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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS DEC - 5 11 8 36

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

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December 3, 2001

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INDEPENDENT

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This is to authorize Rep. Mark Souder (CODEL Souder), Rep. Elijah Cummings, as well as committee staffers Chris Dones, Kevin Long and Tony Haywood (additional Members and staff will be provided later) to travel on official business to the Bahamas, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru, Panama, and JIATF @ Key West, Florida, from January 14-22, 2002.

The purpose of this trip is to conduct the committee's oversight responsibilities of U.S. counter-narcotics operations.

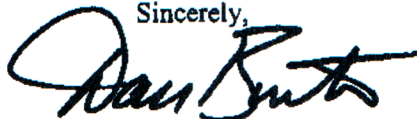
It would be appreciated if the Department of Defense could furnish such assistance as may be required, including transportation to facilitate this trip. It would also be appreciated if the Department of the Army, specifically the Army OCLL here in the Rayburn Building, be assigned to escort the CODEL.

Transportation by military aircraft is authorized. Commercial aircraft, business class, including foreign carriers when US-flag carriers are not available, is also authorized if deemed essential to the completion of the mission.

The expenditure of funds for the payment of actual and necessary expenses and such transportation as may be required is authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1108 (g).

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,



Dan Burton
Chairman

U19056 /01

May 12.03.01 RL