



Homeland Security

September 22, 2004

LTG David H. Petraeus, USA
Commanding
Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq
Republican Presidential Palace
Baghdad, Iraq
APO AE 09316

Dear General Petraeus:

I want to thank you for taking the time to recognize Doug Melvin's outstanding efforts in Baghdad. We are very pleased to have someone of Doug's caliber as DHS Country Team Director, and I appreciate the important work that he is performing.

Working to pull together the complicated and challenging elements of Iraq's border control, immigration, and customs, while advancing other important DHS mission objectives, all within a highly dangerous environment, is a daunting task by any measure. We are delighted that Doug is working so effectively with your outstanding command. Thank you very much for sharing your impressions with me.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Ridge".

Tom Ridge

General,
On a personal note, I appreciate your leadership
and service to our country and the extraordinary
gesture of your thoughtful letter.
With admiration and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Ridge".