

# *U.S. Congressman Mike Rogers Defends CIA Torture Program*

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Washington, December 17 (RHC)-- A U.S. Congressman has claimed that CIA torture methods were effective in preventing al-Qaeda from staging terrorist attacks in the United States after 9/11. U.S. Representative Mike Rogers, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, disagreed with CIA Director John Brennan's assessment that it is "unknowable" whether the spy agency's brutal techniques were effective in saving lives.

"To say that it's unknowable, I would disagree with that," Rogers, a Republican representing Michigan's 8th congressional district, said at a breakfast with reporters hosted by The Christian Science Monitor. "I think it is knowable."

"I believe that information that was gleaned through those enhanced interrogation techniques served to save lives and provide intelligence on al-Qaeda we had not previously had before," said Rogers, who is retiring from Congress this year.

Last week, the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee released a drastically redacted summary of its voluminous report on the CIA's torture program during the George W. Bush administration. According to the Senate report, the CIA misled Congress and the White House about the harsh methods such as waterboarding, sleep deprivation, mock executions and threats that the relatives of the prisoners would be sexually abused.

One of the methods used by the CIA on terrorism suspects during America's so-called war on terror was rectal rehydration, a brutal force-feeding technique where food is rectally infused to prisoners on hunger strike.

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