

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 6, 2007

Honorable Henry Waxman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
Chairman
2154 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Waxman,

With our nation at war, it is deplorable that vital national security actions continue to be leaked to the media. Most recently, on May 22, 2007, an article by Brian Ross and Richard Esposito of ABC News, "Bush Authorizes New Covert Action Against Iran," reported, that "sources, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the subject, say President Bush has signed a 'nonlethal presidential findings' that puts into motion a CIA plan...." Unconfirmed – and irresponsibly reported – allegations such as these threaten the lives of our soldiers and intelligence officers in the field in the Middle East and stifle the progress of continued diplomatic outreach.

We request that as Chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Committee, you look into the releasing of sensitive information and its impact on the security of our nation, the performance of our government agencies, and the viability of our diplomatic relationships overseas. Instances of whistle blowing are one thing, but proactively weakening our nation's security is quite another. When rumored covert operations are leaked to the press, we have an obligation to ensure the offenders are held accountable and our security capabilities remain undiminished.

While the United States continues pursuing diplomatic efforts and navigating the serious, ongoing issues in the Middle East, we must not tip our hand to help our enemies, thus harming the innocent civilians who are threatened daily by unstable regimes. We look forward to working with you on this issue and if we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Patrick McHenry
Member of Congress



John Mica
Member of Congress



Lynn Westmoreland
Member of Congress



William Sali
Member of Congress



Virginia Foxx
Member of Congress



Jim Jordan
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa
Member of Congress



Todd Platts
Member of Congress

cc: Speaker Nancy Pelosi