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Germany Files War Crimes Against Bush, Cheney, Rumsfeld And Other CIA Officials

AUTHOR: RYAN DENSON DECEMBER 21, 2014 1:35 PM

If President Obama won't do it, someone else will. Thankfully, a human rights group in Berlin, The European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights, has begun the process of indicting members of the Bush Administration by filing criminal complaints against the architects of the Admin's torture program.

Calls for an immediate investigation by the German human rights group was started after outrage ensued on the case of a German citizen, Khalid El-Masri, who had been captured by CIA agents in 2004 because of a mistaken identity mix-up and was tortured at a secret prison in Afghanistan.

Wolfgang Kaleck, the general secretary of the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights, said:

“By investigating members of the Bush administration, Germany can help to ensure that those responsible for abduction, abuse and illegal detention do not go unpunished.”

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In an interview with “Democracy Now,” Michael Ratner, president emeritus of the Center for Constitutional Rights and chairman of the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights, said that he believes Cheney, among others, have no defense for torturous actions and should be indicted:

*“I strongly disagree that Bush, Cheney, et al., would have a defense. This wasn’t like these memos just appeared independently from the Justice Department. **These memos were facilitated by the very people — Cheney, etc. — who we believe should be indicted.** This was part of a conspiracy so they could get away with torture. But that’s not the subject here now.”*

*“Secondly, whatever we think of those memos, they’re of uselessness in Europe. Europe doesn’t accept this, quote, ‘golden shield’ of a legal defense. **Either it’s torture or it’s not. Either you did it or you didn’t.** And that’s one of the reasons, among others, why we’re going to Europe and why we went to Europe to bring these cases through the European Center.”*

Ratner then hit the nail on the head regarding America’s dangerous exceptionalism path down the road:

“But, of course, you know, Cheney just showed us exactly why you have to — have to prosecute torture. Because if you don’t prosecute it, the next guy down the line is going to torture again. And that’s what Cheney said: ‘I would do it again.’”

Khalid El-Masri was on vacation in Skopje, in Macedonia, when he was pulled off of a bus by government agents, sodomized with a drug, and taken to the secret base that was identified only as Cobalt in the CIA torture report. After four months, and after the United States learned of the mistaken identity, they left him there and continued to torture him. They held him further because the U.S. realized they had been torturing the wrong man. Afterwards, they released him, dropping him off somewhere to resume his life.

El-Masri in his own words, in the same interview with “Democracy Now:”

[translated] I was the only one in this prison in Kabul who was actually treated slightly better than the other inmates. But it was known among the prisoners that other prisoners were constantly tortured with blasts of

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loud music, exposed to constant onslaughts of loud music. And they were—for up to five days, they were just sort of left hanging from the ceiling, completely naked in ice-cold conditions. The man from Tanzania, whom I mentioned before, had his arm broken in three places. He had injuries, trauma to the head, and his teeth had been damaged. They also locked him up in a suitcase for long periods of time, foul-smelling suitcase that made him vomit all the time. Other people experienced forms of torture whereby their heads were being pushed down and held under water.

He finished the interview with some pretty damning words that should make George Bush, Dick Cheney, Condoleezza Rice and Donald Rumsfeld shudder:

“And let me just say, Germany — whatever happened before, between the NSA spying on Germany and the fact that their citizen has now been revealed to have been kept in a torture place, when it was known that he was innocent, I’m pretty sure that Germany is going to take this very seriously.”

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These embarrassing moments left these cheerleaders blushing and spectators astonished.

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Author: [Ryan Denson](#)

Living blue in a red state (hopefully it will be purple in the next 10 years). You can reach me at rdenson211@gmail.com

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Angela Monger · ★ Top Commenter · USAF

I have read so many comments where people agree with the torture shit. The one thing those people overlook or don't want to see is that innocent people get tortured and continue to be tortured long after the sadists realize their subjects are not guilty of anything. What will they do if one day they too are tortured? Because never think that shit like that will always happen to "other" people. I'm glad someone is taking this shit seriously and working to have these people indicted. Cheney to me is one of the creepiest bastards running around.

[Reply](#) ·  261 · December 21, 2014 at 12:12pm



Gayle Patton-Cartwright · ★ Top Commenter

Anyone who tortures are just as sadistic as the ones who flew in to the buildings! That includes the soldiers who actually did this.. How do they do this and then go back home to their wives and children like they have been a decent human being.. It's sadistic gross torture!

[Reply](#) ·  124 · December 21, 2014 at 1:44pm



Angela Monger · ★ Top Commenter · USAF

Gayle Patton-Cartwright The fact that these people may be married is totally creepy.

[Reply](#) ·  46 · December 21, 2014 at 1:54pm



Bill Cox · ★ Top Commenter · Lutheran Pastor at Lutheran Pastor; Erie, PA

Gayle Patton-Cartwright They don't all go back to resume

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normal life. Look at the instances of PTSD and veterans suicide.

