

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

HENRY J. HYDE, ELINOIR
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One Hundred Seventh Congress

Congress of the United States
Committee on International Relations

House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

(202) 225-5021

http://www.house.gov/international_relations/

February 6, 2002

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The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
U.S. Department of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1300

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to advise you that I have authorized Hon. Cass Ballenger (R-NC), a Member of the Committee on International Relations, to lead a bipartisan Congressional Delegation on official business to Colombia, Bolivia, Uruguay, and the Dominican Republic, from April 2-7, 2002. For purposes of protocol, Members spouses will be authorized to accompany the delegation at no additional expense to the U.S. Government. A final list of Members and staff participating will be furnished at a later date.

The purpose of this trip is discuss progress of the drug war in Colombia; efforts to fight drug trafficking and production of coca in Bolivia; trade, counterterrorism in the region and economic consequences of Argentina's economic troubles in Uruguay; and drug trafficking and economic development in the Dominican Republic.

I request the Department of Defense furnish such assistance as may be required, including transportation, to facilitate this trip. It is also requested that the Department of the Marines be assigned to escort this trip. The expenditure of funds for the payment of actual and necessary expenses of such transportation as may be required is authorized pursuant to Title 31, U.S.C. 1108(g).

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Henry Hyde

HENRY J. HYDE
Chairman

HJH:jrw

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