



CENTER ON  
INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATION

March 26, 2007

Marieke van Eik  
Bohler Franken Koppe Wijngaarden advocaten  
Keizersgracht 560-562  
1017 EM Amsterdam  
Netherlands

Dear Mrs. van Eik,

In response to your request of February 23, 2007 in which you asked me to give my opinion on the report of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs of February 29, 2000 in which it has been concluded that all (under-)officers of the Afghan intelligence agency (KhAD) during the period 1978-1992 have committed human rights violations, I inform you as follows.

From my observation of the offices of the Afghan intelligence agency, a substantial number of employees were involved in sweeping the floors, bringing tea, cooking meals, typing reports, repairing vehicles, maintaining equipment, and other support activities such as occur in any large organization.

Another part of the organization was devoted to analyzing intelligence findings and writing reports based on them. Some of the intelligence data may have been obtained by torture. Other parts of the organization were engaged in what we would today call counter-insurgency or counter-terrorism covert actions, which, like such activities by many other intelligence agencies, including those of the US and USSR, sometimes involved violations of the laws of war.

Like any intelligence agency, only a portion of the employees of KhAD/WAD were directly engaged in interrogation and detention, where torture and other human rights violations occurred.

I hope this information answers you questions.

Yours sincerely,

Barnett R. Rubin

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