

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
Washington, DC 20511

February 9, 2010

**Statement by Director of National Intelligence Dennis C. Blair
On the Passing of Congressman John Murtha**

Chairman Jack Murtha was a friend of the men and women of the Intelligence Community. He cared about our work and asked insightful questions to be sure we had the resources required to support policymakers, the military and the acquisition community. Chairman Murtha was a patriot in the truest sense: he worked for a strong America, and he devoted time to meeting with wounded veterans and deployed forces. His keen intellect and strategic focus forced intelligence professionals to work harder and smarter and to look down the road to prepare for tomorrow's challenges. The Intelligence Community has lost a dear friend.

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