

[Redacted]

COPY 2 OF 2  
FOLIO... 424

Matthew Kidd,  
Grateful for views  
from both [Redacted] and Legal  
Advisers  
h.c. [Redacted] 23/1

[Redacted]

FM TASHKENT  
TO ROUTINE FCO  
TELNO MISC 01  
OF 220903Z JANUARY 03  
INFO ROUTINE UKMIS NEW YORK, UKMIS GENEVA, UKDEL VIENNA

FOR WILLIAM EHRMAN

Your telno 323

RECEIPT OF INTELLIGENCE PROBABLY OBTAINED UNDER TORTURE

1. Thank you for TUR. I apologise for not finding you at the Leadership Conference but I had decided to drop this. What seemed to me a major concern seemed not a problem to others, and this caused me some self-doubt.
2. However I see that the Economist of 11 to 17 January devoted its front cover, a full page editorial and four whole pages of article to precisely the question I had raised. Reading a newspaper on the flight back here 12 January, I was astonished to find two pages of the Sunday Mail devoted to exactly the same concerns. Back in Tashkent, I find Human Rights Watch urging the US government not to extradite Uzbek detainees from Afghanistan back to Uzbekistan on exactly these grounds. All of which emboldens me to think I am in good company in my concern. These stories all quote US sources as indicating that the CIA is accepting intelligence obtained under torture by "allied" governments. As I already explained, I too believe that to be most probably true here.

3. [Redacted] You accept that torture of detainees in Uzbekistan is widespread. [Redacted]

4. [Redacted] I can give you mounds of evidence on torture by the Uzbek intelligence services, and I have met victims and their families. I have seen with my own eyes a respected elder break down in court as he recounted how his sons were tortured in front of him as he was urged to confess to links - I have no doubt entirely spurious - with bin Laden. [Redacted]