

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 14, 2010

Gordon S. Heddell, Inspector General
Department of the Defense
400 Army Navy Drive
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Inspector General Heddell:

Please find enclosed a letter we have sent to Secretary of the Army, John McHugh, regarding information coming to light at Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM) regarding the treatment of returning soldiers of the Oregon National Guard's 41st IBCT.


Our goal in bringing these issues to light is to ensure that each and every soldier who has earned and is entitled to medical treatment under Title 10 receives that treatment. It is our belief that these benefits have been systematically denied the soldiers of the 41st IBCT and ultimately may have a significant impact on their successful reintegration into their communities.

To that end, we are asking that your office investigate these allegations and report back directly to us your findings. In addition, we ask that you investigate the treatment of all Guard and Reserve soldiers at all Warrior Transition Units and mobilization and demobilization sites to determine if there has been systemic discrimination against the reserve component in the provision of medical services.


To assist your investigation, we have attached a copy of a PowerPoint presentation that was used to train clinical staff at JBLM in preparation for the redeployment of the 41st IBCT.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress