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Duncan Hunter  
U.S. House of Representatives  
50th District, California

January 13, 2015

The Honorable John McHugh  
Secretary of the Army  
101 Army Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear Secretary McHugh:

With great interest, we are following legal proceedings for U.S. Army Lieutenant Clint Lorange. As you know, Lorange is serving a 19-year sentence in military custody for actions that occurred in Afghanistan under his leadership—specifically his order to target individuals others identified as enemy fighters. An investigation determined the individuals were not a threat.

Too often, cases involving rules of engagement present difficulty. The warfighter doesn't always have the benefit of time, given lives are always at risk in a warzone. While the rules of engagement are in place for a reason and serve a critical purpose, any case that projects an alleged violation of the rules of engagement deserves a high level of attention and scrutiny. It is our belief, based on information brought to our attention, that Lorange's case requires further review.

We are not taking the position that the military justice system has failed Lorange, especially with the understanding that his case is still under appeal; although, it is absolutely critical that the integrity of the military justice system is preserved and the process for adjudication is effective and reliable. And recently, information brought to our attention raises the prospect that investigators and Lorange's command are in possession of information that could validate the assertion that the deceased Afghans were enemy fighters and responsible for the emplacement of Improvised Explosive Devices.

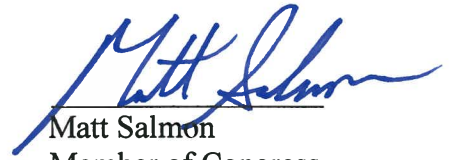
We recognize that there is a process in place for requesting and obtaining information and documentation relevant to any case under legal consideration. We sincerely hope that as Lorange's appeal is heard, the proper determinations are made with reliance on the full scope of evidence regarding Lorange's actions. Further, should the outcome not change, we ask for your immediate commitment to allow us to view specific (and possibly overlooked) evidence.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Duncan Hunter", written over a horizontal line.

Duncan Hunter  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Salmon", written over a horizontal line.

Matt Salmon  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Zinke", written over a horizontal line.

Ryan Zinke  
Member of Congress