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October 22, 2007

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Madam Secretary:

I have serious concerns about the State Department's apparent mismanagement of a key program to train Iraqi police forces. Since 2004, the Department has spent over \$1 billion on a contract with DynCorp International to train the Iraqi police under the "CivPol" program. But when the Oversight Committee sought basic information about how this money had been spent, the Committee was told that the Department "could not locate the contract file."

The CivPol program is the State Department's program to provide Iraq and other nations with training for their civilian police forces. The CivPol program is managed by the Office of Civilian Police and Rule of Law within the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL). Under this program, the State Department has entered into a series of task orders with DynCorp for police training in Iraq. Collectively, these task orders have exceeded \$1 billion since 2004.¹

Questions about the State Department's management of the CivPol contract were raised by Stuart Bowen, the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, at a February 15, 2007, hearing before the Oversight Committee. Mr. Bowen testified that DynCorp had performed unauthorized work at a residential camp for police trainers and that the State Department had failed to catch overcharges because of inadequate contractor management. Mr. Bowen told the Committee: the "system that we have set up depends on an effective contracting officer's representative exerting oversight of how the money is spent under a contract; that did not happen in this case."²

¹ Briefing by U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (Mar. 5, 2007).

² House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Testimony of Stuart W. Bowen, Jr., *Hearing on Iraq Reconstruction: An Overview*, 110th Cong. (Feb. 15, 2007).

Following the February 15 hearing, Committee staff requested a briefing from State Department officials to discuss the State Department's management and oversight of this program. During this briefing, which was held on March 5, State Department officials informed Committee staff that the Office of Civilian Police and Rule of Law, which manages the CivPol program, was in such disarray that they "could not locate the contract file" for this billion-dollar contract.³

State Department officials also informed Committee staff that a single State Department Contract Officer Representative has been overseeing DynCorp contracts for over a decade, significantly longer than the Department typically allows a single official to oversee a government contractor.⁴ State Department officials reported that it was this official's responsibility to maintain the contract file, and that he remained the head of the Office of Civilian Police and Rule of Law, despite his failure to maintain basic and critical information about the contractors under his management.⁵

After this briefing, the Committee sent you a letter on March 22, 2007, requesting a host of documents relating to the CivPol program. In particular, the Committee requested "audits of proposals, billings, confirmation of receipt of goods and services of all contracts and subcontracts with DynCorp, ... [r]eviews, assessments, or other analyses of DynCorp's performance as a State Department contractor or subcontractor, including analyses of inventory management, subcontractor management, asset management, and all other business systems," and all e-mails to or from the Contract Officer Representative who was in charge of overseeing the CivPol contract.⁶ The Committee requested these documents by March 30, 2007.

On May 23, 2007, the State Department delivered a small number of documents in response to the Committee's request.⁷ This production did not include any of the contract documents that were requested. It also did not include any documents from INL or the Office of Civilian Police and Rule of Law.

Committee staff have made repeated attempts to follow-up with State Department officials regarding the status of the Department's efforts to comply with the Committee's request. Since March, Committee staff have inquired over a dozen times about the status of the

³ Briefing by U.S. Department of State, *supra* note 1.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Letter from Henry A. Waxman to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice (Mar. 22, 2007).

⁷ Letter from Jeffrey T. Bergner, Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs (May 23, 2007).

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DynCorp request. In response, State Department officials have made repeated assurances that documents responding to the Committee's request will be forthcoming. On May 22 — now over five months ago — a State Department official informed Committee staff that the “processing office ... has already received thousands of pages more of potentially responsive documents ... and is preparing the second of multiple tranches.”⁸

These documents, however, have never been delivered.

I am writing again today to renew my request for information the Committee originally sought more than seven months ago. The police training program is a critical component of the Administration's efforts to bring stability to Iraq. It is a matter of serious concern that this critical initiative appears to have been so poorly managed.

I ask that you provide all documents requested in the Committee's letter of March 22, 2007, as soon as possible, but in no case later than Friday, November 2. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me or ask your staff to contact Christopher Davis or Theodore Chuang with the Committee staff at (202) 225-5420.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman
Chairman

Enclosure

cc: Tom Davis
Ranking Minority Member

⁸ E-mail from Department of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs to Committee Staff (May 22, 2007).