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VIA FACSIMILE (703) 697-8339

June 21, 2004

Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

I know that you are surprised to hear from me. Most people assumed that I had departed the scene, and was resting comfortably in the great beyond. Those are the ones that underestimate me. Although I will be 80-years old on December 22, 2004, I am still alive and kicking. Though not nearly as high as I once did, I am definitely kicking nonetheless.

Currently I work as a government relations and marketing consultant that represents clients at all levels and branches of the government. I assist and position them to secure contracts with public agencies. I respect your busy schedule; however, this is an area in which I would greatly appreciate your direction. I recently established a relationship with a client whose company constructs railroads and other heavy industrial and commercial facilities. The client is a native of the Middle East, and is eager to secure a major contract to help rebuild Iraq. Given his cultural background, he will experience minimal to no difficulty in successfully completing contracts in the Middle East and or Africa. If he is able to secure contracts in these regions, he will employ a local workforce, which will be the benchmark standard of comparison for projects underwritten with US tax dollars.

I would like for you to direct me to the individual(s) that can assist me in this matter. Mr. Secretary, I am proud to say that you are holding your own, in spite of the massive and constant flow of criticism that you are compelled to deal with daily. You are performing at a surprisingly high level under unimaginable circumstances.

Hang in there. In saying that, I am not only pulling for you but also praying for you and our young men and women in the military. If you check my record on the national scene for the pass three decades, I am firmly convinced that the Man upstairs is listening.

I will contact your office on Wednesday, June 23, 2004. Again, I graciously welcome any assistance that you are able to provide regarding this request. If you have any immediate questions, please contact me directly at 202-554-0573.

Respectfully,



Arthur (Art) Fletcher