Reply ·  38 · December 21, 2014 at 2:21pm

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Janette Nolan ·  Top Commenter · Mankato East Senior High School

Totally fair! We invoke the Geneva Conference whenever we see someone mistreating our own but when we are the violators all is "fair!" It would also be better if another country did it! Obama would get EATEN ALIVE by everyone! We prosecuted the German (NAZIS) Soldiers for atrocities. We need to be accountable.

Reply ·  175 · December 21, 2014 at 11:37am



Gayle Patton-Cartwright ·  Top Commenter

Well said! :-)

Reply ·  21 · December 21, 2014 at 1:47pm



Martha Taylor Dumas · Works at Travelers

Mary Elizabeth Clark He is not responsible for what they did, but he chose not to prosecute them for it.

Reply ·  14 · December 21, 2014 at 4:38pm



Ron Bowles · Coolidge, Arizona

Mary, what Janette is saying is that if Obama tried to prosecute Bush/Cheney Admin, he would be eaten alive. Edit: This was a response to a comment that has apparently been removed/deleted by the person who posted it. It was not intended to be an endorsement nor an indictment of Obama.

Reply ·  34 · Edited · December 21, 2014 at 4:44pm

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Donald Neill ·  Top Commenter · Edmonton, Alberta

It's ironic that Germany is the one Country pushing for charges of War Crimes.. Poetic Justice...

Reply ·  71 · December 21, 2014 at 11:36am



Ingo Sietas · San Diego, California

What other Country than Germany should push for it. History understood and learned from it. Is this not how it should be?

Reply ·  122 · December 21, 2014 at 11:59am



Nancy Drew ·  Top Commenter

It isn't ironic. We tortured an innocent German citizen.

Reply ·  44 · December 21, 2014 at 4:05pm



Vicente Marcel ·  Top Commenter

You know, Germany wasn't the only one committing war crimes and/or torturing people during WW2. In fact, the US did it too in the way they handled german prisoners by refusing to call them prisoners and leaving them exposed to the cold winters with no shelters in a fenced area while also keeping the red cross from treating them

Reply ·  24 · December 21, 2014 at 4:56pm

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Norma J Todd · ★ Top Commenter

I can see every country but England doing the same. Sadly, America will not extradite them to any of these countries so we are stuck with them. They will limit their travel to the United States and those countries that will not extradite them to the ones that sentence each of these war criminals. Even if they do travel to other "friendly" countries they will have to worry about being kidnapped by someone looking for the large rewards that go along with every case of war criminals with jail time hanging over their heads.

[Reply](#) · [42](#) · December 21, 2014 at 11:21am



Randall Whitt · ★ Top Commenter

Norma... Bush and company may not even be safe within US borders. If the International Court and Interpol become involved in this, Bush and his cronies could find themselves being abducted from their beds in the dead of night. I'm pretty sure Adolf Eichmann thought he was pretty safe in Argentina too. That didn't keep the Mossad from grabbing him and hauling his ass to jail.

[Reply](#) · [81](#) · Edited · December 21, 2014 at 11:35am



Rocco Rizzo · ★ Top Commenter

Give me a plane ticket to Amsterdam, from JFK, and I will personally cart their asses to The Hague!

[Reply](#) · [33](#) · December 21, 2014 at 2:44pm



Rosalie Clinton · ★ Top Commenter

Norma, the UK is being charged with war crimes, also.

[Reply](#) · [12](#) · December 21, 2014 at 3:07pm

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Richard Ward · ★ Top Commenter · University of Washington

Even if they are not extradited, publicizing these accusations against Cheney, et al. will be useful.

[Reply](#) · [34](#) · December 21, 2014 at 11:35am



Rocco Rizzo · ★ Top Commenter

Accusations?!?!?! Cheney admitted to using torture. He said that he would do it again!

[Reply](#) · [61](#) · December 21, 2014 at 2:45pm



Betty Eyer · ★ Top Commenter · Tour Director on the Journey of Life at Retired

Rocco Rizzo Prosecutors like talkative suspects!

[Reply](#) · [8](#) · Edited · December 21, 2014 at 4:13pm



Clay Cushing · ★ Top Commenter · Huanchaco, La Libertad, Peru

Rocco Rizzo actually he never admitted that it was torture. "Enhanced Interrogation"

[Reply](#) · [2](#) · December 21, 2014 at 5:31pm

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Michael Jardine · ★ Top Commenter

Put them all on a plane bound for Germany. At gunpoint, if need be, so they can defend themselves in open court.

If the verdict is for them, fine, so be it.

If not, well, then, that's a bird of a different feather, ain't it?

Let the chips fall where they may. If they feel so right about what they did, they should, absolutely, DEFEND it to the bitter end.

