

CARL LEVIN, MICHIGAN, CHAIRMAN

EDWARD M. KENNEDY, MASSACHUSETTS
ROBERT C. BYRD, WEST VIRGINIA
JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN, CONNECTICUT
JACK REED, RHODE ISLAND
DANIEL K. AKAKA, HAWAII
BILL NELSON, FLORIDA
E. BENJAMIN NELSON, NEBRASKA
EVAN BAYH, INDIANA
HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, NEW YORK
MARK L. PRYOR, ARKANSAS
JIM WEBB, VIRGINIA
CLAIRE McCASKILL, MISSOURI

JOHN McCAIN, ARIZONA
JOHN WARNER, VIRGINIA
JAMES M. INHOFE, OKLAHOMA
JEFF SESSIONS, ALABAMA
SUSAN M. COLLINS, MAINE
SAXBY CHAMBLISS, GEORGIA
LINDSEY O. GRAHAM, SOUTH CAROLINA
ELIZABETH DOLE, NORTH CAROLINA
JOHN CORNYN, TEXAS
JOHN THUNE, SOUTH DAKOTA
MEL MARTINEZ, FLORIDA
BOB CORKER, TENNESSEE

RICHARD D. DeBOBES, STAFF DIRECTOR
MICHAEL VINCENT KOSTIW, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6050

November 6, 2007

VIA FACSIMILE ONLY

General Norton A. Schwartz, USAF
Commander
United States Transportation Command
508 Scott Drive
TCPA
Scott AFB, IL 62225-5357

Dear General Schwartz:

The conferees on the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 are meeting now to reach agreement on the contents of this bill. One of the issues before the conferees is the question of buying more C-17 aircraft as recommended in the House-passed bill.

Before we come to a conclusion on the best way to proceed, we need to hear your personal and professional opinion on two issues: (1) what is your requirement, if any, for C-17 aircraft beyond the 190 C-17 aircraft that the Air Force has already bought; and (2) what is the basis of your requirement, if any, for aircraft beyond the 190 C-17 aircraft that the Air Force has already bought.

Due to the urgency of completing our conference, we appreciate receiving your response to these questions no later than 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 6, 2007.

Sincerely,



Carl Levin
Chairman