

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Media Advisory

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Invitation to press conference - 18 November 2005 The Global Struggle Against Torture: Guantanamo Bay, Bagram and beyond

Joint press conference by Amnesty International and Reprieve

Amnesty International and Reprieve will hold a press conference on Friday 18 November in London to announce the biggest ever gathering of former "war on terror" detainees who are coming together over the weekend to condemn an increasingly globalised network of torture.

Amnesty International's Secretary General, Irene Khan and Reprieve's Legal Director Clive Stafford Smith will show how a subversive operation of secret detentions, renditions, "disappearances" and diplomatic assurances has fuelled torture and undermined security.

Former detainees from around the world and international legal and medical experts will highlight the brutal effects on individuals and the blatant illegality of such practices.

When: Friday 18 November, 10am (10.00 GMT)

Where: Human Rights Action Centre, Amnesty International UK, 17-25 New Inn Yard (Shoreditch), London EC2

Panel

Irene Khan: Secretary General, Amnesty International

Clive Stafford Smith: Legal Director of Reprieve, defence lawyer of Guantanamo detainees

Moazzam Begg: former detainee from the UK, detained in Guantanamo Bay for 4 years without charge
US military officer and defence lawyer – to be confirmed

Available for interview at the press conference

Airat Vakhitov: Former Guantánamo detainee from Russia, held in solitary confinement in Afghanistan for a year before being transferred to Guantanamo. Released 2005.

Abdurraheem Muslim Dost: Former Guantánamo detainee from Afghanistan. A journalist prior to his arrest, Abdurraheem Muslim Dost was arrested in Pakistan November 2001 and then transferred to Guantanamo where he was detained for a further 3 and half years.

Ustad Badruzzaman Badr: Former detainee from Afghanistan and brother of Abdurraheem Muslim Dost. Arrested at the same time as his brother, released from Guantanamo in December 2004.

Khaled al-Odah: Father of Guantánamo detainee and head of the Kuwaiti Families Committee, an organization formed by relatives of the detainees to advocate for their just treatment under the U.S. judicial system.

Dr Angela Burnett: senior medical examiner at the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture.

Footage available for broadcasters

A News Access Tape will be made available to media that attend the press conference. This will feature some of the former detainees invited to the press conference, filmed in their home countries talking about and showing the effects of their detention experience

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Public Document

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