

## PRESS RELEASE



**United States Senate  
Committee on Armed Services**

**John Warner, Virginia  
Chairman**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 5, 2003

### **Senate Armed Services Committee Schedules Further Hearings on Iraq**

Senator John Warner, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee and Senator Carl Levin, Ranking Member of the Committee issued the following statement:

"Tomorrow, the Committee on Armed Services will conduct its third hearing since the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom, on operations in Iraq, including the search for weapons of mass destruction (WMD). These hearings are in addition to the daily briefings offered to the Senate by the Pentagon on Operation Iraqi Freedom during the height of the military operations in Iraq.

"Tomorrow's hearing will focus of the mission of the 75<sup>th</sup> Exploitation Task Force and the mission to be performed by the Iraq Survey Group related to Iraqi WMD and other issues. The witnesses for tomorrow's hearing are:

- Dr. Stephen A. Cambone  
Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence
- Vice Admiral Lowell E. Jacoby, USN  
Director Defense Intelligence Agency
- A representative of the Central Intelligence Agency

"The Committee held a hearing on May 23 on current U.S. policy and military operations in Iraq, including the search for Iraqi weapons of mass destruction. Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Peter Pace, USMC, and Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs

Ambassador William Burns testified at that hearing. The hearing was conducted in closed session, as will be the case with tomorrow's hearing, due to security considerations.

"Additionally, on April 10 the Committee conducted a hearing, in open session, on post-conflict Iraq with Deputy Secretary Wolfowitz and Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General Pace, USMC as the witnesses. During that hearing, numerous issues related to post-conflict Iraq were discussed, including the search for WMD.

"As part of its oversight responsibilities for the Department of Defense, including the defense intelligence components, and in keeping with precedent, the Committee will initiate an extensive series of 'lessons learned' hearings in relation to the Afghanistan and Iraq operations in the near future, as was done in the aftermath of such major military operations as the 1991 Persian Gulf war and the conflict in Kosovo. As part of these hearings, the Committee will examine all aspects of the military operations in Iraq, including the continuing search for weapons of mass destruction.

"It is our intention to hold these 'lessons learned' hearings in both open and closed session, as was the Committee's procedure following the 1991 Persian Gulf war and the conflict in Kosovo.

"The Committee will work with the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on intelligence issues related to Iraq."