

DEBBIE STABENOW
MICHIGAN

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
BUDGET
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FINANCE

United States Senate

133 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2204

June 14, 2011

The Honorable Robert Gates
U.S. Department of Defense
1300 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I am writing on behalf of Scott Thams, CEO of PPI Aerospace in Warren, Michigan, who contacted me regarding PPI's response to a request for information soliciting ideas for the Industrial Base Innovation Fund (IBIF) for FY 2011.

It is my understanding that PPI Aerospace has proposed using these funds to support the use of electrodeposited aluminum for corrosion control on military vehicle platforms and equipment. PPI provides a wide range of custom coating, plating, painting and pretreatment services, and I know they have a strong desire to work with the DOD to replace highly toxic Cadmium plating.

I would appreciate your serious consideration of the proposal submitted by PPI Aerospace as IBIF decisions are made this year.

Sincerely,



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

OSD 07588-11



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SUITE 100
EAST LANSING, MI 48829
(517) 203-1760

243 W. CONGRESS STREET
SUITE 550
DETROIT, MI 48226
(313) 961-4530

432 N. SAGINAW STREET
SUITE 301
FLINT, MI 48902
(810) 720-4172

3335 S. AIRPORT ROAD W.
SUITE 69
TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49884
(231) 929-1031

3280 BELTLINE COURT
SUITE 400
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49525
(616) 975-0052

1801 W. RIDGE
SUITE 7
MARQUETTE, MI 49855
(906) 228-8758

STABENOW 030310047 11 2:00
United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2204

April 4, 2003

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary
Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld,

I am writing to make you aware of concerns that have been expressed to me by many Michigan residents who are employed by the Sodexho Company, which has its international headquarters in France.

As you may know, some members of Congress have raised concerns about the Department of Defense contracting with French-based companies because of recent conflicts with the French government over the war in Iraq. One company singled out in this debate is the Sodexho Company.

The Sodexho Company and its many subsidiaries in the United States provide over 100,000 jobs to United States citizens, over 2,000 of these in the State of Michigan. Employees of Sodexho rightly conclude that punishing this company by terminating its defense contracts would have a strong negative effect on American workers and result in the loss of thousands of American jobs.

Despite concerns with the French government, I urge the Department of Defense to give strong consideration to the potential loss of American jobs and the economic impact on our American economy in making any future contracting decisions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

DS:mk

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2204

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

NOV 14 PM 1:50

November 12, 2003

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary
Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I am writing on behalf of the many Michigan residents who have contacted me to express concerns about the length of time Michigan Reservists, National Guard and Active Duty military units have been stationed in Iraq and the Persian Gulf region.

The soldiers and their family members and friends are very concerned because they were told initially that the length of deployment would be one year or less. Some of them are now hearing that the terms of mobilization are being increased beyond the one year they were originally told, to up to 16 months in some instances.

As you know, deployed Reservists and National Guard members and their families face special challenges, such as loss of employment or diminished income and job-related benefits that may occur with an extended absence. All of them willingly accepted being called up by their country when their service was needed but expected the government to fulfill its commitment regarding the length of deployment.

Many feel they have not been given clear answers to their questions regarding their return home, which has increased the anxiety of these soldiers and their families. The uncertainty of their return to the U. S. is not only disrupting the personal lives of the military men and women, it is also creating a tremendous emotional and economic strain on their children, parents and spouses.

I would appreciate your response to their concerns as soon as possible. These service men and women and their families are sacrificing so much for our country and deserve to know what the plans are for their deployment. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

U18840 / 03

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2003 FEB 28 PM 2:07

February 10, 2003

The Honorable Paul Wolfowitz
Deputy Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1155

Dear Secretary Wolfowitz:

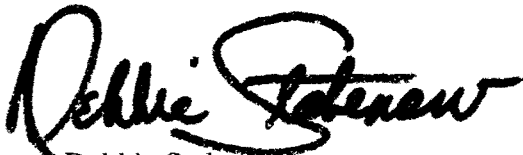
For close to half a century, Turkey has been a valuable ally of the United States and has cooperated with our nation on many fronts. While differences in policy exist between the two nations, there has been considerable cooperation with Turkey in containing Saddam Hussein, and in combating terrorism.

Turkey has expressed a need for trucks to update their fleet of government vehicles that includes ambulances and dump trucks. We believe that a program to lease up to 40,000 U.S.-made trucks could greatly assist Turkey's economy while also creating jobs in this country. Last year, we were able to obtain legislative language that provided a waiver enabling the Export-Import Bank to finance the leasing of "dual-use" trucks by the Government of Turkey. While helpful, this legislation is not sufficient to address the needs of the consortium that would lease U.S.-made trucks to the Government of Turkey.

Currently, U.S.-based automotive manufacturers are competing with Renault, a French corporation, for the contract to provide trucks to the Government of Turkey. The provision of Export-Import Bank funding for these programs will enhance the viability of the American bid, and we would urge you to consider the provision of this assistance in any aid package for Turkey.

We appreciate your prompt attention to and consideration of this matter. Best wishes.

Sincerely,


Debbie Stabenow


Carl Levin

U02614 / 03

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2001 OCT 11 AM 7:46

October 4, 2001

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary
Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301 -1000

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

I am writing concerning the Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams (WMD-CST) program, and the request that you give serious consideration to stationing a newly appropriated WMD-CST in Michigan.

