

TAKE ACTION NOW!

Help restore the values of justice and due process. Send a message to President-elect Obama to pursue criminal charges against these individuals. Also send a message to President Bush telling him you oppose preemptive pardons for these individuals and for any others involved in torture. (See "ACTIONS" on the other side of this sheet.)



Dick Cheney:
Vice president who orchestrated the use of torture, secret prisons and detention without charge.



John Yoo:
Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel authored memos that tried to provide a legal basis for the torture and abuse of prisoners in U.S. custody.



Alberto Gonzales:
Former White House Counsel chaired discussions about the authorization of specific forms of torture and abuse, and urged the president not to apply the Geneva Conventions to many of the detainees.



Condoleezza Rice:
Chaired the National Security Council meetings reportedly authorizing specific forms of abuse on specific prisoners.



David Addington:
Former counsel to Cheney had central role in developing the torture, abuse, and detention without charge policies.



Donald Rumsfeld:
Former Secretary of Defense authorized the use of abusive interrogation methods at Guantánamo Bay Naval Base.



Gen. Geoffrey D. Miller:
Oversaw Guantánamo Bay Naval Base when prisoners were abused and tortured there, and traveled to Iraq to oversee the "Gitmoization" of Abu Ghraib.



John Ashcroft:
Reportedly participated in National Security Council meetings authorizing specific forms of abuse on specific prisoners and approved Office of Legal Counsel torture memoranda.



George Tenet:
Director of the CIA oversaw the extraordinary rendition program as well as the abusive interrogation methods, including waterboarding, by CIA officials.



William Haynes:
General Counsel at the Defense Department, signed off on the use of abusive interrogation methods by DoD personnel.

OBAMA, HOLD THESE TORTURERS ACCOUNTABLE

A bipartisan Senate report says that former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and other top Bush administration officials are directly responsible for abuses of detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and charges that decisions by those officials led to serious offenses against prisoners in Iraq and elsewhere. The article on the Senate Armed Services Committee report, which was released on Thursday, December 11, 2008, may be viewed at www.commondreams.org/headline/2008/12/11-7

Recently, the Obama team indicated that it will not pursue criminal charges against these persons presumably because such an action will further divide our country. But we know that any hope for the future cannot be based upon a false unity that covers up the criminal actions of so many.

South Africa, Chile and Guatemala established Truth Commissions to get to the bottom of similar atrocities committed in their own countries because they knew false unity is no unity.

President Elect Obama, listen to us. We cannot let this total disregard for human rights be forgotten. You must hold these persons responsible for their behavior.

BUSH, DON'T PARDON THE TORTURERS

Did you know that there is a real risk that President Bush may issue pardons these same high-ranking Administration officials for their activities related to torture, extraordinary rendition and other abuses.

That's right. Even before they're charged with a crime, Bush has the power to prevent any criminal investigation into the activities of Cheney, Rumsfeld, Ashcroft, Gonzales and others. (See the reverse side of this sheet.)

In America, no one is above the law. Speak out against preemptive pardons and restore the values of justice and due process. Laws cannot simply be made by the privileged and violated by the privileged to suit their privilege.

ACTIONS

1. Write President-elect Obama and tell him to hold these persons responsible for their criminal behavior. Go to Obama's website <http://change.gov/page/s/contact> to enter your comments.
2. Call / write President Bush to tell him you oppose preemptive pardons for these people and any others who have been involved in torture. Call the Comment line at the White House: 202-456-1111 or write to president@whitehouse.gov

8th Day Center for Justice

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Note: Other peace leaflets produced by 8th Day Center are at www.8thdaycenter.org/resources/leaflets.html
You may wish to use them for your own vigils, in classrooms, etc.

Local contact: