

We represent the class of persons tortured in Iraq in a civil lawsuit brought against the two government contractors who participated in the torture, CACI International, Inc. and Titan Corporation.

We have learned from direct interviews conducted in Iraq in August 2004 that the torture CONTINUES despite the publicity surrounding the revelations of the Abu Ghraib torture. We are enclosing for your information a detailed summary of facts relating to the recent torture. As you will see from reviewing the summary, it is clear that torture HAS and IS transpiring at multiple, previously undisclosed, locations in addition to Abu Ghraib.

We respectfully request that you place this letter and attachment into the hearing record.

We also respectfully request that the investigation into the detainee abuses continue and be expanded to include locations other than Abu Ghraib. We ask that you hold additional hearings and permit us or our clients, the victims, to testify about what has and is transpiring. We suggest that those hearings include questioning of representatives from CACI International, Inc. and Titan Corporation, the two corporations shown by the military's investigation to be complicit in the torture.

Please do not hesitate to contact either of us if you have any questions about the incidents described in the attachment.

SUSAN L. BURKE,  
Montgomery,  
McCracken, Walker  
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MONTGOMERY, MCCrackEN,  
WALKER & RHOADS, LLP,  
Philadelphia, PA, October 13, 2004.

Re Incidents of Torture and Abuse.

VICE ADMIRAL ALBERT T. CHURCH, III,  
Naval Inspector General, Office of the Naval Inspector General, Washington DC.

DEAR ADMIRAL CHURCH: We are part of the legal team prosecuting a class action seeking to hold government contractors CACI and Titan Corporation accountable for their role in the Iraqi prison scandal. As part of that effort, we have been interviewing detainees who have been tortured or abused. We have learned of many instances of torture by Americans (both military and civilian) that do not appear to be the subject of any ongoing military investigation.

We are attaching for your information a report that summarizes eleven such incidents. We would very much appreciate learning when investigations have been commenced with respect to the incidents described in the attached report. We also have additional incidents to report to whomever you designate as the appropriate person to receive the information.

Based on the information we have learned, it is clear that Abu Ghraib prison was not the only prison where detainees have been and are being tortured. It is also clear that the publicity surrounding the Abu Ghraib photographs did not prevent torture from continuing to occur.

As I trust you know and as explained in the enclosed affidavits signed by two experienced military interrogators, using torture during interrogation harms not only the victims but also places American troops in grave danger. We are very concerned that not enough action has been taken to halt past practices. Given that the conduct at issue clearly violates the Geneva Conventions and United States law, we find the insufficient oversight troubling.

We look forward to hearing from you or your staff.

Sincerely,

SUSAN L. BURKE.

# UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF NURSING DESIGNATED AS A NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR NURSING CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I acknowledge a recent accomplishment in my home State of South Dakota. I am pleased to share with this body that the University of South Dakota, Department of Nursing has recently been awarded the prestigious honor of being designated as one of three National League for Nursing, Centers for Excellence in the United States for 2004-2007.

The National League for Nursing, Centers of Excellence is designed to distinguish those schools that demonstrate innovation in nursing research and education. The award requires that beneficiaries be committed to continuous quality improvement in their programs. Being acknowledged by the National League in this regard indicates a firm commitment by the school as a whole to pursue and sustain excellence in student learning, faculty development, and nursing education research. I am pleased that the USD Department of Nursing has earned such a high honor, which is clearly the result of the hard work and dedication of the faculty, staff, and students.

The associate degree nursing program at the University of South Dakota is a State-funded program that is available at the main campus in Vermillion, SD and campuses in Sioux Falls, Rapid City, Pierre and Watertown. In addition, the program has a distance education partnership with the Good Samaritan Society in Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. There are over 525 students enrolled in the nursing program, and 400 of those students are in communities away from the main campus in Vermillion. Such out of state partnerships coincides with the NLN mission to continually advance quality nursing education throughout the three years the school carry the NLN Center of Excellence designation.

I am pleased with the USD Nursing School's excellent work in training and mentoring future health care providers. Nurses are an essential component of the health care team and the work of the school will ensure that in the years to come South Dakota will have access to these important health professionals. I look forward to the progress and outcomes that will result from this 3-year designation, and once again commend the hard work of the faculty, staff, and student body who continuously strive towards improving the health and well being of their communities.●

## VETERANS DAY, 2004

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Mr. President, it is vital that we pause to remember Veterans Day, which was observed by this Nation last week. While our brave troops are protecting our freedom around the world, it is especially important that we honor those who have served before them. We owe our 25 million living veterans our heartfelt appreciation for answering the call to duty and serving this Nation in the United States Armed Forces. And, this Nation must never forget the ultimate sacrifice paid by so many of our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines.

Today, as it should be, military service is being held in high regard. The ongoing events in Afghanistan and Iraq have renewed America's sense of gratitude toward the men and women of the Armed Forces for the great sacrifices they make everyday on behalf of our Nation. I personally want to thank all of our veterans and members of the Armed Forces for their selfless service to this country.

As we observe Veterans Day, let us remember that we owe our veterans our honor and respect year around. It would be truly shameful if veterans felt forgotten except for this one day per year. There must be no wavering in our commitment toward those who served in the United States Armed Forces.

I am proud to represent the State of Florida. Florida has one of the highest veteran populations in the country. I am fortunate to represent not only the almost 2 million veterans of Florida, but veterans all over this Nation. It has been my sincere pleasure and honor to serve as ranking member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs for these past 2 years, and it is my hope that my term on the Committee has benefited those men and women who have sacrificed and served on behalf of this grateful Nation.

Throughout my tenure on this committee, I have fought very hard for improvements in benefits and services to veterans. I constantly think of Abraham Lincoln's pledge, "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphans." It is especially fitting that in the shadow of Veterans Day comes the passage of important veterans health and benefits legislation by both Chambers of Congress. We must continue to advance benefits and health care for our Nation's bravest individuals and their families. This recently passed legislation will improve and expand a host of veterans benefits, including: survivors benefits for spouses with dependent children; housing benefits; and educational benefits for Guard and Reserve members, veterans, and spouses of veterans killed on active duty. I am proud of this legislation and hope that future Congresses continue to provide veterans with a wide array of necessary benefits and services and strive to meet their evolving needs. Our veterans deserve no less.

On Veterans Day, and everyday, we should honor those who have worn the uniforms of our Nation. They are the best of the best.

#### NEW WAKE UP CALLS ON GLOBAL WARMING

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, over the last few weeks, we have all gotten a loud wake up call about the changes taking place around the world due to global warming. Unfortunately, the Bush administration is still turning a deaf ear to these alarms.

It baffles me that anyone can still deride or ignore the signs of global warming. It's even more astonishing that some people are even touting the benefits of global warming. Better access to oil and gas resources does not make up for flooded coastlines and the loss of entire species.

Yet the administration is still burying its head and hiding behind claims of insufficient research. Despite the overwhelming scientific evidence put forward in two reports released by the Arctic Council and the Pew Center, the President is still running away from his original campaign pledge to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

In fact, the administration's top climate official reacted to these two new assessments of global warming by saying caps on greenhouse gases would not happen during this administration. Period.

These two reports clearly show that we cannot wait any longer. We cannot spend another four years hiding from the truth and delaying solutions. According to the Arctic Council report, temperatures have risen by up to 7 degrees in the last 50 years and the snow cover has declined 10 percent over the last 30 years.

These changes not only have a dramatic effect on Arctic communities, but they also threaten the economy and environment of the rest of the world.

In my corner of the globe, climate models predict that New England's temperatures could rise by ten degrees over the next century.

In its practical effects on us and on our daily lives, that is even greater than it sounds. That is greater than any climate change experienced in our region in the last 10,000 years. In New England, our economy and environment are directly linked. Tourism is one of the top economic drivers in Vermont. Global warming threatens the revenues generated by the leaf-peepers who visit our communities in the fall, the skiers who arrive in the winter, and the anglers and boaters who come in the summer.

