CARL LEVIN
MICHIGAN

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 24, 2003

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

While the UN inspectors have been on the ground in Iraq since late November of last year, the U.S. Intelligence Community began sharing information relative to suspect weapons of mass destruction sites with the UN inspectors just a few weeks ago. We of course should not share any intelligence information which could disclose sensitive intelligence sources and methods, but there is a significant amount of information in our possession that has not been shared with the UN inspectors that would not raise that concern.

On January 8, 2003, according to the *Washington Post*, Secretary Powell said that information was being held back to see if the inspectors are "able to handle it and exploit it." The UN inspectors at the same time were saying that they need "more specific information to act on" from the United States and that they "hope in the next few weeks we'll be getting much more information for us to be able to zero in on any suspicious activities." Although Secretary Rumsfeld said recently that a great deal of information on Iraq's suspect sites has been shared with the UN inspectors, the reality is that information about a very small fraction of those sites has been shared as of today.

The American people want the inspections to proceed, want the United States to share the information we have with the UN inspectors, and want us to obtain United Nations support before military action is used against Iraq.

Mr. President, I urge your Administration to provide the UN inspectors with the information in our possession relative to suspect weapons of mass destruction sites in Iraq, as well as to make public how far along we are in the process of sharing that information with the UN inspectors. I also urge you to support the UN inspection process as long as the inspectors are making progress before deciding whether to take another course of action, including the use of military force.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carl Levin

Carl Levin
Ranking Member
Committee on Armed Services