

# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

December 21, 2005

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

A recent NBC News report claims that the Department of Defense has increased intelligence collection inside the United States since the attacks on September 11, 2001. Although a Pentagon spokesman told NBC that the intelligence is properly collected and involves "protection of Defense Department installations, interests, and personnel," it appears that the collection efforts have included the monitoring of peaceful anti-war and counter-military recruitment groups, including groups located in Vermont.

In order to better understand the Defense Department's policies for collecting intelligence within the United States, I ask that you respond to the following inquiries by January 15, 2006.

1. What is the process for determining that a domestic group may be a threat to Defense Department installations, interests, and personnel?
2. Please fully describe the Department's efforts to collect intelligence in Vermont, including the dates of collection, the individuals or groups targeted in the collection, and the basis for determining that the target was a threat to Defense Department installations, interests, and personnel.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



PATRICK LEAHY  
Ranking Member