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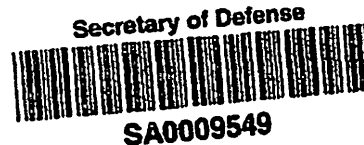


UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF
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MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 33621-5101

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22 Apr 02

Mr. Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
2100 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-2100



Dear Mr. Secretary:

In response to your memorandum of 3 April, regarding [redacted] and the Afghan Media", I deployed the Rendon Group's [redacted] media assessment team to Kabul on 16 April. The Rendon Group has members with extensive experience in Afghanistan media and a broad network of personal and professional contacts in the region.

The Rendon Group team will conduct a full spectrum media analysis. In addition to identifying themes and content for future broadcasts within Afghanistan and ways to enhance existing private broadcast outlets, the team will provide recommendations regarding processes which will contribute to rebuilding an independent national Afghan media infrastructure. I have also tasked them to conduct a real-time assessment of [redacted] to include recommendations for countering future [redacted] programming.

The team expects to return during the first week of May 2002. Within two weeks of the Rendon Group's formal report presentation to my headquarters, I will provide a summary of the team's findings with recommendations for any specific action to your office via the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Very Respectfully,

[Handwritten Signature]
TOMMY R. FRANKS
General, USA

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