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U S Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D C 20535-0001

July 14, 2004

Major General Donald J. Ryder
Department of the Army
Criminal Investigation Command
6010 6th Street
Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060-5506

Re. Suspected Mistreatment of Detainees

Dear General Ryder

I appreciate the opportunity I had to meet with you last week. As part of a follow up on our discussion on detainee treatment, I would like to alert you to three situations observed by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of highly aggressive interrogation techniques being used against detainees in Guantanamo (GTMO). I refer them to you for appropriate action

1 During late 2002, FBI Special Agent [redacted] was present in an observation room at GTMO and observed [redacted] (first name unknown) [redacted] conducting an interrogation of an unknown detainee. (SA [redacted] was present to observe the interrogation occurring in a different interrogation room) [redacted] entered the observation room and complained that curtain movement at the observation window was distracting the detainee, although no movement of the curtain had occurred. She directed a manne to duct tape a curtain over the two-way mirror between the interrogation room and the observation room. SA [redacted] characterized this action as an attempt to prohibit those in the observation room from witnessing her interaction with the detainee. Through the surveillance camera monitor, SA [redacted] then observed [redacted] position herself between the detainee and the surveillance camera. The detainee was shackled and his hands were cuffed to his waist. SA [redacted] observed [redacted] apparently whispering in the detainee's ear, and caressing and applying lotion to his arms (this was during Ramadan when physical contact with a woman would have been particularly offensive to a Moslem male). On more than one occasion the detainee appeared to be grimacing in pain, and [redacted]s hands appeared to be making some contact with the detainee. Although SA [redacted] could not see her hands at all times, he saw them moving towards the detainee's lap. He also observed the detainee pulling away and against the restraints. Subsequently, the manne who had previously taped the curtain and had been in the interrogation room with [redacted] during the interrogation re-entered the observation room

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

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DATE: 11-17-2004
CLASSIFIED BY: 61579DNE/BCR/slg 04-CV-1151
REASON: 1.4(C)
DECLASSIFY ON: 11-17-2029

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General Donald J. Ryder

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SA [redacted] asked what had happened to cause the detainee to grimace in pain. The marine said [redacted] had grabbed the detainee's thumbs and bent them backwards and indicated that she also grabbed his genitals. The marine also implied that her treatment of that detainee was less harsh than her treatment of others by indicating that he had seen her treatment of other detainees result in detainees curling into a fetal position on the floor and crying in pain.

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2. Also in October 2002, FBI Special Agent [redacted] was observing the interrogation of a detainee when [redacted] a civilian contractor, came into the observation room and asked SA [redacted] to come see something. SA [redacted] then saw an unknown bearded, long-haired detainee in another interrogation room. [redacted] SA [redacted] asked Mr. [redacted] whether the detainee had spit at the interrogators. Mr. [redacted] laughed and stated that the detainee had been chanting the Koran and would not stop. Mr. [redacted] did not answer when SA [redacted] asked [redacted].

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3. In September or October of 2002 FBI agents observed that a canine was used in an aggressive manner to intimidate detainee [redacted] and, in November 2002, FBI agents observed Detainee [redacted] after he had been subjected to intense isolation for over three months. During that time period, [redacted] was totally isolated (with the exception of occasional interrogations) in a cell that was always flooded with light. By late November, the detainee was evidencing behavior consistent with extreme psychological trauma (talking to non-existent people, reporting hearing voices, crouching in a corner of the cell covered with a sheet for hours on end). It is unknown to the FBI whether such extended isolation was approved by appropriate DoD authorities.

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These situations were referenced in a May 30, 2003 electronic communication (EC) from the Behavioral Analysis Unit of the FBI to FBI Headquarters. That EC attached, among other documents, a draft Memorandum for the Record dated 15 January 2003 from Capt [redacted] (USAFR), that refers to the first two events among others in a time line of events related to discussions concerning the use of aggressive interrogation techniques. Marion Bowman of the FBI's Office of General Counsel discussed the contents of those communications with Mr. Dietz, Deputy General Counsel (Intelligence) and Mr. Del'Orto, Deputy General Counsel of DoD, around the time the EC was received. Although he was assured that the general concerns expressed, and the debate between the FBI and DoD regarding the treatment of detainees was known to officials in the Pentagon, I have no record that our specific concerns regarding these three situations were communicated to DoD for appropriate action.

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General Donald J. Ryder

If I can provide any further information to you, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely yours,

T J. Harrington
Deputy Assistant Director
Counterterrorism Division

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