

National Religious Campaign Against Torture

Torture, Former Combatants, Political Prisoners, Terror Suspects, & Terrorists

<http://www.nrcat.org/about/nrcat-press-releases/582-rice-book-press-release>

Public Facing Advocacy Writing

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Washington, D.C. Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who helped design and approve the Bush administrations torture interrogation program during her tenure as National Security Advisor, recently released a memoir on her years in the administration. Despite public expectation that the book would attempt to explain or at least acknowledge such highly controversial decisions of the Bush administration, in more than 700 pages, she fails to even mention the word torture, let alone take responsibility for her own very significant role in developing those policies.

Rev. Richard Killmer, Executive Director of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture, released this statement today in response to the book:

As National Security Advisor, Condoleezza Rice chaired meetings of President George W. Bushs Principals Committee, which approved, and even helped design, interrogation sessions that incorporated acts of torture including waterboarding, yet she never even mentions the word torture in her entire book. We do not know if she does not understand that what she approved of was torture, or if she simply does not think that U.S. sponsorship of torture is important enough to be worth her continued attention, but either way she is wrong. We look forward to additional attention from the media, asking her to address this glaring omission and prompting her to discuss her current thoughts about torture.

People of faith know that torture is wrong; lawyers know that its illegal; and soldiers know it doesnt work. Its time for policymakers even former policymakers such as Condoleezza Rice to listen to people who know better, and to admit the mistakes they made when they gave their seal of approval to the use of torture.

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