111TH CONGRESS
1st Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REVIEW NO.
10–8483

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Report and Findings

Transmitted to the
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
on July 30, 2010
and released publicly pursuant to H. Res. 895 of the
110th Congress as amended

July 2010

AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
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OFFICE OF

CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

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REPORT

Review No. 10–8483

The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics (the "Board"), by a vote of no less than four members, on July 23, 2010, adopted the following report and ordered it to be transmitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of the United States House of Representatives.

SUBJECT: Representative Eliot L. Engel

NATURE OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION: In 2009, Representative Eliot Engel participated in a Congressional Delegation to Mexico, Nicaragua, and Jamaica. During the trip, he received a travel per diem for meals and incidental expenses with an approximate value of $866.00. Public statements attributed to Representative Engel indicated that he may have retained excess per diem. In addition, these public statements indicate that he may have retained excess per diem on other trips.

If Representative Engel's actual meal and incidental expenses during a CODEL were less than the per diem received and he did not return the excess per diem, he may have violated House Rule 10, clause 8, House Rule 23, clauses 1 and 2.

RECOMMENDATION: The Board recommends that the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct further Review the above allegations.

VOTES IN THE AFFIRMATIVE: 6

VOTES IN THE NEGATIVE: 0

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR STAFF DESIGNATED TO PRESENT THIS REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT: Leo Wise, Staff Director & Chief Counsel.

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FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 10–8483

On July 23, 2010, the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics (the "Board") adopted the following findings of fact and accompanying citations to law, regulations, rules and standards of conduct (*in italics*). The Board notes that these findings do not constitute a determination of whether or not a violation actually occurred.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Rules of the 111th Congress were adopted by the U.S. House of Representatives on January 6, 2009. Rule 10, clause 8, provides that House Members and staff on official foreign travel receive reimbursement for their official expenses at the lesser of (1) the applicable per diem; or (2) the actual expenses incurred. The Rules of the 110th Congress included the identical provision.[1] By this rule, Members of the House imposed on themselves a requirement that per diem in excess of actual expenses is to be returned. The Speaker of the House recently underscored this requirement and restated the rule that "[a]ny per diem provided to members or staff is intended to be expended only for official purposes related to the trip. Excess funds are to be returned to the Treasury. . . ."[2]

2. During this Review, various committees which authorize foreign travel and the U.S. Department of State all informed the Office of Congressional Ethics ("OCE") that many Members and staff use per diem properly, comply with the rule and return excess per diem. The House Committee on Foreign Affairs, the House Committee on Armed Services, the Commission Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the Bureau of Legislative Affairs of the U.S. Department of State each has staff responsible for collecting and recording the return of excess per diem from Members and staff. According to the officials, Members and staff routinely return excess per diem to these entities.[3]

3. Notwithstanding the rule and the compliance by many Members and staff, several Members claimed that it is common practice by some to use per diem for purposes other than official expenses and to retain excess per diem. While this practice may seem to be consistent with the rationale for a per diem approach to covering

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[1] Rules of the House of Representatives, 111th Cong. Rule X, Clause 8, adopted under H. Res. 5, 111th Cong. (January 6, 2009).

[2] Letter from the Speaker of the House to House Committee Chairmen, dated May 13, 2010 (Exhibit 1 at10–8483__002.

[3] Memorandum of Interview of Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe Office Manager, June 3, 2010 (Exhibit 2 at 10–8483____006); Memorandum of Interview of House Committee on Foreign Affairs Travel Coordinator, June 2, 2010 ("HCFA Travel Coordinator MOI") (Exhibit 3 at 10–10–8483____009); and Memorandum of Interview of House Armed Services Committee Travel Coordinator, June 8, 2010 (Exhibit 4 at 10–8483____014).

travel expenses without need for itemized accounting, it nonetheless appears to be contrary to the rule the House adopted and with which many Members evidently do comply. The Board determined that fairness dictates upholding the standard stated in the rule and adhered to by many, rather than excusing a practice of noncompliance, however pervasive.

4. Representative Engel acknowledged publically before the commencement of the OCE's Review that he did not return excess per diem.[4] During the Review, he acknowledged that he used per diem for expenses other than meals and incidentals and that he may have had excess per diem of a "*de minimis*" amount.[5]

A. SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS

5. Based on the information presented before the Office of Congressional Ethics ("OCE"), there is substantial reason to believe that Representative Eliot L. Engel may have violated House Rule 10, clause 8; House Rule 23, clause 1 and clause 2, by retaining excess per diem when his actual meal and incidental expenses were less than the per diem that he received during various Congressional Delegation trips ("CODELs").

B. JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

6. The allegations that were the subject of this Review concern Representative Engel, a Member of the United State House of Representatives from the 17th District of New York. The Resolution the United States House of Representatives adopted creating the OCE directs that, "[n]o review shall be undertaken . . . by the board of any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution." The House adopted this Resolution on March 11, 2008. Therefore, the conduct under Review occurred after March 11, 2008.

C. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

7. The OCE received a written request for a preliminary Review in this matter signed by at least two members of the Board on April 12, 2010. The preliminary Review commenced on April 13, 2010. The preliminary Review was scheduled to end on May 13, 2010.

8. At least three members of the Board voted to initiate a second-phase Review in this matter on May 11, 2010. The second phase Review commenced on May 14, 2010.[6] The second-phase Review was scheduled to end on June 28, 2010.

9. The Board voted to extend the 45-day second-phase Review by an additional 14 days on June 21, 2010, as provided for under H. Res 895. Following the extension, the second-phase Review was scheduled to end on July 12, 2010.[7]

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[4] Brody Mullins and T.W. Farnam, "Rewards From Traveling Abroad," *Wall St. J.,* March 2, 2010 (Exhibit 5 at 10–8483__017).

[5] Letter from Representative Engel to Chairman David Skaggs, dated July 21, 2010 ("Engel Letter") (Exhibit 7 at 10–8483__027).

[6] According to the Resolution, the Board must vote on whether to conduct a second-phase Review in a matter before the expiration of the 30-day preliminary Review. If the Board votes for a second-phase, the second-phase begins when the preliminary Review ends. The second-phase Review does not begin on the date of the Board vote.

[7] *Id.* at § 1(c)(2)(A)(ii) (2008).

10. Representative Engel submitted a written statement to the Board under Rule 9(B) of the OCE's Rules for the Conduct of Investigations, on July 21, 2010.[8]

11. The Board voted to refer the matter to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct for further Review and adopted these findings on July 23, 2010.

12. This report and findings in this matter were transmitted to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct on July 30, 2010.

D. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITY

13. The OCE requested documentary and testimonial information from the following sources:

(1) Representative Engel;
(2) House Committee on Foreign Affairs;
(3) House Committee on Foreign Affairs Travel Coordinator;
(4) Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe ("CSCE");
(5) CSCE Office Manager;
(6) House Committee on Armed Services;
(7) House Committee on Armed Services Travel Coordinator;
(8) Bureau of Legislative Affairs of the United States Department of State; and
(9) United States Air Force Congressional Liaison Office.

II. THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL REASON TO BELIEVE THAT REPRESENTATIVE ENGEL RECEIVED PER DIEM IN EXCESS OF HIS ACTUAL MEAL AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES DURING CERTAIN CODELS AND RETAINED THE EXCESS PER DIEM

14. The Board recognizes that the per diem rule contained in House Rule 10, clause 8 is under the jurisdiction of the House Committee on Rules.

15. Based on the facts presented before the Board, the allegations in this Review also implicate House Rule 23, clauses 1 and 2, which are under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

16. Regardless of which committee the House determines to appropriately address these issues, the OCE has jurisdiction to Review alleged violations of "any law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the conduct of [a] Member, officer, or employee in the performance of his duties or the discharge of his responsibilities."[9]

A. APPLICABLE LAW, RULES, AND STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

1. HOUSE RULES

17. *Pursuant to House Rule 10, clause 8(b):*

> *"The following conditions shall apply with respect to travel outside the United States or its territories or possessions . . . (2) A member or employee shall be reimbursed for the expenses of such individual for a day at the lesser of—*

[8] Engel Letter (Exhibit 7 at 10–8483–025–028).
[9] H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress, as amended, Section 1(c)(1)(A).

(A) the per diem set forth in applicable Federal law; or

(B) the actual, unreimbursed expenses (other than for transportation) incurred during that day."

18. Pursuant to House Rule 23, clause 2:

"A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House shall adhere to the spirit and the letter of the Rules of the House and to the rules of duly constituted committees thereof."

19. Pursuant to House Rule 23, clause 1:

> *"A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House shall conduct himself at all times in a manner that shall reflect credibility on the House."*

2. FEDERAL TRAVEL REGULATION AND OTHER GUIDANCE

20. House Rule 10, clause 8(b), incorporates by reference Federal law governing the use of per diem. Specifically, Public Law 95–384 governs per diem provided to congressional travelers. Per diem rates are established under 5 U.S.C. § 5702 and the Federal Travel Regulation, 41 C.F.R. chs. 300–304.

21. The "per diem allowance (also referred to as subsistence allowance) is a daily payment instead of reimbursement for actual expenses for ***lodging, meals, and related incidental expenses.*** The per diem allowance is separate from transportation expenses and other miscellaneous expenses."[10]

22. Lodging expenses include "expenses, except lodging taxes in the United States, for overnight sleeping facilities, baths, personal use of the room during daytime, telephone access fee, and service charges for fans, air conditioners, heaters, and fires furnished in the room when such charges are not included in the room rate."[11]

23. Meal expenses are "expenses for breakfast, lunch, dinner and related tips and taxes (specifically excluded are alcoholic beverage and entertainment expenses, and any expenses incurred for other persons)."[12]

24. Incidental expenses are "(1) Fees and tips given to porters, baggage carriers, bellhops, hotel maids, stewards or stewardesses and others on ships, and hotel servants in foreign countries; (2) Transportation between places of lodging or business and places where meals are taken, if suitable meals cannot be obtained at the TDY site; and (3) Mailing cost associated with filing travel vouchers and payment of Government sponsored charge card billings."[13]

25. "Per Diem consists of two components: the lodging rate and the M&IE. Per diem rates are established by the Department of State for foreign cities. The foreign per diem rates are established monthly by the Department of State based on actual reported costs of hotel, meals and incidental expenses in individual cities around the world. Therefore, routine expenses are usually well within the per diem rates and it is sufficient to authorize per diem payments based on those rates."[14]

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[10] 41 C.F.R. § 300–3.1 (emphasis added).

[11] *Id.*

[12] *Id.*

[13] *Id.*

[14] United States Department of State Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Official Foreign Travel Guide for the U.S. Congress. (Exhibit 6 at 10–8483–023).

26. Under the Federal Travel Regulation, the allocation of meals and incidental expenses ("M&IE") rates that was used in making deductions from the M&IE are as follows: 15% for breakfast, 25% for lunch, 40% for dinner, and the remainder for incidental expenses. For example, if the M&IE for a specific city was $100 per day, it was allocated as $15 for breakfast, $25 for lunch, $40 for dinner, and $20 for incidental expenses. [15]

27. According to The United States Department of State Bureau of Legislative Affairs Official Foreign Travel Guide published for the U.S. Congress, Members are advised the following:

Questions and Answers

Q **What do I do if I received more travel funds than I needed?**

A It depends. If you traveled on a per diem allowance (the set rates) you may keep any "excess" funds, though your authorizing committee may have their own specific rules.

If you received funds in excess of that allowance (because actual costs were anticipated to exceed the allowance) you must itemize your expenses and reconcile any differences with the congressional office that authorized your travel. Unused per diem funds, authorized on an enhanced or actual cost basis, must be returned to the Department of State by personal check in U.S. dollars, made payable to the U.S. Treasury or to the Treasurer of the United States.

28. The House has adopted a general rule for all committees that per diem allowance (the set rates) in excess of actual expenses may not be retained. [16]

B. REPRESENTATIVE ENGEL MADE PUBLIC STATEMENTS INDICATING THAT HE MAY HAVE RETAINED EXCESS PER DIEM

29. On March 2, 2010, the *Wall Street Journal* published an article entitled "Rewards From Traveling Abroad." [17]

30. In that article, Representative Engel's statements indicated that he may have retained excess per diem that he received during the CODELs.

31. According to the article: "In an interview, Engel said he normally keeps leftover funds when he travels, but he doesn't recall the details of his South American travels." [18]

32. The article also quoted Representative Engel as saying, "If there was anything left, it was negligible . . . There are no windfalls from these." [19]

33. In an interview with the OCE, Representative Engel confirmed that he was accurately quoted in the article. [20]

[15] 41 C.F.R. ch. 301, App. B.
[16] House Rule 10, clause 8.
[17] Brody Mullins and T.W. Farnam, "Rewards From Traveling Abroad," *Wall St. J.,* March 2, 2010 (Exhibit 5 at 10–8483__017).
[18] *Id.*
[19] *Id.*
[20] Engel MOI (Exhibit 6 at 10–8483__023).

C. REPRESENTATIVE ENGEL'S USE OF PER DIEM FOR EXPENSES OTHER THAN MEALS AND INCIDENTALS PROVIDES SUBSTANTIAL REASON TO BELIEVE THAT HE HAD EXCESS PER DIEM AND HE DID NOT RETURN EXCESS PER DIEM

34. Representative Engel used per diem for expenses other than his personal lodging, meals, and incidentals.

35. Specifically, he occasionally used the per diem to cover the meals and entertainment of leaders or residents of the country that he visited.[21]

36. He also used the per diem to purchase gifts for his secretary and chief of staff on occasion.[22]

37. Representative Engel's use of the per diem for purposes other than his personal meals and incidental expenses suggests that his actual meal and incidental expenses were less than the per diem that he received.

38. As a result, there is substantial reason to believe that Representative Engel had excess per diem after certain CODELs.

D. ESTIMATES OF REPRESENTATIVE ENGEL'S MEAL AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL REASON TO BELIEVE THAT HIS EXCESS PER DIEM WAS MORE THAN A DE MINIMIS AMOUNT FOR CERTAIN CODELS

39. Based on the information before the OCE, the exact amount of his meal and incidental expenses for each CODEL is unknown.

40. Consequently, the OCE used an estimate of expenses to determine whether it appeared that Representative Engel retained excess per diem that was more than a *de minimis* amount.

41. The OCE Board notes that the sole purpose of the estimated meal and incidental expenses is to determine if there is substantial reason to believe that the Member had excess per diem that was more than a *de minimis* amount. The estimates are not intended to be used to conclude the exact amount of any excess per diem that the Member may have retained.

42. If an estimate is not used, a House Member or staff could impede the enforcement of Rule 10, clause 8, by simply not maintaining any records of his or her actual expenses.

43. Representative Engel's description of his typical meal and incidental expenses provides the basis for estimating his actual expenses.

44. Representative Engel's meals during CODELs falls into the following three categories:

(a) meals that were provided to him at no charge. These meals include working lunches, and official dinners that were hosted as part of the official events of the CODELs. Representative Engel stated that these meals were often available, but not always. In addition, he told the OCE that the food was of poor quality and he would often purchase his own meal after such events with the per diem;[23]

[21] Engel Letter (Exhibit 7 at 10–8483_026). The definition of permissible meal expenses excludes "entertainment expenses, and any expenses incurred for other persons". 41 C.F.R. § 300–3.1.