As you consider selecting the location for 5 new WMDCS Teams, I would urge you to include a team in Michigan. I believe that Michigan merits serious consideration as a stationing site for one of these WMDCS Teams, and its associated Military Support Detachment (MSD) for the following reasons:

1. Michigan is an international border state, with a number of bridges and tunnels leading into the United States, in addition to water routes. This makes Michigan a potential entry point for terrorists and weapons of mass destruction. The very transit routes, bridges and tunnels might be targets for terrorists. A WMD-CST in Michigan makes significant strategic sense.
2. Population will continue to play an important role in the selection of Team sites. Michigan is one of the 8 most populated states in the country, and includes 33 cities with a population greater than 100,000. Michigan is the only one of the eight most populous states without a WMD-CST.
3. Michigan has existing military facilities and capabilities that can provide full support to a WMD-CST, including Selfridge Air National Guard Base (ANGB), Grayling Airfield, Phelps-Collins ANGB and the Grand Ledge Army Aviation Support Facility providing full support to airlift missions (C-130 and UH-60). There are more than 50 armories throughout the state that can provide various support function, including billeting, communications and administrative support.
4. Michigan also has a number of maintenance support facilities that can support a WMD-CST, including a Combined Support Maintenance Shop and an Operational Maintenance

Shop (OMS) near Lansing and 24 additional OMS facilities throughout the state.

5. The closest current WMD-CST would be located in Peoria, Illinois 344 miles to our south. It would take a vehicle more than 10 hours to reach Michigan's northern border – hardly a rapid response time.
6. Michigan's National Guard, State Police, County Sheriffs and local law enforcement agencies have an outstanding and cooperative working relationship. All these related agencies have expressed their support for this type of WMD-CST unit, and are currently sharing information and training on a daily basis.
7. In addition to its general population, Michigan includes a number of important military and economic facilities that merit consideration for protection against attacks using chemical or biological weapons or materials. Having a WMD-CST that can reach these facilities quickly is an important consideration.

For all these reasons, I urge you to give serious consideration to stationing one of the newly authorized and appropriated WMD-CSTs in Michigan. It is a good fit with the Defense Department stationing criteria and a good fit with our Nation's security needs.

Sincerely,


Debbie Stabenow


Carl Levin

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 5, 2003

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2003 NOV -7 AM 9:48

Honorable Colin Powell
United States Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Honorable Ann Veneman
United States Department of Agriculture
14th Street and Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Powell and Secretary Veneman:

We write to express our strong concern of recent press reports containing allegations of improprieties involving the sale of wheat to the Saddam Hussein Government under the United Nations-run Oil for Food Program. These and other allegations have surfaced from time to time since the beginning of the war and rebuilding efforts.

We are strongly supportive of the Administration's continuing efforts to ensure that the people of Iraq have access to ample food. Shortly after the rebuilding efforts began, the decision was made to temporarily honor existing Oil for Food contracts.

As you know, U.S. wheat producers are extremely interested in regaining the opportunity to again compete for what was once one of our largest markets. We are very eager to learn of the specific opportunities to compete for wheat and other food sales.

Likewise, we would appreciate receiving a report on progress to date in rehabilitating the Ministry of Agriculture in Baghdad and in improving the agriculture sector generally as well as your plans for future activities. In addition we would also like to pose some more specific questions:

1. What is the current status of the remaining Oil for Food contracts with the Coalition Provisional Authority of Iraq?
2. How will remaining Oil for Food contracts be handled by the Coalition Provisional Authority?
3. What steps are underway to transition Iraq from the U.N. Oil for Food program toward an independent, Iraqi-run, food-import system?
4. What steps are planned or are in place to ensure open access to the Iraqi import market?

U18527 / 03

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 5, 2003

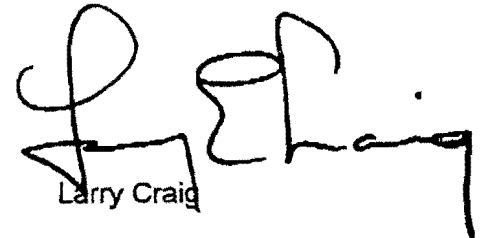
Page 2

We would welcome a briefing by your staff on your activities in Iraq and on the prospects for resumed commercial trade and would appreciate a timely response to the other questions we have raised.


Sincerely,



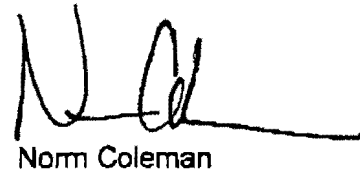
Pat Roberts



Larry Craig



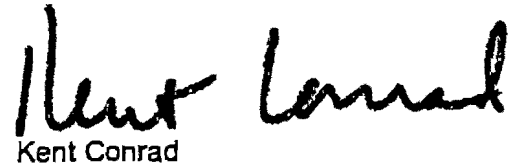
Conrad Burns



Norm Coleman



Debbie Stabenow



Kent Conrad



Mike Crapo



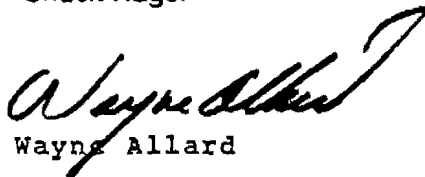
James Talent



Chuck Hagel



Saxby Chambliss



Wayne Allard



Max Baucus

cc: Secretary Don Rumsfeld
Administrator Paul Bremer

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

SECRET
273 FEB 16 11:19 16

November 19, 2003

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary
Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

The Honorable John E. Potter
Postmaster General
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld and Postmaster General Potter:

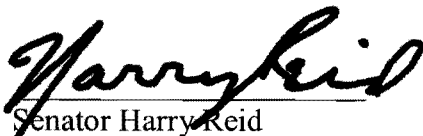
As the holiday season approaches, our thoughts and prayers are increasingly with our brave troops stationed abroad, many in hostile areas. They are placing their lives on the line so that Americans can be safe and spend time with family members and friends.

