To those interested in the Senate Intelligence Committee’s study of the CIA detention and interrogation program:

Much has been said about the content and conclusions of the declassified executive summary that was released publicly on December 9, 2014. While there has been significant misinformation reported about the study—including misinformation about its contents and how it was completed—I believe it is important to highlight that no one has disputed the factual accuracy of its 499 pages. Instead, critics have focused their critiques on the interpretation of the factual record, or critiqued the study based on inaccurate and false information about its contents and conclusions. For this reason, my main message has been—and continues to be—please read the report.

The committee study can be accessed in its entirety online at http://www.feinstein.senate.gov/CIAreport. If you prefer, my office can provide a bound paper copy upon request. You will also find at this website supplementary information about the report, including several press releases correcting inaccurate claims that had been made about it.

As you will see from reading the declassified version of the executive summary, the contents are meticulously documented and fact-based. There are more than 2,700 footnotes, mostly to the CIA’s own cables and communications, to support the text. In total, the study, which took years to complete, is largely based on 6 million pages of the CIA’s own records. The statements and conclusions of CIA officers—as documented in their emails, memos, and interview reports—are quoted and described throughout the Study.

Only in the 19 pages of the findings and conclusions will you find judgments made by the committee. Those judgments are based not only on the material found in the declassified executive summary, but on the full classified report, which exceeds 6,700 pages and includes nearly 38,000 footnotes. The U.S. Senate historian has indicated it is the largest report in Senate history. The detail and comprehensive nature of the report—approved with a bipartisan vote of 9-6 in December 2012—is unprecedented.

I am including two important speeches (attached) I gave on the Senate floor related to the process of creating the committee study and its content. I am also including a copy
of the recommendations I provided to the president in a December 30 letter. I believe any fair reading of the committee study will lead to the conclusion that we must never engage in the behavior documented again. Please review the declassified committee study in detail, as well as the material provided, and contact me or my staff with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dianne Feinstein
Vice Chairman
Senate Select Committee on Intelligence