

Lithuania Orders Probe of CIA Torture



Washington, February 7 (RHC)-- A Lithuanian court has ordered a probe of the torture of a Saudi Arabian prisoner held inside a secret CIA prison.

Mustafa al-Hawsawi was sent to Lithuania after Pakistan handed him over to U.S. officials in 2003.

He says he was subjected to torture and enforced disappearance over a nearly two year period before being transferred to the U.S. prison at Guantanamo.

In a new ruling, a Lithuanian court ruled Hawsawi is entitled to a full investigation of his ordeal. Amnesty International has praised the move, saying: "The Lithuanian court has set an example for all of Europe and the USA by upholding the rule of law and recognizing that victims of torture and enforced disappearance at the hands of the CIA and European agents have an absolute right to a thorough investigation."

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