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Washington DC - In a letter to Secretary of Defense Robert Gates today, U.S. Congressman Duncan Hunter and several other Members of Congress expressed "grave concerns" over reports that three Navy SEALs are facing charges for their involvement in capturing one of Iraq's most dangerous terrorists. A copy of the letter is available by [clicking here](#).

"The decision to move ahead with the prosecution of these Navy SEALs constitutes an unusual overreaction by military command," said Congressman Hunter. "These individuals undertook a very dangerous mission that resulted in the capture of the terrorist responsible for the killing and mutilation of four private security contractors. They did exactly what they were asked and expected to do.

"The charges against these SEALs are unwarranted and should be dropped. Otherwise, the circumstances and daily reports surrounding these prosecutions will continue to create an unnecessary level of uncertainty among those who continue to undertake the fight against terrorism."

Hunter, who is a member of the House Armed Services Committee and veteran of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, served with one of several Marine Corps units that responded to the killing of the four private security contractors in 2004.