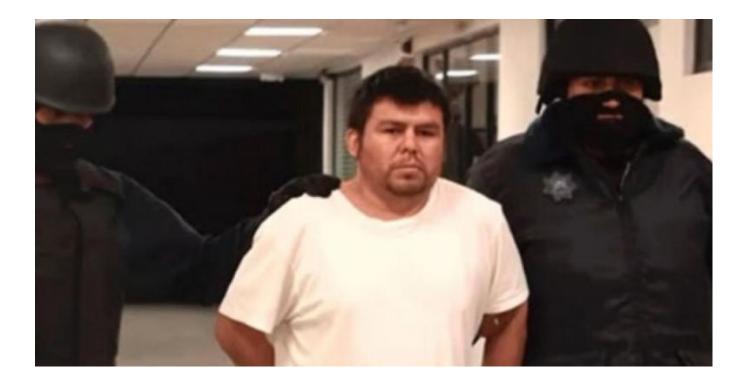


Mexico: Suspects in Ayotzinapa Case Were Tortured

02/02/2015



The suspects interrogated in the dubious investigation by the Attorney General of Mexico "confessed" they had participated in the killing of the 43 students in Iguala, Mexico, under physical and psychological torture, claimed Mexican newspaper Process on Saturday.

According to the documents the journalists were able to access, the presumed culprits were systematically submitted to torture in order to make their confessions match the official version of events narrated by President Enrique Peña Nieto's government.

The documents consist in the medical opinions of 10 municipal policemen detained on October 14 in a military center in Tlaxcala and others in Cocula, the town where the students were supposedly assassinated.

According to the declarations of the main leader of the investigation at the Public Ministry, Lourdes Lopez, practically all the suspects endured blows, while some even fainted while receiving electric shocks. They were also psychologically tortured so they would incriminate themselves and their accomplices. They were all eventually released.

According to Proceso, among the detained people was 20 year-old David Hernandez, identified by the Attorney General as a radio-operator from Iguala. His testimony was crucial in incriminating the former Iguala mayor, Jose Abarca. Hernandez "confessed" that Abarca ordered the attack via the radio. Even though Hernandez admitted that he was a member of criminal gang Guerreros Unidos (United Warriors), the attorney general ordered his release on



## October 14.

With little <u>evidence</u> and strong grassroots pressure – both domestically and abroad – to solve the case, Attorney General Jesus Morillo Karam <u>decided to close the investigation</u> almost four months after the students' disappearances. Their relatives <u>however have rejected the</u> <u>conclusions</u> – that the students are dead – and demanded actual evidence based on scientific data and thorough investigations, rather than the suspects' testimonies.

In December Proceso also revealed the state and national police's involvement in the disappearances, a version of events rejected by Peña Nieto's government.

See more: <u>New Study Shows Federal Police Involved in Ayotzinapa Attack</u>

<u>?Forensic Team Doubts Government Story on Missing 43 Students</u>