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FBI background

Iraq

- Became aware of the abuses at Abu Ghraib when the story broke publicly.
- Because of the extremely dangerous conditions that existed at the prison (it was shelled regularly), FBI employees were at the prison only during daytime hours.
- 14 employees were there during the time frame October 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003, the relevant period according to General Taguba's report.
- None of the 14 employees was aware of the sort of mistreatment that has recently been reported; although the following were observed by one or more FBI employee:
 - a detainee, hooded and draped in a shower curtain, was cuffed to a waist high rail. An MP was apparently subjecting the detainee to sleep deprivation, as he was observed slapping the detainee lightly, as if to keep him from falling asleep;
 - a detainee was restrained by military personnel, spread eagle, on a mattress on the floor. The detainee was shouting and flailing about. The military personnel told the agent that the detainee was mentally ill. That conclusion was consistent with the agent's observations;
 - a detainee, either naked or in boxer shorts, lying prone on a wet floor;
 - a detainee being ordered to strip and being placed in an isolation cell;
 - an MP shouting at a detainee, who appeared not to understand the MP's directions and detainees being verbally harassed; and
 - detainees being hooded while being escorted on the prison grounds.
- All employees who were at Abu Ghraib during the October - December time period were asked whether anyone who was interviewed complained of mistreatment. According to our employees:
 - several interviewees complained of abuse occurring prior to being turned over to American authorities (e.g., being kicked, shocked, burned and having family members threatened);
 - one interviewee told of harsh treatment while in American custody, but it did not rise to the level of abuse recently reported. That interviewee reported being held naked and subjected to sleep deprivation. He also reported having been "roughed up" by Americans who were not in uniform and hearing screaming at night. The agent who conducted this interview reported that the interviewee did not have any physical marks, and the agent believed his report of hearing screams at night may

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DETAINEES-3648

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have been "posturing" on the interviewee's part.

As reported in the press, at least one MP said that the participants in the abuse at the prison included FBI, military intelligence, military criminal investigative division ab1

[REDACTED] The MP's statement provides no specifics and, as indicated above, our review has indicated that FBI employees never spent the night at Abu Ghraib.

Guantanamo Bay

- There have been differences of opinion between FBI and portions of DoD on the desirability of using certain interrogation techniques on the detainees at Guantanamo. The difference of opinion was based partly on differing assessments of the efficacy of harsh interrogation techniques as compared to rapport building techniques, and in part on differing views on the propriety of the harsher techniques.
- Prior to the promulgation of new guidelines, one or more agents observed the following:
 - a detainee's mouth was duct taped for chanting from the Koran; detainee had long hair and a beard; military employee who applied the duct tape found it amusing;
 - an interrogator attempted to block the observation window of an interrogation cell and then rubbed the detainee's arm (this interrogation occurred during Ramadan at a time when contact with an unrelated female is particularly offensive for Islamic men) and did something that could not be observed but that appeared to cause the detainee substantial pain; and
 - a detainee being isolated for substantial periods of time.
- Agents heard of detainees being subjected to considerable pain and very aggressive techniques during interrogations.
- Agents aware of detainees being threatened (either in person or aurally) by dogs.
- Agents have seen documentary evidence that a detainee was told that his family had been taken into custody and would be moved to Morocco for interrogation if he did not begin to talk.
- Agents aware of military screaming in ear of detainee and "manhandling" detainees (e.g., knocking chair from under detainee).
- Agents aware of military misrepresenting themselves as FBI when dealing with detainee.
- In order to know the entire scope of FBI knowledge of treatment of detainees at GTMO, approximately 500 agents would need to be interviewed.

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