

**FRANK R. WOLF**

10TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

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Mr. Glenn Fine  
Inspector General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington DC 20530

Dear Mr. Fine:

I write concerning an Office of Legal Counsel memorandum dated August 1, 2002, on the types of conduct permitted under U.S. law when conducting interrogations.

As chairman of the Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations subcommittee and co-chairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, I am deeply concerned that this memorandum provides legal justification for the U.S. government to commit cruel, inhumane and degrading acts – including torture – on prisoners in U.S. custody. I ask that you investigate the circumstances surrounding the drafting of this memorandum and comment on the legal merits and possible ramifications of the contents of the memorandum. I am making a similar request of the Justice Department's Office of Professional Responsibility.

The thought of the United States condoning torture is abhorrent. Not only is it inhumane, it jeopardizes the security of U.S. forces and our allies in places such as Iraq and around the globe. The security of civilian contractors and humanitarian aid workers also is threatened.

It is imperative that the United States follow the highest standards of conduct.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Wolf  
Member of Congress