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MAY 0 6 2004

The Honorable Henry J. Hyde Chairman Committee on International Relations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of Secretary Rumsfeld, I am responding to your suggestion regarding developing playing cards featuring Colombian "most wanted" terrorists. The Department of Defense developed these cards last year. They were originally going to be distributed as a Colombia product.

We decided to withhold distribution of the finished product based on the following reasons: the environment in Colombia was rapidly changing, Colombian military and police were already catching senior terrorist leaders, President Uribe was executing a major military and police campaign plan, and the cards could be portrayed as a U.S.sponsored gimmick. The cards are currently in storage and, should circumstances change, are available for distribution in the future.

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Committee on International Relations
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Congress of the United States

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March 4, 2004

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld Secretary U.S. Department of Defense The Pentagon Room 3E880 Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We are writing concerning the security situation in Colombia, one of our allies in the global war on terrorism. We have noted from press reports that over the last several months, Colombian President Uribe's security forces have had increased operational success against terrorist organizations, including a number of senior-level captures or kills. These successes can be attributed in part to President Uribe's demobilization program, and they have generated positive reaction from the Colombian population toward supporting President Uribe's efforts to bring peace to his nation.

Given the success of distributing the deck of playing cards featuring the photos of the "most wanted" in Iraq, we think this approach would also be successful in Colombia. It is clear, with three terrorist groups from which to choose, that there are pleuty of candidates whose photos could be put on the cards. It would be an effective and relatively inexpensive way to increase the visibility of the efforts against terrorism in our own backyard. By identifying those Colombian terrorists who have U.S. indictments, and/or those who are the most dangerous to the Colombian population, it would certainly be an additional asset to President Uribe's efforts to regain control of his country.

The media has reported that the Colombian Navy has had success with several versions of decks of cards over the last few years. These reports indicate that since May, the Navy has captured or killed at least six from its most recent deck. Apparently, Colombian Navy and Coast Guard personnel are using the eards to identify those drug traffickers and terrorists who operate in the northern part of Colombia. We believe it would make a lot of sense to take this to the next level and use this tactic nationwide to gather public support for the Uribe government's efforts to finally destroy the terrorist networks in Colombia.

OSD 04115-04

The Honorable Donald H. Rumafeld March 4, 2004 Page Two

We encourage you to consider developing a deck of cards featuring the photos of Colombian terrorists. It is our belief, besed on the two examples cited here, that this would be an invaluable tool for President Uribe and the Colombian government in their efforts to stop

Sincerely,

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Committee on Government Resonn

CASS BALLENGER
Chairman

Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere

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KATHERINE HARRIS
Vice Chairman

Vice Catament
Subcommittee on the Western
Hemisphere
Committee on International
Relations

HENRY J. HTDB

Committee on International Relations

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ELTON GALLEG

Chairman

Subcommittee on International Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Human Rights Committee on International Relations

Chairman HOWARD COBILE

Committee on Crime, Terrorism, And Homeland Security Committee on the Judiciary

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COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

2170 Rayburn Building Washington, D.C. 20515

** Majority Office **



Phone: 202: 225-5021

Fax: 202: 225-2035

TO: The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld

c/o Bureau of Legislative Affairs

FAX #: 1-703-697-8299

FROM: Henry J. Hyde, Chairman

SUBJECT:

TOTAL PAGES: (including cover sheet): 3

MESSAGE/COMMENT:

If you have any questions, please call (202) 225-5021.

DATE: March 17, 2004

TIME SENT: 4:49 pm EST



March 25, 2004

The Honorable Henry J. Hyde Chairman Committee on International Relations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for the letter you signed with your colleagues regarding playing cards featuring Colombian "most wanted" terrorists. I have asked Mr. Doug Feith, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, to address this matter. He will get back to you as soon as possible.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

OSD 04115-04



March 25, 2004

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ESCD Instructions Acknowledgement 2 Action Memo Classified Attached Incoming 🔲 Info Memo OSD Control# 04115-04 Interim Reply [Date: Signed Approved 🗆 MAR 25, 2514 Note Reply Question/Note SOM: Yes Er No □ Response [Front Office Doc DR □ DHR □ Don □ Donald Rumsfeld 🏖 Don Rumsfeld ☐ PW ☐ Paul Wolfowitz ☐ With Best Wishes ☐ Distribution: Original: Addressee(s) ADC Other O Copies: CC Multi-Memo Signers SWT ESR ESR Fax/WashFax | H/C | Other | _____ To: ____ #: _____ No Other Distribution Administrative Notes: