ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM 2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

> Majority (202) 225-5051 Minority (202) 225-5074

January 22, 2007

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

Dear Madam Secretary:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is conducting an investigation into the involvement of private security firms in the reconstruction efforts in Iraq. As part of that investigation, we hereby request copies of documents pertaining to the State Department's contracts with Blackwater USA and any affiliated entities. Specifically, the Committee requests that the Department produce the following documents:

- (1) Copies of contracts, subcontracts, invoices, supporting documentation, payment records, and correspondence relating to Blackwater USA, Blackwater Security Consultants, Inc., or any affiliated entities; and
- (2) Copies of all audits conducted by the State Department or outside auditors of Blackwater USA, Blackwater Security Consultants, Inc., or any affiliated entities.

In order to assist the Committee in preparing for a hearing scheduled for February 7, 2007, we request that you provide these documents as soon as possible, but in no case later than **Monday, January 29**. If you determine that you will be unable to make a complete production by this date, please contact Committee staff to discuss possible modifications to this schedule.

In addition, the Committee requests a briefing on any State Department contracts or subcontracts involving Blackwater USA, Blackwater Security Consultants, Inc., or any affiliated entities.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee in the House of Representatives and has broad oversight jurisdiction as set forth in

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House Rule X clauses 1(m), 2, 3(i) and 4(c). An attachment to this letter provides additional information on how to respond to the Committee's request.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact David Rapallo or Theodore Chuang with the Committee staff at (202) 225-5420.

Sincerely,

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Henry A. Waxman Chairman

Enclosure

cc: Tom Davis

Ranking Minority Member