

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910963553703321
Autore	McCoy Alfred W
Titolo	Torture and impunity // Alfred W. McCoy
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Madison, : University of Wisconsin Press, c2012
ISBN	9781283692182 128369218X 9780299288532 0299288536
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (422 p.)
Collana	Critical human rights
Disciplina	364.6/7
Soggetti	Torture - United States - History Torture - Government policy - United States Military interrogation - United States - History Impunity - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Abbreviations -- Introduction -- 1. The CIA's Pursuit of Psychological Torture -- 2. Science in Dachau's Shadow -- 3. Torture in the Crucible of Counterinsurgency -- 4. Theater State of Terror -- 5. The Seduction of Psychological Torture -- 6. The Outcast of Camp Echo -- 7. Psychological Torture and Public Forgetting -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	Many Americans have condemned the "enhanced interrogation" techniques used in the War on Terror as a transgression of human rights. But the United States has done almost nothing to prosecute past abuses or prevent future violations. Tracing this knotty contradiction from the 1950s to the present, historian Alfred W. McCoy probes the political and cultural dynamics that have made impunity for torture a bipartisan policy of the U.S. government. During the Cold War, McCoy argues, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency covertly funded psychological experiments designed to weaken a subject's resistance to interrogation. After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the CIA revived these harsh methods, while U.S. media was flooded with seductive images

that normalized torture for many Americans. Ten years later, the U.S. had failed to punish the perpetrators or the powerful who commanded them, and continued to exploit intelligence extracted under torture by surrogates from Somalia to Afghanistan. Although Washington has publicly distanced itself from torture, disturbing images from the prisons at Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo are seared into human memory, doing lasting damage to America's moral authority as a world leader.
