



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1300

The Honorable John F. Tierney
Chairman, National Security and Foreign Affairs Subcommittee
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MAY 5 2010

Afghanistan

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I write on behalf of Secretary Gates in response to your letter dated March 12, 2010, regarding Host Nation Trucking (HNT) contracts in Afghanistan. This production supplements the Department's production of April 7, 2010.

The Department provides the attached compact disk containing 6696 pages of requested email related to HNT security. Additional responsive documents will be provided as soon as possible.

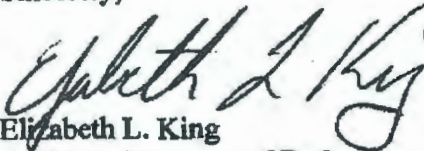
The enclosed documents contain sensitive information and are subject to the disclosure provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552), the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. § 552a), and the Trade Secrets Act (18 U.S.C. § 1905). The Department has consistently taken the position that such proprietary and personal privacy information must be properly safeguarded to prevent harm to personnel abroad. Please refrain from placing these materials on any website.

The Department provides these documents with a full reservation of rights and with the understanding and intent that such provision shall not be deemed a waiver of any applicable privilege. The Department respectfully requests that these documents be shared only within your Subcommittee and then only with those who have an official need for the information, that the documents not be disclosed outside the Subcommittee or to the public, that appropriate steps be taken to safeguard these documents, and that the documents be destroyed after use.

(12/11/10)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Col. (b)(6) of my staff, at (b)(6)

Sincerely,



Elizabeth L. King
Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Legislative Affairs)

Attachment:
As stated

cc: The Honorable Jeff Flake
Ranking Member

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March 12, 2010

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

Dear Secretary Gates:

The Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is conducting an investigation into the Department of Defense's (DOD) Afghan Host Nation Trucking (HNT) contract and allegations that private security providers for HNT convoys pay protection money to local warlords and the Taliban in Afghanistan. I write to follow-up on the Subcommittee's original document request dated December 16, 2009.

My December 16, 2009 letter to you requested several categories of documents from DOD related to security on the HNT contract, including:

- All documents related to HNT contractors' use of licensed or unlicensed private security providers for HNT convoys, including, but not limited to: subcontracts, pricing schedules, invoices, security reports, email correspondence, and incident reports;
- All documents from the Armed Contracting Oversight Directorate related to HNT security, including, but not limited to, memoranda, meeting notes, email correspondence, and armament requests; and
- All documents related to HNT security.

DOD produced a first tranche of responsive documents in January 2010 and we are appreciative of that document production. It has come to the Subcommittee's attention, however, that there are additional responsive emails from DOD personnel relating to HNT security that have not been produced to the Subcommittee. I request that DOD

OSD 03410-10



collect and produce all emails responsive to the December 16, 2009 document request from the following individuals:

- (b)(6) 484th Movement Control Battalion;
- (b)(6) 484th Movement Control Battalion;
- (b)(6) 484th Movement Control Battalion;
- (b)(6) JCC-I/A, PARC-A;
- (b)(6) JCC-I/A, PARC-A;
- (b)(6) 143rd Sustainment Command;
- (b)(6) (HNT contracting officer);
- (b)(6) (former HNT contracting officer);
- (b)(6) (former HNT contracting officer);
- (b)(6) (former HNT contracting officer).

In addition, it has come to the Subcommittee's attention that a group of military investigators conducted an investigation into alleged protection payments by HNT security providers in summer 2009. According to former HNT contracting officers and multiple contractors, a group that was described as a "taskforce" of 12-15 investigators, including agents from Army Criminal Investigative Command and other military investigative or intelligence services, individually interviewed the contractors regarding alleged protection payments to warlords and anti-government elements. I note that the International Contract Corruption Taskforce generally fits the description of the investigative entity involved in these interviews.

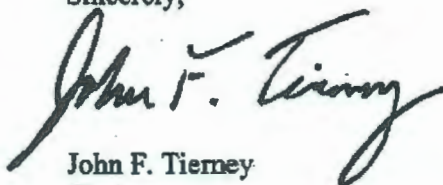
I request that DOD identify the investigative entity that conducted the interviews described above, brief the Subcommittee regarding the results of that investigation, and provide the Subcommittee with all documents and reports related to that investigation.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee in the House of Representatives and has broad oversight jurisdiction, as set forth in House Rule X, to investigate "any matter" within its legislative jurisdiction as well as the jurisdictions of any other standing House Committees (House Rule X, clause 4(c)(2)). Pursuant to Committee Rule 8(a)(5), the Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs has jurisdiction encompassing oversight of national security, homeland security, and foreign affairs.

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
March 12, 2010
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I appreciate your cooperation in this important matter. Please contact (b)(6) (b)(6) or (b)(6) on the Subcommittee staff at (b)(6) with any questions.

Sincerely,



John F. Tierney
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Security
and Foreign Affairs

cc: Rep. Edolphus M. Towns
Chairman
Committee on Oversight
and Government Reform

Rep. Darrell Issa
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight
and Government Reform

Rep. Jeff Flake
Ranking Member
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515-6015

July 6, 2010

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

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 202(b), Public Law 601, 79th Congress (codified at 2 U.S.C. §72 a (b)), this Staff has been directed by the Committee on Appropriations to make an inquiry into the status of current investigations of alleged financial corruption within and relating to the Government of Afghanistan, especially with respect to its use of financial assistance provided since 2007 by the United States.

Please designate an appropriate point of contact to arrange for obtaining the data pertinent to this inquiry and notify my office by telephone on July 7, 2010 upon receipt of this letter. If there are any questions regarding this matter, I can be contacted on (b)(6)

Sincerely yours,

David M. Pomerantz

David M. Pomerantz
 Director
 Surveys and Investigations Staff
 House Committee on Appropriations

cc: Comptroller of the Department of Defense

OSD 08154-10

