

FROM 3 FEB 2008

(WFO) FEB 20 2008 10:08/ST. 19:07/NO. 616025975

RELEASED IN FULL

S90B

TALKING POINTS FOR USG COMMUNICATORS ON DIEGO GARCIA ISSUE

- As a result of an exhaustive search through CIA records -- including interviews with flight crews -- we have determined that aircraft operated for CIA landed twice at Diego Garcia -- British sovereign soil -- in 2002 without UK approval.
- We told the UK Government, incorrectly we as later learned, that no rendition flights had occurred over/on UK territory.
- There was never any intent to deceive the UK Government. This was an administrative error in the context of a records search on the part of CIA.
- CIA has had fewer than 100 individuals in its detention program. Neither of the two individuals in these cases are included in that group of 100. In other words, these two individuals were never in CIA's high value detainee program, nor were they subject to enhanced interrogation methods.
- One of the individuals was later released by a third country and the other is in detention by the US military at Guantanamo Bay as an enemy combatant.
- These were refueling stops and the detainee never left the aircraft.
- After confirming our internal mistake, we brought this information to the attention of the UK Government as quickly as we could.
- It is important to remember that the British have benefited--and continue to benefit--significantly from the intelligence that CIA has provided through our HVD program.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Geoffrey Chapman,
Senior Reviewer

FROM SITE 30 CIA

(WED) FEB 20 2008 18:08/ST. 19:07/NO. 01A02E9757

RELEASED IN FULL

S90F

Message from the Director: Past Use of Diego Garcia

The British Government announced today that the United States recently provided information on rendition flights through Diego Garcia—a UK territory in the Indian Ocean—that contradicted earlier data from us. Our government told the British that there had been no rendition flights involving their soil or airspace since 9/11. That information, supplied in good faith, turned out to be wrong.

In fact, on two different occasions in 2002, an American plane with a detainee aboard stopped briefly in Diego Garcia for refueling. Neither of those individuals was ever part of CIA's high-value terrorist interrogation program. One was ultimately transferred to Guantanamo, and the other was returned to his home country. These were rendition operations, nothing more. There has been speculation in the press over the years that CIA had a holding facility on Diego Garcia. That is false. There have also been allegations that we transport detainees for the purpose of torture. That, too, is false. Torture is against our laws and our values. And, given our mission, CIA could have no interest in a process destined to produce bad intelligence.

In late 2007, CIA itself took a fresh look at records on rendition flights. This time, the examination revealed the two stops in Diego Garcia. The refueling, conducted more than five years ago, lasted just a short time. But it happened. That we found this mistake ourselves, and that we brought it to the attention of the British Government, in no way changes or excuses the reality that we were in the wrong. An important part of intelligence work, inherently urgent, complex, and uncertain, is to take responsibility for errors and to learn from them. In this case, the result of a flawed records search, we have done so.

Mike Hayden**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Geoffrey Chapman, Senior Reviewer**

RELEASED IN PART B1, 1.4(C), B3
NATSECACT1947, B3 CIA
PERS/ORG

FROM STATE DEPT CIA

(RFD) FEB 20 2008 13:08/ST. 19:07/NO. 8100259757

SECRET//20330220

S90A

PRIORITY: FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

To: James Jeffries, Deputy National Security Advisor, The White House
Gordon England, Deputy Secretary of Defense
Nicholas Burns, Undersecretary of State
Sean McCormack, Spokesman, Department of State
Steve Slick, National Security Council
Kate Starr, National Security Council
Bryan Whitman, Spokesman, Department of Defense

From: Mark Mansfield, Director of Public Affairs, Central Intelligence Agency

Date: February 20, 2008

Tomorrow the British Foreign Secretary will announce in Parliament that U.S. officials recently informed the British Government that--without British consent--two U.S. rendition aircraft stopped on Diego Garcia, a British territory, for refueling stops in 2002.

Please find enclosed background materials on this issue. The materials include:

- A statement that CIA Director Michael Hayden will issue to the Agency workforce tomorrow morning.
- Talking points for use by USG communicators.



B3 CIA PERS/ORG
B3 NATSECACT1947
B1
1.4(C)

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Geoffrey Chapman, Senior Reviewer

B3 NATSECACT1947
B1
1.4(C)



SECRET//20330220