[22] Engel MOI (Exhibit 6 at 10–8483–022).

[23] *Id.*

(b) meals that were paid for by military personnel escorting the CODEL who Representative Engel later reimbursed. These are the meals where multiple Members of Congress and staff attend and the military escort (e.g., U.S. Air Force official) paid for the dinner on behalf of all participants and then sent an invoice to each person for their portion of the bill;[24] and

(c) meals that Representative Engel directly paid for himself.[25]

45. With respect to incidental expenses, Representative Engel told the OCE that he used per diem for ground transportation. However, he also noted that most ground transportation was provided to him at no cost. He also used the per diem for water bottles, toiletries, bug spray and other miscellaneous items.[26]

46. As a result, the invoice received from the military escorts for each CODEL, along with the itinerary of meals that were provided at no charge to Representative Engel, provided an estimate of his meal expenses other than the meals that he purchased directly for himself.

E. REPRESENTATIVE ENGEL DID NOT RETURN ANY EXCESS PER DIEM FOR MEALS AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES

47. Representative Engel did not return any excess per diem and he believes that if he had any excess per diem, it was a *de minimis* amount.[27]

48. Representative Engel believes that on some CODELs his per diem did not cover all of his expenses. For example, during CODEL Engel to Trinidad and Tobago, St. Vincent, and the Grenadines, Representative Engel told the OCE he did not have enough per diem because certain meals were very expensive.[28]

49. Procedures were in place at the time of Representative Engel's travel for him to return excess per diem.

50. Each of the relevant CODELs was organized by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs ("HCFA").

51. The HCFA Travel Coordinator is responsible for reporting the amount of per diem that Members received and recording any excess per diem that Members of Congress or staff returned.[29]

52. The Travel Coordinator estimates that approximately 50% of travelers return unused per diem. She also noted that House staff usually returns per diem at a higher rate than House Members.[30]

53. The Travel Coordinator requires each traveler to submit to her a signed travel form that lists the amount of "Per Diem Returned."[31]

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[24] *Id.*
[25] *Id.*
[26] *Id.*
[27] Engel Letter (Exhibit 7 at 10–8483–027).
[28] Engel MOI (Exhibit 6 at 10–8483__023).
[29] HCFA Travel Coordinator MOI (Exhibit 3 at 10–8483__009).
[30] *Id.* at 10–8483__009.
[31] *Id.* at 10–8483__009.

54. Representative Engel submitted these forms for various trips, including CODEL Engel (Feb 2009), and indicated that he had "0" per diem to return.[32]

INDIVIDUAL REPORT ON COMMITTEE TRAVEL

Report on travel by (please print) Eliot L. Engel Committee on Foreign Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

COUNTRY	ARRIVE	DEPART	# of nights	A) PER DIEM * ISSUED	B) PER DIEM RETURNED	C) TOTAL PER DIEM USED (A-B=C)	AIR TRAVEL: COMMERCIAL (C) OR MILITARY (M)	[redacted]
Mexico	02/16/09	02/18/09	2	$699.50	0	$699.50	M	
Nicaragua	02/18/09	02/20/09	2	$337.32	0	$337.32	M	
Jamaica	02/20/09	02/22/09	2	$775.68	0	$775.68	M	

COMMERCIAL AIR TRAVEL:

Starting/Country Date	Ending/Country Date	Countries Also Covered by Ticket	Ticket Cost*

* attach original receipt, keep copy for your records

I certify that all per diem drawn and not returned to the issuing agency or U.S. Treasurer was spent for costs that were necessary for the performance of the mission and were not paid for by any other source.

SIGNATURE Eliot L. Engel DATE 10-1-09

55. There is substantial reason to believe that Representative Engel had excess per diem for certain CODELs and he did not return per diem, even when there were procedures in place for him to return the per diem.

[32] House Committee on Foreign Affairs Individual Report on Committee Travel for Representative Eliot L. Engel, dated October 1, 2009 (Exhibit 9 at 10–8483__051).

56. Although, the available evidence does not establish the exact amount of actual expenses for Representative Engel's CODELs, after estimating meal and incidental expenses, there is substantial reason to believe that Representative Engel retained excess per diem from the following CODELs:

Summary of Estimated Excess Per Diem				
CODEL	**DATE**	**M&IE Per Diem** [33]	**Estimated Expenses** [34]	**Estimated Excess Per Diem**
CODEL Engel to Kosovo	Jun 13 to Jun 16, 2008	$420.00	≅ $370.00	≅ **$50.00**
CODEL Engel to Peru, Chile, and Paraguay	Nov 6 to Nov 13, 2008	$984.00	≅ $720.00	≅ $264.00
CODEL Engel to Mexico, Nicaragua, and Jamaica	Feb 16 to Feb, 22 2009	$866.00	≅ $709.00	≅ **$157.00**
CODEL Engel to Trinidad and Tobago & St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Apr 17 to Apr 21, 2009	$622.00	≅ $519.00	≅ **$103.00**
CODEL Engel to El Salvador & Honduras	May 31 to Jun 2, 2009	$154.00	≅ $111.00	≅ **$43.00**
CODEL Engel to Panama, Argentina and Columbia	Jan 3 to Jan 10, 2010	$1,062.00	≅ $987.00	≅ **$75.00**
CODEL Engel to Israel	Feb 13 to Feb 19, 2010	$910.00	≅ $864.00	≅ **$46.00**
Total		**$5,018.00**	≅ **$4,280.00**	≅ **$738.00**

1. CODEL ENGEL (JUN 2008)

57. During CODEL Engel to Kosovo, Representative Engel received per diem for meals and incidental expenses in the amount of $420.00. [35]

58. According to the CODEL itinerary, at least two meals appear to have been provided at no cost to Representatives who attended the CODEL. [36]

[33] M&IE Per Diem calculated using travel itineraries; the monthly per diem rates established by the Office of Allowances, United Sates Department of State; and where applicable, travel vouchers and travel authorization letters.

[34] Estimated expenses were calculated using the "Allocation of M&IE Rates to be Used in Making Deductions from the M&IE Allowance," which lists the amount of per diem expected to be allocated for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and incidentals. 41 C.F.R. ch. 301 App. B.

[35] *See* Itinerary for Codel Engel (June 13 to June 16, 2008) (Exhibit 10 at 10–8483__053–054); monthly per diem rates established by the Office of Allowances, United States Department of State <available at *http://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per__diem.asp*>.

[36] Itinerary for CODEL Engel (June 13 to June 16, 2008) (Exhibit 10 at 10–8483__053–054).

59. Representative Engel's estimated meal and incidental expenses are based on the Federal Travel Regulation allocation formula.[37]

60. The estimated amount of meals and incidental expenses is $370.00.

61. Accordingly, the estimated excess per diem is $50.00.

Codel Engel to Kosovo (June 13 to June 18, 2008)						
Meals & Incidentals	**Jun 13**	**Jun 14**	**Jun 15**	**Jun 16**	**Jun 17**	**Jun 18**
Breakfast	≅ $9	≅ $9	≅ $9	≅ $15	≅ $21	$0.00
Lunch	≅ $16	≅ $16	≅ $16	≅ $24	≅ $34	---
Dinner	≅ $25	Hosted	Hosted	≅ $39	≅ $55	---
Incidentals	≅ $12	≅ $12	≅ $12	≅ $19	≅ $27	$0.00
M&IE Received						$420.00
Estimated M&IE						≅ $370.00
Estimated Excess Per Diem						≅ **$50.00**

62. There is substantial reason to believe that Representative Engel had excess per diem after CODEL Engel (Jun 2008) that he did not return to the U.S. Treasury.

2. CODEL ENGEL (NOV 2008)

63. During CODEL Engel to Peru, Chile, and Paraguay, Representative Engel received an enhanced per diem for meals and incidental expenses in the amount of $984.00.[38]

64. According to the CODEL itinerary, at least five meals appear to have been provided at no cost to Representatives who attended the CODEL.[39]

65. Representative Engel's estimated meal and incidental expenses are based on the Federal Travel Regulation allocation formula.[40]

66. The estimated amount of meals and incidental expenses is $720.00.

[37] 41 C.F.R. ch. 301 App. B.

[38] *See* Travel Voucher for CODEL Engel (Exhibit 11 at 10–8483_056–057; Itinerary for CODEL Engel (November 6 to November 13, 2008) (Exhibit 12 at 10–8483_059–060); monthly per diem rates established by the Office of Allowances, United States Department of State <available at *http://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per_diem.asp*>.

[39] Itinerary for CODEL Engel (November 6 to November 13, 2008) (Exhibit 12 at 10–84830059–060).

[40] 41 C.F.R. ch. 301 App. B.

67. Accordingly, the estimated excess per diem is $264.00.

Codel Engel to Peru, Chile, and Paraguay (November 6 to November 13, 2008)								
Meals & Incidentals	**Nov 6**	**Nov 7**	**Nov 8**	**Nov 9**	**Nov 10**	**Nov 11**	**Nov 12**	**Nov 13**
Breakfast	≅ $22	≅ $22	≅ $22	≅ $22	≅ $22	≅ $19	≅ $19	$0.00
Lunch	≅ $37	Hosted	≅ $37	≅ $37	≅ $37	≅ $31	≅ $31	---
Dinner	Hosted	≅ $58	≅ $58	Hosted	Hosted	Hosted	≅ $49	---
Incidentals	≅ $29	≅ $29	≅ $29	≅ $30	≅ $30	≅ $25	≅ $25	$0.00
M&IE Received								$984.00
Estimated for Additional M&IE								≅ $720.00
Estimated Excess Per Diem								**≅ $264.00**

68. There is substantial reason to believe that Representative Engel had excess per diem after CODEL Engel (Feb 2009) that he did not return to the U.S. Treasury.

3. CODEL ENGEL (FEB 2009)

69. During CODEL Engel to Mexico, Nicaragua, and Jamaica, Representative Engel received an enhanced per diem for M&IE in the amount of $866.00.[41]

70. According to the itinerary for CODEL Engel, at least one meal appears to have been provided at no cost to Representatives who participated during the seven-day trip.[42]

[41] *See* Letter from Howard Berman to the Secretary of State dated February 11, 2009 (Exhibit 13 at 10–8483__062); Itinerary for CODEL Engel (February 16 to February 22, 2009) (Exhibit 14 at 10–8483__064–068); monthly per diem rates established by the Office of Allowances, United States Department of State <available at *http://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per__diem.asp*>.

[42] Itinerary for CODEL Engel (February 16 to February 22, 2009) (Exhibit 14 at 10–8483__064–068).

71. Following the CODEL, Representative Engel owed the military escort $135.25 for meals and other expenses that were incurred on behalf of Representative Engel.[43] An invoice was sent to Representative Engel, dated February 27, 2009.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

27 February 2009

Office of Legislative Liaison
B-322 Rayburn Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eliot Engel
2161 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Engel,

Thank you for choosing the Air Force for your travel to Mexico, Nicaragua, and Jamaica. It was a true pleasure providing you assistance on the trip. A list of your incurred expenses follows:

Item	Quantity	Cost
In-flight Meals	2	$20.54
Mexico City: El Refugio	1	$24.36
Mexico City: Event tour	1	$6.85
Managua: El Tiscapa (Lunch)	1	$34.56
Managua: Natural site tour	1	$5.70
Kingston: Morgan's Harbor (Lunch)	1	$24.65
Kingston: Devon House tour	1	$5.00
Kingston: Entrance fee	1	$2.31
Kingston: Lunch	1	$11.28
Total Amount		**$135.25**

Please provide a check for this amount, payable to the US Treasury, to the Air Force Liaison office in the Rayburn House Office Building (room B-322) as soon as possible. If you have any questions, or if I can be of assistance in any way, please call me at (703) 571-[redacted] Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

CALVIN E. DANIELS JR, Major, USAF
Congressional Liaison

72. The amount of M&IE per diem remaining after the billed expenses for four meals is $730.75.

73. Representative Engel may have incurred meal and incidental expenses in addition to those owed to the military escort. The estimate of these additional meal and incidental expenses is based on the Federal Travel Regulation allocation formula.[44]

[43] Letter from Major Calvin E. Daniels Jr., to Representative Eliot Engel, dated February 27, 2009 (Exhibit 15 at 10–8483–070).

[44] 41 C.F.R. ch. 301 App. B.

74. The estimated amount of meals and incidental expenses is $574.00.

75. Accordingly, the estimated excess per diem is $157.00.

Codel Engel to Mexico, Nicaragua, and Jamaic (February 16 to February 22, 2009)							
Meals & Incidentals	**Feb 16**	**Feb 17**	**Feb 18**	**Feb 19**	**Feb 20**	**Feb 21**	**Feb 22**
Breakfast	---	≅ $22	≅ $17	≅ $17	≅ $20	≅ $20	$0.00
Lunch	Billed	Billed	≅ $28	≅ $28	Billed	Billed	$0.00
Dinner	≅ $58	≅ $58	Hosted	≅ $44	≅ $53	≅ $53	---
Incidentals	≅ $29	≅ $29	≅ $22	≅ $22	≅ $27	≅ $27	$0.00
M&IE Received							$866.00
Billed							$135.25
Estimated M&IE							≅ $574.00
Estimated Excess Per Diem							**≅ $156.75**

76. There is substantial reason to believe that Representative Engel had excess per diem after CODEL Engel (Feb 2009) that he did not return to the U.S. Treasury.

4. CODEL ENGEL (APR 2009)

77. During CODEL Engel to Trinidad and Tobago, St. Vincent, and the Grenadines, Representative Engel received per diem for meals and incidental expenses in the amount of $622.00.[45]

78. According to the CODEL itinerary, at least two meals appear to have been provided at no cost to Representatives who attended the CODEL.[46]

[45] *See* Itinerary for CODEL Engel (April 17 to April 21, 2009) (Exhibit 16 at 10–8483__072–073); Expense Sheet for CODEL Engel (Exhibit 17 at 10–8483__075–076); monthly per diem rates established by the Office of Allowances, United States Department of State <available at *http://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per__diem.asp*>.

[46] Itinerary for CODEL Engel (April. 17 to April 21, 2009) (Exhibit 16 at10–8483__072–073).

79. Following the CODEL, Representative Engel owed the military escort $283.42 for meal and other expenses that were incurred on behalf of Representative Engel.[47]

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

4 May 2009

Office of Legislative Liaison
1160 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1160

The Honorable Eliot Engel
2161 Rayburn Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Engel,

Thank you for choosing the Air Force for your travel to Trinidad and St. Vincent. It was a pleasure providing you assistance on the trip. A list of your incurred expenses follows:

Item	Quantity	Cost
Dinner-Hyatt Waterfront Trinidad (17 Apr 09)	1	$170.13
Lunch (El Pecos on the Grill, Trinidad 18 Apr 09)	1	$6.75
Dinner (Angelos Italian, Trinidad 18 Apr 09)	1	$84.14
Lunch-St Vincent (20 Apr 09)	1	$8.32
Dinner-St Vincent (19 Apr 09, Inclusive meal, drinks were extra)	1	$2.82
Young Island Resort, St Vincent, Room Incidentals (20 Apr 09)	1	$11.26
	Total Amount	**$283.42**

Please provide a check for this amount, payable to the "US Treasury", to the Air Force Liaison office in the Rayburn House Office Building (room B-322) as soon as possible. If you have any questions, or if I can be of assistance in any way, please call me at (703) 697-[redacted] Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

JEFFREY E. WARMKA, Lt Col, USAF
Congressional Liaison

80. The M&IE per diem remaining after the billed meal expenses is $338.58

81. Representative Engel may have incurred meal and incidental expenses in addition to the amount owed to the military escort. The estimate of these additional meal and incidental expenses is based on the Federal Travel Regulation allocation formula.[48]

82. The estimated amount of meals and incidental expenses is $236.00.

[47] Letter from Lt. Col. Jeffrey E. Warmka to Representative Eliot Engel, dated May 4, 2009 (Exhibit 18 at 10–8483–078).

