

Scotland Against Criminalising Communities

c/o The Peace and Justice Centre,
Princes Street,
Edinburgh,
EH2 4BJ
19th August 2006

www.sacc.org.uk

Your ref: PO'C/CD

Mr William Rae,
Chief Constable
Strathclyde Police Headquarters
173 Pitt Street
Glasgow
G2 4JS

Extraordinary rendition

Dear Mr Rae,

Thank you for the letter dated 28 July from Strathclyde Police regarding extraordinary rendition.

I am pleased to note that Assistant Chief Constable Ian Learmouth writes "I can confirm that where there is evidence that a criminal act occurred in Scotland, as a general proposition, the local police can investigate." He also writes, "if you have any additional material, which you can make available, I can confirm that I would be happy to look at the matter afresh."

In this regard I would like to draw your attention to an alleged incident on 23/24 October 2001.

On 23 October 2001, witnesses saw Jamil Qasim Saeed Muhammad being bundled onto a Gulfstream V aeroplane, registration N379P, by a group of masked men at Karachi airport, Pakistan. The plane flew Jamil Qasim Saeed Muhammad to Jordan. The following day, the Gulfstream jet flew to Prestwick airport to refuel, then to Dulles airport, Washington DC. I believe that flight records confirm this. The current whereabouts and legal status of Jamil Qasim Saeed Muhammad are unknown.

This information has been public knowledge for some months and is repeated in a report on human rights in Jordan published by Amnesty International in July 2006 (Jordan - "Your confessions are ready for you to sign" - Detention and torture of political suspects, page 39; AI Index: MDE 16/005/2006

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGMDE160052006>)

The refuelling stop at Prestwick appears to have significantly facilitated the rendition of Jamil Qasim Saeed Muhammad. On this basis, there appear to be reasonable grounds to suspect that offences connected with aiding and abetting false imprisonment, and perhaps aiding and abetting torture and/or conspiracy to torture were committed in Scotland by the crew and operators of the aircraft and perhaps by others.

On behalf of Scotland Against Criminalising Communities (SACC), I ask Strathclyde Police to look into this matter. SACC applauds the research done by Amnesty International, but

we believe that it is very much in the public interest that allegations of criminal activity should be investigated by the police and tested in court.

Amnesty International would, I presume, be glad to provide you with further details about this case.

Yours sincerely

Richard Haley (Secretary, SACC)