
From: PSR(IC)3 (MIN) <PSR(IC)3@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 7 September 2011 3:54 p.m.
To: PSR(IC)3 (ISED)
Subject: Fw: Lines for any further standups/briefings

From: PSR(IC)3 (MIN)
To: Rt Hon. John Key (MIN); PSR(IC)3 (MIN); PSR(IC)3 (MIN)
Cc: PSR(IC)3 (MIN); PSR(IC)3 (MIN); PSR(IC)3 (MIN)
Sent: Wed Sep 07 15:45:42 2011
Subject: Lines for any further standups/briefings

Hi Prime Minister. Below are lines on four issues that may come up in questions at any further media briefings today. They are:

OUT OF SCOPE

2. Afghan prisoner transfers

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Afghan prisoner transfers

RNZ story that's been running this story today

NATO halts Afghan prisoner transfers over torture claims

Updated 6 minutes ago

The NATO-led mission in Afghanistan has suspended the transfer of detainees to several Afghan jails, while allegations of torture are investigated.

The BBC reports that the accusations have been made in unpublished United Nations report which describes how prisoners were beaten and in some cases given electric shocks.

The jails in at least six locations are run by the Afghan police and intelligence service.

A NATO official says the suspension is a prudent measure until the allegations can be investigated.

The UN report says prisoners were beaten with rubber hoses and threatened with sexual assault.

It cited the case of a 19-year-old man who was beaten for 19 days in a row, before eventually bleeding to death.

Most of those held were suspected of being insurgents and some were held without charge.

Last year, Britain's Ministry of Defence agreed to halt the transfer of prisoners to jails in Kabul run by the Afghan intelligence service (NDS) after a court ruled that they faced the risk of torture or serious mistreatment.

Lines from Mapp's office

- We are yet to receive the report.
- New Zealand believes strongly in human rights and we're committed to ensuring we comply with our obligations in respect to treatment of detainees.
- Nato ISAF has already acted by banning transfer to certain places, and we operate in accordance with ISAF rules.

If asked about the CDF's report to the Minister on treatment of detainees

- I understand the report is nearing completion.

OUT OF SCOPE

PSR(IC)3

Acting Press Secretary | Office of Rt Hon John Key
Prime Minister

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