[48] 41 C.F.R. ch. 301 App. B.

83. Accordingly, the estimated excess per diem is $103.00.

Codel Engel to Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Vincent, and the Grenadines (April 17 to April 21, 2009)					
Meals & Incidentals	**Apr 17**	**Apr 18**	**Apr 19**	**Apr 20**	**Apr 21**
Breakfast	≅ $26	Hosted	≅ $15	≅ $26	$0.00
Lunch	≅ $43	Billed	≅ $26	Billed	---
Dinner	Billed	Billed	Hosted	Hosted	---
Incidentals	≅ $35	≅ $35	≅ $21	≅ $35	$0.00
M&IE Received					$622.00
Billed					$283.42
Estimated M&IE					≅ $236.00
Estimated Excess Per Diem					**≅ $103.00**

84. According to Representative Engel, he did not have any excess per diem on CODEL Engel (Apr 2009) because the delegation was greatly overcharged by a restaurant for a dinner.

85. Based on the information before the OCE, there is substantial reason to believe that Representative Engel had excess per diem for CODEL Engel (Jan 2010) that he did not return to the U.S. Treasury.

5. CODEL ENGEL (MAY 2009)

86. During CODEL Engel to El Salvador and Honduras, Representative Engel received an enhanced per diem for meals and incidental expenses in the amount of $154.00.[49]

87. According to the CODEL itinerary, at least three meals appear to have been provided at no cost to the Representatives who attended the CODEL.[50]

88. Representative Engel's estimated meal and incidental expenses are based on the Federal Travel Regulation allocation formula.[51]

89. The estimated amount of meals and incidental expenses is $111.00.

[49] *See* Travel Voucher for CODEL Engel (Exhibit 19 at 10–8483__080); Itinerary for CODEL Engel (May 31 to June 2, 2009) (Exhibit 20 at 10–8483__082); monthly per diem rates established by the Office of Allowances, United States Department of State <available at *http://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per__diem.asp*>.

[50] Itinerary for CODEL Engel (May 31 to June 2, 2009) (Exhibit 20 at 10–8483__082).

[51] 41 C.F.R. ch. 301 App. B.

90. Accordingly, the estimated excess per diem is $43.00.

Codel Engel to El Salvador and Honduras (May 31 to June 2, 2009)				
Meals & Incidentals	**May 31**	**Jun 1**	**Jun 2**	**Jun 3**
Breakfast	---	≅ $12	≅ $12	$0.00
Lunch	---	Hosted	≅ $26	---
Dinner	Hosted	Hosted	≅ $31	---
Incidentals	$0.00	≅ $15	≅ $15	$0.00
M&IE Received				$154.00
Estimated for Additional M&IE				≅ $111.00
Estimated Excess Per Diem				**≅ $43.00**

91. There is substantial reason to believe that Representative Engel had excess per diem for CODEL Engel (May 2009) that he did not return to the U.S. Treasury.

6. CODEL ENGEL (JAN 2010)

92. During CODEL Engel to Panama, Argentina, and Columbia, Representative Engel received an enhanced per diem for M&IE in the amount of $1,062.00.[52]

93. According to an itinerary for CODEL Engel, at least five meals appear to have been provided at no cost to Representatives who attended the eight-day trip.[53]

[52] *See* Travel Voucher for CODEL Engel (Exhibit 21 at 10–8483__084–085); Itinerary for CODEL Engel (January 3 to January 10, 2010) (Exhibit 22 at 10–8483__087–088); and monthly per diem rates established by the Office of Allowances, United States Department of State <available at *http://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per__diem.asp*>.

[53] Itinerary for CODEL Engel (January 3 to January 10, 2010) (Exhibit 22 at 10–8483__087–088).

94. Following the CODEL, Representative Engel owed the military escort $258.57 for meal and other expenses that were incurred on behalf of Representative Engel.[54]

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

12 January 2010

Office of Legislative Liaison
B-322 Rayburn Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eliot Engel
2161 Rayburn Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Engel,

Thank you for choosing the Air Force for your travel to Panama, Argentina and Colombia. It was a true pleasure providing you assistance on the trip. A list of your incurred expenses follows:

Item	Quantity	Cost
In-flight Meals ($7.71 ea)	3	$23.13
Medical Prescription	1	$14.91
Dinner – Cabana las Lilas (w/Amb), Buenos Aires	1	$80.39
Dinner – La Bruschetta, Cartagena	1	$45.51
Lunch – Juan del Mar (w/Mayor), Cartagena	1	$49.98
Lunch – El Boni (w/Afro-Colombians), Cartagena	1	$44.65
Total Amount		**$258.57**

Please provide a check for this amount, payable to the US Treasury, to the Air Force Liaison office in the Rayburn House Office Building (room B-322) as soon as possible. If you have any questions, or if I can be of assistance in any way, please call me at (202) 225-[redacted] Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

Heidi E. Cornell

HEIDI E. CORNELL, Lt Col, USAF
Congressional Liaison

95. The M&IE per diem remaining after the billed meal expenses is $803.00.

96. Representative Engel may have incurred meal and incidental expenses in addition to those owed to the military escort. The estimate of these additional meal and incidental expenses is based on the Federal Travel Regulation allocation formula.[55]

97. The estimated amount of meals and incidental expenses is $728.00.

[54] Letter from Lt. Col. Heide E. Cornell to Representative Eliot Engel, dated January 12, 2010 (Exhibit 23 at 10–8483_090).

[55] 41 C.F.R. ch. 301 App. B.

98. Accordingly, the estimated excess per diem is $75.00.

Codel Engel to Panama, Argentina, and Columbia (January 3 to January 10, 2010)								
Meals & Incidentals	**Jan 3**	**Jan 4**	**Jan 5**	**Jan 6**	**Jan 7**	**Jan 8**	**Jan 9**	**Jan 10**
Breakfast	---	≅ $22	≅ $22	≅ $22	≅ $24	≅ $24	≅ $24	$0.00
Lunch	Billed	Hosted	≅ $36	Hosted	≅ $40	Billed	Billed	Billed
Dinner	≅ $58	≅ $58	Billed	≅ $58	Hosted	≅ $64	≅ $64	---
Incidentals	≅ $29	≅ $29	≅ $29	≅ $29	≅ $32	≅ $32	≅ $32	$0.00
M&IE Received								$1,062.00
Billed								$258.57
Estimated M&IE								≅ $728.00
Estimated Excess Per Diem								**≅ $75.00**

99. As a result, there is substantial reason to believe that Representative Engel had excess per diem for CODEL Engel (Jan 2010) that he did not return to the U.S. Treasury.

7. CODEL ENGEL TO ISRAEL (FEB 2010)

100. During CODEL Engel to Israel, Representative Engel received an enhanced per diem for meals and incidental expenses in the amount of $910.00.[56]

101. According to the CODEL itinerary, at least one meal appears to have been provided at no cost to Representatives who attended the CODEL.[57]

102. Representative Engel's estimated meal and incidental expenses are based on the Federal Travel Regulation allocation formula.[58]

103. The estimated amount of meals and incidental expenses is $864.00.

[56] *See* Travel Voucher for CODEL Engel (Exhibit 24 at 10–8483__092); Itinerary for CODEL Engel (February 13 to February 19, 2010) (Exhibit 25 at 10–8483__094); monthly per diem rates established by the Office of Allowances, United States Department of State <available at *http://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per__diem.asp*>.

[57] Itinerary for CODEL Engel (February 13 to February 19, 2010) (Exhibit 25 at 10–8483__094).

[58] 41 C.F.R. ch. 301 App. B.

104. Accordingly, the estimated excess per diem is $46.00.

Codel Engel to Israel (February 13 to February 19, 2010)						
Meals & Incidentals	**Feb 14**	**Feb 15**	**Feb 16**	**Feb 17**	**Feb 18**	**Feb 19**
Breakfast	≅ $27	≅ $27	≅ $27	≅ $27	≅ $27	$0.00
Lunch	≅ $46	Hosted	≅ $46	≅ $46	≅ $46	---
Dinner	≅ $73	≅ $73	≅ $73	≅ $73	≅ $73	---
Incidentals	≅ $36	≅ $36	≅ $36	≅ $36	≅ $36	$0.00
M&IE Received						$910.00
Estimated M&IE						≅ $864.00
Estimated Excess Per Diem						**≅ $46.00**

105. There is substantial reason to believe that Representative Engel had excess per diem after CODEL Engel (Feb 2010) that he did not return to the U.S. Treasury.

III. CONCLUSION

106. Pursuant to House Rule 10, clause 8, House Members imposed on themselves a restriction on the use of per diem for foreign travel. Specifically, House Members and staff may receive reimbursement for expenses that is *the lesser of:* (1) the applicable per diem; or (2) actual expenses.

107. Pursuant to House Rule 23, clause 2, House Members must adhere to the spirit and the letter of the rules. Accordingly, House Rule 10, clause 8, requires the return to the U.S. Treasury of any per diem that a Member receives that is in excess of the Member's actual expenses.

108. Pursuant to House Rule 23, clause 1, House Members must conduct themselves at all times in a manner that shall reflect credibility on the House. Representative Engel's public statements indicate that he may have retained excess per diem. As a result, if there is a violation, it implicates House Rule 23, clause 1 because it may be considered flagrant.[59]

109. Based on the information available to the OCE during this Review, Representative Engel's meals and incidental expenses were less than the per diem he received to cover these expenses during the following CODELs: CODEL Engel (Jun 2008); CODEL Engel (Nov 2008); CODEL Engel (Feb 2009); CODEL Engel (Apr 2009); CODEL Engel (May 2009); CODEL Engel (Jan 2010); and CODEL Engel (Feb 2010).

110. Based on the information available to the OCE during this Review, Representative Engel did not return any excess per diem for meal and incidental expenses. Therefore, there is substantial reason to believe that he may have violated House Rule 10, clause 8; House Rule 23, clauses 1 and 2.

[59] House Ethics Manual (2008) at 13.

111. For these reasons, the Board recommends that the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct further Review the above described allegations concerning Representative Engel.

IV. INFORMATION THE OCE WAS UNABLE TO OBTAIN

112. The OCE requested information from the U.S. Department of State concerning letters of authorization for certain CODELs and records of Representative Engel returning excess per diem. The U.S. Department of State was cooperative with retrieving the information but was unable to acquire proper authorization to release the documents to the OCE before the end of this Review.

113. The OCE requested information from the U.S. Air Force Congressional Liaison Office concerning meal and other expenses incurred on behalf of Representative Engel and reimbursed by Representative Engel. The U.S. Air Force Congressional Liaison Office was cooperative with discussing the information with OCE staff but was unable to acquire proper authorization to release the documents to the OCE before the end of this Review.

EXHIBIT 1

May 13, 2010

The Honorable Ike Skelton, Chairman
House Committee on Armed Services
2121 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Following our recent conversation at the Chairmen's meeting, I would like to provide you with the following restatement of rules concerning the authorization by Chairmen of travel by Members and staff:

- A Member of the committee seeking authorization to travel for oversight purposes must do so in writing to the Chairman. An itinerary of the proposed trip must be included, as well as a statement describing the purpose of the travel. Should commercial travel be contemplated, the estimated cost of airline tickets as provided by CATO must also be included;

- For all Members and staff, international or domestic official travel via commercial air may only be booked in coach/economy class consistent with Executive Branch guidelines. Requests for exceptions to this policy due to special circumstances should be submitted in writing to the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs prior to commencement of the travel. As a general rule, business-class accommodations will only be authorized if the scheduled flight time is in excess of 14 hours, consistent with rules established by the Departments of Defense and State;

- Any per diem provided to Members or staff is intended to be expended only for official purposes related to the trip. Excess funds are to be returned to the Treasury;

- Requests for enhanced per diem must explain the justification for the request and must be submitted by the Member leading the delegation to the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs prior to departure. Executive Branch guidelines will apply to enhanced per diem;

- Foreign travel should be authorized only when it is necessary to facilitate the work of the Committee;

- Chairmen may authorize travel only for Members and staff of their committee. Spouses of Members may travel when necessary for protocol purposes only and at no cost to the federal government. Staff support for travel must be requested with the authorization to travel, and staff support must be provided by committee staff only. Personal staff is not authorized to travel and should not be added to Committee staff for the primary purpose of qualifying for status as Committee employees;

- If a Member of the committee does not have a spouse, an adult child (18 years of age and older) of the Member may be authorized to travel when necessary for protocol purposes only and on the same basis as a spouse.

- If a Member of the committee has a spouse, but the spouse is unavailable for travel, authorization for an adult child (18 years of age and older) of the Member to travel with the Member may be given on the same basis as a spouse.

- Per Department of Defense policy, committee or leadership letters requesting additional travelers should contain the travelers name and specify their relationship (spouse, adult child) to the Member they are accompanying;

- All travel must be led by a Majority party Member of the committee and efforts to ensure that the travel is bipartisan must be documented;

- The availability of Department of Defense aircraft to support congressional travel is extremely limited. A bipartisan, minimum number of Members, varying by the type of aircraft assigned, will be required. Requests for Department of Defense aircraft must be made through the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs. Committees should not contact the Department of Defense directly;

- Member travel is to be conducted only during times when the House is not in session and is not to interfere with representational responsibilities; and

- Committees must file, on a quarterly basis with the Clerk of the House, reports disclosing all expenditures for travel and the purpose of those expenditures.

Please contact the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs at ext. 6-[redacted] with any questions or concerns. The staff is available to provide guidance regarding travel matters.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

best regards,

NANCY PELOSI
Speaker of the House

EXHIBIT 2

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

IN RE:	Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe Office Manager
REVIEW Nos.:	10-0754; 10-1170; 10-5477; 10-6264; 10-7960; and 10-8483
DATE:	June 3, 2010
LOCATION:	Office of Congressional Ethics 425 3rd Street, SW Washington, DC 20515
TIME:	3:30 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. (approximately)
PARTICIPANTS:	Kedric L. Payne Elizabeth A. Horton Marlene M. Kaufman, General Counsel, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

SUMMARY: The Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe ("CSCE") Office Manager was interviewed pursuant to Review Nos. 10-0754; 10-1170; 10-5477; 10-6264; 10-7960; and 10-8483. We requested an interview with the CSCE Office Manager (the "witness") and he consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. He signed a written acknowledgement of the warning, which will be placed in the case file in this review.

