



Senator Feinstein Asks Defense Secretary Rumsfeld For Explanation of
War on Terror Funds Used For Iraq War
April 28, 2004

Washington, DC – In a letter to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (*D-Calif.*) requested an explanation of how \$700 million designated for the War on Terror was used to prepare for war in Iraq. The reprogramming of the funds was described in Bob Woodward’s recently published book, Plan of Attack.

The full text of the letter follows:

“As Ranking Member of the Military Construction Appropriations Subcommittee, I am writing to request a full explanation of the reprogramming of funds appropriated for the war in Afghanistan for the war against Iraq.

According to Bob Woodward’s recent book, Plan of Attack, in July 2002 the President approved \$700 million worth of projects to prepare for military action against Iraq using funds that were appropriated for the war in Afghanistan. While it is true that the Afghanistan/War on Terrorism Supplemental Appropriations bill gave the Administration unprecedented latitude to reprogram funds, it also required Congress to be consulted about such actions. I am unaware of any such consultations taking place with members of the Military Construction subcommittee.

Given the importance of these funds and the fact that as Ranking Member of the Military Construction subcommittee I did not receive consultation on those funds used for military construction projects, I would appreciate a briefing on those activities that fall under my subcommittee’s jurisdiction. Specifically, I would like to know why the funds were reprogrammed, what projects received the funding, what, if any, consultations took place, and what projects were left unfunded in Afghanistan.

I thank you for your attention to the request and I look forward to hearing from you.”

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