

Canada ends Afghan prisoner transfers

by UPI

OTTAWA -- Government lawyers said Canada ended the transfer of battlefield detainees to Afghan prisons in November following allegations of prisoner abuse. The human rights groups Amnesty International and the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association asked a Canadian court to end the transfer of detainees, citing concerns over potential prisoner abuse. Government lawyers issued a letter to the two groups dated Jan. 22 stating Canada would halt the practice temporarily, the Toronto Star said Thursday. "Canada will resume transferring detainees when it believes it can do so in accordance with its international legal obligations," the letter read. Canada released documents by court order saying a Canadian human rights officer found alleged implements of torture while investigating a detainee's claims of abuse Nov. 5.

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