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ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

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April 27, 2007

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary
Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Oversight Committee is investigating why the Tillman family and the American public were misled about the cause of death of Army Corporal Patrick Tillman. To assist the Committee with its investigation, I ask that you provide documents relating to how and when high-ranking Defense Department officials learned of the circumstances surrounding Corporal Tillman's death.

Specifically, the Committee requests that you provide all documents received or generated by the following offices between April 1, 2002, and July 1, 2004, that relate to Corporal Tillman:

1. The Office of the Secretary of Defense, including the Office of the Secretary and the Office of Public Affairs;
2. The Office of the Secretary of the Army, including the Office of the Secretary and the Office of Public Affairs; and
3. The Offices of Brigadier General Howard Yellen, General Doug Brown, and General John Abizaid, including their personal staff.

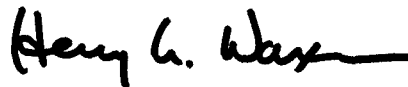
These documents should be provided to the Committee by **Friday, May 18, 2007**.

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 House Rule X. An attachment to this letter provides additional information on how to respond to the Committee's request.

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
April 27, 2007
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If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me or John Williams or Suzanne Renaud with the Committee staff at (202) 225-5420.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry A. Waxman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Henry A. Waxman
Chairman

Enclosure

cc: Tom Davis
Ranking Minority Member