While our soldiers cannot be with their own families, they appreciate receiving letters and packages from home. For this reason, we urge you to officially support a bill we have sponsored in the U.S. Senate called the Providing Support to Our Troops (POST) Act, S.1707. There is also a companion bill in the House of Representatives. This bill would provide free mailing privileges for letters and packages sent from within the United States to members of the Armed Forces who are engaged in military operations involving armed conflict against a hostile foreign force.

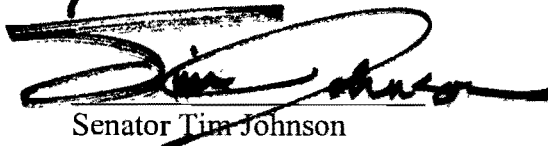
As you know, current policy allows only those who are blind and/or those who are voting overseas the privilege of sending letters and packages postage-free. Congress reimburses the United States Postal Service for this service. We think it is only fair that the same consideration is given to the families and friends of our troops. We believe this is an appropriate way to honor our servicemen and women since they have so unselfishly made great sacrifices to protect us and our country. This is a small gesture, but one that will speak loudly in the hearts of our troops and their families.

We believe this measure could be passed quickly with your support. We look forward to hearing from you in writing as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Senator Harry Reid


Senator Debbie Stabenow


Senator Tim Johnson

U20444 /03
Secretary of Defense



SA0032186

United States Senate

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2006 JAN 31 PM 2:02

January 19, 2006

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary
Department of Defense
1000 Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

On Tuesday, we sent a letter to President Bush asking that he and officials within his Administration detail whatever contact they might have had with Jack Abramoff. Scott McClellan announced that the White House would not provide this information, despite earlier assurances. Therefore, we have no choice but to ask you these questions directly.

As we are sure you are aware, the Justice Department is currently investigating the web of corruption surrounding lobbyist Jack Abramoff. Even at this early stage of the investigation, concerns have been raised that Mr. Abramoff may have had undue and improper influence within the highest levels of the Bush Administration and even the White House itself. Such accusations serve to undermine the credibility of this Administration and our government at large -- even before any indictments or convictions. As a result, it is crucial that the American people know what role, if any, Mr. Abramoff played in the highest levels of our government.

As more and more Republican officials in and out of Congress are implicated in this scandal, it has become increasingly important that the record be cleared and that any contact you or others in the Administration have had with Mr. Abramoff be fully explained to the American people. For this reason, we urge you to publicly and immediately detail all of your personal contacts with Mr. Abramoff during your time with the Bush Administration. If you know of others in the Administration who have had such contacts, please disclose those contacts as well. Please also detail any official acts that have been undertaken on behalf of or at the request of Mr. Abramoff. Perhaps there are no contacts to reveal, no favors that have been given. We hope that is the case. But it is important to set the record straight, one way or the other.

Additionally, we believe it is imperative that you reveal any involvement in the "K Street Project," the initiative launched in recent years by Republicans close to this Administration who have worked hard to increase the ties between lobbyists like Jack Abramoff and Republican elected officials.


OSD 01544-06

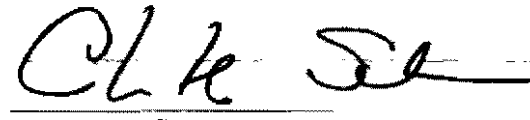
We urge you to respond to this letter and help shed some light on what has happened between Mr. Abramoff and this Administration. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


Harry Reid
United States Senator


Dick Durbin
United States Senator


Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator


Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator

PATTY MURRAY
WASHINGTON

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
BUDGET
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4704

April 6, 2010

The Honorable Robert Gates
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates:

We believe in a fair and open competition for the next generation of aerial refueling tankers. The tanker proposal must be based on a level playing field and not construed to accommodate the business needs of an illegally subsidized company.

As you and other senior military officials have stated, replacing the Eisenhower-era KC-135 tankers in service with the Air Force is a top acquisition priority for the Department of Defense. This acquisition process has already been prolonged by years, and it should not face further delay. The Air Force has laid out clear requirements and timelines for the KC-X competition, and the potential bidders have already had ample time to study the Final Request for Proposals and to prepare competitive bids. Moreover, compressing the bid evaluation timeline given the problematic history with this source selection process concerns us greatly.

EADS already enjoys the benefit of an illegitimate handicap over other competitors. As the World Trade Organization has found in a recent final ruling, its commercial subsidiary Airbus has received billions of dollars in illegal subsidies from European governments. Now EADS seems intent to use illegally subsidized aircraft to significantly increase its presence in the U.S. defense market. While this may represent a sound business strategy, it does not represent the best interests of the American warfighter, worker, or taxpayer.

We have every confidence that American workers have the skills and the experience to compete successfully against the Air Force's rigorous requirements for the new tanker. Our warfighters deserve new tankers delivered as expeditiously as possible, and we see no valid reason to postpone the tanker acquisition process any longer.

