Summary of CIA torture report

A U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) report calls into question the legal foundation of the CIA's interrogation techniques on suspected terrorists following Al Qaeda's attacks on 9/11

2009: On taking office *President Obama* signs Executive Order 13491, outlawing torture. At same time, SSCI chairwoman Sen. *Dianne Feinstein (left)* initiates investigation into CIA *enhanced interrogation*

■ Enhanced interrogation: Use of simulated drowning known as waterboarding, sleep deprivation, humiliation and other techniques used against Al Qaeda prisoners

■ Origin of programme: Two contract psychologists – with no experience of interrogation methods – devise techniques based on Air Force's Korean War-era *Survival Evasion Resistance Escape* programme

■ Oversight: Report concludes that CIA's enhanced interrogation programme began in 2001 and was not approved by U.S. Justice Department until August 2002

■ Distorted intelligence: CIA knowingly misled White House, Congress and Justice Department about effectiveness of programme to justify its use

■ Brutality: Techniques and conditions were far worse than agency told policymakers

■ Waterboarding: CIA reportedly waterboarded Al Qaeda member, *Abu Zubaydah (above right)*, 83 times, claiming they extracted intelligence that led to hunting down *Osama bin Laden (inset top)*. Principal architect of 9/11 attacks, *Khalid Sheikh Mohammed (above left),* was reportedly waterboarded more than 180 times

■ Conventional intelligence: According to Feinstein, it was conventional FBI interrogations of Abu Zubaydah – prior to CIA waterboarding – that led to bin Laden's whereabouts

■ Conclusion: CIA's use of torture damaged U.S.'s global reputation and came with heavy costs, both monetary and non-monetary