2. As the CSCE Office Manager, the witness is the trip coordinator. His duties include preparing authorization letters for travel, working with Congressional Travel Office of the U.S. Department of State, and corresponding with the relevant U.S. Embassies.

3. He also prepared and filed the foreign travel disclosure reports with the Clerk of the House of Representatives following CODELs. Information in these reports included the House Members who traveled, dates of travel, and countries visited.

4. In addition, the reports include information on the amount of per diem received and if excess per diem was returned.

5. The witness collected checks payable to the U.S. Treasury from anyone returning per diem and he gave the checks to the U.S. Department of State.

6. He provided the checks to the individual in the U.S. Department of State who was responsible for collecting returned per diem. He identified this person as Constance Austin.

7. The witness explained that enhanced per diem, as much as an additional $50 per day, was provided to those traveling, if requested by a Member in an authorization letter. Such requests are typically approved. Out of the various Congressional Delegations ("CODELs") and Staff Delegations ("STAFFDELs") where he has been involved, the witness estimated that less than half had an enhanced per diem.

8. The witness believes that the per diem is to be used by Members for their official expenses, such as meals and incidentals. Examples of incidentals are cabs from the airport to the hotel.

9. The witness does not provide any guidance to Members on how to use per diem. Although, his personal reading of the law is that it does not specifically state that unused per diem should be returned, he does not give any guidance to Members or staff about a requirement to return per diem.

10. House Members and staff return unused per diem. He roughly estimated that 35% or 40% returned unused per diem.

11. For CODEL Cardin to Kazakhstan, Italy, and the United Kingdom from June 27 to July 3, 2008, he does not believe that any House Members or staff returned any unused per diem.

12. For CODEL Hastings to Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Lithuania from June 26 to July 3, 2009, the witness does not believe that any House Members or staff returned any unused per diem.

I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the witness on June 3, 2010.

Kedric L. Payne
Investigative Counsel

EXHIBIT 3

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

IN RE:	House Committee on Foreign Affairs Travel Coordinator
REVIEW No.:	10-0754; 10-1170; 10-5477; 10-6264; 10-7960; and 10-8483
DATE:	June 2, 2010
LOCATION:	2170 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515
TIME:	2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. (approximately)
PARTICIPANTS:	Kedric L. Payne Elizabeth A. Horton Daniel Silverberg, Senior Deputy Counsel, House Committee on Foreign Affairs

SUMMARY: The Travel Coordinator for the House Committee on Foreign Affairs (the "witness") was interviewed pursuant to Review Nos. 10-0754; 10-1170; 10-5477; 10-6264; 10-7960; and 10-8483. We requested an interview with the witness and she consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. She signed a written acknowledgement of the warning, which will be placed in the case file in this review.

2. The witness has been the Travel Coordinator for the Committee for approximately one year and two months.

3. Prior to her employment with the Committee, she was an intern with the Committee.

4. As Travel Coordinator, she is a liaison between the United States Department of State ("State Department") Travel Office and the Committee. She handles correspondence to the relevant U.S. Embassies. She also creates post-trip travel reports.

5. There are two reporting requirements. First, reports are created within fourteen days that a Member of Congress or staff returns from a trip. The report includes lodging receipts and per diem receipts. Second, quarterly travel reports are filed with the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

6. Prior to Speaker Nancy Pelosi's restatement of the travel rooms in May 2010, the Committee always requested enhanced per diem for Member travel. Enhanced per diem is now approved by the Inter-Parliamentary Affairs Office.

7. The Committee does not provide written or oral guidance to Members of Congress about how per diem should be used. The witness believes that it is understood among Members that per diem is for meals and incidental expenses, such as transportation. She also believes that it is understood that per diem is not to be used for gifts and souvenirs.

8. The witness based her understanding of the use of per diem on information that the State Department published on its website.

9. After returning from foreign travel, Members and staff are to provide her with all hotel receipts, per diem receipts, and checks to the U.S. Treasury for any unused per diem. The witness emails Members and staff to request this information from Members and staff.

10. Prior to foreign trip, she sends an email to those who are traveling who may not be familiar with the information that she will need following the trip. The email explains that she will need hotel receipts, per diem receipts, and checks to the U.S. Treasury for any unused per diem. However, most Members who travel are familiar with what is required after a trip and therefore she does not send them an email.

11. Any checks from Members or staff to the U.S. Treasury for unused per diem was retained in the Committee files. Therefore, if no such checks were produced in response to the OCE's Request for Information about CODEL Engel, it is reasonable to conclude that no such checks exist.

12. The report that is completed by Members for the Committee after they return from foreign travel is called a Form 11C. Form 11C notes the amount of per diem that the Member received and if any unused per diem was returned.

13. The witness explained that after CODEL Engel in February 2009, Congressman Eliot L. Engel Form submitted the 11C form twice. The first form was dated March 1, 2009 (HFAC 0024), but was amended by a form dated October 1, 2009 (HFAC 0115). The amount of per diem issued for travel to Jamaica was changed in the second form.

14. The witness explained that the Form 11C is the form that is received within 14 days after the Member has returned from the trip. This Form is used to complete the quarterly travel report that is sent to the Clerk of the House.

15. The per diem amount that was listed in the quarterly report is equal to the amount of the per diem issued to a Member or staff minus the amount of unused per diem returned.

16. The witness estimated that approximately 50% of travelers returned unused per diem. She also notes that staff usually returns per diem at a higher rate than Members.

17. With respect to Representative Engel's letter to Chairman Howard Berman, dated February 12, 2009, requesting representational funds for several receptions (HFAC 0007), the witness states that such requests are rare and happen less than 10% of the time.

This memorandum was prepared on June 9, 2010, based on the notes that the OCE staff prepared during the interview with the witness on June 2, 2010. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the witness on June 2, 2010.

Kedric L. Payne
Investigative Counsel

EXHIBIT 4

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

IN RE:	House Committee on Armed Services Travel Coordinator
REVIEW Nos.:	10-0754; 10-1170; 10-5477; 10-6264; 10-7960; and 10-8483
DATE:	June 8, 2010
LOCATION:	2117A Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515
TIME:	11:00 a.m. to 11:40 (approximately)
PARTICIPANTS:	Kedric L. Payne Elizabeth A. Horton Paul Lewis, General Counsel, House Committee on Armed Services

SUMMARY: The House Committee on Armed Services Travel Coordinator (the "witness") was interviewed pursuant to Review Nos. 10-0754; 10-1170; 10-5477; 10-6264; 10-7960; and 10-8483. We requested an interview with the witness and she consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. She signed a written acknowledgement of the warning, which will be placed in the case file in this review.

2. The witness has been a Professional Staff member with the Committee since February of 2005.

3. Prior to her employment with the Committee, she worked in the personal office of Representative Hefley from 2001-2005.

4. Prior to working for Representative Hefley, she worked as a Staff Assistant with the Committee from 1995 – 2001.

5. As a Professional Staff member, she handles all financial and human resource issues, including payroll benefits as well as domestic and foreign travel matters.

6. She handles all correspondence related to travel, she generates/processes letters of authorization for the Committee, and prepares quarterly travel reports tracking per diem.

7. She keeps everything related to travel in individual files.

8. She vets all trips, determining the purpose of the trip and who will be traveling.

9. If the trip is for foreign travel, she drafts a letter to the State Department and if the trip is domestic, she drafts a letter to the Department of Defense.

10. Travel must be bi-partisan.

11. The authorization letters are signed by the Chair of the Committee.

12. Once the trip is authorized, the State Department will release per diem funds for the travel. There is no per diem issued for domestic travel.

13. The escort officers help generate the itinerary for trips and normally issue the per diem to Members once they reach their destination. Occasionally, the per diem was issued prior to the trip.

14. Members must sign for the per diem. Receipts for per diem are required to be turned it to her at the end of the trip.

15. Staff may collect per diem and lodging receipts for the Member and submit them to her. She also gets information regarding lodging and per diem amounts from the State Department.

16. All receipts for per diem must be accounted for in the quarterly travel reports she prepared.

17. Often, she had to call Member offices and the State Department for missing receipts. She stated that collecting receipts was like "herding cats".

18. Members are not required to submit receipts for meals and incidentals. It is up to the individual Member as to how the per diem for meals and incidental expenses are spent.

19. In many instances the cost of the hotel accommodations are higher than the allotted cost and, therefore, will be paid for directly by the State Department.

20. Members are highly encouraged to give any unused per diem back to the U.S. Treasury.

21. Members do not receive any formal guidance on per diem use; any guidance is by word of mouth.

22. The meals and incidental expenses (M&IE) is to be used for meals, lost luggage, medicine, toiletries, laundry, entry fees, etc.

23. She is not aware if Members spend the per diem on souvenirs because they are not required to submit receipts for the M&IE items.

24. According to the witness, Members spend the per diem on what they want.

25. She has never been asked to define "incidentals" to a Member. She considers incidentals to include lost luggage, medicine, and toiletries.

26. She provided the Members with a breakdown of the itinerary for each country visited, which included the dates of travel in each country along with the amount of per diem issued for each country.

27. She requested that any unused per diem be attributed to the country for which the per diem was issued.

28. The Committee does not authorize enhanced per diems. The practiced was stopped four years ago.

29. Enhanced per diem was generally for hotel costs that are higher than the government rate.

30. She always asked for the enhanced per diem to be returned if it was not spent on the lodging fee.

31. Because most trips have hostel costs that exceed the government rate, the lodging for the trips are paid by the State Department.

32. If a Member spends more than the per diem and has kept receipts of all expenditures, the Member can seek additional reimbursement from the State Department.

33. She has not had a Member seek additional reimbursement in the past four years.

34. She does not require Members to submit any receipts for the allotted per diem. It is up to the individual Member as to how the per diem is spent.

35. Members are highly encouraged by "word-of-mouth" to return any unused per diem. There is no formalized guidance regarding unused per diem.

36. She is not aware if any Members spend their per diem on souvenirs.

37. For travel to Iraq, Members are not given per diem because they eat in the mess. Meetings for such trips are not listed on any itinerary because they are a close hold. A Member may be able to go to McDonald's.

38. All trips to areas of operation are unique.

39. Escort officers will prepare per diem reports for her at times. Not all of the services have the same process. The Marines for instance are very efficient.

40. The reports she creates that are required to be filed with the Clerk are broken down by Member.

41. If any per diem is returned, she makes a copy of the check and includes it in her files.

This memorandum was prepared on July 19, 2010, based on the notes that the OCE staff prepared during the interview with the witness on June 8, 2010. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the witness on June 8, 2010.

Elizabeth Horton
Investigative Counsel

EXHIBIT 5

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.
WSJ.com

MARCH 2, 2010, 2:08 PM ET

Rewards From Traveling Abroad

By T.W. Farnam and Brody Mullins

Overseas travel can be rewarding – especially if you're a lawmaker.

An article in today's Wall Street Journal looks at the cash payments that lawmakers get while they travel overseas. The State Department gives each lawmaker an envelope of local currency to cover their meals and incidental expenses when they arrive in a foreign country on official business.

The problem: Lawmakers rarely follow the House and Senate rules that require them to return the money they don't spend on official expenses. Interviews with 20 current and former members of Congress show that lawmakers often keep the money or spend it on personal shopping.

Lawmakers are able to keep more of the money because they get many of their meals and other expenses for free. Take a trip last year led by New York Democrat Rep. **Eliot Engel**. Documents show the delegation members got thousands of dollars in freebies from the military, embassies and their foreign hosts; the Air Force picked up the $3,000 room service tab, including $1,000 for beer, in the delegation's Mexico City hospitality suite.

When Mr. Engel and six lawmakers went to Mexico, Nicaragua and Jamaica in February last year, each was given $500 in cash to cover their expenses for the six-day trip. The same went for six aides. The "per diem" rates are the same used by other federal agencies to cover the cost of three meals a day plus cabs and tips for baggage handling.

Military aides served four meals while the delegation traveled on an Air Force plane, according to the military records. In Mexico City and Managua, Nicaragua, the military picked up the tab for breakfast in a hospitality suite each day, records show. At night, the lawmakers went to two receptions hosted by U.S. embassies, according to their itinerary. Other meals were hosted by foreign leaders.

Travel records show that military officials spent a total of $5,500 on meals, snacks, alcohol and baggage-handling tips – both on the plane and off – with only a small fraction reimbursed by lawmakers. The records were obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request made by the Journal.

The documents show lawmakers reimbursed the government $21 for two of the four meals served during flights. That's because lawmakers don't pay for meals served while in U.S. airspace.

The records also showed that military aides picked up hundreds of dollars of liquor, including bottles of Absolut Vodka, Bacardi Rum and Maker's Mark bourbon from a Navy Exchange gas station just outside the Pentagon.

Most lawmakers on the trip said they didn't return any cash to the government. In an interview, Engel said he normally keeps leftover funds when he travels, but he doesn't recall the details of his South American travels. "If there was anything left, it was negligible," Engel said. "There are no windfalls from these."

After that interview, Engel's office did not respond to repeated questions on details of the documents.

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EXHIBIT 6

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

IN RE:	Representative Eliot Engel
REVIEW No.:	10-8483
DATE:	June 24, 2010
LOCATION:	2161 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515
TIME:	2:05 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (approximately)
PARTICIPANTS:	Omar S. Ashmawy Kedric L. Payne Joel Cohen Jerry Goldfetter

SUMMARY: Representative Eliot Engel is a Member of the United States House of Representatives and represents the 17th District of New York. He was interviewed pursuant to Review No. 10-8483. We requested an interview with Representative Engel and he consented to an interview. Representative Engel (the "witness") made the following statements in response to our questioning:

1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. He signed a written acknowledgement of the warning.

2. When the witness travelled he typically received per diem in each city he visited in the control room after arriving to the hotel. The per diem would be in an envelope along with his room assignment and room key. The Members attending the Congressional Delegation ("CODEL") would sign for the envelope. The witness could not clearly recall whether he retained the document he signed and thought that all the Members signed a single document.

3. After receiving the per diem, the witness keeps the money in his wallet together with whatever personal cash he has brought with him from the United States. The witness does not usually convert his personal money into the local currency.

4. When asked how the witness spends his per diem, he explained that if he is travelling with the military, then they deduct the hotel expenses from his per diems and give him the remainder. His assumption is that they give him and the other Members who are travelling the appropriate amount to cover their expenses.

5. He used per diem on meals, cabs, and if he was meeting people he might use the per diem to treat them to meals. He would usually pay for his meals in the local currency, but he has on occasion used his credit card.

6. On occasions when the entire delegation went out to dinner, the military escort would pay for the meal and then bill the Members afterwards.

7. The witness has used per diem for ground transportation in the past, but acknowledged that most ground transportation is provided during the CODELs.

8. Although the itinerary indicates that most meals are provided, the witness explained that while that is often the case, it is not always the case. He further explained that while on a CODEL he will often attend a reception in honor of the CODEL. However, the food is often of poor quality and he tries not to eat. After the reception he would often go out to dinner and he would pay for the dinner from his per diem.

9. On those occasions when the entire CODEL goes to dinner and the military escort pays the check and later bills the Members, the witness typically receives the receipt (*i.e.* the request for reimbursement) anywhere between one week and one month after the CODEL. At that point he would write a personal check to the escort.