OSD 04278-10



173 BUNDELM BUREAU CENTER BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4704
(202) 524-3821

1811--116th AVENUE, NE
SUITE 214
BELLEVUE, WA 98004-3048
(425) 482-4882

2300 WETMORE AVENUE
SUITE 802
EVERETT, WA 98201-4187
(425) 359-8573

2888 JACKSON FEDERAL BUILDING
518 5th AVENUE
SEATTLE, WA 98174-1002
(206) 833-8548
TOLL FREE: (800) 491-0188

501 WEGY BLANK AVENUE
SUITE 902
SPokane, WA 99201-0912
(509) 624-8918

850 PADDY AVENUE
SUITE 882
TACOMA, WA 98402-4488
(252) 873-3836

THE MARSHALL HOUSE
1323 OFFICER'S ROW
VANCOUVER, WA 98661-3888
(360) 686-7787

website: <http://murray.senate.gov>
e-mail: mp@murray.senate.gov
PREFERRED CAN RECYCLED PAPER

802 EAST YAKIMA AVENUE
SUITE 300
YAKIMA, WA 98901-4780
(509) 463-7462

Accordingly, we express our deep concern about the possible extension of the tanker bid date by an additional sixty days.

Sincerely,

Patty Murray

Jeff Bond

Allen Titman

Bill F. Furbush

Neil Roberts

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 18, 2011

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
United States Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates:

We write to express our strong support for the Paralympic Military Program. Since 2001 the Paralympic Military Program has provided opportunities to our wounded warriors that not only give them hope for the future, but also improved quality of life for themselves and their families. The program enables our injured service members to participate in physical activities as part of their physical, mental and emotional rehabilitation. The twenty-one veteran and active duty wounded warriors who participated in the most recent Beijing and Vancouver Olympics, and the eleven medals they brought back with them are not only an honor for the United States, but an inspiration to Wounded Warriors everywhere.

Now that Congress has completed its work on funding the government through Fiscal Year 2011, we would like to express our support for this program and point out its value and recent accomplishments. The Paralympic Military Program has:


- Established paralympic recreational, rehabilitative, and competitive sports opportunities at four Department of Defense Medical Treatment Facilities, 29 Warrior Transition Units, seven Wounded Warrior Battalion Detachments, 19 VA Treatment facilities, and 126 communities throughout the United States.
- Worked with the four DOD Medical Treatment Facilities to plan competitions between facilities known as the Warrior Sports Series.
- Hosted the first Warrior Games, with plans underway for a second, to be attended by over 200 injured members of our armed services competing in an Olympic style environment.
- Served over 12,000 ill, injured or wounded service members and veterans.
- Provided significant physical activity rehabilitation programming for the Army Wounded Warrior Command, Marines and Special Operations
- Trained more than 4,000 local leaders to develop and implement community-based initiatives to enhance the rehabilitation of injured service members.

OSD 04884-11



While funding was not specifically designated for the Paralympic Military Program in H.R. 1473, the "Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act for FY 2011," this program does enjoy considerable support in Congress. The cessation of federal support for the Paralympic Military Program in FY 2011 would undermine all of these accomplishments and jeopardize current plans to expand services to our service members. We urge you to make the Paralympic Military Program, which is an essential element of our commitment to our wounded warriors, a Departmental priority and continue its funding through FY 2011 and beyond.

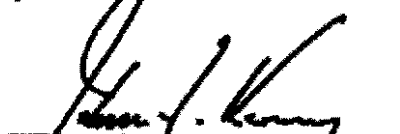
Sincerely,


Senator Amy Klobuchar


Senator John Boozman


Senator James M. Inhofe


Senator Mark Udall


Senator John F. Kerry


Senator Michael Bennet


Senator Richard Durbin


Senator Roy Blunt

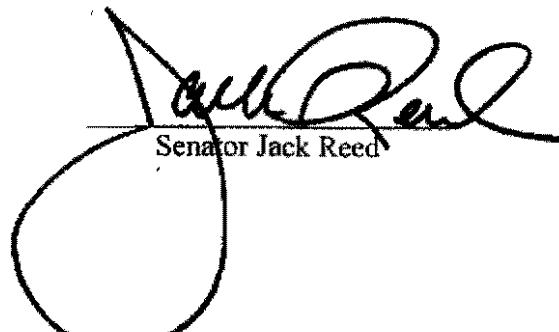

Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand


Senator Debbie Stabenow


Senator Mark Pryor


Senator John D. Rockefeller IV


Senator Patty Murray


Senator Jack Reed

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

May 6, 2009

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Secretary Gates,

As Congress awaits the submission of the President's Fiscal Year 2010 budget request for the Department of Defense, we write to share our strong and unwavering support for the Air National Guard (ANG) units in our states that lost their flying missions through BRAC 2005.

As you know, the last BRAC round made significant changes to the lay down of aircraft within the ANG. In our six states, many units lost their flying missions – ranging from A-10s, C-130Js, and F-16s – with some losing the only flying mission stationed permanently in their state. The loss of a flying mission is a direct threat to the manpower, readiness and relevance of our ANG units and their continued ability to meet their state and federal duties.

The ANG not only serves our nation as we ask them to support operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and around the world, but they also serve the local state missions. Without a permanent flying mission within the state, the ANG may lose the valuable expertise and experience our airmen provide. With the immense capability the ANG provides to our nation, we must not jeopardize the investment we've made in the ANG personnel forces.

