HENRY A. WAXMAN, CALIFORNIA
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RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515–6143

Majority (202) 225–5051
Minority (202) 225–5074

January 22, 2007

Mr. Richard Cousins
Chief Executive
The Compass Group
Compass House, Guildford Street, Chertsey
Surrey, UK KT16 BQ

Dear Mr. Cousins:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is conducting an investigation into various aspects of the work of government contractors in Iraq, including their role in Iraq reconstruction activities and troop support. As part of the investigation, the Committee plans to hold a hearing on Wednesday, February 7, 2007, and you have been invited to testify.

One aspect of the hearing will relate to information the Committee has received from your company, the parent company of ESS Support Services Worldwide (ESS), indicating that Blackwater USA provided security services as a third-tier subcontractor under Halliburton's LOGCAP contract. The Committee is interested in receiving information regarding the costs incurred, the amounts billed, and the payments received by the contractor or subcontractor at each tier of this arrangement.

In preparation for the Committee's February 7 hearing, we request that ESS or The Compass Group produce the following information for the period from January 1, 2003, to the present:

1. Contracts and subcontracts, whether classified or unclassified, relating to business activities with the following companies: (a) Halliburton/KBR[1] (b) Blackwater[2]; (c) Regency Hotel & Hospitality Company; or (d) the Fluor Corporation;

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[1] "KBR" refers to KBR, Inc., Kellogg, Brown & Root, and any affiliated entities under the control of KBR, Inc.

[2] "Blackwater" refers to Blackwater USA, Blackwater Security Consulting and any subsidiaries or affiliated companies, including but not limited to Blackwater Training Center,

2. For each contracting arrangement that included the provision of security-related services in Iraq by Blackwater, (1) invoices reflecting work performed and costs incurred by Blackwater, ESS, or any other company relating to Blackwater's security activities; (2) billing information reflecting the amounts billed by Blackwater, ESS, or any other company relating to Blackwater's security activities; and (3) payment records reflecting the amounts paid to Blackwater, ESS, or any other company for Blackwater's security activities; and

3. Correspondence with companies listed in (1) above, relating to subcontracts for security-related activities in Iraq.

In order to have the documents available for use at the February 7 hearing, we request that you produce them on or before **January 29, 2007.** If you determine that you will be unable to make a complete production by this date, please contact Committee staff to discuss possible modifications to this schedule. An attachment to this letter provides additional information on how to respond to the Committee's request.

To facilitate potential future document requests, we also request that ESS preserve all documents relating to ESS's activities in Iraq or its interactions with the companies listed in (1), above.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee in the House of Representatives and has broad oversight jurisdiction as set forth in House Rule X clauses 1(m), 2, 3(i) and 4(c).

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact David Rapallo or Theodore Chuang with the Committee staff at (202) 225-5420.

Sincerely,

Henry A. Waxman
Chairman

Enclosure

cc: Tom Davis
Ranking Minority Member

Blackwater Target Systems, Blackwater Canine, Raven Development Group, Aviation Worldwide Services, and Greystone Ltd.