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21

West, Lora

From: Storella, Mark C
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2008 6:28 AM
To: Kovar, Jeffrey D; Khanna, Melanie J; Klecheski, Michael S; Levin, Jan; Chambers, Anna L
Cc: Erickson, Abigail E; Doe, Nancy E
Subject: Fw: Heads up for possible news item, Thursday, Feb 21 SBU -- information only, not for release to media.

Folks,

There will likely be a stmt made by UK FM Miliband mid-day today about the possible prior use of Diego Garcia for rendition flights. See below. We are to take no action now, pending press guidance from DC, but should report back to DC any relevant developments.

I have no idea if this could come up in the CERD. But wanted you to know just in case.

Mark

-----Original Message-----

From: Allegrone, Kathleen H
To: EUR-DCM-DL; EUR-PPD-PAO-DL
CC: Fried, Daniel; Volker, Kurt D; Graffy, Colleen P; Armstrong, Bruce W; Cook, Nerissa J; EUR-Directors-DL; Messmer, Edward P
Sent: Thu Feb 21 00:16:59 2008
Subject: Heads up for possible news item, Thursday, Feb 21 SBU -- information only, not for release to media.

Dan Fried and Colleen Graffy have asked that we provide a heads up on an issue that you may hear about before Washington is open tomorrow.

UK Foreign Secretary Miliband is planning to present information to Parliament tomorrow, Thursday Feb 21, that will address possible U.S. prior use of Diego Garcia for rendition flights. The statement (to be given around mid day London time), and subsequent questioning in Parliament will likely lead to questions and comments from folks in many of your countries. This e-mail is designed to give you a heads up and to ask that you not/not get ahead of either the UK statement or any press guidance/statement that Washington may provide. Please avoid confirming or denying the story, until/unless you receive further guidance.

Kathy
EUR/WE Director

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UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

PROCÉDURES SPECIALES ASSUMÉES PAR
LE CONSEIL DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

SPECIAL PROCÉDURES ASSUMED BY THE
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Chairman of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

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REFERENCE: GSO 117/USA

10 December 2007

Excellency,

At the request and on behalf of the Chairman of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, I have the honour to communicate the following letter addressed to you:

"Excellency,

I have the honour to write to you on behalf of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, which held its 83rd session from 21 to 30 November 2007 at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva.

In the course of the session, the Working Group decided to inform your Government of general allegations it has received in relation to the implementation of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances in your country. A summary is provided in Annex I. Any comments regarding these general allegations should be received by 1 October 2008 in order to be included in the Working Group's annual report.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind your Government that the Working Group will hold its 84th session at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 10 to 14 March 2008. As such, the Working Group would be grateful if any written information which your Government wishes to submit for the Working Group's consideration, could be received by 8 February 2008. Information may be submitted at any time of the year, and will be reviewed as soon as it can be processed.

H.E. Mr. Warren W. Tichenor
Ambassador
Permanent Mission of the United States of America
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Route de Pregny 11
1292 Chambesey

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In conformity with its usual practice, the Working Group is prepared to receive representatives of interested Governments during the first three days of its next session, from 10 to 11 March 2008. Should your Government wish to be represented at the forthcoming session, please contact the Working Group's secretariat at the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva (tel: 022 917 9176, fax: 022 917 9006) to schedule an appointment with the Working Group. The dates of subsequent sessions for the coming year may also be requested or found on the WGEID webpage: <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/disappear>.

I remain,
Excellency,

Yours sincerely,

Santiago Corcuera
Chairman-Rapporteur
Working Group on Enforced
or Involuntary Disappearances"

I remain,
Excellency,

Yours sincerely,



Claudia de la Fuente
Secretary, a.i.
Working Group on Enforced
or Involuntary Disappearances

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West, Lora

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From: Levin, Jan
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2008 6:19 PM
To: IO-RHS-Human Rights-DL; Grunder, Alyson L (DRL); Sicade, Lynn M (DRL); Legal-HRR-DL
Cc: Kovar, Jeffrey D; Khanna, Melanie J; Klecheski, Michael S; Chambers, Anna L
Subject: FW: Emailing: Work Group on Involuntary Disappearance.pdf

Attachments: Work Group on Involuntary Disappearance.pdf



Work Group on
Involuntary Disa...

11:

Attached please find a letter from the WG on Involuntary Disappearances forwarding an allegation about the U.S. use of renditions to send someone to Egypt, where he tortured.

We are also invited to submit the names of any representatives who might be coming out to attend the March session of the WG.

Thanks,
Jan

83rd Session

General Allegation: USA

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The Working Group received information from non-governmental organizations concerning reported obstacles encountered in the implementation of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

It was reported that one case of extraordinary rendition, which occurred in Italy on 17 February 2003, involved an enforced disappearance for a certain period of time. The Working Group was informed that this case took place in the context of extraordinary rendition programmes that were allegedly carried out by the United States of America together with Egypt, where the person was secretly imprisoned and reportedly tortured.