10. When asked if there were any other ways he spent his per diem, the witness replied that he would also use the per diem for toiletries, water, and other miscellaneous items such as bug spray. He also uses it to purchase a souvenir for his secretary who does all the prep work preparing the witness for the CODELs. The witness considers taking care of the person who does all the work for the CODEL part and parcel of the trip. On occasion, the witness might also use per diem to buy a souvenir for his chief of staff. He does not use per diem to purchase souvenirs for his constituents or family. If he buys something for either his family, he would use his personal funds.

11. The witness was always under the assumption that the per diem was his to spend on the trip and as a result, he would mix the per diem and his personal money together.

12. When asked whether he ever had per diem left over following a CODEL, the witness explained that he believed there were times that he had no per diem remaining and had to spend his personal money and there were times he had a little left, but it was negligible. Negligible meant less than $100 per trip.

13. The witness was shown an Individual Report of Committee Travel. When asked about the purpose of the form, the witness said that it was used to tell how much per diem was issued and how much was returned and used. He explained that his office prepared the form. He also explained that he did not personally sign the forms. Instead, he had a

secretary who took it upon herself to prepare and sign the forms on his behalf. He was unaware that his secretary's practice and stated that staff should not be signing forms such as these. However, the information on the form was accurate.

14. Of the seven forms such as this that had his signature, only one of them was actually signed by him.

15. The witness' attention was drawn to the part of the form that indicated per diem returned. The witness indicated that he had not seen this form before. He knew there was certifications of what per diem was received, but he was unfamiliar with this particular form. The witness also stated that in all the trips he has attended, he has never known anyone to return per diem.

16. The witness was specifically asked about the CODEL to Trinidad. The witness stated that on that CODEL he had not received enough per diem to cover his expenses. As an example, he explained that the Members on the CODEL would have a meal and that the meal would cost $180.00.

17. The witness was shown the letter from the witness to the OCE.

18. When asked about the Wall Street Journal article, the witness said that the reported approached the member and asked for information on CODELs. The witness thought the reporter was implying that the CODELs were junkets and he told the reporter that Members work very hard on the trips. The reporter then started talking about per diem and said he did not understand per diem and wanted to know how it worked. The witness told the reporter that he did not think he came back with any per diem and, if he did, it was negligible.

This memorandum was prepared on June 28, 2010, based on the notes that the OCE staff prepared during the interview with Representative Engel on June 24, 2010. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with Representative Engel on June 24, 2010.

Omar S. Ashmawy
Investigative Counsel

EXHIBIT 7

COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
CHAIRMAN
WESTERN HEMISPHERE
SUBCOMMITTEE
OTHER SUBCOMMITTEES:
ASIA, THE PACIFIC, AND THE
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT
MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA
COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
HEALTH
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC WHIP

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House of Representatives
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6 GRAMATAN AVENUE
SUITE 205
MOUNT VERNON, NY 10550
(914) 699-4100
281 WEST NYACK ROAD
WEST NYACK, NY 10994
(845) 735-1000
WEBSITE: http://engel.house.gov

July 21, 2010

BY MAIL AND E-MAIL

Hon. David Skaggs
Chair
Office of Congressional Ethics
c/o Mr. Leo Wise
Staff Director and Chief Counsel
United States House of Representatives
Office of Congressional Ethics
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Review No. 10-8483

Dear Chairman Skaggs:

I write in response to the letter of Mr. Leo Wise of July 9, 2010 informing me that the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics ("the Board") is currently reviewing the referenced matter on July 23, 2010 and is providing me with an opportunity to provide a written statement and/or to appear before the Board.

I have been interviewed by your Staff and answered all of their questions on June 24, 2010, provided a written submission, with enclosures, to Staff on May 7, 2010, and my counsel provided certain information to Mr. Wise on June 25, 2010, as his Staff had requested.[1] Accordingly, I believe that the within letter, which I ask that you circulate to the Board, provides whatever information I have, which, respectfully, should properly result in the termination of the Board's second phase review without referral of this matter, as it relates to me, to the Standards Committee of the House of Representatives.

[1] My counsel has been advised that the Staff has provided the Board with these submissions.

Background

As I have explained to your Staff, I was first elected to the United States Congress in 1988, and am completing my eleventh term, representing the 17th District in New York. Among my more critical responsibilities, and most pertinent here, is my Chairmanship of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. As such, I have been responsible for many working trips to countries in the Western Hemisphere and some to other locales ("CODELs"). These trips consist of very intensive working sessions between and among the leaders and citizens of host countries, the other Members of Congress and me.[2]

Members are usually provided with transportation to those countries by the United States Air Force. In that the standards of living and the economies of those countries vary, the Members are provided with individualized *per diem* allowances, which I believe are calculated based upon the living and travel standards of the individual countries. As a result, the *per diems* vary in amount from country to country. Neither my staff nor I are in any way involved in determining the *per diem* allowance for those countries, and I have always worked with the assumption that the *per diems* are calculated based upon some in-country analysis of what daily expenses in a particular country may be required during one's travel.

Typically, when the Members are provided with cash upon arrival, the cost of a Member's stay at a hotel has already been deducted in advance from the sum of cash provided. Accordingly, if the *per diem* allowance for a three-day stay in Country X is, hypothetically, a total of $900 and the hotel rate comes to a total of $600 for the three days, we each receive $300. That total $300 is to be used for expenses within the country.

The Use of the Per Diem

In part, because of the inability to obtain receipts in foreign, sometimes less-developed, countries – and indeed there has been no requirement in the OCE Rules that the Members do so – I did not have receipts for my daily expenses, which included meals, taxicabs or the like for each sojourn in a country. Nonetheless, as I explained to your Staff, my expenses were for sustenance, transportation and incidentals within a particular country. Further, there were occasions when I, particularly as the Chairman of the Subcommittee, hosted or treated leaders or residents to meals or entertainment in the country or, if time permitted, visited sites of interest within the country. Part of the duties of a Member traveling on behalf of the United States to a foreign country is to "experience" the country visited to report back to the Subcommittee, the Full Committee and, of course, an individual Member's constituents; otherwise, as I mentioned to your Staff, simple teleconferences with leaders of a country would be sufficient. In short,

[2] I have provided my trip agendas to your Staff under my cover letter of May 7, 2010.

then, I received the *per diems* and I spent the monies properly.

My counsel has prepared and we have provided your Staff in an attachment to their letter of June 25, an analysis of the total trips I took or led for the period beginning March, 2008. In total, the trips cover a total of 18 different countries over the course of a total of 44 days. As I understand it, the local currency sums in U.S. dollars that I received in 18 countries visited totaled approximately $4,200 – after the deduction taken by the U.S. military for hotel stays. That amounts to less than $100 in U.S. currency per day over the course of the overall 44-day travel period. While some of our meals and transportation in such countries were indeed paid for by the U.S. Air Force, it remains clear to me that the $100 allotment per day is an allowance that was typically exhausted by me within the country for living expenses.[3] Indeed, as I also mentioned to your Staff, I recall that the *per diem* allotment we received was not adequate to cover the daily expenses on some trips. I believe in Trinidad and perhaps Peru I paid for daily expenses from my own money. *Thus, it is critical to note that, on occasions, the per diem allowance did not cover the actual expenses I incurred during the trip, and I necessarily paid the overage out of my own pocket.*

The Procedure

I stated during the interview with your Staff, and certainly stated to *The Wall Street Journal* reporter who attributed a quote to me, if there were sums that I received that were not returned at the conclusion of the stay in each country, those sums were indeed *de minimus* in nature.[4] As I understand from my conversations on the subject over the years with other

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[3] I was asked by your Staff during my interview on June 24, 2010, whether I essentially comingled in my wallet the monies I received for the *per diems* with the currency I myself brought from the United States. The answer was and remains yes. Sometimes I exchanged dollars for the local currency, and had to spend my own money because the *per diem* did not cover my necessary expenses.

[4] During the June 25 interview, I was asked whether such sums were less than $100 each time and answered in the affirmative. That answer was, of course, truthful, but I am quite certain also that if the question were posed using a much lower figure, the answer would still have been "yes" – meaning that the total of *per diems* that were not exhausted within the visited countries were typically considerably less than $100 for each country or trip.

It is also important to note, as is undoubtedly the case with other Members who attend such CODELs, that subsequent to the trips I was billed by the United States Air Force for payments they made on my behalf on the CODELs. We have provided those reimbursement requests and corresponding checks from me to the U.S. Treasury as attachments to my counsel's letter of June 25, 2010 to your Staff.

Members, my personal experience is replicated in the experiences of the overwhelming number of Members who undertake foreign travel as part of their duties.

In that the procedure that has been used for the reimbursement and *per diem* allotments may not have been ideal, I support Speaker Pelosi's recently-taken measures to vastly improve them. Nonetheless, my strong sense is that Members on foreign trips have had a *bona fide* reason to believe that the *per diem* was intended to be used freely at the Member's discretion within the country being visited, and that such sums were actually calibrated in a way to meet our necessary expenses.

It is worth noting that there is a public perception, reflected in *The Wall Street Journal* articles of December 17, 2009 and March 2, 2010 that led to this inquiry, that somehow these trips are not intensive true working sessions designed for Congress to better represent the United States; this perception is unfortunate and simply wrong.[5] As I mentioned to your Staff, these trips are "jam-packed" with back-to-back meetings and functions.

I take my job as Member of Congress and Chair of the Subcommittee very seriously, and view these trips as a critically important part of my work as a legislator. I trust that this Board fully appreciates the commitment and sacrifice involved.

For all of these reasons and on the basis of the information previously supplied to your Staff, I respectfully request that the Board terminate this matter as it relates to me with no further action.

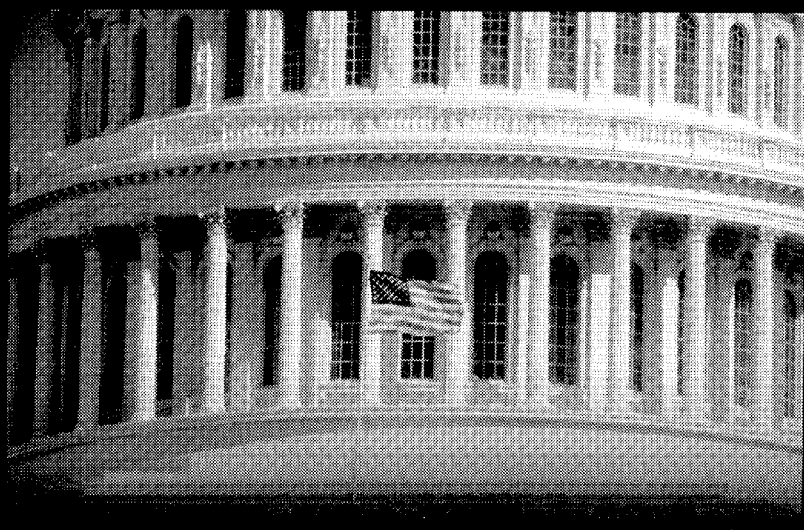
Very truly yours,

Eliot L. Engel

Eliot L. Engel

[5] I believe it is critical for the Members to use their best efforts to perform their duties on such trips, and an occasional *de minimus* amount of *per diem* left over should not be allowed to detract from the CODEL program or the good faith efforts of Members to act in conformity with the intent and practice of the *per diem* practice.

EXHIBIT 8



Official Foreign Travel Guide for The U.S. Congress

United States Department of State
Bureau of Legislative Affairs

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10-8483_031

OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL GUIDE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR THE U.S. CONGRESS

This guide is provided to support official foreign travel by Members of Congress and their staff. It describes the support available from the Department of State for official travel and how this support can be requested. We hope this package will assist you through the process.

TAB

A	**Congressional Guide for Official Foreign Travel**	Describes the support available from the State Department and the procedures to obtain this support.
B	**Fiscal Information Sheet**	Explains per diem rates, transportation and other expenses, and how the funding is handled domestically and overseas.
C	**Sample Authorization Letters**	Illustrates appropriate letters and what information needs to be included; supplies the legal authority to expend USG funds.
D	**Foreign Travel Data Sheet**	Solicits information needed by the State Department to ensure a successful trip.
E	**Questions and Answers**	Responds to frequently asked questions.

Although travel plans are often understandably subject to change, early notice of travel needs greatly enhances our capacity to provide assistance. Therefore, a signed letter of authorization, itinerary, desired agenda, and meeting requests should be provided to the Department of State's Congressional Travel Office at least two (2) weeks before the planned departure whenever possible. This timely notification will allow us to instruct U.S. missions abroad regarding program, administrative, and logistical requirements, and to receive their country clearance, threat assessment, and suggestions for the trip.

CONGRESSIONAL GUIDE FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

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10-8483_033

CONGRESSIONAL GUIDE FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Effective and expeditious support for congressional travel abroad requires that both the travel authorization and background information reach the Department of State promptly. Whenever possible, a copy of the signed Letter of Authorization should be faxed to the Department of State's Congressional Travel Office (CTO) -- fax number 202-203-7700 -- at least two (2) weeks before the planned departure or sooner if possible; scanned and emailed copies of the authorization letter are also acceptable. The CTO will arrange for subsequent messenger pick-up of the original letter(s) from the authorizer(s). Additionally, please e-mail an itinerary, desired agenda and any meeting requests for Codels or Staffdels to: H_CTO@state.gov. Revisions to any of the above information should be faxed or e-mailed promptly.

Once the CTO receives notification of a trip, several things will happen. First, a domestic travel coordinator and a travel specialist will be assigned to the trip. These professionals will provide points of contact in the embassy, and assist with logistical arrangements, scheduling and briefings. There are many components to a successful trip so please contact us via phone, fax or email very early in the planning process, so that we can provide the best assistance possible.

Department of Defense (DOD) transportation and support must be requested separately by letter to the Secretary of Defense. For your convenience, a DOD-approved sample letter is enclosed in this package (TAB C).

I. LETTERS OF AUTHORIZATION

Letters of Authorization constitute legal authority for the State Department to expend or disburse U.S. Government funds in support of official foreign travel by Members of Congress or congressional staff. The fiscal information under TAB B lists the types of expenditures that can be authorized for specific trips and gives guidance as to how authorization for such expenditures should be formulated. The full extent and range of support desired should be delineated as clearly as possible in the authorizing letter. Letters of authorization are signed by one of the following officials:

SENATE
Majority Leader
Minority Leader
President Pro Tempore
Full Committee Chairman
•for Member or employee of the Committee or employee of Committee Member

HOUSE
Speaker of the House
Full Committee Chairman
•for Member or employee of the Committee

JOINT COMMITTEE CHAIR
• for Member or employee of the Joint Committee

Letters must list by name all persons being authorized to receive USG-funded support. Members or staff traveling with a committee with which they have no association must be authorized separately by either the Leadership or the Chairman of a committee with which they are associated. (See sample authorization letters TAB C.)