According to the 2008 Air Force Weapon Systems Roadmap, as well as subsequent planning by the Air Force and National Guard Bureau, our six states are each expected to receive the C-27J Joint Cargo Aircraft (JCA). While we welcome the assignment of a permanent flying mission to our states, we are concerned that continued debate about the organization and control of the JCA program could place the future of our ANG units at risk. We believe it is important to firmly resolve the "roles and missions" debate with regards to intra-theater lift, and move forward with a program that meets the needs of ANG states impacted in BRAC while also addressing the capability gap faced by our warfighters.

This is a pivotal year for our Air National Guard. To this end, we look forward to the Department's strong support for the allocation of permanent flying missions to our states as part of the upcoming submission of the 2010 defense budget.

As always, we thank you for your service to our nation and look forward to continuing to work with you to support our men and women in uniform.

OSD 05298-09



Sincerely,

Christopher Dodd
United States Senator

Joseph Lieberman
United States Senator

John Larson
United States Representative

Joseph Courtney
United States Representative

Barbara Mikulski
United States Senator

Benjamin Cardin
United States Senator

Steny Hoyer
United States Representative

Roscoe Bartlett
United States Representative

Elijah Cummings
United States Representative

Dutch Ruppersberger
United States Representative

Donna Edwards
United States Representative

Frank Kratovil
United States Representative

Carl Levin
United States Senator

Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

Mark Schauer
United States Representative

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 6, 2010

The Honorable Robert Gates
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates:

On June 30, The World Trade Organization (WTO) issued its final ruling on the U.S. trade case against illegal European government subsidies to Airbus. The WTO has confirmed the claims of both President Bush and President Obama and found that Airbus has for decades been the beneficiary of billions of dollars in illegal subsidies and that these subsidies have caused serious damage to America's aerospace industry, workers, and economy. The cumulative market value of the subsidies provided to Airbus over the last 40 years approaches \$200 billion in today's dollars. This is unacceptable and clearly provides a competitive advantage to Airbus in the competition for the KC-X Aerial Refueling Tanker competition.

The WTO found Launch Aid for every Airbus program illegal and damaging. Findings included five billion dollars in Launch Aid provided for development of the A330/340 airframe. As you know, the A330 is the selected platform for Airbus' aerial refueling tanker. Without these subsidies, Airbus could never have developed and built the A330 and would not have a platform to use in the KC-X competition. The WTO also found the government funding of Airbus infrastructure and research and development programs to be illegal.

Having relied on these illegal subsidies to increase market share in the global commercial aerospace market, Airbus now appears intent to use subsidized aircraft and the treasuries of European countries to significantly increase its presence in the U.S. defense market. While we urge you to move forward on the KC-X tanker competition without delay, the Department of Defense must provide a level playing field for all competitors and factor these subsidies into the airplane cost.

The WTO ruling on illegal subsidies to Airbus is a landmark decision. How the United States reacts to the WTO ruling will determine if this country will continue to have a robust and vibrant aerospace industrial base in the future. We look forward to hearing from you on how you will take this final ruling into consideration during the KC-X tanker competition. Our workers are the best in the world, and forcing them to compete against European treasuries is unfair.

OSD 08217-10





We want to hear from you on how you intend take the WTO final ruling into consideration and bring fairness into this competition.

Sincerely,

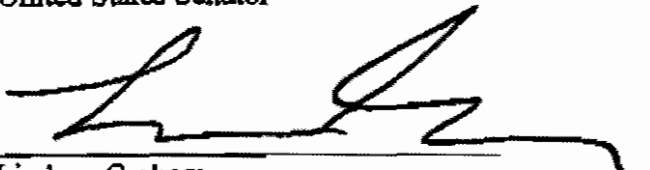

Patty Murray
United States Senator

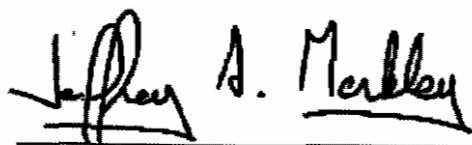

Sam Brownback
United States Senator


Ron Wyden
United States Senator

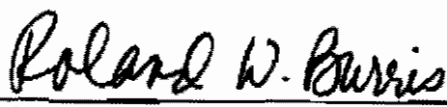

Pat Roberts
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

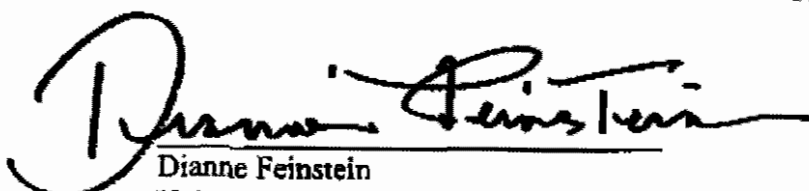

Lindsey Graham
United States Senator


Jeff Merkley
United States Senator


Maria Cantwell
United States Senator


Roland W. Burris
United States Senator


Christopher S. Bond
United States Senator


Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

May 27, 2005

2005 MAY 27 11 17 AM '05

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-4000

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

We are deeply concerned that the Pentagon has failed to release the installation-specific data that it used to prepare its recommendations under the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (as amended). The Department has proposed a list of military bases to close or realign, and has forwarded that list to the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission, Congress, and the Comptroller General for their review. Congress designed this process to be open and transparent. To that end, section 2903 (c) (4) of that Act provides that,

"In addition to making ALL information used by the Secretary to prepare the recommendations under this subsection available to Congress (including any committee or member of Congress), the Secretary shall also make such information available to the Commission and the Comptroller General of the United States." (emphasis added)

While the Department has released both the overall report and recommendations, and the service-specific analysis and recommendations, it has not released the installation-specific data, which was the basis for the Department's analysis. Specifically, it has not released data indicating how military value scores for each installation were derived. In past BRAC rounds, such data has been released.

