

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

January 5, 2007

The Honorable George W. Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

On the eve of your decision regarding an adjusted policy on Iraq, please allow us to, as strongly as possible, make the case for moving the 21 Iraqi battalions which are trained and equipped, and which are located in peaceful provinces, into the fight in Baghdad.

Presently, eight of the 18 Iraq provinces experience less than one attack per day. Their description follows:

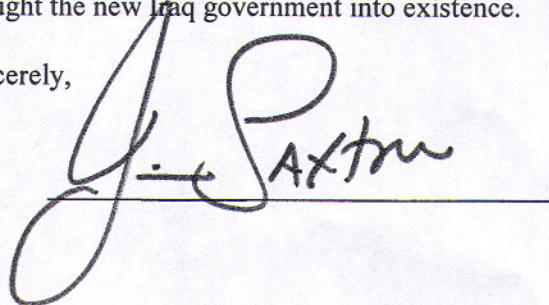
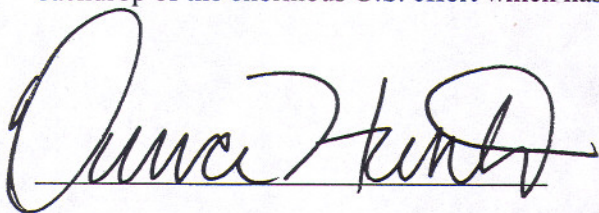
Province	Attacks/day	Iraqi Battalions
Maysan	<1	3
Dhi Qar	<1	3
Muthanna	<1	3
An-Najaf	<1	0
Karbala	<1	3
Sulamaniyah	<1	3
Irbil	<1	6
Dahuk	<1	0

The key to establishing an adequate security apparatus in any new nation is developing operational capability in military forces. The way to develop mature Iraqi forces is to move all of them into the fight.

This logical move should be non-negotiable. The Iraq Ministry of Defense (MOD) can make this happen by simply issuing the order, as any defense ministry does, to the relevant Battalion or Brigade Commanders. If the direct order is disobeyed, the Iraqi officers who won't go should be replaced with ones who will obey.

Mr. President, this requirement of Iraq sending all its battalions into the fight should not be finessed or deflected by the MOD. It should be an absolute U.S. requirement, made as it is against the backdrop of the enormous U.S. effort which has brought the new Iraq government into existence.

Sincerely,



Cc: The Honorable Robert Gates

Wally Menger

John A. LaBund

Raylett

Kan Burton

Bivly

Charles Brantley Jr.

Frank Stranks

Jim Pennington

Jim Pennington

Joe Wilson

Steve Buyer

Jo Ann Emerson

Henry Everett

Don Riebold

Scott Dym

Shelma Drake

Sam Horn

Zach Wamp

Bill Shuster

Phil Gingrey

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Rodney Alexander

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