2. TRAVEL OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAM REQUESTS

In the letter of authorization, please define the objectives of travel, identifying where possible specific program requests at each stop. When appointments with specific individuals are desired, it would be helpful to indicate the topics to be addressed. If any activities have already been arranged directly with local organizations or persons, please provide scheduling data so that other events can be arranged around them. Embassy/Consulate briefings are highly recommended prior to meetings with host country government officials. Briefings by Department officials prior to departure from the United States are also available and can be very useful

3. LIST OF TRAVEL PARTICIPANTS

The following are travel participants that are normally authorized under letters of authorization:

- Members of Congress (please include state and party affiliation)
- Spouses/family members (please include first names)
- Staff members (with titles)
- Executive branch/private sector invitees (with titles)
- DOD escorts (with rank and titles)

4. TRAVEL AND ITINERARY

Please book all airline reservations with the Combined Airline Ticket Office (CATO) to expedite ticketing and delivery of prepaid tickets to the Hill. The Department cannot pre-pay airline tickets which are booked with private travel agents.

When booking, you should inform CATO that the tickets will be pre-paid by the Department of State. CATO offices are located on Capitol Hill (Senate Russell Building, Room B24 and House Longworth Building, Room B22) as well as in Rosslyn, Virginia. CATO's reservation number is 703-522[redacted].

5. PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Travelers must have valid passports for all overseas travel. Please ensure that your passport is current and valid for at least six months beyond the travel dates. Official passports are available at no charge and are issued for the purpose of conducting official business abroad. The Department of State strongly encourages both Members and staff to obtain official passports. Blue "Tourist" passports should be used only for tourism, but may be used if the traveler does not possess an official passport.

Some countries require visas. It is the responsibility of the traveling party to obtain ALL necessary visas. For assistance with visa issues please contact the Special Issuance Agency at 202-955-[redacted].

Travelers should coordinate passport/visa requirements directly with Passport Services well in advance of the trip. Travelers may call Passport Services at 202-955-[redacted]. For information regarding visa requirements travelers may call 202-955-[redacted]. Sometimes passport data will be required by foreign posts. In those cases CTO will contact you for you passport details.

For delegations with DOD escorts, the escorts collect the passports, obtain visas, and send data to appropriate foreign posts.

A variety of information including current travel warnings, passport forms, visa requirements, country background notes, adoption issues, exchange rates and more can be viewed at www.state.gov/travel.

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FISCAL INFORMATION SHEET

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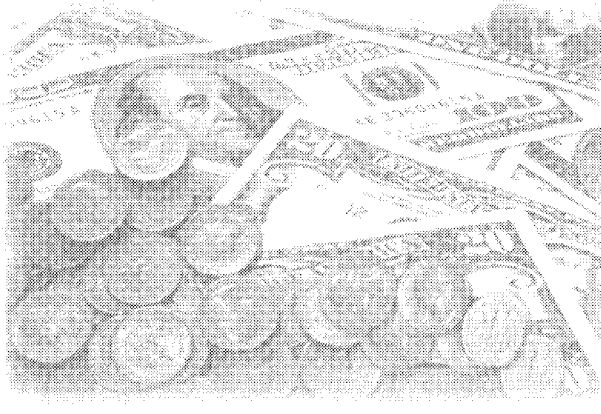

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FISCAL INFORMATION SHEET

By longstanding agreement, funds for official foreign travel are administered by the Department of State on behalf of the U.S. Congress. Upon receipt of written authorization from appropriate congressional offices, obligations and disbursements will be charged against specific congressional travel accounts held by the U.S. Treasury. The disbursements, which are permitted under PL 95-384, The International Security Assistance Act of 1978, fall into three distinct categories: Per Diem, Transportation (international and/or local), and Other Official Expenses. Each must be specifically authorized in order for expenditures within that category to be incurred. Under PL 95-384, all expenses charged by the traveler, the delegation, and the Department of State to the fund cite must be reported by the traveler/delegation to the authorizing committee upon return.

1. PER DIEM

Under Public Law 95-384, congressional travelers abroad receive local currency for per diem in amounts not to exceed the maximum per diem allowed by law. The authority for establishing per diem rates is found in Chapter 57 of Title 5 of the U.S. Code and set forth as the Federal Travel Regulation at 41 CFR Ch. 300-304.

Per diem payments are made directly to authorized individuals (Members and staff) to cover the cost of lodging, meals and incidental expenses (M&IE) while traveling abroad. The U.S. Government does not pay the expenses of accompanying spouses. Upon arrival in a foreign country, per diem normally is disbursed by the Embassy or Consulate for each night spent in country. Payment is made in local currency unless U.S. dollars are required by hotels or such payment has been specifically requested prior to departure from the U.S. Upon departure from the country, arrangements can be made for travelers to convert unused per diem into U.S. dollars. Per diem which for any reason has not been received abroad may be claimed in U.S. dollars after the traveler's return and upon presentation of hotel receipts to the Department of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Congressional Travel Office.

In the event that no-cost lodging is provided, (e.g. the traveler stays in Government facilities or as a private guest), the traveler is allowed the applicable meals and incidental expenses (M&IE) rate. Note that this guidance is consistent with changes in the Federal Travel Regulation

- **FOREIGN PER DIEM RATE:** Per diem consists of two components: the lodging rate and M&IE. Per diem rates are established by the Department of State for foreign cities. The foreign per diem rates are established monthly by the Department of State based on actual reported costs of hotel, meals and incidental expenses in individual cities around the world. Therefore, routine expenses are usually well within the per diem rates and it is sufficient to authorize per diem payments based on those rates. This type of per diem payment is called an allowance. Allowances are provided in full and require no accounting. Foreign per diem rates are available on the State Department's website at: [illegible].

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• **ENHANCED PER DIEM RATE:** The committee may authorize enhanced per diem to offset exceptionally high costs associated with price increases that can be found in certain locations. Unless a specific dollar enhancement is authorized (e.g. $75 USD or $100 USD), the default enhancement is an additional $50 USD above per diem.

• **ACTUAL EXPENSE BASIS:** Per Diem can be calculated by adding the expenses of up to 300% of the applicable per diem rate. This rate may be authorized for lodging, M&IE, or both, when actual expenses exceed the established per diem rate. There is no authority to exceed this 300% ceiling. **To avoid problems caused by unexpected devaluation of the US dollar, the following language may be used in authorization letters: "actual lodging is authorized."**

• **ACCOUNTING:** If an individual is traveling on an enhanced per diem or actual expense basis, he or she must itemize all expenses, including meals, and account for unused per diem funds. In situations where only lodging or M&IE is on an actual expense basis, only that portion need be itemized. Itemization requires the traveler to write down specific expenses but does not require receipts. Upon completion of the trip, the authorizing committee requires travelers to reconcile their actual expenditures with the expenditures authorized prior to travel. Consistent with congressional rules and regulations, this reporting (and reconciliation when required) should be submitted to the congressional office that authorized the travel.

Posts may pay for hotel charges directly if arrangements with the Embassy/Consulate staff are made beforehand. In this case, posts will be directed to disburse M&IE only.

As the purpose of the per diem enhancement and/or the payment of actual lodging expenses is to offset unexpectedly high costs found in certain locations, if a traveler receives either of these authorizations reimbursements for any additional lodging or M&IE costs are not authorized.

2. TRANSPORTATION

When international travel is authorized, travelers make their own reservations through CATO (see item 4 of previous chapter, "Travel and Itinerary"). The Department arranges for prepayment of the tickets, which the authorizing committee makes available to the traveler. This arrangement requires that the Department be notified of the carriers used, the class of service, and the precise itinerary. For transoceanic flights, U.S. flag carriers must be used (PL 94-624, Fly America Act) **unless** the authorization letter has specified otherwise based on a determination that no U.S. flag carriers are available. **Use of charter aircraft is an extraordinary expense and must be specified in the authorization letter.**

Authorized **local transportation** within a foreign country is normally arranged by either the Embassy, the Consulate or paid personally by the traveler. Local transportation costs may include trains, ferries, rental car/van/bus (with or without driver), taxis, public transport, as well as overtime for drivers of U.S. Government vehicles. In many cities, staff delegations are encouraged to use taxis or public transportation and claim reimbursement. Upon presentation of receipts, the Congressional Travel Office will reimburse travelers for local transportation after their return to Washington, DC.

3. OTHER OFFICIAL EXPENSES

Other official expenses authorized for Codels and some Staffdels include rental of control rooms, hospitality suites, special telephone lines, cell phones, copier/fax machines, wreaths and flowers for representational purposes, purchase of stationery supplies, interpreters, and employee overtime at posts.

If specified in the authorization letter, certain extraordinary or unusual expenses may be paid such as representation expenses, conference fees, media events, meeting hall rental, and travel and per diem expenses incurred by Post Personnel traveling outside of their duty station in support of Codel travel. These expenses, including any cancellation fees incurred, will be charged to the delegation fund cite and must be reported under PL 95-384.

4. TRAVEL ADVANCES IN U.S. DOLLARS

The Department will provide a U.S. dollar advance where hotels require payment in hard currency and the U.S. mission overseas has insufficient dollars to pay travelers. However, arrangements can also be made for U.S. dollar disbursements overseas where missions have access to U.S. dollars.

5. REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS/UNUSED AIRLINE TICKETS

Unused per diem funds may be returned to the State Department by personal check made payable to the U.S. Treasury or Treasurer of the United States. The Department **cannot accept foreign currency in Washington**. The Department will reimburse travelers for out-of-pocket expenses previously authorized upon submission of receipts and a letter/memorandum from the authorizing committee. Unused airline tickets paid for by the U.S. Government must be returned to the Department of State, Congressional Travel Office for credit.

6. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

PL 95-384 stipulates that travelers and delegations are responsible for reporting all expenses to the authorizer within 30 days of the completion of travel. Although the Department will assist travelers and delegations in obtaining the necessary financial information from foreign posts, PL 95-384 assigns none of the formal reporting responsibilities to the Department of State.

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SAMPLE AUTHORIZATION LETTERS

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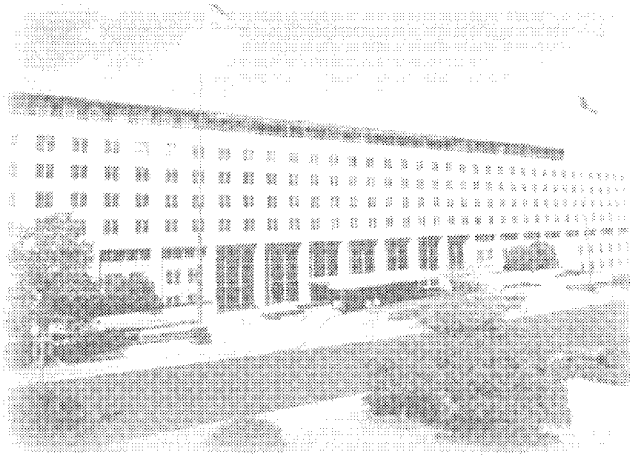

SAMPLE LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION (State)

The Honorable
(insert name)
Secretary of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear *(Mr. or Madam)* Secretary:

This letter is to authorize *(travelers)* to travel on official business to *(Countries)* during the period of *(inclusive dates)* for the purpose of *(state the purpose)*.

It is requested that the use of local currencies for per diem, transportation, including local transportation, and other official expenses be made available in accordance with provisions of Section 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Public Law 95-384, Section 22(a).

Commercial and/or military transportation are authorized where appropriate, as is the use of non-U.S. air carriers. Airfare is authorized up to business class if needed.

We appreciate your assistance with this request. If there are any questions regarding this trip, please contact *(name of staff point of contact)* at *(telephone number)*.

Sincerely,

(Name)
(Title)

Additionally, if any of the conditions below apply, please add the appropriate sentence:

- Enhanced per diem of $50.00 is authorized.
- Actual lodging costs are authorized.
- Due to heightened security concerns, the cost of a security detail is also authorized.
- Spouses are authorized to travel for protocol purposes at no cost to the U.S. Government.
- Costs associated with Post personnel traveling outside of their duty station in support of the delegation are authorized.
- Charter aircraft are authorized.
- Representational funds are authorized.

SAMPLE AUTHORIZATION LETTER (DOD)

The Honorable
(insert name)
Secretary of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear (*Mr. or Madam*) Secretary:

I hereby authorize *(travelers)* to travel on official business to (*Countries*) during the period of *(inclusive dates)* for the purpose of *(state the purpose)*. **If applicable**: Spouses are authorized to accompany the delegation for reasons of protocol at no expense to the U.S.Government.

It would be appreciated if the Department of Defense could furnish such assistance as may be required, including transportation, to facilitate this trip. It would also be appreciated if the Department of the *(Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps)* be assigned to escort the delegation/Member.

The expenditure of funds for payment of actual and necessary expenses and such transportation as may be required is authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1108

Sincerely,

(*Name*)
(*Title*)

FOREIGN TRAVEL DATA SHEET

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FOREIGN TRAVEL DATA SHEET

The following is a review of what the Department will require either in the authorization letter or other communication in order to initiate your country clearance cable with our foreign posts. It is also a reminder of the requirements for foreign travel.

1. TRAVEL OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAM REQUESTS

What is the purpose of the visit in general? More specifically, what objectives does the delegation/traveler wish to accomplish? Please provide specific meeting requests if they are known. If the delegation/traveler is attending a specific meeting or has an agenda already prearranged, please advise us so that the post can schedule around it.

2. PARTICIPANTS (in protocol order)

Members and Staff
Spouses, Invitees, Department of State,
DOD, and Military Escorts

3. TRAVEL AND ITINERARY

Commercial
Military Air
Charter

PLEASE BOOK COMMERCIAL RESERVATIONS WITH THE COMBINED AIRLINE TICKET OFFICE (CATO) AT 703-522-[redacted] TO FACILITATE TICKETING.

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4. PASSPORTS AND VISAS

In most cases a valid passport and, in some cases, valid visas will be required. Visa requirements differ depending on the type of passport used. Call 202-955-[redacted] for passport requirements or 202-955-[redacted] for visa requirements. First Call may assist with passport issues. Please contact them at 202-225-[redacted].

TYPES OF PASSPORTS:

Official (red; no fee, 5-year passport).
Tourist (blue; fee charged, 10-year passport).

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TRAVELING PARTY TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY VISAS. IF USING A TOURIST PASSPORT, THE TRAVELER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL PASSPORT and VISA FEES.

5. SECURITY CLEARANCES (staff only)	Please provide the names, SSN, level and date of clearance, and granting agency for each person who will **REQUIRE** access to classified information during the trip. This information is not needed for Members of Congress.
6. ACCOMODATIONS	Please indicate the number of rooms needed at each city, and hotel preference, if any. If the traveler plans to use Government or no-cost accomodations, please indicate. Hotel preferences/city Delegation rooms (total number of singles/doubles) Support Rooms
7. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION	Number of Sedans (with driver or self-drive) Number of Buses (or passenger amount) Number of Minivans (or passenger amount) Number of other vehicles, if any Public transportation (cabs, buses, trains, ferries).
8. POINTS OF CONTACT FOR TRIP	Name Phone Number

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions and Answers

Q What do I do if I received more travel funds than I needed?

A It depends. If you traveled on a per diem allowance (the set rates) you may keep any "excess" funds, though your authorizing committee may have their own specific rules.

