

Subject: SENATOR ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON NEWS OF DESTRUCTION OF CIA  
INTERROGATION TAPES

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## **SENATOR ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON NEWS OF DESTRUCTION OF CIA INTERROGATION TAPES**

Washington, D.C. – Senator John D. (Jay) Rockefeller IV (D-WV), Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee from 2007-2009, issued the following statement on the news of destruction of CIA interrogation tapes:

“The Bush/Cheney Administration operated in darkness on interrogation and detention matters and destroyed interrogation tapes. Key Bush/Cheney Administration officials stood in the way of Congress’ duty to oversee these activities, and our right to fully understand what was occurring under their leadership - the truth must and will come out.

“When I learned the disturbing news about the destruction of these tapes, I demanded an investigation by the Senate Intelligence Committee. We launched an exhaustive and aggressive examination and we anticipate its completion in the very near future.

“It is up to the Congress to push for the truth and we will not stop until we know the full story. For years the Bush/Cheney Administration disingenuously declared to the public that they had “briefed” Congress while at the same time entirely distorting the limited, flip-chart briefings given to just eight members of Congress with strict prohibitions against consulting other members of Congress or the legal and intelligence experts on the committees. I am proud to say that thanks to ongoing intense pressure from the Senate Intelligence Committee and a change in leadership at the White House, those days are over.

“America is not a nation that uses or condones torture. We are party to international agreements that prohibit these acts and we demand humane treatment for our citizens when they are arrested abroad and for our soldiers when they are captured on the battlefield.”

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