

# *International Criminal Court Says U.S.-led Forces in Afghanistan Abusing Prisoners*

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The Hague, December 17 (RHC)-- The International Criminal Court (ICC) says it has evidence indicating that U.S.-led foreign forces in Afghanistan have subjected detainees to physical and psychological abuse.

In an annual report on the court's various preliminary investigations, the ICC's Office of the Prosecutor said the U.S.-led troops had caused serious harm to Afghan prisoners in the violence-wracked Asian country.

"The infliction of 'enhanced interrogation techniques' would have caused serious physical and psychological injury," the report said, adding that the policy of the perpetrators was to focus on those "most responsible" for serious crimes.

The inquiries conducted by the United States into the alleged violations by its personnel in Afghanistan had not resulted in any convictions or risen high up the chain of command, the report went on to say.

The report comes as the ICC has been investigating alleged crimes committed since 2003 by all parties to the U.S.-led invasion of in Afghanistan.

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