Climate models predict that New England forests will become populated mostly by oak and hickory. We will lose the brilliant red, orange and yellows of maple and birch trees.

Ski areas will have shorter seasons and will have to invest much more of their revenues in snowmaking. As our

lakes and streams become more acidic and polluted, the attraction for anglers will decline.

Climate changes will also affect the heart of Vermont's working landscape—the thousands of family-run farms, maple sugar operations and small woodlots. Milder winter temperatures will bring more exotic pests that threaten our forests, worse air quality will degrade our soils, and more severe weather—such as flooding and ice storms—will damage farms and forests.

The maple sugar industry supports a \$100 million annual economy in our state and 4000 seasonal jobs. If climate models play out, this industry could be wiped out as sugar maples recede from all U.S. regions but the northern tip of Maine by 2100.

But even before that, sugarmakers are going to see their operations affected by warming. As every Vermonter knows, you need cold nights and warm days to get the sap to run. Climate changes have already shortened the tapping season by almost a month.

Although the changes predicted for New England are still several years—and, I dearly, dearly hope, decades away—we must act now if we are to prevent them.

I applaud the actions taken by New England states to control greenhouse emissions, but our states cannot do it alone. We are all in this together. The Bush administration must act. Congress must act.

I hope that the two recent reports from the Arctic Council and the Pew Center will prompt the White House and the Congress to recognize the responsibility we all have to future generations as well as to our own generation to start now.

Passage of the Climate Stewardship Act is a first step, and it is one that I hope we can take next year.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, one area in which the Department of the Treasury should increase their activities is in supporting U.S. financial service firms in opening up markets for our products in other countries. In some of the most important financial markets in the world the Department of the Treasury does not have personnel whose principal responsibility is to assist American financial service firms expand their presence in those markets. The Department should establish Financial Attaches in the following important capital markets:

Brussels: The expected pace of change in the EU financial markets in the next few years and the complexity of capital markets legislation now in formation justifies a focused U.S. presence at the center of the newly expanded EU.

London: London's capital markets play a critical role in the global economy and foreign exchange markets.

Shanghai: The rapidly growing Chinese economy might present significant opportunities for U.S. firms, but recent experience has shown that such

opportunities will not materialize without vigorous insistence that China abide by its commitments. It is critical that the U.S. Treasury Department have an on-the-ground presence in China.

I look forward to working with my colleagues and the Department of Treasury to establish financial attaché positions in Brussels, London and Shanghai and to expand opportunities for U.S. firms.

#### PRIVATIZATION OF AVIATION SECURITY SCREENERS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today the Transportation Security Administration, TSA, will begin receiving applications from U.S. airports that wish to participate in the Screener Partnership Program. This program will allow airports to hire security screeners employed by private-sector companies to provide baggage and passenger security screening at their facilities for the first time since September 11, 2001.

In the aftermath of the attacks of 9/11, security screening at U.S. airports was federalized because commercial airplanes were turned into guided missiles. Those attacks demonstrated that the then current airport security system was not working. Less than two weeks later, the Government Accountability Office, GAO, testified before the Senate Commerce Committee that screeners were deficient at detecting threatening objects and were not given sufficient training by employers and access controls to secure areas in airports were weak.

The congressional conferees of the Aviation and Transportation Security Act, ATSA, also concluded that "a fundamental change (is required) in the way (the U.S.) approaches the task of ensuring the safety and security of the civil air transportation system."

It is the responsibility of the administration and the Congress to ensure that aviation security does not fall back to the pre-9/11 status quo. Congress understood the need to evaluate how well a federalized workforce would compare to a privately employed workforce prior to allowing privatization which is why the ATSA included a 3-year screener pilot program involving five U.S. airports.

Despite this pilot program, the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General testified at a House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee hearing on April 22, 2004, that there was not sufficient basis to determine conclusively whether the pilot airport screeners performed at a level equal to or greater than that of the federal screeners. GAO, also testifying at the hearing, said, "Little performance data is currently available to compare the performance of private screeners and federal screeners in detecting threat objects." Before the Nation's airports return to commercially hired and trained screening workforces, we must make sure there has truly