

ACLU Sues Boeing Subsidiary for Participation in CIA Kidnapping and Torture Flights



Watch this video about the ACLU's lawsuit against Jeppesen on YouTube:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdLwTu-L4Wo>

On May 30, 2007, the American Civil Liberties Union filed a federal lawsuit against Jeppesen Dataplan, Inc. – a subsidiary of Boeing Company – on behalf of three victims of the United States government's unlawful "extraordinary rendition" program. Our lawsuit charges that Jeppesen knowingly provided direct flight services to the CIA that enabled the clandestine transportation of Binyam Mohamed, Abou Elkassim Britel, and Ahmed Agiza to secret overseas locations where they were detained and tortured.

Our complaint charges the corporation with aiding and abetting in, as well as conspiring in, the torture and enforced disappearances of our three clients. These three clients were kidnapped, secretly detained, interrogated, and tortured by foreign and U.S. intelligence agents in Morocco, Afghanistan, and Egypt at the behest of the CIA, and are still imprisoned to this day – Binyam Mohamed at Guantanamo, Abou Elkassim Britel in Morocco, and Ahmed Agiza in Egypt. Documentation, including flight records obtained in the course of investigations in Europe, reveals that Jeppesen facilitated more than 70 secret rendition flights over a four-year period. And, according to published reports, Jeppesen had actual knowledge of the consequences of its activities. A former Jeppesen employee informed The New Yorker magazine that, at an internal corporate meeting, a senior Jeppesen official stated, "We do all of the extraordinary rendition flights - you know, the torture flights. Let's face it, some of these flights end up that way." (Jane Mayer, The New Yorker, Oct. 30, 2006.)

Just as important as the provision of flight and logistical services to the aircraft used by the CIA in the rendition program, Jeppesen's role as coordinator with virtually all public and private third parties has permitted the CIA to conduct its illegal activities below the radar of public scrutiny and beyond the reach of the rule of law. In short, without the assistance of Jeppesen and other corporations, the U.S. extraordinary rendition program could not have gotten off the ground. We are intent on holding corporations that profit from this illegal and immoral program legally accountable.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.aclu.org/safefree/torture/29920prs20070530.html>