If not, well, keep being the cowards they all are and hide behind our National Sovereignty claim bullshit.

They thought they could do this because no one wanted to know and they did it in Darkness. Now, everyone wants to know and the search lights have all been turned on...

Where to run? Where to hide from such monstrous deeds?

Nowhere left to go. ... [See More](#)

[Reply](#) · [31](#) · Edited · December 21, 2014 at 12:40pm



Rocco Rizzo · ★ Top Commenter

There is no defense. They stated that they used torture on television!

[Reply](#) · [18](#) · December 21, 2014 at 2:46pm



Michael Jardine · ★ Top Commenter

Rocco Rizzo I didn't say there was a defense, did I? That doesn't mean they aren't going to try to put one on, does it?

[Reply](#) · [6](#) · December 21, 2014 at 2:50pm



Gregory Till · ★ Top Commenter

As a British person, I completely agree. Could you stop off in London, to pick up Tony B. Liar please? Pretty please?

[Reply](#) · [22](#) · December 21, 2014 at 7:49pm

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Rocco Rizzo · ★ Top Commenter

Bush and Cheney already stated that they used torture. Cheney said that he would do it again, just for the fun of it. IMHO, the entire Bush Crime Syndicate should be in jail.

[Reply](#) · [30](#) · December 21, 2014 at 2:43pm



Kenneth Kurtz · ★ Top Commenter · Atlanta, Georgia

Really pisses me off that we have to provide Secret Service protection to these sadistic criminals.

[Reply](#) · [42](#) · December 21, 2014 at 4:25pm



Alec Fraser · ★ Top Commenter

Kenneth Kurtz it just goes to show how out fully of control this has all become.

[Reply](#) · January 5 at 9:43pm



Eric Brown · ★ Top Commenter

Will anyone file charges against the obama administration for launching drone strikes in countries we've never been at war with??? I guess loud music and simulated drowning is worse than killing innocent kids!

Reply · · 27 · December 21, 2014 at 11:54am



Randall Whitt · ★ Top Commenter

Eric... Attacking active terrorists where they live and out on the battlefield is an entirely different scenario than torturing people you've already captured. Your logic would convict every soldier of murder whose every killed an enemy soldier during combat. Active combatants are fair game and in war, innocents sometimes die along with them. If you don't like Obama's use of drones, grab yourself a rifle, hop on a plane to Iraq and go get those terrorists yourself. I for one would rather use drones than put any more American lives at risk capturing them.

Reply · · 90 · December 21, 2014 at 12:20pm



Ned Champlain · ★ Top Commenter · Fenger Academy High School

Stop being an idiot, Eric, Randall is correct.

Reply · · 38 · December 21, 2014 at 12:29pm



Eric Brown · ★ Top Commenter

Yemen isnt a battlefield. We have NEVER been at war with that nation.

Reply · · 19 · December 21, 2014 at 12:36pm

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Margie Curtis · Mt. Hood Community College

It's about time

Reply · · 22 · December 21, 2014 at 11:34am



Alec Fraser · ★ Top Commenter

At least it happened before they died of natural causes.

Reply · · 2 · January 5 at 9:47pm



Rick Ladd · ★ Top Commenter · Chief Emergineer at Rick Ladd & Associates · 634 followers

I sure hope Bush, Cheney, Rice, and Rumsfeld don't "shutter". I'd prefer to see them "shudder".

Reply · · 15 · December 21, 2014 at 12:37pm



Janet Orlando · ★ Top Commenter · Lewes, Delaware

This is a serious issue and I agree that these pathetic monsters should be held accountable for their actions...absolutely. However, I'm so tired of seeing these articles with misspellings, words used incorrectly and all kinds of grammar errors. Don't writers need to have English usage, spelling and grammar skills these days?? Thanks for mentioning it. :)

Reply · · 20 · December 21, 2014 at 12:58pm



Steve Richer · Northern Michigan University

Poor grammar/spelling doesn't necessarily negate the validity of an argument, annoying as it might be to some.

Reply · 27 · December 21, 2014 at 1:21pm



Rick Ladd · Top Commenter · Chief Emergineer at Rick Ladd & Associates · 634 followers

Steve Richer No. It doesn't negate the argument's validity, though it makes it a bit harder to take seriously and, sometimes, virtually impossible to share until something better is available on the same subject.

One thing that does matter, though (and it was pointed out elsewhere in these comments), is the headline. The case was filed by the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights in a German Court, not by the country of Germany. The headline is misleading, which - IMO - damages the credibility of Addicting Info. Isn't the truth good enough, or do we cede to the desire to post click bait?

I, for one, think the truth is far more important, but some of us have advertisers to entice and I guess the temptation is just too great.

Reply · 21 · December 21, 2014 at 1:27pm

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