

**Summary of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
to the 43 Health Workers Arrested in Morong, Rizal (Feb. 6, 2010)
and Detained at Camp Capinpin
(Based on the detainees' affidavit and medical reports,
accomplished Feb. 11, 2010 and updated Feb. 21 and 24)**

TYPES OF TORTURE:

I. PHYSICAL

A. Blunt trauma / manhandling

- Punching
- Slapping, including "Pyongyang", using open palm, rolled paper
- Wringing or twisting of arms or fingers
- Poking with a sharp object
- Testicles pulled and crushed/squeezed
- Pulling of hands so that one is forced to kneel
- "pinipitik ang tenga at ilong"

B. Positional torture

- Made to sit on a monoblock chair for hours with hands bound together at the back
- Made to stand for a long period

C. Electrocutation

- It is deduced that Dr. Montes was subjected to electrocution, as he narrated that in one interrogation session, some things were placed on his head like clips and he felt numbness and twitching of his muscles
- (One detainee remembers his left leg to twitch and numb, but this has to be verified further)

D. Chemical exposure/pharmacological torture

- Dr. Montes was made to smell a very aromatic substance that made him feel sleepy; on one occasion he was given a little water to drink and felt that on the brim of the glass were undissolved granules
- One female detainee reported that something was applied to her nostrils that smelled bad that she was nauseated

E. Food deprivation

- Were given very little food and water (spoon feeding) or none at all during the first 36 hours
-

F. Harmful exposure to sunlight and very cold environment

- Two were brought outdoors where it was very cold
- One who was menstruating at the time, was exposed at noontime under direct sunlight while being interrogated

G. Sleep deprivation,

- they were not allowed to sleep in the first 36 hours, some were seated and handcuffed on monoblocks or stools, some were made to stand; when they fall asleep, they are slapped with an open palm or rolled paper, shouted at, poked with sharp object, kicking of the chair or their faces were forced to be held up
- they are interrogated during the night and wee hours of the morning, some intermittently, some continuously
- they were made to hear person or persons crying in pain and begging for their lives during the night

II. Psychological Torture

A. Blindfolding for more than 36 hours, and during interrogation sessions

B. Threat to life and family

They were threatened that they will be killed or their family will be hurt.

- Mock execution – Dr. Montes was being pushed off a cliff
- That if they admitted, they will not be ‘desaparecidos’
 - o One was forced to ride a van and threatened to be ‘salvaged’
 - o One was threatened ‘ lilitsunin’, “bubulukin sa presohan”, “sasampahan ng iba’t-ibang kaso”.
 - o One was told “diretso na yan sa hukay o ilagay na sa backhoe”
 - o One was told that “mamayang gabi gagawin kang pataba” and “bibitayin”
 - o Threat to life and family, “pag hindi ka umamin hindimo na makikita ang pamilya mo”, “ifi-firing squad o ipapalapa sa K-9”
 - o Threat to life and family, “baka hindi ka na makakita”, “dun, dalhin yan sa kawayanan”
 - o Threat to life, “ililibing ng buhay”
 - o Threat to life, “iligpit nyo na yan”, “itapon na yan”
 - o Was made to hear a sound of “naghahasa ng matalim na bagay”
 - o Threat to life, “dalhin nyo na to sa hukay nya! Dalhin na sa libingan!”
 - o Threat to life, “isakay na yan sa sasakyan!”
 - o Threat to family, “Ipapahuli natin pati nanay mo at tiyo mo!

C. Deprivation of normal sensory stimulation (blindfolding for more than 36 hours), such as sound, light, sense of time.

D. Solitary confinement

E. Prolonged and repeated interrogation

F. Humiliation

- Deprived to use toilet alone, was accompanied by a soldier who did the unfastening of their pants and underwear and that the accompanying soldier is the one who washes them (the detainees expressed their worry that because they were blindfolded, they have no way of knowing if the female detainees were assisted by female soldiers or if the toilet they are using is

enclosed or open because whenever they use the toilet they can hear laughs), and some were forced to use diapers

- Were spoon-fed while blindfolded and hands bound
- One was forced to kneel in front of her interrogators

G. Threat of further torture

- A lighted cigarette was held very near one detainee's lips, as if in the act of burning him

H. Psychological techniques to break down the individual, including forced betrayals, learned helplessness, exposure to ambiguous situations or contradictory messages

- Were made to hear person/s crying in pain
- Was made to believe that her co-detainees admitted to being members of the NPA, that she should admit likewise.
- Deception, one was told that her mother entrusted her to the soldiers, matter that her mother denied
- One was made to believe that she is talking to a lawyer, during one interrogation while blindfolded
- Some reported that they were being convinced to admit to being NPA's and avail of the amnesty program and to surrender armaments and that they will be rewarded P50000 for each rifle.
- Was made to believe that they were abandoned by friends and lawyers
- Visited inside the cell by persons in civilian clothes whom the detainees call as "asset", "military intelligence", "rebel returnees", police from Nagcarlan, Quezon, and Tagaytay and forced to admit as NPA, photos taken and threatened to be filed with other criminal charges

I. Sexual harassment

- Two detainees reported that their testicles were pulled and crushed
- During the first 36 hours, because their hands were bound, they were assisted in the use of toilet and somebody else washed their private parts
- Threats
 - o One was told "Ang kinis pala ng kamay mo."
 - o Threat of rape, "pag ni-rape kita, may magagawa ka ba?"
 - o Sexually harassed, "masarap daw akong halikan habang nasa labas na ako ng selda"

J. Other deprivation and violation of rights

- Prohibited to communicate to family, doctor and lawyers especially during the first 36 hours; private doctors are not allowed to see them even at the request of the detainees and relatives
- prohibited to talk to co-detainees

- one female detainee complained of vaginal bleeding on the first day of detention but was only attended to on the third day. She was brought to Tanay General Hospital and was told that pregnancy test and ultrasound were negative but the results were not shown to her
- one female detainee is three months pregnant, was subjected to interrogation, and was only attended to on the third day
- prohibited to talk to co-detainees
- exercise and exposure to early morning sunshine is not done on a daily basis

MEDICAL SUMMARY (INITIAL)

a. PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

- Most have abrasions on wrists due to the handcuffs; and on different parts of the body due to manhandling
- Two have abrasions on the head due to tight blindfold (made of fabric further taped with packing tape)
- Most have tenderness in different parts of the body due to uncomfortable positions and beating
- Most have hyperacidity due to stress and less food intake due to loss of appetite
- Some have hypertension and complain of chest pains; one has epilepsy; one has a heart problem; one has gouty arthritis; one is pregnant; one is suspected to have had a miscarriage

b. PSYCHIATRIC

- Most express fear and anxiety especially when it is getting dark (when interrogations usually happen); that they have been continuously threatened to be hurt or killed; and that they are told that their families will be hurt, killed or captured
- Psychosomatic symptoms due to stress and includes: continues vomiting, persistently high blood pressure even for those who were not hypertensive, headache/migraine attacks, loss of appetite, chest pains, body pains, insomnia and epigastric pain, chilling when they see the military.