22 January 2004

The Honorable Carl Levin
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Levin:

I am responding to your letters of 31 October 2003 and
9 January 2004 regarding declassification of specific information
concerning the Intelligence Community’s (IC’s) sharing of
information on Iraqi suspect weapons of mass destruction (WMD)
sites with the United Nations (UN) inspectors.

I want to begin by ensuring that there is a mutual
understanding of what has been declassified thus far with respect
to Iraqi suspect WMD site numbers and the sharing of this
information with the UN inspectors.

0 In our 23 May 2003 letter, we provided the
number of approximate Iraqi suspect WMD sites
identified by Central Intelligence Agency, 350;
and, the number of suspect sites where
inspectors were more likely to find something
than at other sites, 150.

0 In our 11 July 2003 letter, we provided the
number of suspect WMD site packages provided to
the UN inspectors, 67.
In our 5 and 13 May briefings to the SSCI staff, we
explained that this number represented the number of site
packages shared with the UN inspectors at the IC
initiative. The 67 number does not include site packages
provided pursuant to UN inspectors’ requests.

Your most recent letters concern three specific requests:

0 The number of high and medium priority sites
on the IC’s 150-site top suspect site list.

Answer: High: 37; Medium: 58
The number of high and medium priority sites were
The number of high and medium priority sites were

Answer: High: 33; Medium: 51
Answer: High: 33; Medium: 51

The 21 high and 30 medium site packages provided to the UN
inspectors represent site packages provided at the IC's
initiative and pursuant to UN inspectors' requests. The number of
high and medium site packages provided to the UN inspectors
solely at the IC's initiative are 20 and 21, respectively.

These numbers have been declassified. However, in order to
ensure that the numbers are accurately characterized, it is
important to reiterate what has been previously provided in
earlier correspondence to you regarding the suspect WMD site
information shared with the UN inspectors. I specifically call
your attention to the Director of Central Intelligence's 11 July
2003 letter, signed by the Deputy Director of Central
Intelligence, which states:

"...CIA provided UMOVIC with the intelligence that we judged
would be fruitful in their search for prohibited material and
activities in Iraq. We did not have and we never claimed to
have, smoking-gun information that would lead the inspectors to a
quick find. We selected the best sites we had that we judged
would have the best chance of finding something. It is important
to remember that we had given the UN a vast amount of data in the
10-plus years we cooperated with them on inspections, including
data on many of the sites long suspected of containing illicit
activity. Thus, when inspections resumed last year, we wanted to
focus our effort on giving the UN new data that we had not told
them previously. We started by considering about 129 sites that
seemed promising—we further refined that list because many of
these sites were already known to the UN inspectors, had been the
subjects of previous discussions by CIA and those organizations,
and on which we had no new information. By the time inspections
stopped, we had developed site packages for 67 sites. These
included the sites on which we had the best intelligence—on which
we had pertinent and possibly "actionable" information. We would
not have helped the UN inspectors by giving them large volumes of
data they already had. The UN relied on us to prioritize the
information rather than simply to give them everything we had on
every possible site in Iraq."
The Honorable Carl Levin

We ask that the numbers and text be used in tandem when discussing Iraqi WMD suspect sites and site packages provided to the UN inspectors.

I believe that with this response all your requests for declassification of Iraqi suspect site numbers have been addressed.

Sincerely,

Stanley M.askowitz
Director of Congressional Affairs

Cc: The Honorable Pat Roberts
The Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV