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The United States in the dock

Timothy Bancroft-Hinchey

Part I

5/9/2010



May 7 to May 12 - the The Kuala Lumpur War Crimes Tribunal is hearing the accusations against the United States of America for acts committed on detainees in Iraq. The accusations are unutterably shocking and are serious enough to merit hearing under as war crimes, and as such are covered by *jus cogens* and customary international law.

The accused: U.S. President George W. Bush and his associates namely Richard Cheney, former U.S. Vice President, Donald Rumsfeld, former Defence Secretary, Alberto Gonzales, then Counsel to President Bush, David Addington, then General Counsel to the Vice-President, William Haynes II, then General Counsel to Secretary of Defense, Jay Bybee, then Assistant Attorney General, and John Choon Yoo, former Deputy Assistant Attorney-General.

Accusation #1: Witness: Abbas Abid, Chief Engineer at the Science and Technology Ministry. Detained on August 28, 2005. He claims he was illegally abducted from his home by American and Iraqi soldiers and taken to Al-Muthanna Brigade HQ. After saying he did not know the whereabouts of "terrorists" in his neighbourhood, he was beaten and electrocuted.

Over the following 14 (fourteen) months, he claims he was subjected to the following treatment:

a). Being hit with tools (thick cudgels, cables, metal pipes, metal ribbons); b). Electric shocks in various parts of the body and especially the penis; c). Forced to drink a lot of water mixed with a diuretic solution, and his penis tied with rubber band to prevent him from urinating; d). Hanging him from the wall while hanging weights from his penis for long hours; e). Frightening him by shooting a gun around, near and above his head and various parts of his body; f). Threatened to bring his wife and mother to the prison and sexually abuse them; g). Cut off all food or drinks (except the water he was forced to drink with the diuretic solution) during the investigation period; h). Forcefully extracting his finger nails; i). Hanging him from the wall for long hours until he fainted - the hanging method is by handcuffing his hands to the back and then hanging him up from the handcuffed hands so that his shoulder got dislocated; j). Hanging from the wall then hitting him with several tools of torture until the handcuffs breaks. This happened many times;

k). The 48-year-old Iraqi revealed that he was forced to sign a statement without being allowed to read or knowing its contents because they had put a bag over his head. This, he revealed, was done to all prisoners; l). A bag was placed over his head for over two months and only removed when he was given food. He revealed that some prisoners would have a bag over their head for over five months; m). There was not enough room for everybody, so the detainees were sitting and sleeping over each other and most of them suffered from burns and frictions and severe wounds, some of them were even infected with contagious diseases like TB and scabies. n). He also revealed that all detainees had to urinate in plastic bottles placed near the door. Visits to the toilet were made once every 4 days. A detainee was allowed only one minute in the WC. He further revealed that detainees had to discharge their waste in the plastic bags given to them and in the presence of everyone present; o). These bags were used to bring food and were kept for this purpose. These toilet bags were placed near the plastic bottles at the door. Because it is so

crowded, the bottles and bags get knocked over and the waste would be spread all over the room;

p). The bottles and bags were emptied once every four days when they went to the WC and on their return they would be beaten by the guards. No medical care was available and detainees were left to die from their injuries caused by torture;

q). After 13 months he was brought to a court and the court ruled that he was to be released, as there was no evidence of any wrong doing against him. He revealed that he had to pay USD10,000 to the prison authorities before he was released a month after the court ruling.

And the United States of America is surprised that its standing in the international community is so low, that respect for the United States of America is non-existent especially after Barack Obama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, obviously in the hope he would change something, and what did he do? He invaded Libya without any reason at all except that Muammar al-Qathafi's humanitarian projects in Africa were denying the lobbies which control US policy valuable income.

While the accusations in this piece have to be investigated and while the Defence has the right to refute them, after what we already know, would anyone be surprised if these horrific and demonic acts happened? After all, as the Great American Heroine Lynndie England said, they were "just having fun". The conclusion: those who support the foreign policy of the USA walk in legion with the Devil and are as much a part of the Satanic horde as the demented and perverted warped lunatics they support.

This is Part 1 of a long series to come in a space which respects freedom of expression. There are, of course, those who preach freedom of expression and respect it; there are others who preach freedom of expression and practise acts of cyber terrorism. Will this piece be met with (another) hacking attack?

Part II

5/10/2012

The accused: U.S. President George W. Bush and his associates namely Richard Cheney, former U.S. Vice President, Donald Rumsfeld, former Defence Secretary, Alberto Gonzales, then Counsel to President Bush, David Addington, then General Counsel to the Vice-President, William Haynes II, then General Counsel to Secretary of Defense, Jay Bybee, then Assistant Attorney General, and John Choon Yoo, former Deputy Assistant Attorney-General.

