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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6050

June 26, 2003

Honorable Carl Levin  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Armed Services  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Carl:

Over the last several weeks, we have had discussions, in general, about our Committee's oversight work to be performed in the future. In particular, we exchanged viewpoints regarding issues related to weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.

After similar discussions, Senators Roberts and Rockefeller have reached agreement on how the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence will conduct a review of the intelligence materials recently received from the Director of Central Intelligence. As the Committee with oversight responsibility over all elements of the Intelligence Community, the Senate Intelligence Committee is the appropriate Committee to conduct such a review. This was a commendable achievement.

Given this important bipartisan development, it is my judgment that the course of action for our Committee should be to await the Intelligence Committee's findings, at which time you and I will review options for our Committee to perform such oversight and review of related issues we deem necessary.

You have shared with me your intention to do some interviewing and document discovery with your staff during the same period as the Intelligence Committee is conducting its review. This is clearly your prerogative; and, as you keep me informed, there may be instances where my staff would join.

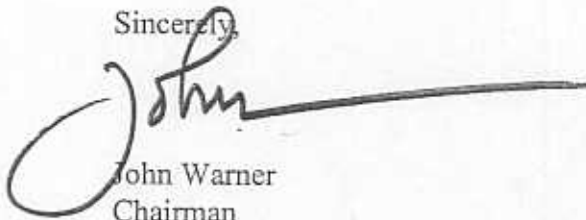
Throughout this period of review by the Intelligence Committee, on which you and I and three other Members of our Committee serve, the Armed Services Committee will continue to move forward with oversight hearings on military operations in Iraq, including the continuing search for weapons of mass destruction.

In addition, as part of our Committee's responsibilities, and in keeping with precedent, we jointly announced on June 5 that the Committee will initiate an extensive series of "lessons learned" hearings on the military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, as was done in the aftermath of the first Persian Gulf War and the conflict in Kosovo. I plan to begin this important series of hearings with appearances during the week of July 7 by the Secretary of Defense,

Donald Rumsfeld and the Commander of U.S. Central Command, General Tommy Franks, USA, testifying in both open and closed session. As part of this series of hearings, the Committee will examine all aspects of the military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, including the continuing search for weapons of mass destruction.

With kind regards, I am .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Warner  
Chairman