If the Department continues to delay the release of this data, communities adversely impacted by BRAC, and the BRAC commission, will be unable to assess the Department's recommendations in the limited time allotted to them under BRAC law. Communities affected by BRAC should know how their bases were measured so they can either support or challenge the proposals. The first commission hearings are scheduled for Tuesday, June 7th, less than two weeks from now, and the commission must send its recommendations to the President no later than September 8th, 2005.

We urge you to release this data immediately to avoid undermining the BRAC process.

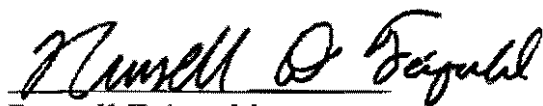
Sincerely,



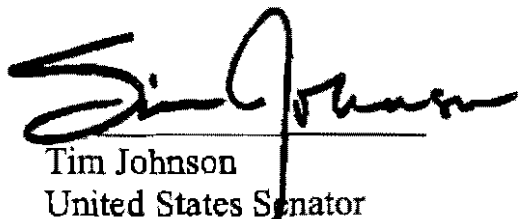
OSD 10116-05



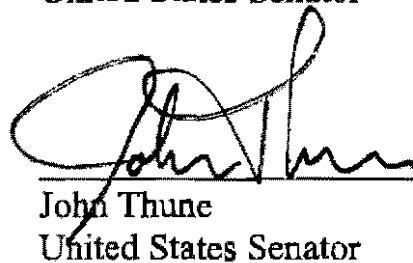
Herb Kohl
United States Senator



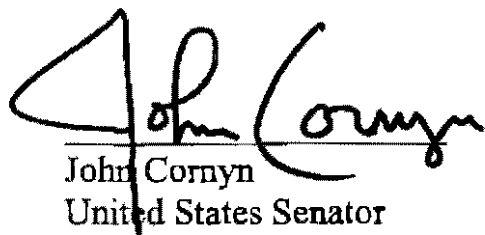
Russell Feingold
United States Senator



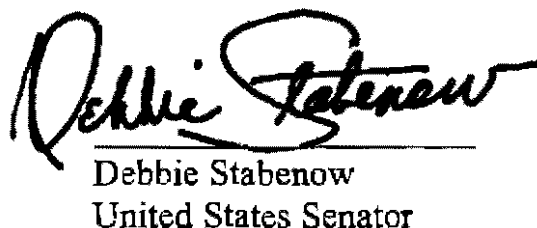
Tim Johnson
United States Senator




John Thune
United States Senator



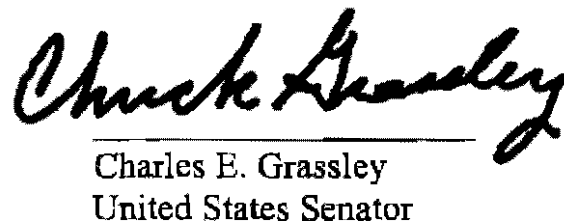
John Cornyn
United States Senator



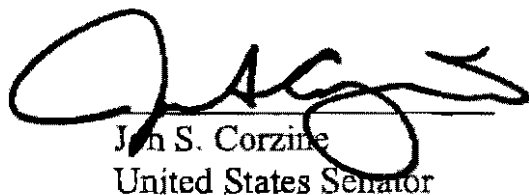
Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



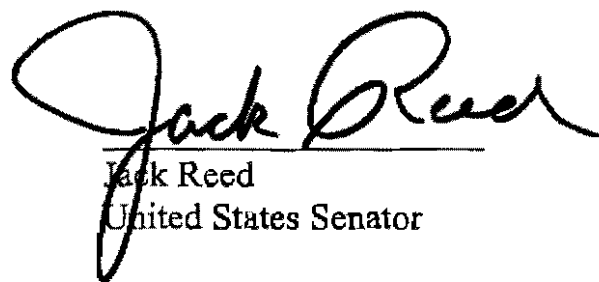
Tom Harkin
United States Senator



Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator



Jon S. Corzine
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003

August 7, 2008

The Honorable Robert Gates
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates,

We are writing to ask that you take a personal leadership role in the Department of Defense's (DOD) effort to fully implement Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Programs nationwide. We are very concerned that though we are entering our seventh year of the war on terror, only 15 states have programs to help Guard and Reserve soldiers returning from overseas tours of duty reintegrate into civilian life. While there is strong interest in many other states to fully establish reintegration programs, many have not been able to due to lack of guidance or assurances that adequate funds will be provided.

We believe that DOD's efforts to implement the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program nationwide must take a common sense approach that reflects the citizen soldier nature of the Guard and Reserve. In order to maximize the programs' effectiveness, Yellow Ribbon coordinators work closely with state and local offices and volunteer organizations to connect them with service members. Requiring these non-DOD partners to liaison with multiple DOD reintegration programs in a single state may significantly inhibit the ability of local commanders and officials to develop a flexible framework for their respective programs. As DOD begins implementation of the national Yellow Ribbon program under the guidance outlined in the July 22 directive, we urge you to ensure that each state or territory be allowed to build and sustain a single Reintegration Program according to its own unique needs and circumstances.

