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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
 UNITED STATES SOUTHERN COMMAND
 OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
 3511 NW 91ST AVENUE
 MIAMI, FL 33172-1217



REPLY TO
 ATTENTION OF

SCCDR


25 October 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, DC 20318-9999

SUBJECT: Counter-Resistance Techniques

1. The activities of Joint Task Force 170 have yielded critical intelligence support for forces in combat, combatant commanders, and other intelligence/law enforcement entities prosecuting the War on Terrorism. However, despite our best efforts, some detainees have tenaciously resisted our current interrogation methods. Our respective staffs, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and Joint Task Force 170 have been trying to identify counter-resistant techniques that we can lawfully employ.
2. I am forwarding Joint Task Force 170's proposed counter-resistance techniques. I believe the first two categories of techniques are legal and humane. I am uncertain whether all the techniques in the third category are legal under US law, given the absence of judicial interpretation of the US torture statute. I am particularly troubled by the use of implied or expressed threats of death of the detainee or his family. However, I desire to have as many options as possible at my disposal and therefore request that Department of Defense and Department of Justice lawyers review the third category of techniques.
3. As part of any review of Joint Task Force 170's proposed strategy, I welcome any suggested interrogation methods that others may propose. I believe we should provide our interrogators with as many legally permissible tools as possible.
4. Although I am cognizant of the important policy ramifications of some of these proposed techniques, I firmly believe that we must quickly provide Joint Task Force 170 counter-resistance techniques to maximize the value of our intelligence collection mission.

Encls


 James T. Hill
 General, US Army
 Commander

1. JTF 170 CDR Memo
 dtd 11 October, 2002
2. JTF 170 SJA Memo
 dtd 11 October, 2002
3. JTF 170 J-2 Memo
 dtd 11 October, 2002

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Declassify Under the Authority of Executive Order 12958
 By Executive Secretary, Office of the Secretary of Defense
 By William P. Marriott, CAPT, USN
 June 21, 2004

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