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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6050

April 21, 2008

The Honorable Claude M. Kicklighter
Inspector General
Department of Defense
400 Army Navy Drive
Arlington, Virginia 22202-4704

Dear General Kicklighter:

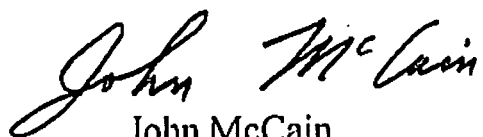
On Thursday, April 17, the Armed Services Committee staff was briefed on an Office of Inspector General investigation of the Thunderbird Airshow Production Services contract award. As a part of that investigation, you sent a memorandum to the Secretary of the Air Force assigning responsibility to the former Commander, Air Warfare Center, Nellis Air Force Base, and several other lower ranking officials.

The report of investigation provided to the Armed Services Committee raises serious questions about the role played by other more senior current and former Air Force officials. However, neither the report of investigation nor the memorandum reaches any findings or recommendations with regard to the conduct of these senior officials.

We ask that you: (1) ensure that you have interviewed all individuals who may have information pertinent to the case; and (2) review the conduct of current and former senior Air Force officials named in the report of investigation – not only as to criminal conduct, but also for possible ethical violations and failures of leadership – and provide your specific findings and recommendations to the Secretary of the Air Force and to the Committee.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of John McCain in cursive script.

John McCain
Ranking Member

Handwritten signature of Carl Levin in cursive script.

Carl Levin
Chairman