

May 6, 2005

Hon. Richard G. Lugar  
Chairman  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
306 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6225

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We, the undersigned, have been appalled at the charges that have been leveled at John Bolton during the course of his nomination hearing to be this country's ambassador to the United Nations. Rather than a rational, mature discussion about the future course American policy should take with respect to the United Nations, or whether and to what extent Mr. Bolton's extensive knowledge and experience with the UN further that course, what we have witnessed instead has been a character assassination masquerading as a nomination hearing. Mr. Bolton spent a full day before your Committee prepared to delve deeply into issues of foreign policy, and yet all but a sliver of the Committee's time was devoted to unsubstantiated allegations of misconduct.

Each of us has worked with Mr. Bolton. We know him to be a man of personal and intellectual integrity, deeply devoted to the service of this country and the promotion of our foreign policy interests as established by this President and the Congress. Not one of us has ever witnessed conduct on his part that resembles that which has been alleged. We feel our collective knowledge of him and what he stands for, combined with our own experiences in government and in the private sector, more than counterbalances the credibility of those who have tried to destroy the distinguished achievements of a lifetime.

President Bush and Secretary Rice have personally expressed confidence in Mr. Bolton's ability to effectively represent this country in the United Nations. And for those of us who have worked with and known John Bolton for decades, we urge you and the Committee to consider our views. We believe John Bolton deserves to have the Foreign Relations Committee's vote of confidence and support as well.

Sincerely,

Ed Meese  
Former Attorney General of the United States

Dick Thornburgh  
Former Governor of Pennsylvania  
Former Attorney General of the United States  
Former Under Secretary General for Administration and Management

5/7/2005

The United Nations

Charles Fried  
Former Solicitor General of the United States

Theodore B. Olson  
Former Solicitor General of the United States

Arthur B. Culvahouse Jr.  
Former Counsel to President Ronald Reagan

C. Boyden Gray  
Former Counsel to the President George H.W. Bush

Christopher Cox, Member of Congress  
Former Senior Associate Counsel to President Reagan

Dana Rohrabacher, Member of Congress  
Former Special Assistant to President Reagan

David M. McIntosh, Member of Congress, Retired  
Former Special Assistant to the Attorney General

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Former Governor of Oklahoma  
Former Associate Attorney General  
Former General Counsel, Department of Housing  
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Former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury

William F. Weld  
Former Governor of Massachusetts  
Former Assistant Attorney General,  
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Former Assistant Attorney General  
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Wm. Bradford Reynolds  
Former Assistant Attorney General  
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Thomas M. Boyd  
Former Assistant Attorney General  
Office of Legislative Affairs  
Former Director  
Office of Policy Development

James F. Rill

5/7/2005

Honorable Senator Richard Lugar

Former Assistant Attorney General  
Antitrust Division

Charles J. Cooper  
Former Assistant Attorney General  
Office of Legal Counsel

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Former Deputy Secretary of Education

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Former Chief of Staff to the Attorney General

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Former Chief of Staff to the Attorney General

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Murray Dickman  
Former Assistant to the Undersecretary General  
of the United Nations  
Former Assistant to the Attorney General

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Former Director of Public Affairs

Patrick S. Korten  
Former Director of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Justice

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Former Member, U.S. Delegation, United Nations Commission on Human Rights

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