

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 4, 2007

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520-0001

Dear Secretary Rice:

We urge you to insist that any resolutions on re-authorizing the US-led Multi-National Force (MNF) in Iraq at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) include a timetable for the full redeployment of all multinational forces and a declaration that there will be no long-term or permanent military bases in Iraq.

Furthermore, we remain concerned not only that the 'Declaration of Principles' signed on November 26, 2007 between President Bush and Prime Minister al-Maliki is silent on these two critical points, but also that this declaration is simply a rubberstamp for another UNSC resolution of the MNF extending our military occupation of Iraq.

After almost five years, nearly 4000 lives of our brave service men and women, and approximately half-a-trillion dollars spent, it is past time for the US occupation of Iraq to end.

The only way to end the violence against US-led multinational forces and bring stability to Iraq and the region is to declare that forces will be redeployed from Iraq as soon and safely as is possible and that we have no designs to have an indefinite presence in Iraq. In fact, over the last year, the President has signed into law four times provisions that state the US will not have a long-term military presence in Iraq.

Additionally, as you undoubtedly are aware, the US public and the Iraqi public support ending the US occupation. Polls show that more than half of all Americans and nearly half of all Iraqis favor ending our engagement in Iraq.

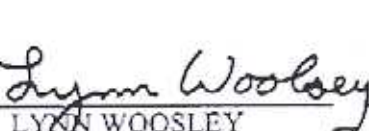
It is clear that there is no military solution to Iraq. Our commitment to the Iraqi people and to the rebuilding of Iraqi communities shall remain steadfast. The US must foster peace in the region through diplomatic means and not militarily, and any new cooperation agreements must reflect this reality.

We appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



BARBARA LEE
Member of Congress



LYNN WOOLSEY
Member of Congress



MAXINE WATERS
Member of Congress