

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2004

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

We are writing to formally request that you instruct the Military Inspector General of the Department of Defense to supervise the investigation of tortured Iraqi prisoners of war, and other reported gross violations of the Geneva Convention at Abu Ghraib Prison in Iraq.

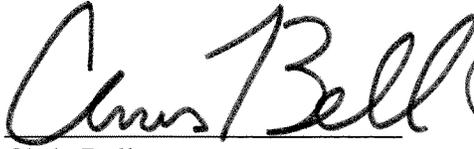
The images of brutalized Iraqi Prisoners of War, broadcast throughout the world by Arab language media outlets, have quite possibly done the most damage to American credibility, intentions and policies in the Middle East region to date. This horrendous incident, and the potentially disastrous effect it could have on our ability to foster stability and security in the region, necessitates an immediate and thorough investigation conducted by the Inspector General.

Public statements made by General Richard Myers, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, indicate that the Department of Defense is currently conducting several separate internal investigations. According to the Inspector General Act of 1978, it is the duty of the Inspector General to, "give particular regard to the activities of internal audits, inspections, and investigative units of the military departments with a view towards avoiding duplication and insuring effective coordination and cooperation."

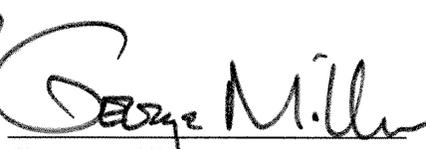
Leaked portions of an internal report conducted by Major General Antonio M. Taguba several months ago indicate that, in addition to members of the 372nd Military Police, abuses at Abu Ghraib Prison involved members of the American Intelligence Community, agencies outside of the Department of Defense and private contractors. Only the Inspector General has the necessary statutory authority to request assistance and information from other federal agencies.

In the event that you exercise your authority under the Inspector General Act of 1978 to prevent the Inspector General from initiating an investigation into the incidents at Abu Ghraib Prison, we ask that you explain your decision in writing to the House Government Reform Committee and the Senate Government Affairs Committee within 30 days.

Sincerely,



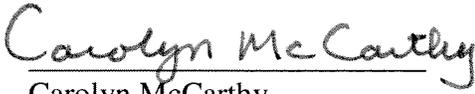
Chris Bell
Member of Congress



George Miller
Member of Congress



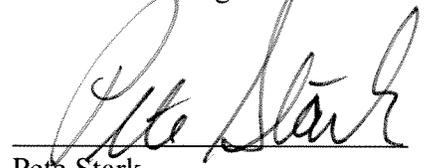
Rosa DeLauro
Member of Congress



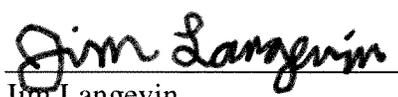
Carolyn McCarthy
Member of Congress



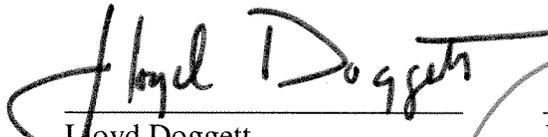
William Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



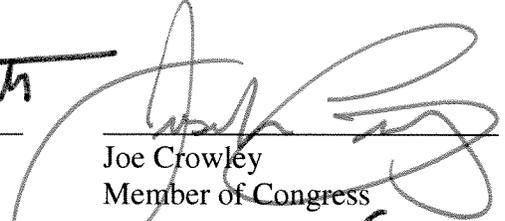
Pete Stark
Member of Congress



Jim Langevin
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



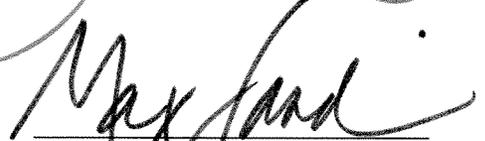
Joe Crowley
Member of Congress



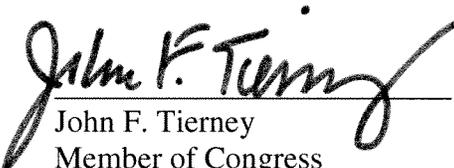
Mark Udall
Member of Congress



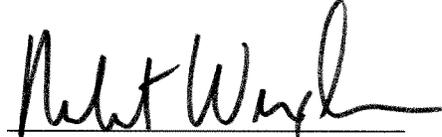
Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Max Sandlin
Member of Congress



