

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

November 9, 2005

The Honorable Pat Roberts, Chairman
United States Senate
Select Committee on Intelligence
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jay Rockefeller
United States Senate
Select Committee on Intelligence
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Peter Hoekstra, Chairman
U.S. House of Representatives
Select Committee on Intelligence
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jane Harman
U.S. House of Representatives
Select Committee on Intelligence
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Sen. Roberts, Sen. Rockefeller, Rep Hoekstra and Rep. Harman:

We write to you today to raise our grave concerns about Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Ahmed Chalabi's visit to Washington this week and to request that the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence subpoena this individual this week

Despite allegations that he passed classified information about U.S. intelligence capabilities to Iran and provided false information about Iraqi weapons of mass destruction prior to the war in Iraq, Mr. Chalabi has been accorded official meetings with several Cabinet officers and perhaps even the Vice President and the National Security Advisor. Under the circumstances, we believe that testifying before the SSCI would be a more appropriate venue for an official meeting for Mr. Chalabi.

In 2004, reports surfaced that Mr. Chalabi may have passed sensitive U.S. information to Iranian intelligence officials, including the fact that the United States had broken a crucial Iranian code for transmitting encrypted messages. Such a leak would represent a serious breach in U.S. national security and a violation of federal law. Iran, as you well know, supports global terrorism; openly threatens our closest ally in the Middle East, Israel; and just as openly expresses its determination to acquire nuclear weapons. And yet, rather than being questioned by the FBI, Mr. Chalabi is sitting down with Cabinet secretaries. According to the Wall Street Journal, Mr. Chalabi has never been interviewed by the FBI.

In addition to these allegations, Mr. Chalabi was convicted in absentia of bank fraud by a Jordanian court.

Mr. Chalabi and the Iraqi National Congress, which he founded, supplied inaccurate information to the U.S. government about Saddam Hussein's alleged weapons of mass destruction. This information became a significant and now thoroughly discredited component of the Administration's case for going to war in Iraq.

We believe it is critical to the Committee's Phase II investigations to learn more about this matter, and therefore believe that Mr Chalabi should testify before the committee. We have been told that he has offered to appear before the committee; if that is the case, not only do we strongly urge you to accept this offer, but we also urge you to issue a subpoena this week to obtain his sworn testimony prior to his leaving the country.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senate



George Miller
Member of Congress