

## THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON



June 14, 2004

The Honorable Tom Davis
Chairman
Committee on Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter inviting me, or General James Hill, Commander of U.S. Southern Command, to testify at your committee's June 17<sup>th</sup> hearing on Plan Colombia. I have asked Mr. Powell Moore, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, to coordinate this matter. He will contact your office soon.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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# **ESCD Instructions** Acknowledgement X Action Merno Classified Attached · Incoming [ Info Memo OSD Control # 08584 -04 Interim Reply Date: Signed → Approved □ Jun 14, 2004 Note Reply Question/Note SOM: Yes ✓ No 🗆 Response 🔲 Front Office Doc DR DHR Don Donald Rumsfeld Don Rumsfeld ☐ PW ☐ Paul Wolfowitz ☐ With Best Wishes ☐ Distribution: Original: Addressee(s) 🔀 ADC 🗆 Other 🗆 Copies: CC ☐ Multi-Memo ☐ Signers ☐ SWT ☐ ESR ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ Fax/WashFax H/C Other To: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_ #: \_\_\_\_\_ No Other Distribution 🗆 Administrative Notes:

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### Congress of the United States

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COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM 2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

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June 7, 2004

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TOM LANTON, CALIFORNIA

Delivered via Facsimile: (703) 693-5530

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld Secretary Department of Defense 1000 Defense Pentagon Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On Thursday, June 17, 2004, at 2:00 p.m., in Room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Committee on Government Reform will conduct an oversight hearing on Plan Colombia, an important component of U.S. foreign and counternarcotics policy. The hearing will examine the U.S. Government's support and contributions to progress being made in Colombia to fight drug trafficking and international crime, and to improve economic and social conditions. The Committee invites you or General James I. Hill, Commander of the U.S. Southern Command, to participate in this hearing as a witness and to respond to questions posed by Members of the Committee.

We would like your testimony to address, but not be limited to, the following issues concerning Plan Colombia:

- 1. How U.S. assistance to Colombia has helped the country combat narcoterrorism;
- 2. The status of current U.S. and Colombian counternarcotics operations including detection and monitoring programs, interdiction efforts, and military support in the region;
- 3. And overview of training and equipment programs provided to the Colombian forces including the Colombian Army's Counternarcotics Brigade and the Infrastructure Security Strategy Program;

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld June 7, 2004 Page 2

- How the U.S. Southern Command works collaboratively with the Colombian Government and other U.S. Agencies and Departments to focus on counterdrug programs and;
- 5. An assessment of remaining challenges in the two countries' battle against narcoterrorism.

We request that witnesses limit their oral presentations to five minutes to allow sufficient time for questions and answers. Witnesses' full written testimony will be entered into the official hearing record. Please notify us 48 hours in advance of the hearing if audiovisual equipment will be necessary for your presentation. Please deliver 100 copies of your testimony no later than 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2004, to: Teresa Austin, Chief Clerk, Committee on Government Reform, U.S. House of Representatives, 2157 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. In addition, please provide an electronic copy of your testimony to Teresa Austin@mail.house.gov.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this important hearing. If you have any questions regarding this hearing, please contact David Marin, Deputy Staff Director and Communications Director, at (202) 225-5074.

Sincerely,

Tom Davis Chairman TOU BAVE, VIROSIL

CHARMAN

JAM BURTON, INDIANA

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To:

The Honorable Powel! Moore

From: Susia Schulte, Professional Staff Member

Assistant Secretary of Defense for

Legislative Affairs

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Phone: (202) 225-5074

Pages: 3 (Including cover sheet)

Date: 06/07/04

#### • Commentsi

Mr. Moore,

Attached is a witness invitation letter for General James T. Hill, Commander of U.S. Southern Command. The Committee on Government Reform will conduct an oversight hearing on Plan Colombia on June 17, 2004. Chairman Davis would appreciate General Hill's participation in this important hearing as a witness. I have been coordinating with Lt Colonel Neal Zimmerman, of your office, to secure General Hill's availability. A hard copy of invitation letter will be mailed to your office in addition to this fax. Please call me if you have any questions. Thanks.

Susie Schulte

Professional Staff Member

Sovemment Reform Committee

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