

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

EF-9060
04/004207

March 24, 2004

(256)

TO: Doug Feith
CC: Gen. Dick Myers
Paul Wolfowitz
Powell Moore
FROM: Donald Rumsfeld *DR*
SUBJECT: Colombia

I want to make sure we work hard to get the caps on the number of people in Colombia up. If that is not an agreed-upon position in the government, we should make it an agreed position; if it is, we should help push it across.

I also want to try to get the air bridge straightened out in Honduras and other countries like Honduras.

Thanks.

Attach.
3/19/04 Talking points for Uribe meeting

DHR:dh
032404-31

Please respond by 4/23/04

UCB-
FOR control-
MISSING Classified
attachment

→ SD
Attached is the
raise-the-cap letter
I sent to Congress
folks.

By separate memo, I'll
report to you about Honduras.

Div. Feith.
UPON REMOVAL OF ATTACHMENT(S)
DOCUMENT IS UNCLASSIFIED
OSD 11001-04



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
2000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2000

The Honorable John Warner
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-4601

MAR 31 2004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you know, Section 3204 of the Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2001 (P.L. 106-246) as amended restricts funding for U.S. personnel deployed in support of Plan Colombia to 400 military personnel and 400 civilian contractors. Current SOUTHCOM requirements to support Colombia are pushing the limits of this cap. We seek relief from this restriction.

The Administration proposes to increase the cap to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors. This would improve SOUTHCOM's capabilities to help President Uribe in the fight against narcoterrorism.

Although the Administration opposes the cap and would prefer to have the restrictions lifted altogether, amending Section 3204 to support up to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors would help greatly.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that this proposal is in accordance with the President's program.

Thank you for your support of the Department's counter-narcoterrorism efforts.

With best wishes, I remain

Yours truly,


Douglas J. Feith

cc: Senator Carl Levin





THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
2000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2000

The Honorable Duncan Hunter
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-4002

MAR 31 2004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you know, Section 3204 of the Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2001 (P.L. 106-246) as amended restricts funding for U.S. personnel deployed in support of Plan Colombia to 400 military personnel and 400 civilian contractors. Current SOUTHCOM requirements to support Colombia are pushing the limits of this cap. We seek relief from this restriction.

The Administration proposes to increase the cap to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors. This would improve SOUTHCOM's capabilities to help President Uribe in the fight against narcoterrorism.

Although the Administration opposes the cap and would prefer to have the restrictions lifted altogether, amending Section 3204 to support up to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors would help greatly.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that this proposal is in accordance with the President's program.

Thank you for your support of the Department's counter-narcoterrorism efforts.

With best wishes, I remain

Yours truly,

Douglas J. Feith

cc: Representative Ike Skelton





THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
2000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2000

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-6015

MAR 31 2004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you know, Section 3204 of the Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2001 (P.L. 106-246) as amended restricts funding for U.S. personnel deployed in support of Plan Colombia to 400 military personnel and 400 civilian contractors. Current SOUTHCOM requirements to support Colombia are pushing the limits of this cap. We seek relief from this restriction.

The Administration proposes to increase the cap to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors. This would improve SOUTHCOM's capabilities to help President Uribe in the fight against narcoterrorism.

Although the Administration opposes the cap and would prefer to have the restrictions lifted altogether, amending Section 3204 to support up to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors would help greatly.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that this proposal is in accordance with the President's program.

Thank you for your support of the Department's counter-narcoterrorism efforts.

With best wishes, I remain

Yours truly,

Douglas J. Feith

cc: Representative John P. Murtha





THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
2000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2000

The Honorable Ted Stevens
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-6025

MAR 31 2004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you know, Section 3204 of the Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2001 (P.L. 106-246) as amended restricts funding for U.S. personnel deployed in support of Plan Colombia to 400 military personnel and 400 civilian contractors. Current SOUTHCOM requirements to support Colombia are pushing the limits of this cap. We seek relief from this restriction.

The Administration proposes to increase the cap to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors. This would improve SOUTHCOM's capabilities to help President Uribe in the fight against narcoterrorism.

Although the Administration opposes the cap and would prefer to have the restrictions lifted altogether, amending Section 3204 to support up to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors would help greatly.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that this proposal is in accordance with the President's program.

Thank you for your support of the Department's counter-narcoterrorism efforts.

With best wishes, I remain

Yours truly,

Douglas J. Feith

cc: Senator Daniel K. Inouye





THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
2000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2000

POLICY

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MAR 31 2004

Dear Mr. Speaker:

As you know, Section 3204 of the Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2001 (P.L. 106-246) as amended restricts funding for U.S. personnel deployed in support of Plan Colombia to 400 military personnel and 400 civilian contractors. Current SOUTHCOM requirements to support Colombia are pushing the limits of this cap. We seek relief from this restriction.

The Administration proposes to increase the cap to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors. This would improve SOUTHCOM's capabilities to help President Uribe in the fight against narcoterrorism.

Although the Administration opposes the cap and would prefer to have the restrictions lifted altogether, amending Section 3204 to support up to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors would help greatly.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that this proposal is in accordance with the President's program.

Thank you for your support of the Department's counter-narcoterrorism efforts.

With best wishes, I remain

Yours truly,

Douglas J. Feith

cc: Representative Nancy Pelosi





THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
2000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2000

The Honorable Bill Frist
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

MAR 31 2004

Dear Senator Frist:

As you know, Section 3204 of the Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2001 (P.L. 106-246) as amended restricts funding for U.S. personnel deployed in support of Plan Colombia to 400 military personnel and 400 civilian contractors. Current SOUTHCOM requirements to support Colombia are pushing the limits of this cap. We seek relief from this restriction.

The Administration proposes to increase the cap to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors. This would improve SOUTHCOM's capabilities to help President Uribe in the fight against narcoterrorism.

Although the Administration opposes the cap and would prefer to have the restrictions lifted altogether, amending Section 3204 to support up to 800 U.S. military personnel and 600 U.S. civilian contractors would help greatly.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that this proposal is in accordance with the President's program.

Thank you for your support of the Department's counter-narcoterrorism efforts.

With best wishes, I remain

Yours truly,

Douglas J. Feith

cc: Senator Tom Daschle

