Mr. President, I want to also mention that yesterday the

Senate Armed Services Committee held a day-long hearing to learn more

about the abuse of the Iraqi prisoners at the Abu Ghraib prison. Many

of us did not see all of the testimony, but we were able to review it

over the course of the day. The committee received detailed testimony

from Major General Antonio Taguba, the senior officer who investigated

and reported on the Abu Ghraib prison abuses, and from a range of other

Defense Department officials.

Today, the Intelligence Committee will be holding a closed hearing to

explore matters under their jurisdiction related to these incidents. As

we know, both committees met last week in a similar fashion. This

afternoon, from 2 to approximately 5 o'clock, in S. 407, there will be

an opportunity for all Senators to review photographs and evidence

related to the prisoner abuse scandal. We will have the opportunity to

view them. They will be there from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in S-407, after

which they will be returned.

As I stated yesterday, it is our expectation that the Senate will be

apprised of the ongoing investigations being conducted by the

Department of Defense and of all the actions being taken to ensure

these incidents never occur again.

To that end, I simply wish to reflect my perspective that the Defense

Department has been very responsive to our requests. Secretary

Rumsfeld, General Myers, and their senior aides have updated us as

events have unfolded, and they have been attentive to the Senate's

requests and to their needs.

As the President said the other day, Secretary Rumsfeld--I agree with

the President--has done a superb job as Secretary of Defense in very

trying and challenging times. I am confident he is taking action to

address these deplorable acts in a deliberate manner, in a transparent

manner, and is taking all measures to ensure that these acts will never

occur again.