

110TH CONGRESS }
1st Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

{ REPORT
110-60

MAKING EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL
APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2007,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

R E P O R T

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

[TO ACCOMPANY H.R. 1591]

together with

MINORITY VIEWS



MARCH 20, 2007.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on
the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Iraq population, particularly minority populations. The Committee has heard reports of villages in the Nineveh Plain region not receiving assistance. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary of State to report no later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act on the ethnic and geographic distribution of U.S. assistance programs and specifically a report on all U.S. assistance reaching the Nineveh Plain region.

“NEW DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE” FOR IRAQ AND THE REGION

Along with the redeployment of United States Armed Forces provided for in section 1904, the Committee expects the President to pursue the diplomatic strategy, entitled “The External Approach: Building an International Consensus,” recommended by the Iraq Study Group in its December 2006 report on Iraq. This strategy calls upon the United States to pursue a comprehensive “New Diplomatic Offensive” designed to build an international consensus and support structure for stability in Iraq and the surrounding region. The “New Diplomatic Offensive” is to engage all of Iraq’s neighbors, and address all the “key issues” in the Middle East, including not just the situation in Iraq, but also in Lebanon, Syria, and Iran, as well as the Israel-Palestine conflict. Importantly, as part of the “New Diplomatic Offensive”, the United States is to initiate a constructive diplomatic engagement with Iran and Syria.

The Committee supports this recommendation of the Iraq Study Group and urges the President to pursue it aggressively.

AFGHANISTAN

The Committee recommends funding for Afghanistan programs at \$743,000,000, which is \$90,000,000 above the request. The Committee notes that the increase is provided to PRTs and rural development. Funds are appropriated as follows:

[Dollars in thousands]

Activity	Request	Committee Recommendation	Change from request
Roads	342,000	292,000	– 50,000
Power	40,000	40,000	0
Rural Development	120,000	160,000	40,000
Agriculture	13,000	13,000	0
Governance Capacity Building	21,000	21,000	0
Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs)/Provincial Governance	117,000	217,000	100,000
Total, ESF	653,000	743,000	90,000

The Committee is concerned that Taliban and Al Qaeda backed insurgents have stepped up the frequency and intensity of attacks in Afghanistan. Recent years have brought record harvests of opium poppies, proceeds of which finance terrorist groups in Pakistan. The Committee is increasing support for PRTs and for rural development in Afghanistan as two mechanisms for extending the reach of government and providing assistance in the provinces. While the Committee understands that expanding the network of roads is a central component of the United States strategy for reconstruction and stabilization, the Committee believes there should be greater investment by other donors in infrastructure programs.