

The President

Canberra Islamic Centre
P O Box 186
Calwell ACT 2905

The Secretary

Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee
APH
Canberra ACT

Dear Senators,

Addendum to: Submission to inquiry into the provisions of the Anti-Terrorism Bill 2004

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We refer to the Committee's inquiry into the Anti-Terrorism Bill 2004 ('the Bill') and the CIC submission number 246.

Subsequent to our submission, it has come to light that evidence is collected from suspects (by US authorities) under considerable duress and some might submit that the methods used for extraction of evidence are in contrevention of the Terrorism Convention. This asssertion is based on US media sources and has been confirmed by US Authorities both in Iraq and the USA. Similar allegations of torture have been made against the US methods of questioning both in Afghanistan and at Guantanamo Bay. These allegations are a matter of public record but have never previously been officially confirmed by the US Authorities.

Given that the US has now admitted that considerable duress, force or some cases torture is used in extracting information/ confessions, one must question the value of the resulting convictions. In this light we submit that it would be unconscionable for Australian Authorities - without more - automatically to recognise carte blanche the determinations / convictions of overseas judicial or military bodies.

thank you

yours sincerely

Ahmed Youssef
President
Canberra Islamic Centre
30 April 2004