Furthermore, State Guard Bureau reintegration offices planning for the homecoming of Guardsmen and Reservists must have timely commitments that sufficient funding will be provided to meet their needs. We are concerned that DOD's July 22 guidance on implementing the Yellow Ribbon Program does not clearly lay out a mechanism by which funding will be made available to the State Guard Bureaus that actually conduct and pay costs of reintegration events. As a result, implementation of Yellow Ribbon beyond the existing 15 states may not proceed rapidly enough to meet current and future needs.

We ask that you exert your personal leadership to accomplish the following as soon as possible to ensure that quality of existing Yellow Ribbon programs and the implementation of new programs in additional states are not hampered by uncertainty over funding. First, we ask that you ensure full fiscal year 2009 funding is provided to each state Guard Bureau so they can be assured of the full resources needed to operate existing Yellow Ribbon Programs or establish new programs. Second, we urge you to request full funding for Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Programs in the fiscal year 2009 Supplemental and program future years funding for Yellow Ribbon in the fiscal year 2010 DOD request.

As you are aware, almost half the soldiers scheduled to deploy to Iraq in the next six months are members of National Guard. As we prepare to send them overseas, we also have a responsibility to begin preparing now to assist them in making the transition from military to civilian life upon their return. Thank you for your service and dedication to the welfare of our men and women in uniform. We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to working with you on this in the future.

OSD 10535-08



Sincerely,

Robert A. Nicholas

Amy Klobuchar

Demetrius Stein

Brian R. Lincoln

Noam Coleman

Brad Samson

Jay Ruppel

Wang Yang

J. F. King

Bob Casper

Edward M. Kennedy

Ch. Sit

Norm Feingold

John D. ...

Dick Durbin

Rebecca Stenow

Mark ...

Patrick Leahy

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 21, 2008

The Honorable Robert Gates
Secretary of Defense
U.S. Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates:

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the transition in the U.S. Department of Defense's (DoD) proposed rule for TRICARE to adopt Medicare's prospective payment system for hospital outpatient services (OPPS).

We support TRICARE's efforts to adopt reimbursement rules which are, to the extent practicable, in accordance with the same reimbursement rules used by Medicare. However, we are concerned that DoD's proposal, as outlined in the April 1, 2008, *Federal Register*, lacks a broad, effective transition that would cushion all hospitals serving TRICARE beneficiaries from disruptive reductions in payments across all services.

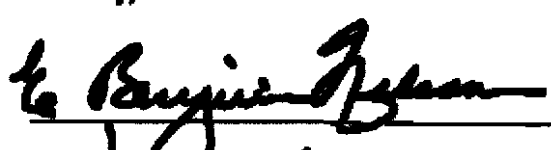



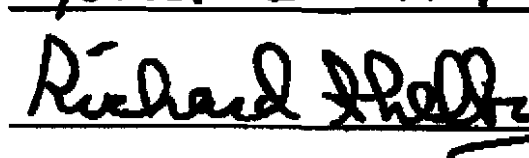
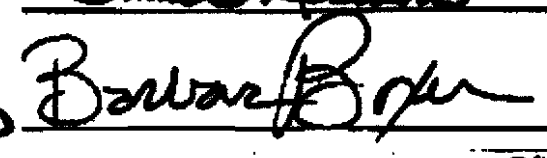
Sudden and severe shifts in payments as have been proposed by DoD could jeopardize providers' ability to care for TRICARE patients. To prevent such disruptions to quality of and access to care, it is crucial that such new payment policies be implemented with a meaningful transition period.

For example, when Medicare implemented its current OPPS, the agency included a robust transition over several years, providing crucial transition payments to all hospitals suffering losses. This transition was instrumental in helping hospitals absorb significantly lower payments and still continue to deliver health care to seniors.

Moreover, TRICARE provided a sustained transition over several years for physicians when adopting Medicare's physician fee schedule. This seamless transition serves as an important precedent and a practical, effective alternative to what TRICARE has proposed. We strongly urge DoD to consider a similar transition for hospitals.

As the TRICARE system harmonizes payment methodologies with Medicare, we believe it is important that a period of transition apply to all TRICARE network hospitals, and be sustained over a multi-year period. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

OSD 14707-08



November 21, 2008
Page 2

Pat Roberts

John L. Hatch

John L. Hatch

Robert Menendez

Norm Coleman

Frank R. Lautenberg

Dennis P. Steyer

Ang Klobuchar

Sam Brownback

Dick Durbin

Chuck Sch

Jim Demmay

Byron Dorgan

Jeff Blum

John Cornyn

David Vitter

Mary Landrau

Kay Solomon

Joe Lieberman

Frank Lautenberg

Arlen Specter

Bill Nelson

Zoe Lofgren

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Robert Wicker

Jeff Blum

Jim DeMint

Chris Dodd

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 19, 2011

The Honorable Leon Panetta
Secretary of Defense
United States Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We are writing to you to express our enthusiasm and support for a University of Michigan (U of M)-led proposal to create an Advanced Development and Manufacturing (ADM) Center in response to the Department of Defense's (Department) Medical Countermeasure (MCM) ADM Initiative. We believe the team assembled by U of M has exceptional expertise, outstanding leadership, and the right resources to meet the needs of the Department. Moreover, the existing state-of-the-art facilities included in their proposal would leverage previous investments to provide an extremely cost-effective, low-risk solution for the Department.

