any other criminal breaking the law were punished.

The United States should continue its handling of its captured combatants. For two main reasons. First, the handling of the current prisoners is keeping a tight rein on the terrorist group that attacked the United States and is sending a clear message to others. But most importantly, Terrorist attacked the United States with provocation they made themselves our enemy combatants. They knew that they may be captured or killed that's what they signed up for when they chose there cause. The detainment and interrogations of this prisoner is essential for the safety of this country. When these individuals decided to become our enemy and attack

us they knew exactly what they were getting in. As Soldiers, we know that anything can happen to us if captured. I know of two soldiers captured by the Panamanian Defense Force (PDF) in 1987. Although they were young in the rank of specialist and a little disturbed with the predicament they were in, they were prepared for the worst. At one point while sitting on a couch with hole in the wall and behind them and a guard on the other side with an AK-47 assault weapon pointed at their heads, an older gentleman walked in to ask why the two Soldiers were there. This gentleman looked senior in years and was wearing civilian cloths. After they explained to him how the two American soldiers were captured he requested the officer in charge to get him his handgun. As you can imagine the two Soldier at this point had fear running through their veins. The soldiers were released after a little bit of head games. After this incredible ordeal, the Soldier of course thanked their lucky stars because of what could have happened to them. This gave the soldiers an even deeper understanding of what can happen to them due to the nature of their profession. As I am certainly sure that every soldier understands regardless of army or country understands. I know this because I was one of those Soldiers and I am still in the Army and I still understand what can happen to me if ever captured.

References

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