

United States Senate

April 14, 2011

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, HOUSING
AND URBAN AFFAIRS
FOREIGN RELATIONS
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
U.S. Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

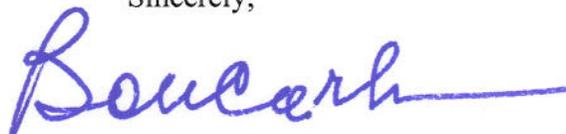
Dear Secretary Clinton and Secretary Gates,

It has now been nearly one month since the United States first engaged in coalition operations in Libya. Since that time, there has been relatively infrequent information sharing with the Congress regarding the full scope of U.S. involvement in the conflict. Administration officials have assured Congress that the United States was playing only a supporting role in ongoing operations in Libya, and those operations did not include kinetic operations. Yesterday, April 13, 2011, it was revealed during a Pentagon briefing that three U.S. aircraft assigned to NATO had fired ordnance. This seems contradictory to the information we have previously received and is an example of the disconnect between Congress and the administration on the nature of the U.S. role in Libya. To that end, I ask that you provide the following:

- (1) A full accounting of U.S. assets assigned to the mission and how they are being utilized.
- (2) Requests the U.S. has received from coalition partners and Libyan opposition forces for materiel and support – both fulfilled and denied.
- (3) The contents of additional U.S. offers of assistance.
- (4) Plans to offer additional assistance to Libyan opposition forces.
- (5) All meetings that the administration has engaged in with coalition partners, the Libya contact group and the Libyan opposition forces to discuss the operations and political future of Libya.

I thank you for your service to our country, and I look forward to your prompt reply to my request.

Sincerely,



BOB CORKER
United States Senator