

SSCI TORTURE REPORT

KEY: THEY KNEW IT WAS TORTURE, KNEW IT WAS ILLEGAL

Okay, here are the critical working documents:



The SSCI Torture Report

The Minority Response to SSCI Torture Report

Dianne Feinstein's Statement

But, without any question, my best early takeaway key is that the United States Government, knew, they bloody well *knew*, at the highest levels, that what was going on in their citizens' name, legally constituted torture, that it was strictly illegal. They *knew* even a "necessity" self defense claim was likely no protection at all. All of the dissembling, coverup, legally insane memos by John Yoo, Jay Bybee et. al, and all the whitewashing in the world cannot now supersede the fact that the United States Government, knowing fully the immorality, and domestic and international illegality, proceeded to install an intentional and affirmative regime of torture.

Here, from page 33 of the Report, is the language establishing the above:

...drafted a letter to Attorney General

John Ashcroft asking the Department of Justice for “a formal declination of prosecution, in advance, for any employees of the United States, as well as any other personnel acting on behalf of the United States, who may employ methods in the interrogation of Abu Zubaydah that otherwise might subject those individuals to prosecution. The letter further indicated that “the interrogation team had concluded “that “the use of more aggressive methods is required to persuade Abu Zubaydah to provide the critical information we need to safeguard the lives of innumerable innocent men, women and children within the United States and abroad.” The letter added that these “aggressive methods” would otherwise be prohibited by the torture statute, “apart from potential reliance upon the doctrines of necessity or of self-defense.”

They knew. And our government tortured anyway. Because they were crapping in their pants and afraid instead of protecting and defending the ethos of our country and its Founders.