BATTLEFIELDS - THE PROSECUTOR AND THE STATE SECRETS

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On 17 Feb. 2003, in Via Guerzoni in Milan, a CIA commando kidnapped Egyptian Imam Osama Nasr, known as Abu Omar, and handed him over to Mubarak's secret services for "interrogation", hoping to obtain information on the Al Qaeda network in Europe. What happened in Milan is known as an "extraordinary rendition", one of the counter-terrorism techniques used by the CIA in this war on terror that is fought on many Battlefields...

After a long and detailed investigation that revealed also the involvement of the SISMI, the Italian military secret service, Italian State prosecutor Spataro put 5 agents of the SISMI on trial, as well as a group of CIA agents - 26 American citizens - tried in absentia. On 4th November 2009, Judge Magi convicted the CIA agents but since then, no Italian Justice minister has made a request to the US to extradite these agents. The actions of the Italian secret service were soon officially declared "Secret of State" and could not be pursued. The case brought to light two opposing visions of the fight against terror and the safeguarding of individual freedoms and human rights... and a few uncomfortable truths emerged...

WHAT HAPPENED LATER?: - 01 Feb. 2013: An Italian Appeals Court sentences former CIA station chief in Rome, Jeff Castelli, in absentia to seven years imprisonment for the abduction of Abu Omar. Further 23 CIA operatives have already been condemned in absentia to prison sentences. Check out the New York Times article! Also read further details in the article by the Guardian.

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