

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:

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TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENT AND  
PUBLIC WORKS

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 15, 2006

Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense  
U.S. Department of Defense  
1300 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

It has come to my attention that your office is spending taxpayer dollars to produce partisan political documents for Republican Senators to use during debate on pending Senate Resolutions on the Iraq War. Taxpayer dollars appropriated to the Pentagon should be used to help our troops win the war in Iraq, not help you win political debates in Washington.

In addition, your office's activities appear to violate two laws that prohibit the Executive Branch from using taxpayer dollars for lobbying and propaganda activities: 18 U.S.C. § 1913<sup>1</sup> and the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, the District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006, P.L. 109-115, §824 (2005).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 18 U.S.C. § 1913, *Lobbying With Appropriated Moneys*, states:

No part of the money appropriated by any enactment of Congress shall, in the absence of express authorization by Congress, be used directly or indirectly to pay for any personal service, advertisement, telegram, telephone, letter, printed or written matter, or other device, intended or designed to influence in any manner a Member of Congress, a jurisdiction, or an official of any government, to favor, adopt, or oppose, by vote or otherwise, any legislation, law, ratification, policy, or appropriation, whether before or after the introduction of any bill, measure, or resolution proposing such legislation, law, ratification, policy, or appropriation; but this shall not prevent officers or employees of the United States or of its departments or agencies from communicating to any such Member or official, at his request, or to Congress or such official, through the proper official channels, requests for any legislation, law, ratification, policy, or appropriations which they deem necessary for the efficient conduct of the public business, or from making any communication whose prohibition by this section might, in the opinion of the Attorney General, violate the Constitution or interfere with the conduct of foreign policy, counter-intelligence, intelligence, or national security activities. Violations of this section shall constitute violations of section 1352 (a) of title 31.

<sup>2</sup> The provision states:

No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be used directly or indirectly, including by private contractor, for publicity or propaganda purposes within the United States not heretofore authorized by the Congress.

On June 14<sup>th</sup>, your office electronically submitted a "debate prep book" to Members of Congress, the U.S. Ambassador to Belgium and the Embassy of Iraq. This prep book contains large sections of highly political and partisan attacks that can be made against the pending Senate Resolutions. To make matters worse, it appears that your office forwarded these materials to representatives of a foreign government to be used against American legislators.

The prep book was accompanied by the following e-mail:

**From:** Scott, Traci CIV OSD LA [<mailto:Traci.Scott@osd.mil>]  
<<mailto:Traci.Scott@osd.mil%5d>>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2006 4:01 PM  
**To:** Traynham, Robert (Republican-Conf); Call, Amy (Frist); Angie Sowa; Bailey Wood -- Cox; Bobby Sepucha - Ford; Chrissy Shott- SRC; Crist, Greg (E-mail); Daly, Brendan (E-mail); Deb Fiddelke; Embassy of Iraq; Emily Larimore - Wilson; Harald Stavenas (E-mail); Jamie Findlater - Hunter; Ferguson, Jessica (Thune); Steinberg, Jon (Reid); Josh Holly; Katie Elbert- Hoyer; Kelly Bulliner; Lara Battles- Skelton; Loren Dealy (E-mail); Maggie Grant (E-mail); Maggie Grant (E-mail); Ridgway, Marcie (Voinovich); Collipriest, MaryJane (Bennett); Mary Petrella; Michael Grismer - Kingston; Stransky, Michael (RPC); MLA dd - LA-All; Nick Holder- Bishop; Pam Turner - DHS; Powell Moore; Shannon Flaherty; Stacy Kerr; Andringa, Tara (Levin); Tom Korologos; Tom Korologos; Tommy Ross (E-mail); Torry Mazzola; Micki Work - Wilson; /o=Organization/ou=djpentagon/cn=SJ/cn=jacockkn; /o=Organization/ou=OSD/cn=OSD-PA Recipients/cn=teresa.lukach; /o=Organization/ou=SECDEF/cn=Recipients/cn=Fred.Smith; /o=Organization/ou=SECDEF/cn=Recipients/cn=Sarah.Nagelman; Barber, Allison Ms OSD PA; Brad MacDougal; Caitlin Carroll -- Granger; Carrie Sloan; Jeff Green; Ulliyot, John (Warner); Martinko, Stephen (Conference)  
**Subject:** Prep Book

If you do not already have it, here is the debate prep book.

Traci

Traci Scott  
Director of Communications  
Office of the Secretary of Defense  
Legislative Affairs  
Room 3D747  
(703)571-2722

I have attached the briefing book to this correspondence. I urge you to immediately stop using taxpayer funds for propaganda and political purposes in the future and instead, concentrate on serving the needs of our men and women in uniform.

Sincerely,

