

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
& Rhoads, LLC.
SHEREEF H. AKEEL,
Melamed, Dailey &
Akeel, P.C.

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.