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Bushism the real Target of the Torture Report

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Though it seems like the US Torture Report is aimed at the CIA, its real targets are Bushism and Bush's War on Terror - and its publication reveals divisions among the US political parties.

Early in 2008, Barack Obama, then a senator, denounced the CIA for setting up secret prisons around the world, and committed to shutting down the notorious Guantanamo Bay detention camp as soon as he was elected. However, now we are in the middle of Obama's second term, Guantanamo Bay detention camp is still running, and the investigation into accusations of CIA torture has been dragging on for 5 years.

On Dec. 4, 2014, the US government finally confirmed it would publish the abstracts of this report in a week. However, on Dec. 9, Bloomberg reported that Secretary of State John Kerry called Sen. Dianne Feinstein to discuss the broader implications of the timing of publicly releasing a declassified summary of her committee's report "because a lot is going on in the world, and he wanted to make sure that foreign policy implications were being appropriately factored into timing..."

Kerry's move seems quite inconsistent with President Obama. In fact, Bloomberg also released the news that according to White House spokesman Josh Earnest, despite warnings of retaliation abroad against Americans from those opposed to making the report public, the Obama administration supports its release.

From this it can be inferred that the Torture Report is actually targeting Bushism and Bush's War on Terror rather than the CIA, as might first appear to be the case. That is why the Democrats have such a keen interest in releasing the report, and even question whether the CIA's cruel torture is against basic American values. The discomfoting details in the reports could be used as powerful "weapons" in the Democrats' fight against the Republicans.

Obama has to be much more considered in weighing the pros and cons. If a terrorist organization were provoked into killing American hostages, the President would take most of the blame, and Obama would be taking a risk in playing the "Bushism" card while the Obama government has already hit the buffers on issues like the Ukrainian Crisis and ISIS.

What is also worthy of mention is that only 480 pages were released to the public while the whole report contains over 6,000 pages. Hence only a "partial truth" was revealed to the public – we can say it was the "truth" that the Democrats wanted the public to know.