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**NATIONAL SECURITY  
AND THE THREAT OF  
CLIMATE CHANGE**

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Research that works, for work that matters

May 5, 2007

The Honorable Ed Markey  
2108 Rayburn House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I want to thank you for the recent opportunity to testify before the House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming about our report, "National Security and the Threat of Climate Change."

As you know, I appeared in my role as chairman of that study's "Military Advisory Board." Eleven senior retired admirals and generals, including myself, helped draft that report along with the CNA Corporation. Each of these military leaders has three or four stars' worth of experience; we come from all branches of the armed forces.

We found that significant changes in global climate may exacerbate conditions which can lead to the growth of terrorism, especially in already stressed regions where governments may be hard-pressed to meet the basic resource needs of their people – food, potable water, arable land, protection from disease and rising sea levels

One of our report's recommendations was that "the national security consequences of climate change should be fully integrated into national security and national defense strategies," including a National Intelligence Estimate on potential climate change impacts. We made that call because we are concerned that climate change may affect military operations, scope and frequency of missions, our bases and, most importantly, our personnel in all services around the world.

I want to thank you for your leadership with Rep. Roscoe Bartlett of Maryland in introducing legislation calling for a National Intelligence Estimate. We understand the full House will consider that question this week.

We remain convinced that planning for potential national security implications of climate change is a smart and necessary component in America's ongoing fight against terrorism. We see prudent planning as a key to helping our military stay ahead of this struggle into the mid-century and beyond.

Sincerely,

General Gordon R. Sullivan  
Chairman, Military Advisory Board  
Former Chief of Staff, U.S. Army