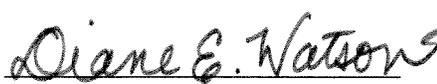
John F. Tierney
Member of Congress



Robert Wexler
Member of Congress



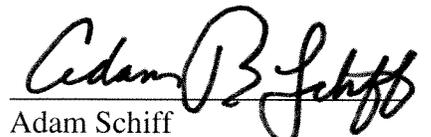
Harold E. Ford Jr.
Member of Congress



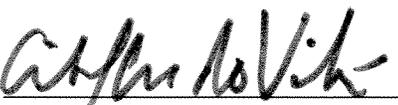
Diane E. Watson
Member of Congress



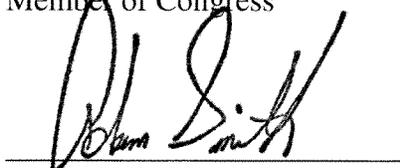
Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



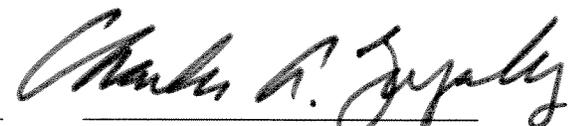
Adam Schiff
Member of Congress



Aníbal Acevedo-Vilá
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Charles A. Gonzalez
Member of Congress

Ted Strickland
Ted Strickland
Member of Congress

Michael H. Michaud
Michael H. Michaud
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Nick Lampson
Nick Lampson
Member of Congress

Janice D. Schakowsky
Janice D. Schakowsky
Member of Congress

William Delahunt
William Delahunt
Member of Congress

Patrick J. Kennedy
Patrick J. Kennedy
Member of Congress

Betty McCollum
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

Rahm Emanuel
Rahm Emanuel
Member of Congress

Frank Pallone Jr.
Frank Pallone Jr.
Member of Congress

Ellen O. Tauscher
Ellen O. Tauscher
Member of Congress

Tom Udall
Tom Udall
Member of Congress

Joseph Hoeffel
Joseph Hoeffel
Member of Congress

Jim McDermott
Jim McDermott
Member of Congress

Chris Van Hollen
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress

Steve Israel
Steve Israel
Member of Congress

Kendrick B. Meek
Kendrick B. Meek
Member of Congress

Brian Baird
Brian Baird
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Timothy H. Bishop
Timothy H. Bishop
Member of Congress

Karen McCarthy
Karen McCarthy
Member of Congress

Dennis Moore
Dennis Moore
Member of Congress

Sam Farr
Sam Farr
Member of Congress

Raúl M. Grijalva
Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

Barney Frank

Barney Frank
Member of Congress

James L. Oberstar

James L. Oberstar
Member of Congress

Corrine Brown

Corrine Brown
Member of Congress

Martin Frost

Martin Frost
Member of Congress

Tom Lantos

Tom Lantos
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

Lynn Woolsey

Lynn Woolsey
Member of Congress

John Conyers Jr.

John Conyers Jr.
Member of Congress

Ed Pastor

Ed Pastor
Member of Congress

Sander Levin

Sander Levin
Member of Congress

Louise McIntosh Slaughter

Louise McIntosh Slaughter
Member of Congress

Nita M. Lowey

Nita M. Lowey
Member of Congress

Bob Filner

Bob Filner
Member of Congress

Solomon P. Ortiz

Solomon P. Ortiz
Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

Darlene Hooley

Darlene Hooley
Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren

Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

Gene Green

Gene Green
Member of Congress

Maurice D. Hinchey

Maurice D. Hinchey
Member of Congress

Artur Davis

Artur Davis
Member of Congress

Martin Olav Sabo

Martin Olav Sabo
Member of Congress

Sheila Jackson-Lee

Sheila Jackson-Lee
Member of Congress

Lincoln Davis

Lincoln Davis
Member of Congress

Neil Abercrombie

Neil Abercrombie
Member of Congress

Lois Capps

Lois Capps
Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne

Donald M. Payne
Member of Congress

Ciro D. Rodriguez

Ciro D. Rodriguez
Member of Congress

Michael M. Honda

Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress

Lane Evans

Lane Evans
Member of Congress

Eddie Bernice Johnson

Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

José E. Serrano

José E. Serrano
Member of Congress

Denise L. Majette

Denise L. Majette
Member of Congress

Hilda L. Solis

Hilda L. Solis
Member of Congress

Martin T. Meehan

Martin T. Meehan
Member of Congress

Silvestre Reyes

Silvestre Reyes
Member of Congress

Dennis J. Kucinich

Dennis J. Kucinich
Member of Congress

Edolphus Towns

Edolphus Towns
Member of Congress

Rick Larsen

Rick Larsen
Member of Congress

Edward J. Markey

Edward J. Markey
Member of Congress

Bernard Sanders

Bernard Sanders
Member of Congress

Julia Carson

Julia Carson
Member of Congress

Peter A. DeFazio

Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress

Alcee Hastings

Alcee Hastings
Member of Congress

Carolyn C. Kilpatrick

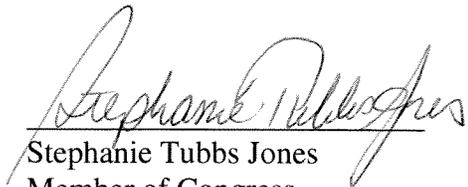
Carolyn C. Kilpatrick
Member of Congress