We have visited and toured the proposed facility located on the campus of the U of M and are eager to see this truly unique resource engaged to meet a critical need for the Department and the nation. This facility combined with the technical and management expertise of the proposed U of M team, is clearly capable of enhancing our country's ability to respond more rapidly to biological threats. This capability is currently severely limited by our capacity to produce biodefense medical countermeasures. We encourage members of the source selection teams to visit the facility in Ann Arbor to truly appreciate the potential national asset that U of M has offered to the Department as part of its proposal.

The U of M and its industry and academic partners are poised to meet and exceed the needs of the Department and the nation through an existing state-of-the-art facility, a leading scientific and technical team, and a world-class educational environment. We appreciate the Department's consideration of the U of M-led proposal.

Sincerely,



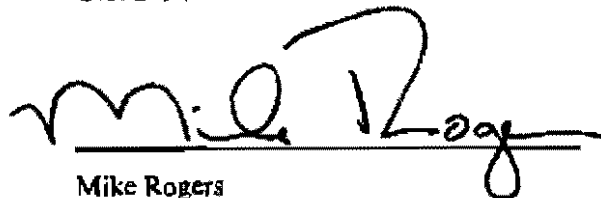
Debbie Stabenow
U.S. Senate



Carl Levin
U.S. Senate



John D. Dingell
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 20, 2007

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice
Secretary of State
United States Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
The United States Department of Defense
The Pentagon Suite 319
Washington, D.C. 20301

The Honorable Michael Mukasey
Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Madam Secretary, Mr. Secretary and Mr. Attorney General:

We are writing to express our strong concern about the alleged rape of Jamie Leigh Jones by U.S. contractors in Iraq and the reported failure of the U.S. government to investigate the situation.

As you know, recent media reports indicate that Ms. Jones, an American working for Kellogg, Brown, and Root in Iraq, was drugged, gang raped, held against her will, and then denied food and water. Moreover, after she sought help, important evidence was lost. Incredibly, it has been nearly two years since Ms. Jones alleged that she was brutally raped, and new reports indicate that the U.S. government has not properly investigated this matter.

We urge you to conduct an appropriate investigation into the claims of Ms. Jones promptly. If your agencies have started investigations, we hope you will provide an update on the case and decide the proper course of action without delay.

OSD 19803-07



12/26/2007 8:54:04 AM

Sincerely,

Patty Murray

Patty Murray
United States Senator

Barbara A. Mikulski

Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator

Dianne Feinstein

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Hillary Rodham Clinton
United States Senator

Amy Klobuchar

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

Jay Byly Hutchison

Jay Byly Hutchison
United States Senator

Blanche L. Lincoln

Blanche L. Lincoln
United States Senator

Maria Cantwell

Maria Cantwell
United States Senator

Debbie Stabenow

Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

Olympia J. Snowe

Olympia J. Snowe
United States Senator

Susan M. Collins

Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

Barbara Boxer

Barbara Boxer
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 27, 2005

SECRET
2005 OCT 27 11:13 AM

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington DC 20301-1000

Dear Mr. Secretary,

We are writing to urge you to ensure that the next supplemental budget request for Iraq and Afghanistan includes a request for full funding of the Common Remotely Operated Weapons Station (CROWS) program. The Army has indicated a requirement for \$206 million in FY06 supplemental funding to provide an additional 820 of these units to our men and women overseas, and to ramp up for future production. We believe this request should be supported by the Administration and included in the formal supplemental funding request to Congress. We further ask that you request full funding for this program in FY07 as a part of the DoD's regular budget.

A few months ago Senator Salazar received a letter from an Army Specialist serving in Iraq whose friend was killed by an IED. His letter reads as follows:

Two days ago a good friend of mine was killed in action when an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) detonated next to his Humvee. He was sitting in the gunner seat and pulling rear security. I have seen automated guns that can go on the top of these same Humvees. These guns are controlled from inside the vehicle. Why are these guns not on every Humvee?... The four people that were inside the vehicle were physically unharmed. If the answer is money, then I would really like to know how much my friend's life was worth.

With only a few systems deployed, CROWS is already saving lives of soldiers in Iraq today by moving soldiers out of the exposed gunner's seat and inside the protective shell of an up-armored Humvee. We understand that during the last two weeks of September three CROWS units were struck by Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). Despite damage to the Humvees, the three CROWS mounts remained operational to engage the enemy. More importantly, all 12 soldiers including the gunners were inside, protected by armor, and received only minor injuries.

Funding the CROWS program at the Army's requested amount of \$206 million will provide our soldiers with roughly 820 of these impressive and life-saving systems. It is imperative for the safety of our soldiers that this program continue to move ahead with the utmost attention and support from your Department and from Congress.

We stand ready to work with you on this vitally important matter.

Sincerely,



Senator Ken Salazar



Senator Richard Burr




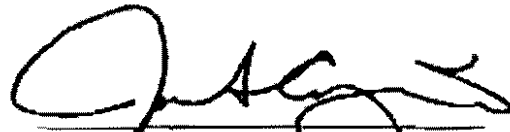
Senator Carl Levin



Senator Jon Kyl

OSD 21326-05



Senator Lincoln Chafee



Senator Jon Corzine


Senator Richard Durbin



Senator Russell Feingold



Senator Frank Lautenberg


Senator Barack Obama


Senator Jack Reed


Senator John D. Rockefeller


Senator Edward Kennedy


Senator Debbie Stabenow