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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6050

July 15, 2008

Honorable David S. C. Chu
Under Secretary of Defense
for Personnel and Readiness
4000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-4000

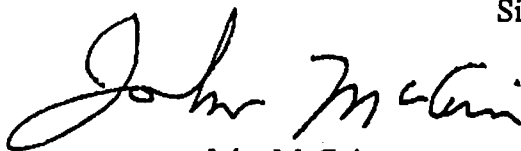
Dear Secretary Chu:

This responds to your letter of June 27, 2008, regarding nominations of officers recommended for promotion who may have been named in Admiral Kirkland H. Donald's investigation into the delivery of sensitive missile components to Taiwan, and to letters dated July 7 and July 9, 2008, from Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Michael Dominguez regarding the nominations of General Norton A. Schwartz, USAF, and General Duncan J. McNabb, USAF.

The Committee will find it difficult to proceed with nominations before it, including nominations of senior Air Force officials and officers, until we receive Chapter 7 of Admiral Donald's report, which specifically addresses accountability for improper shipment of sensitive missile components to Taiwan.

In addition, Secretary Dominguez' letters regarding General Schwartz and General McNabb indicate that these two officers, because of their positions, may have been key decision makers with regard to C-17 issues currently under investigation by the Department of Defense Inspector General. The Committee will find it difficult to proceed with the confirmation of these two officers until we receive the Inspector General's final report of investigation.

Sincerely,



John McCain
Ranking Member



Carl Levin
Chairman