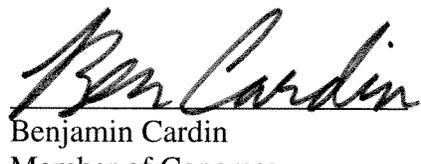
David E. Price

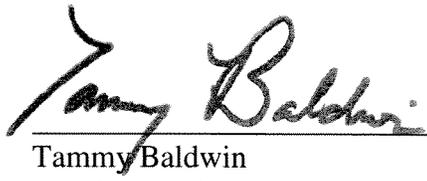
David E. Price
Member of Congress

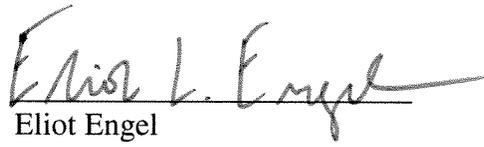
Gary L. Ackerman

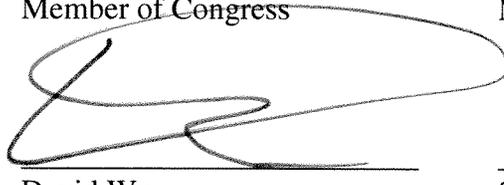
Gary L. Ackerman
Member of Congress


Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Member of Congress

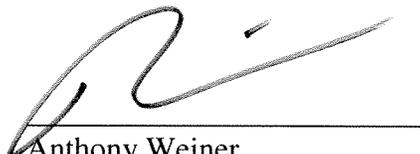

Benjamin Cardin
Member of Congress


Tammy Baldwin
Member of Congress


Eliot Engel
Member of Congress


David Wu
Member of Congress

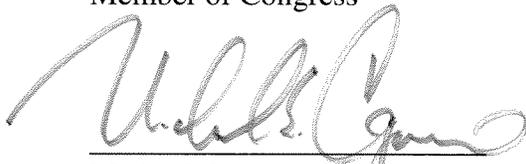

Sherrod Brown
Member of Congress


Anthony Weiner
Member of Congress


Jerry Costello
Member of Congress

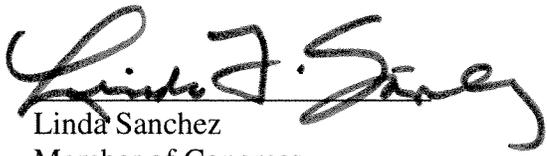

Ken Lucas
Member of Congress


Ruben Hinojosa
Member of Congress

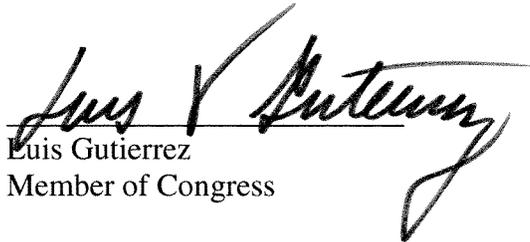

Michael Capuano
Member of Congress


Dianna DeGette
Member of Congress

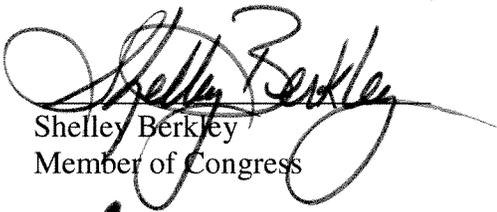

Tom Allen
Member of Congress



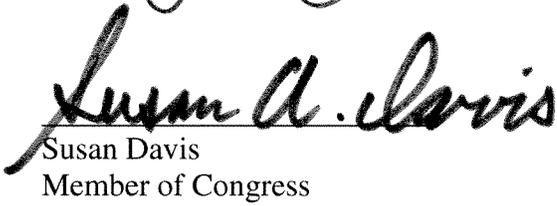
Linda Sanchez
Member of Congress



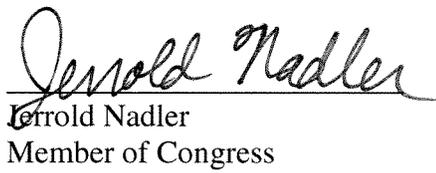
Luis Gutierrez
Member of Congress



Shelley Berkley
Member of Congress



Susan Davis
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress