



THE CENTER FOR JUSTICE & ACCOUNTABILITY

Bringing Human Rights Abusers To Justice.

June 22, 2017

Senator John McCain, Chairman
Senator Jack Reed, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services
Russell Senate Office Building, Room 228
Washington, D.C. 20510-6225

Senator Bob Corker, Chairman
Senator Ben Cardin, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
423 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6225

Dear Senator McCain, Senator Reed, Senator Corker and Senator Cardin:

We ask that the Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committees ask for an inquiry into the allegations of torture in secret prisons in Yemen run by the United Arab Emirates¹ to determine whether there have been any violations of the Leahy Act under Section 620 M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and 10 USC 2249e, or other statute. We ask the Committees to make public findings from the review, including whether any U.S. personnel or agencies were complicit in the torture or beneficiaries of information obtained through torture. According to *the Associated Press*, “Several U.S. defense officials, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the topic, told AP that American forces do participate in interrogations of detainees at locations in Yemen, provide questions for others to ask, and receive transcripts of interrogations from Emirati allies.”

Secretary of Defense General James Mattis has maintained firm opposition to torture. Torture is counterproductive to U.S. national security objectives. We agree. The United States cannot afford another Abu Ghraib moment.

Sincerely,

C. Dixon Osburn
Executive Director
Center for Justice and Accountability

¹http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/ML_YEMEN_TORTURE_SITES_ABRIDGED?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2017-06-22-01-44-46