

GENERAL JOSEPH P. HOAR, USMC (RET.)  
GENERAL DAVID M. MADDOX, USA (RET.)  
VICE ADMIRAL LEE F. GUNN, USN (RET.)  
LIEUTENANT GENERAL CHARLES P. OTSTOTT, USA (RET.)  
MAJOR GENERAL PAUL D. EATON, USA (RET.)  
MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM L. NASH, USA (RET.)  
MAJOR GENERAL WALTER L. STEWART, JR., ARNG (RET.)  
BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID M. BRAHMS, USMC (RET.)  
BRIGADIER GENERAL EVELYN P. FOOTE, USA (RET.)  
BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID R. IRVINE, USA (RET.)

GENERAL CHARLES C. KRULAK, USMC (RET.)  
LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROBERT G. GARD JR., USA (RET.)  
LIEUTENANT GENERAL CLAUDIA J. KENNEDY, USA (RET.)  
LIEUTENANT GENERAL HARRY E. SOYSTER, USA (RET.)  
REAR ADMIRAL JOHN D. HUTSON, USN (RET.)  
MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS J. ROMIG, USA (RET.)  
MAJOR GENERAL ANTONIO "TONY" M. TAGUBA, USA (RET.)  
BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES CULLEN, USA (RET.)  
BRIGADIER GENERAL LEIF H. HENDRICKSON, USMC (RET.)  
BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN H. JOHNS, USA (RET.)

November 22, 2011

Dear Candidate:

We are members of a nonpartisan group of forty retired generals and admirals concerned about U.S. policy regarding enemy prisoner treatment and detention. We would welcome the opportunity to brief you on this critical policy.

We worked closely with Senator McCain in 2005 to pass the Detainee Treatment Act which banned torture and limited lawful interrogation to techniques listed in the *Army Field Manual*. In 2008, we shared our insights with Presidential candidates from both parties that torture, as well as cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment, undermines our security at home and our moral standing in the world.

Waterboarding, and other "enhanced interrogation techniques," are torture. Waterboarding has been considered torture since at least the Spanish Inquisition.

Torture is unreliable because anyone who is tortured will lie to make the torture stop, or will provide false and misleading information which can lead investigators to waste crucial time.

Torture is counterproductive because our enemies use the indelible images of torture to recruit more terrorists, and our allies refuse to extradite terror suspects to the United States when we do not uphold the law, letting terror suspects escape U.S. justice.

We deeply appreciate President Reagan's leadership in securing ratification of the Convention Against Torture in the United States. Torture, including enhanced interrogation techniques, violates both U.S. and international law.

We applaud those who seek to lead our nation in an honorable direction and commend those who seek solid evidence and real expertise to shape their opinions and proposed policies. We welcome the opportunity to discuss our views further with you. We believe that to secure our nation, the United States must always lead by our core principles; that means the United States must never engage in torture or abuse.

Sincerely,

General Joseph P. Hoar, USMC (Ret.)  
General Charles C. Krulak, USMC (Ret.)  
General David M. Maddox, USA (Ret.)

Lieutenant General Robert G. Gard Jr., USA (Ret.)  
Vice Admiral Lee F. Gunn, USN (Ret.)  
Lieutenant General Claudia J. Kennedy, USA (Ret.)  
Lieutenant General Charles P. Otstott, USA (Ret.)  
Lieutenant General Harry E. Soyster, USA (Ret.)  
Major General Paul D. Eaton, USA (Ret.)  
Rear Admiral John D. Hutson, USN (Ret.)  
Major General William L. Nash, USA (Ret.)  
Major General Thomas J. Romig, USA (Ret.)  
Major General Walter L. Stewart, Jr., ARNG (Ret.)  
Major General Antonio 'Tony' M. Taguba, USA (Ret.)  
Brigadier General David M. Brahms, USMC (Ret.)  
Brigadier General James Cullen, USA (Ret.)  
Brigadier General Evelyn P. Foote, USA (Ret.)  
Brigadier General Leif H. Hendrickson, USMC (Ret.)  
Brigadier General David R. Irvine, USA (Ret.)  
Brigadier General John H. Johns, USA (Ret.)