Accusation #2: British citizen Moazzam Begg, 43. He claims that as soon as he was handed over to the United States authorities, he was "immediately shackled, hooded and choked and thrown to the floor". They threatened to slit his throat with a knife.

a). **After being thrown out of the aircraft at Kandahar airport, he was thrown onto the mud,** kicked, punched, choked with a hood and constantly sworn at; b). Dogs were brought to bark at him very close to his face to intimidate him; c). he suffered racial, ethnic and religious abuses; d). He was interrogated by two FBI officers with him on his knees and hands tied behind his back, "which could last from a few minutes to 24 hours"; e). British intelligence twice interrogated him in Kandahar and he was asked about the list of Imams in Britain and others; f). He felt he was profiled and discriminated based on his ethnicity and religion;

g). He informed the tribunal that he was moved to Bagram airbase detention facility for 11 months where he was intensely interrogated for a month in solitary confinement by the CIA, FBI and US military intelligence and also by British intelligence; h). His legs and arms were hog-tied; i). He was led to believe that his wife was being tortured in the next room

j). While in Bagram he saw two persons who were severely beaten by American soldiers. Later, he revealed, it was confirmed to him by the Americans in Guantanamo Bay that these 2 persons had died from the beatings; k). In Bagram prison, there was no fresh food and no warm food; l). Food and water was limited and no tea or fruits; m). Medical care was dependent upon the level of cooperation of the prisoners; n). Each cell was communal with about 10 prisoners and we shared a bucket as a toilet.

o). At Guantanamo Bay he was placed in Camp Echo, which was maximum security and he was placed in solitary confinement. He remained there for about 20 months. The cell was 8 by 6 feet; there was no natural light, no windows and no contact with any other prisoners. Although physical abuse was lessened the conditions were still very brutal;

p). He revealed that he was forced to sign a confession that he was a member of al-Qaeda and was engaged in the war against the United States and if he did not, he would face a summary trial, which could result in execution and that execution chambers had been built in Guantanamo Bay. Or that he would remain for decades in Guantanamo Bay without access to anyone and without any legal process;

q). His mental state was affected due to being placed in solitary confinement and experienced several anxiety attacks. He told the tribunal that a female psychiatrist once suggested a method of suicide, and asked if he had ever considered removing his trousers and threading it with the bed sheet to make a noose and tie it around his neck and tying the other end to the top corner of the

cell;

r). He never understood the brutality or its justification of being in an environment where he had to prove his innocence. He said, "I believe that it was by design to break my spirit by torturing other people in front of me, which was worse than being tortured myself. The absence of due process became worse than the physical torture."

Part III

5/12/2012



American heroine Lynndie England...Jus' havin' fun

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If the accused are found guilty, The Tribunal will do the following:

1. Recommend to the Commission to file reports with the International Criminal Court against the accused;

2. Recommend to the Commission that the names of the convicted criminals be included in the Commission's Register of War Criminals and publicised accordingly.

3. The findings must be communicated to all countries that have acceded to the Rome Statute and are possessed of universal jurisdiction.

Accusation #3: The prosecution's third witness Jameelah Abbas Hameedi, who used to be the Head Chief of the Cooperation Unions in Kirkuk. The 57-year-old Iraqi told of her torture in the Baghdad Airport and Abu Ghraib prisons in 2004.

a). She told the 5-member tribunal panel via a translator that on 13 January 2004, the American military broke into her home by force in Kirkuk and rounded up her whole family including her 22-year-old daughter and 17-year-old son, a 25-year-old nephew and a 23-year-old female guest;

b). She said, "We were told that we were providing monetary assistance to the resistance and they wanted the money. They searched the whole house and found nothing except for 150 dinar which is for daily expenses."; c). She told the tribunal she was dragged by her hair outside of the house into the winter rain in her nightclothes and her hands were tied very tightly at the back with a wire. They destroyed all her belongings in the house and alleged that the car battery charger they had found is used to explode bombs.

d). She further told the tribunal she was taken to the Kirkuk military airport via a military vehicle and in the process was hooded, kicked like an animal, pushed out of the Hummer onto the road, dragged on the paved road and later left standing at a wall; e). Jameelah further related that she was placed in a tiny wooden cell with no windows with her daughter and her female guest; f). They were not fed for two days; g). They were not allowed to use the toilet.

"I was feeling dizzy and felt very weak. I asked to sit but they refused to allow me. They asked me to confess that I was part of the resistance and also who were my colleagues in the resistance," she related.