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United States Senate

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SSCI #2006-1749

April 25, 2006

The Honorable Carlos Coelho
Chairman
Temporary Committee on the Alleged Use of European Countries
by the CIA for the Transport and Illegal Detention of Prisoners
The European Parliament
Secretariat Brussels
Atrium - 1L048
2 Rue D'Ardenne B
1047 Brussels

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am in receipt of your letter of April 6, 2006, requesting a meeting to discuss alleged intelligence activities of the United States Government. As a rule, I do not comment publicly on alleged intelligence activities of the United States and must, therefore, respectfully decline your invitation.

In a world forced to confront the scourge of terrorism, the United States and its allies in Europe depend on mutual cooperation to ensure the protection of our citizens. No nation can stand alone in this conflict, and I would appreciate the support of the European Union as America and its allies work to prevent future acts of terrorism.

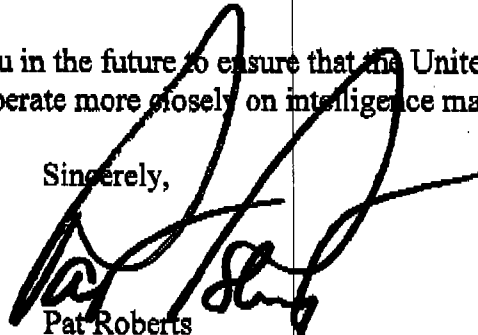
Intelligence holds the key to successful prosecution of the war against terrorism. Gaining access to the information necessary to fight and win this war requires flexible and agile intelligence collection techniques. The lawful interrogation of captured terrorists is perhaps the most important mechanism for gaining access to the plans and intentions of our mutual enemies.

Whether through interrogation of terrorists, electronic surveillance, or human intelligence operations, we must not compromise the values reflected in our Constitution, laws, and treaty obligations. As Chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence, I have an obligation to ensure that the United States Government's intelligence activities comply with applicable legal requirements.

The Honorable Carlos Coelho
April 25, 2006
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I look forward to working with you in the future to ensure that the United States and members of the European Union can cooperate more closely on intelligence matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat Roberts', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Pat Roberts
Chairman

Regu to 26/4/06

2006-04-021

FACSIMILE**United States Senate
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE**TO: CARLOS COELHOFAX #: 32 2 28 32601

PHONE #: _____

FROM: SENATOR PAT ROBERTSDATE: APRIL 25, 2006NUMBER OF PAGES: 3 (including cover page)

COMMENTS: _____

Please contact sender at (202)224-1700 if fax is not complete.