If you received funds in excess of that allowance (because actual costs were anticipated to exceed the allowance) you must itemize your expenses and reconcile any differences with the congressional office that authorized your travel. Unused per diem funds, authorized on an enhanced or actual cost basis, must be returned to the Department of State by personal check in U.S. dollars, made payable to the U.S. Treasury or to the Treasurer of the United States.

Q What do I do if I incur lodging expenses over 300% of the per diem rate?

A When you reconcile your travel expenses with the congressional authorizing committees, you will not be reimbursed for the excess of per diem expenses over the 300% maximum, or over the (lower) rate that was authorized.

Q Will I be given a travel advance in U.S. dollars or in foreign (local) currency?

A Congressional travelers will be given local currency when they arrive at the foreign post.

If the Congressional travelers are journeying to a foreign country that uses U.S. dollars, the advance in U.S. dollars will be given at post. Only in those cases where the post does not have sufficient U.S. dollars on hand will special arrangements be made to issue an advance in Washington D.C.

Q Will the Department book travel reservations for the Members and staff?

A The Department does not book reservations; rather, reservations should be made directly through CATO, which has locations on the Hill and in Rosslyn, Virginia.

Q Will the travel expenses of spouses be covered?

A No, current law prohibits the US Government from assuming the travel expenses of spouses, dependents or other non-official traveling companions.

Q Will the Department of State assist in obtaining visas?

A Assistance may be obtained by contacting the appropriate country desk officer.

Acronyms used in this Travel Guide:

CTO	Congressional Travel Office — Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State
DOD	Department of Defense
DEPARTMENT	Department of State
MEMBER	Member of Congress
CATO	Combined Airline Ticket Office
M & IE	Meals and Incidental Expenses
FTR	Federal Travel Regulations
CODEL	Congressional Delegation
STAFFDEL	Staff Delegation
USG	United States Government
P.L.	Public Law
USC	United States Code

EXHIBIT 9

INDIVIDUAL REPORT ON COMMITTEE TRAVEL

Report on travel by (please print) Eliot L. Engel Committee on Foreign Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

COUNTRY	ARRIVE	DEPART	# of nights	A) PER DIEM * ISSUED	B) PER DIEM RETURNED	C) TOTAL PER DIEM USED (A-B=C)	AIR TRAVEL: COMMERCIAL (C) OR MILITARY (M)
Mexico	02/16/09	02/18/09	2	$699.50	0	$699.50	M
Nicaragua	02/18/09	02/20/09	2	$337.32	0	$337.32	M
Jamaica	02/20/09	02/22/09	2	$775.68	0	$775.68	M

COMMERCIAL AIR TRAVEL:

Starting/Country Date	Ending/Country Date	Countries Also Covered by Ticket	Ticket Cost*

* attach original receipt, keep copy for your records

I certify that all per diem drawn and not returned to the issuing agency or U.S. Treasurer was spent for costs that were necessary for the performance of the mission and were not paid for by any other source.

SIGNATURE Eliot L. Engel DATE 10-1-09

EXHIBIT 10

CODEL Engel
Kosovo, Bosnia, Ireland
June 13 – 18, 2008
11(c) Trip Report

From June 13-17, Rep. Eliot L. Engel led a bi-partisan Congressional Delegation to Kosovo and Bosnia. The purpose of this trip was to meet with government and non-government officials on a variety of issues, including the Kosovo independence, implementation of the Ahtisaari plan, and progress in Bosnia. The stop in Ireland was an unplanned overnight due to a MILAIR aircraft breakdown.

Saturday, June 14, 2008

- Briefing by U.S. Embassy staff, Tom Yazdgerdi, Charge d'Affaires; Michael Farbman, USAID Director; Colleen Hyland, Political / Economic Section Chief; and Karyn Posner-Mullen, Public Affairs Officer

- Briefing by Larry Rossin, Principal Deputy Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General (UNMIK)

- Meeting with Ali Berisha, Mayor of Peje/Pec

- Meeting with Ramush Haradinaj, Head of AAK political party and former Prime Minister

- Dinner with Albanian American investors in Kosova, including Harry Bajraktari and Rrustem Gecaj, and Kosovar leaders, including former Primer Minister Agim Ceku, Minister of Justice Nekibe Kelmendi and Minister of Health Alush Gashi

Sunday, June 15, 2008

- Pay respects at grave of former President Ibrahim Rugova and offer condolences to Mrs. Rugova and family

  Visit USAID-supported American University in Kosovo (AUK)

- Meet at AUK with Ambassador William Walker (ret.), AUK President Chris Hall, and AUK experts

- Meet with President Fatmir Sejdiu and Foreign Minister Skender Hyseni

- Visit Camp Bondsteel, U.S. Army base and meet with U.S. troops

- Briefing by U.S. Brigadier General Davoran, U.S. commander

- Meeting with Prime Minister Hashim Thaci and Minister of Economy and Finance Ahmed Shala, and Minister of Education, Science, and Technology Enver Hoxaj

- Attend Official Ceremony for Entry into Force of the new Kosova Constitution

- Dinner hosted by Government of Kosova

Monday, June 16, 2008

- Meeting with Serbian SLS Caucus leaders; Slobodan Petrovic, President of SLS; Bojan Stojanovic, Deputy SLS President and Chief of SLS Caucus; Kosara Nikolic; Radmila Vujovic; and Branislav Grbic

- Meeting with Opposition Party leaders, Agim Ceku (SDP), Nexhat Daci (LDD), Behxet Pacolli (AKR), Ramush Haradinaj (AAK), and Teuta Sahatqija (ORA)

- Meeting with Speaker of the Assembly Jakup Krasniqi

- Address to the Kosova Assembly by Rep. Engel

- Meet with International Civilian Representative (ICR) Pieter Feith and Deputy ICR Fletcher Burton

- Dinner hosted by U.S. Ambassador to Bosnia Charles English with Zlatko Lagumdzija (President Social Democratic Party), Bakir Izetbegovic (MP, VP of Party for Democratic Action, Mladen Ivanic (MP. President of Peoples' Democratic Party), Tie Sosnowski (President Triland Development), Osman Topcagic (Director, Directorate for European Integration), Major General Richard Wightman, USA, (Cmdr. Of NATO Sarajevo HQ) , Raffi Gregorian (Principal Deputy High Representative), Bozo Ljubic (MP, President of Croatian Democratic Union- 1990), Elvir Causevic (President, Inspire Corporation)

Tuesday, June 17, 2008

- Meeting with President Haris Silajdzic and Foreign Minister Sven Alkalaj

- Overnight in Shannon, Ireland. This was an unplanned stop because the MILAIR aircraft broke down. No meetings were held in Ireland.

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

- Return to the U.S.

EXHIBIT 11

CODEL Engel

ARRIVAL to SANTIAGO	11/9/2008	
DEPARTURE	11/11/2008	
# OF DAYS	2	
M & IE	99.00	198.00
M & IE PLUS	50.00	100.00
TOTAL		**298.00**
Local Currency	**Chilean Peso**	
RoE	630.05	**187,890**

Form approved by Comptroller General 1975

PURCHASE ORDER, RECEIVING REPORT AND AND VOUCHER

(For use in foreign countries only)

Prep. Vou. No.

Sh. Vou. No. 134-AV99

Supervisor of Establishment: U.S. Department of State

Purchased at (place): Asuncion, Paraguay

Purchased (date): 11/6/2008

Purchase Order No.

PAID BY: CASH

Seller (Payee): THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, DR

Address of seller: Various payees

Contract No. (date)

The order is hereby placed with the above named seller for the articles or services described below, to be furnished:

To: Department of State

at: Asuncion, Paraguay

ITEM NOS	ARTICLES OR SERVICES	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE Cents	UNIT PRICE Par	Guaranies AMOUNT
	Payment of 2 day Asuncion Per Diem, to include $74 for M&IE plus $50.00 other expenses. Total daily: $124.00				
	Rep Eliot Engel		$ 248.00		G1,160,000.00
	Rep Dan Burton		$ 248.00		G1,160,000.00
	Rep. Maurice Hinchey		$ 248.00		G1,160,000.00
	Rep Lincoln Davis		$ 248.00		G1,160,000.00
	Rep Maxine Waters		$ 248.00		G1,160,000.00
	Rep Virginia Foxx		$ 248.00		G1,160,000.00
	Rep Nydia Velazquez		$ 248.00		G1,160,000.00
	Rep Brad Miller		$ 248.00		G1,160,000.00
				TOTAL:	G9,280,000.00

Use continuation sheet(s) if necessary

Disbursing Officer Signature: Name: Maria A. Kuntz; Title: Management Officer; Date: Agt.

Funds Available: Name: Title:

Certify that the ordered items listed were received on (receipt date below): Name: Signature: Title:

PAYMENT: Complete X; Partial; Final

Amount Billed, as per attached bill(s): G9,280,000.00

Differences

Amount verified correct for: G9,280,000.00

Disbursement Art. III (grantee or lessee): 11/6/2008 vsb

Approved for: G9,280,000.00

Ex-Rate/date: G4,677.42 TO $1.00

Pursuant to authority vested in me, I certify this voucher correct and proper for payment.

Signature of Authorized Certifying Officer: #17/08

Name: Jing W. Edwards, PMO

Title: Certifying Officer

ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION

Fund	Amount	Cost Acct. No.	Paying Office	Date Paid	Object	Amount
$1,984.00	G9,280,000.00	00-X-0488-0001- Obl: 2089910034 Allot: 2009, Object: 2167				

Check No. Dated 19 for $

Certified Dated 19 for 19

Cash: $9,280,000.00

as Treasurer of United States

Certificate "Approved for payment as per 4 FAM of Payee: Various payees 304.2-1 Limitation of cash payments"

OPTIONAL FORM 21 March 3, 1975 (FORMERLY 78-40) DEPT. OF STATE

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EXHIBIT 12

CODEL ENGEL
Peru, Chile, Paraguay
November 6-13, 2008
11(c) Trip Report

On November 6-13, 2008, Congressman Eliot Engel of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, led a bipartisan Congressional Delegation on official business to Peru, Chile, and Paraguay. The purpose of this trip was to meet with government and non-government officials regarding political and economic developments, and general bilateral relations with each country.

Participants

Rep. Eliot L. Engel, D-NY
Rep. Dan Burton, R-IN
Rep. Maxine Waters, D-CA
Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez, D-NY
Rep. Maurice D. Hinchey, D-NY
Rep. Brad Miller, D-NC
Rep. Virginia Foxx, R- NC
Rep. Lincoln Davis, D-TN
Mr. Joel Starr, Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, DOS
Ms. Kay King, Director, Office of Interparliamentary Affairs
Mr. Jason Steinbaum, Staff Director, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, HFAC
Mr. Eric Jacobstein, Professional Staff Member, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, HFAC
Mr. Peter Quilter, Professional Staff Member, HFAC
Mr. Mark Walker, Professional Staff Member- Minority, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, HFAC
Ms. Robyn Wapner, Professional Staff Member- Minority, HFAC
Ms. Julie Schoenthaler, Staff Associate, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, HFAC

Official Meetings

Peru – November 6
Reception hosted by US Ambassador to Peru P. Michael McKinley

Peru – November 7
- Country Team Briefing with US Ambassador to Peru P. Michel McKinley and Embassy staff
- Meeting with President of Peru Alan Garcia and Vice Foreign Minister Gonzalo Gutierrez
- Press conference
- Conference call with imprisoned US citizen Lori Berenson
- Meeting with President of Peruvian Congress Javier Velasquez Quesqen
- Working lunch with Peruvian Members of Congress Wilson Michael Urtecho Medina, President of the Peru-US League of Congress; Rep. Luis Galarreta Velarde, Spokesman for the Parliamentary Unity Group; Rep. Jose Saldaña Tovar, President of the Committee on Labor; Rep. Karina Beteta Rubin, President of the Committee on Women and Social Development; Rep. Yohny Lescano Ancieta; Rep. Martin Perez Monteverde; Carlos Canepa La Cotera; Rep. Ambal Huerta Diaz; Rep. Alvaro Gonzalo Gutierrez Cueva; Rep. Wilder Ruiz Silva; and Rep. Juan Carlos Eguren
- Inter-American Foundation site visit with Centro Textiles Tradicionales del Cusco (CTTC)
- Inter-American Foundation site visit with Instituto de Medio Ambiente y Género para el Desarrollo (IMAGEN)

Peru – November 8
- Meeting with US Embassy Consular Agent Eda Corres
- Meeting with Vice Mayor of Aguas Calientes Edgar Rios

Chile- November 9

- Briefing on the Chilean wine export industry and the US-Chile Free Trade Agreement
- Working dinner with Chilean economic and business leaders and academics [Attendees: Carlos Alberto Delano, President, Banco Penta; Jorge Donoso, Communications Director, Codelco; Ruth Bradley, Chile Correspondent, The Economist; Carlos Singer, Director, Wachovia Bank; Gabriela Paiva, Key Attorney on Intellectual Property Rights Issues; Javier Cox, General Manager, Consejo Mineral; Marcos Kilka, General Manager, Fundacion Chile]

Chile- November 10

- Country Team Briefing with US Ambassador to Chile Paul E. Simons and Embassy Staff
- Meeting with Foreign Minister of Chile Alejandro Foxley
- Meeting with President of Chile Michelle Bachelet
- Press Conference
- Meeting with President of Chilean Chamber of Deputies Francisco Encina and Senior Staffer Miguel Landeros
- Meeting with Members of Chilean International Relations Committee Rep. Renan Fuentealba, Rep. Isabel Allende, Rep. Maximiano Errazuriz, Rep. Marcelo Forni, Rep. Carlos Jarpa, Rep. Roberto Leon, Rep. Ivan Moreira, Rep. Osvaldo Flores, Rep. Jorge Tarud, Rep. Marcela Diaz, Rep. Enrique Accorsi, and Rep. Juan Masferrer
- Meeting with Energy Minister of Chile Marcelo Tokman
- Reception hosted by US Ambassador to Chile Paul Simons

Paraguay- November 11

- Country Team Briefing with US Ambassador to Paraguay Liliana Ayalde and Embassy Staff
- Classified Briefing on Tri-Border Area
- Meeting with President of Paraguayan Senate Enrique Gonzalez Quintana, Sen. Oscar Denis Sanchez, Sen. Sixto Pereira, Sen. Orlando Florotto, Sen. Jorge Cespedes, Sen. Amancio Lopez Irala, Sen. Gustavo Stroessner Dominguez, Sen. Gorge Antonio Matto, Sen. Ramon Gomez Verlangieri, Rep. Juan Artemio Cristaldo, and Rep. Dionisio Ortega
- Meeting with President of Paraguay Fernando Lugo and Foreign Minister of Paraguay Alejandro Hamed
- Press Conference
- Meeting with Vice President of Paraguay Federico Franco
- Reception hosted by US Ambassador to Paraguay Liliana Ayalde

Paraguay- November 12

- Participation in presentation commemorating the 130th anniversary of President Rutherford B. Hayes's arbitration of the Triple Alliance War and the dedication of a remodeled school
- Site visit to Peace Corps Urban Youth Development Project
- Participation in USAID export fair and presentations by local producers, including exporters of textiles, tea, alternative energy products and other items
- Meeting with Margarita Morselli, Director of the Cultural Center of the Republic El Cabildo

