

URGENT INTERPELLATION 2/00259 HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT

ACT

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Urgent Interpellation 2-00259

submitted by

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Monday, December the 4th 2006, session n° 081

The undersigned request the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Justice, the Minister for Home Affairs in order to know – given what follows:

Abou Elkassim Britel, born on the 18th of April 1967 in Casablanca, at the age of 22 came to Italy; in Bergamo he was employed as a worker, since 1995 he is married with Khadija Anna Lucia Pighizzini, living in Bergamo, since 1999 he is an Italian citizen;

Bergamo Police headquarters, in 2000, made a file on Britel, making enquires on alleged terrorist activities, producing the evidence that Abou's brother had given hospitality to an alleged leader of a terrorist cell in Italy; on the 3rd of July 2001, the day before the G8 in Genoa, Abou and Khadija's house is searched by the police;

during the same year *Corriere della Sera* newspaper published an article concerning the founding of Britel's house number in a Taliban training camp, maintaining also that Britel had disappeared, leaving no traces of himself;

Abou El Kassim Britel is under investigation as a consequence of his alleged participation in the Islamic terrorist organization of Al Qaeda, the purpose of which is based on the achievement of violent activities, some of which were presumably carried out in Bergamo;

during the proceedings in Italy, Britel was not subjected to provisional orders;

Britel's Lawyer, Ms Francesca Longhi, subsequently charged the press for the publication of news, which were considered false and misleading;

in June 2001 Britel, who has a regular Italian passport, leaves for Pakistan, his travel is due both to professional and research purposes. In Lahore, on the 10th of March 2002, he is challenged the validity of his Italian passport, furthermore he is charged with the accusation of being part of terrorist cells, this kind of accusation was in part fostered by the talking pictures provided by the Italian Police; on the 5th of May 2002 Britel is brought to Islamabad where, for four times, he is secluded in a house: he is examined on his connection with terrorist cells and eventually tortured by some Americans. Above all he is asked to cooperate in the war against terrorism in Italy;

on the night between the 24th and the 25th of May 2002 Britel is boarded on the CIA plane N379P, as it is proved by European Parliamentarian investigations on *special renditions*, and brought to Morocco, where he is made prisoner by Dst (Moroccan intelligence service) and moved in the detention centre of Temara;

for eight months and a half Britel is secluded in a place where human rights are constantly violated, he is tortured, and not allowed to get in contact with any lawyer, his relatives are kept unaware of the capture;

a report by Human Rights International Federation concerning torture in Moroccan jails highlighted in 2004 Britel's case, underlining the fact that he is an Italian citizen, that he has been moved in all secrecy and tortured till the 11th of February 2003 when, all of a sudden with no explanation at all, he is set free: he is charged with no accusation;

in May 2003 Britel and his wife, who in the meanwhile had reached him in Morocco, get ready to leave the country with a temporary document issued by Italian Embassy, as the alleged counterfeit passport was seized by the Pakistanis;

on the 15th of May 2003 Britel is crossing the board between Morocco and the Spanish town Melilla, but he gets arrested;

in vain do his wife and his lawyer try to obtain information from the police, who seem to be in the know of the facts: Digos in Brescia has been notified on the 22nd of May by Prevention Police Central Direction Britel's detention against the evidence that "in the past he was connected to a military camp in Afghanistan. Furthermore, though no evidence could be produced that shows him taking part in the facts of Casablanca, he is nonetheless undergoing a police interrogation about them";

only on the 10th of December 2003 are Britel's wife and lawyer made aware of the fact that he is under arrest;

on the 16th of September 2003, Britel, imprisoned in the jail of Salè, is tried for terrorist activities, the four months spent in the jail of Tèmara and the tough examinations he went through led him to confession, the trial is held at a very fast pace: on the 3rd of October 2003 Abou Britel is given a 15 years sentence, on the 7th of January 2004, on appeal, the sentence is shortened to nine years; according to his lawyer, Britel has been tried and sentenced by Moroccan judicature as a consequence of seditious assembly and opinion crimes, there is no precise evidence against Britel, nor has his Moroccan lawyer been able to get copies of any indictment, neither has he been able to give proof of the first and the second secret imprisonment;

on the 29th of September 2006, the examining judge in the Court of Brescia, Francesca Morelli, admitting the claim of the public prosecutor Francesco Piantoni, because of "the total lack of outstanding elements of accusation bearing evidence of the fact that the people under investigation took part in Islamic terrorist organization", has dismissed the case;

Abou Elkassim Britel is still a prisoner in the jail of Ain Burja, Casablanca, Morocco, where he is still serving the punishment of nine years' sentence – :

which are the measures the Ministers are going to take, getting connected with Morocco, so that the Italian citizen Abou Elkassim Britel may be immediately set free, that is to say, he may be pardoned by the king of Morocco, Mohammed VI;

whether they are taking into consideration the possibility of an inquiry concerning the Ministry of Home Affairs, so that it may be explained why an Italian citizen, with no accusation against his legal person, may be subjected (for five years) to enquiries, searching and such shameful violation of the most elementary human rights;

if they don't judge it necessary to make the connections between *intelligence* and the police clearer as far as the powers concerning foreign *intelligence* and police are concerned;

if they don't feel it like their prior responsibility to explain how such an important proceeding (from a formal point of view) may be kept five years in the judicature, at a mere examining phase.

(2-00259)

«Locatelli, Migliore; De Simone, Daniele Farina, Folena, Frias, Guadagno *alias* Vladimir Luxuria, Khalil, Mantovani; Siniscalchi, Zipponi, Mungo, Mario Ricci, Provera, Smeriglio».