



(202) 225-0600



Office of the Speaker United States House of Representatives Washington, DU 20515

October 2, 2003



Dear Mr. Secretary:

This will authorize the Honorable Roy Blunt to lead a delegation of Members and staff to Columbia, Peru, Chile, Argentina and Panama on official business during the period December 5-13, 2003. The purpose of the trip is to study the impact of U.S. foreign policy in the region and examine issues related to trade, agriculture and counternarcotics policies. A list of those Members and staff authorized to travel will be forthcoming. For purposes of protocol, spouses will travel at no cost to the government.

It would be appreciated if the Department of Defense would furnish such assistance as is necessary, including ground transportation, to facilitate the delegation as well as military escort and military air transportation. Authorization for the expenditure of funds should be made pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1108(g).

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House

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

Co: The Honorable Jeff Trandahl, Clerk U.S. House of Representatives