EXHIBIT 13

HOWARD L. BERMAN, CALIFORNIA
CHAIRMAN

GARY L. ACKERMAN, NEW YORK
ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA, AMERICAN SAMOA
DONALD M. PAYNE, NEW JERSEY
BRAD SHERMAN, CALIFORNIA
ROBERT WEXLER, FLORIDA
ELIOT L. ENGEL, NEW YORK
BILL DELAHUNT, MASSACHUSETTS
GREGORY W. MEEKS, NEW YORK
DIANE E. WATSON, CALIFORNIA
ADAM SMITH, WASHINGTON
RUSS CARNAHAN, MISSOURI
ALBIO SIRES, NEW JERSEY
GERALD E. CONNOLLY, VIRGINIA
MICHAEL E. MCMAHON, NEW YORK
JOHN S. TANNER, TENNESSEE
GENE GREEN, TEXAS
SHEILA JACKSON LEE, TEXAS
BARBARA LEE, CALIFORNIA
SHELLEY BERKLEY, NEVADA
JOSEPH CROWLEY, NEW YORK
MIKE ROSS, ARKANSAS
BRAD MILLER, NORTH CAROLINA
DAVID SCOTT, GEORGIA
JIM COSTA, CALIFORNIA
KEITH ELLISON, MINNESOTA
GABRIELLE GIFFORDS, ARIZONA
RON KLEIN, FLORIDA

RICHARD J. KESSLER
STAFF DIRECTOR

DOUGLAS J. GUARIGLIA
DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR

NAOMI S. ABRAMOWITZ
CHIEF COUNSEL

ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

TELEPHONE: (202) 225-5021
HTTP://WWW.FOREIGNAFFAIRS.HOUSE.GOV/

RICHARD POLLOTTA, FLORIDA
RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, NEW JERSEY
DAN BURTON, INDIANA
ELTON GALLEGLY, CALIFORNIA
DANA ROHRABACHER, CALIFORNIA
DONALD A. MANZULLO, ILLINOIS
EDWARD R. ROYCE, CALIFORNIA
RON PAUL, TEXAS
JEFF FLAKE, ARIZONA
MIKE PENCE, INDIANA
JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
JOHN BOOZMAN, ARKANSAS
J. GRESHAM BARRETT, SOUTH CAROLINA
CONNIE MACK, FLORIDA
JEFF FORTENBERRY, NEBRASKA
MICHAEL T. MCCAUL, TEXAS
TED POE, TEXAS
BOB INGLIS, SOUTH CAROLINA
GUS M. BILIRAKIS, FLORIDA

YLEM D. KOSHEE
DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR

MARK L. GAGE
REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR

DOUGLAS C. ANDERSON
REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
The Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Madam Secretary:

I write in further reference to my authorization of Representative Eliot L. Engel (D-NY), Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, to lead a Congressional Delegation to Mexico, Nicaragua, and Jamaica from February 15-22, 2009. He will be accompanied by the following Subcommittee staff: Staff Director Jason Steinbaum, Professional Staff Member Eric Jacobstein, and Staff Associate Julie Schoenthaler.

Representative Engel has informed me that representational funds not to exceed $5,600 will be necessary in support of this Delegation.

As expenses are anticipated to exceed the published per diem rate, it is requested that local currencies for per diem at the published rate plus an additional $50 be provided. It is requested that transportation and other official expenses be made available in accordance with provisions of Section 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Public Law 95-384, Section 22(a). The authorizing office will be responsible for documentation and reimbursement subsequent to travel. Travel will by via military aircraft.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard L. Berman

HOWARD L. BERMAN
Chairman

EXHIBIT 14

TelegramUNCLASSIFIED STATE 00013135
VZCZCXYZ0023
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHC #3135 0431701
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O P 121645Z FEB 09
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHMU/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHKG/AMEMBASSY KINGSTON 0000
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 0000
INFO RUEAHQA/OSAF WASHINGTON DC/LL PRIORITY
BT

UNCLAS STATE 013135

CODEL

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OREP, AMGT, ASEC, AFIN, MX, NU, JM
SUBJECT: CODEL ENGEL (FEB 16-22)

THE ITINERARY FOR ALL CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL SHOULD BE HANDLED CAREFULLY AND SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED ONLY TO THOSE WITH A REAL NEED TO KNOW. THE ITINERARY SHOULD NOT BE MADE PUBLIC WITHOUT THE SPECIFIC PERMISSION OF THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION, AND LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS SUCH AS HOTEL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE RESERVED IN THE EMBASSY'S NAME AND NOT IN THE NAME OF THE CONGRESSIONAL TRAVELLER WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

1. REP. ELIOT ENGEL, CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS (HCFA), WILL LEAD A BI-PARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION (CODEL) ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS TO MEXICO, NICARAGUA, AND JAMAICA FEB 16-22. THE PURPOSE OF CODEL'S VISIT IS TO MEET WITH HOST GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS REGARDING POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS, REGIONAL ISSUES AND BILATERAL RELATIONS. REP. CUELLAR WILL TRAVEL TO/FROM HIS DISTRICT (VIA COMAIR) TO JOIN THE CODEL IN MEXICO CITY FOR THIS PORTION OF VISIT ONLY (FEB 16-17). THE REMAINDER OF THE CODEL WILL TRAVEL VIA MILITARY AIR (MILAIR). MAJ. CALVIN DANIELS, AIR FORCE WILL ESCORT THE CODEL. HOWEVER, SPOUSES, DOD ESCORTS AND ALL OTHERS ARE NOT/NOT AUTHORIZED CONGRESSIONAL FUNDING. DEPARTMENT (H) WELCOMES THREAT ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE CODEL'S VISIT. PLEASE RECALL, ACTUAL COSTS, OR COST ESTIMATES IF ACTUAL COSTS ARE NOT KNOWN, SHOULD BE CABLED NLT 15 DAYS AFTER CODEL'S DEPARTURE, AND FINAL COSTS WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE. CABLES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE ATTN OF H AND RM/F/DFS/FO/AA/CAA (USING OREP AND AFIN TAGS).

2. TENTATIVE COMPOSITION:

(MEMBERS)
REP. ELIOT ENGEL (D-NY)
REP. JEAN SCHMIDT (R-OH) AND SPOUSE (PETER)
REP. VIRGINIA FOXX (R-NC) AND SPOUSE (TOM)
REP. JOHN SALAZAR (D-CO) AND SPOUSE (MARY LOU)
REP. MARK SOUDER (R-IN)
REP. RUBEN HINOJOSA (D-TX) AND SPOUSE (MARTY)
REP. HENRY CUELLAR (D-TX) (VIA COMAIR TO MEXICO CITY ONLY)

(STAFF)
MR. JASON STEINBAUM - HCFA
MR. ERIC JACOBSTEIN - HCFA

MS. JULIE SCHOENTHALER - HCFA
MR. MARK SULLIVAN - CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE (CRS) SPECIALIST IN LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS, DETAILEE TO HCFA
DR. KAY KING - OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER (HSPKR)

(OTHER)
MS. JULIE BULGRIN - DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS), BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT OFFICER (LMO)

(DOD/USAF ESCORTS)
COL. JOEY BOOHER
COL. THOMAS LAWHEAD (VIA COMAIR TO MEXICO CITY ONLY)
MAJ. CALVIN DANIELS, JR.
TSGT. RANDEE DIETRICK
SSGT. SHARON HOLT
DR. CAESAR JUNKER (PHYSICIAN)

3. SSN/SECURITY CLEARANCES:

JACOBSTEIN, ERIC ALAN - SSN:XXX-XX-8307; D/POB: 05/15/1980 NEW JERSEY; WHS/TS 09/07

STEINBAUM, JASON BENNETT - SSN:XXX-XX-8624; D/POB: 05/28/66 NEW JERSEY; WHS/TS 04/07

LAWHEAD, THOMAS J. (COL) - SSN:XXX-XX-0699; D/POB: 06/01/1961 NEW YORK; DOD/TS 10/07

BOOHER, AARON J. (COL) - SSN:XXX-XX-0485; D/POB: 09/17/1965 KENTUCKY; DOD/TS 09/07

DANIELS, CALVIN E. JR. (MAJ) - SSN: XXX-XX-0543; D/POB: 02/22/1973 NORTH CAROLINA; DOD/S 08/07

DIETRICK, RANDEE (TSGT) - SSN:XXX-XX-1797; D/POB: 10/23/1979 PENNSYLVANIA; DOD/TS 12/05

HOLT, SHARON KAY (SSGT) - SSN:XXX-XX-7798; D/POB: 04/10/1977 KANSAS; DOD/S 08/99

4. TENTATIVE ITINERARY/AGENDA:

MON 02/16:
(REP. CUELLAR)
0732 - LV LAREDO VIA CO-2858
0844 - AR HOUSTON
1043 - LV HOUSTON VIA CO-2895
1305 -AR MEXICO CITY (BENITO JUAREZ INT'L AIRPORT)

(CODEL)
1000 -LV ANDREWS AFB ENROUTE TO MEXICO CITY
1320 -ARRIVES BENITO JUAREZ INTL AIRPORT MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
- MET BY CHARGE D' AFFAIRS LESLIE BASSETT, LUIS FLORES, EXPEDITOR

(ALL)
1345 -LV AIRPORT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL MEDINA MORA'S OFFICE
1430 - MEET WITH AG MEDINA MORA
1615 -AR AND CHECK-IN AT SHERATON HOTEL
(REP. CUELLAR)
1900 -MEETING WITH DEF MIN GALVAN
(ALL)
REMAIN OVERNIGHT (RON) MEXICO CITY (02/16-18; SHERATON MARIA ISABEL

HOTEL

TUE 02/17 (MEXICO CITY):
(CODEL)
0930 -COUNTRY TEAM BRIEF
TBD(AM) -MEET WITH PRESIDENT FELIPE, PHOTO OP

(REP. CUELLAR)
1500 -TRANSPORT TO AIRPORT
1730 -LV MEXICO CITY INT'L VIA CO-1525
2237 - AR LAREDO (VIA HOUSTON)

(CODEL)
RON MEXICO CITY

WED 02/18 (MEXICO CITY/MANAGUA):
(CHAIRMAN ENGEL AND SELECT MEMBERS)
0820 -LV FOR PRESS EVENT
0830 -PRESS EVENT
(CODEL)
0930 -LV HOTEL FOR SITE VISIT
1400 - AR BENITO JUAREZ INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
1415 -LV MEXICO CITY FOR MANAGUA
1800 -AR MANAGUA, NICARAGUA
- MET BY DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION SANDERS
AND POLITICAL COUNSELOR CHRIS ROBINSON
1815 - LV FOR AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
1845 - AR AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
1900 -DINNER AND COUNTRY TEAM BRIEF AT RESIDENCE (UNCLASSIFIED
BRIEFING)
2010 -LV FOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ORTEGA
2030 -MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ORTEGA
2145 -LV PRESIDENTIAL HEADQUARTERS FOR HOTEL
2200 -AR CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
RON MANAGUA (02/18-20: CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL)

THU 02/19 (MANAGUA):
1745 -LV HOTEL FOR AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
1800-2000 - RECEPTION AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
2000 -LV AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
2030 -NO-HOST PRIVATE DINNER AT RESTAURANT
-INTERMEZZO DEL BOSQUE REST
2230 - LV RESTAURANT TO HOTEL
RON MANAGUA

FRI 02/20 (MANAGUA/KINGSTON):
0900 -LV CROWNE PLAZA FOR AIRPORT
1000 -LV MANAGUA FOR KINGSTON
1250 -AR KINGSTON, JAMAICA
1300 -LV AIRPORT FOR EMBASSY
1400 -COUNTRY TEAM BRIEF AT EMBASSY
1500 -MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER (TBC)
1630 -MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER (TBC)
1730 - LV EMBASSY FOR HOTEL
1800 -AR AT HOTEL
1930 -RECEPTION AT HOTEL
RON KINGSTON (02/20-22: COURTLEIGH HOTEL)

SAT 02/21 (KINGSTON):
RON KINGSTON

SUN 02/22:
1630 - LV HOTEL FOR AIRPORT

1640 -AR AT KINGSTON AIRPORT
1700 -LV KINGSTON FOR ANDREWS AFB
2010AR ANDREWS AFB
MISSION COMPLETE

5. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE DESIGNATE A CONTROL OFFICER AND ADMINISTRATIVE POINT OF CONTACT TO ASSIST WITH THE TRIP AND PROVIDE THE NECESSARY TRANSPORTATION. PLEASE ADVISE DEPARTMENT (H) WITH NAME, NUMBERS (OFFICE/HOME/FAX/CELL) AND UNCLASSIFIED EMAIL ADDRESS.

CODEL POINTS OF CONTACT IN WASHINGTON ARE:

(A) MR. ANDREW MACDERMOTT, LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT OFFICER (LMO), BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS (H), U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS), AT (W) 202/453-8789; (CPH) 202/391-8175; (FX) 202/203-7700 OR 202/453-8791; AND (UNCL EMAIL) MACDERMOTTAC@STATE.GOV

(B) MS. PATRICIA A. DIGGS, CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL SPECIALIST, BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS (H), AT (WK) 202/647-8068; AND (UNCL E-MAIL) DIGGSPA@STATE.GOV

MILITARY ESCORT CONTACT: MAJ. CALVIN DANIELS JR., USAF AT (WK) 703/571-8019; (BB) 703/678-1257; (CPH) 229/269-9814 (UNCL EMAIL) CALVIN.DANIELS@PENTAGON.AF.MIL

6. CODEL REQUESTS APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS BE RESERVED AT THE HOTELS WHERE SPECIFIED IN ITINERARY/AGENDA PROVIDED IN PARA 3 ABOVE. PLEASE CONFIRM ACCOMMODATIONS TO DEPARTMENT (H) SOONEST WITH DAILY RATE IN USDOLS ALONG WITH ADDRESS/TELEPHONE/FAX/ROOM NUMBERS AND ADVISE IF TAX, SERVICE AND BREAKFAST ARE INCLUDED IN RATE. ALSO ADVISE H WITH LATEST CANCELLATION DATE WITHOUT PENALTY TO THE CODEL.

7. A FULL DAY OF PER DIEM SHOULD BE DISBURSED IN LOCAL CURRENCY FOR EACH NIGHT SPENT IN-COUNTRY. POSTS SHOULD NOT ISSUE PER DIEM IN INCREMENTS FOR PARTIAL DAYS. REQUEST THAT PER DIEM FOR BOTH LODGING AND M&IE BE DISBURSED DIRECTLY TO AUTHORIZED TRAVELERS SO THAT THEY MAY SETTLE THEIR OWN HOTEL BILLS, UNLESS OTHERWISE ADVISED BY H.

8. AUTHORIZATION: REF 01 STATE 017811, CHARGE HOUSE APPROPRIATION 00X0488.1-2089-910111, SUB-OBJECTS 2166/2167/2168 AS APPROPRIATE. FOR EACH NIGHT SPENT IN-COUNTRY, DISBURSE THE MAXIMUM USG PER DIEM RATE IN USD EQUIVALENT AS ESTABLISHED IN THE MONTHLY FTR, PLUS USDE 50 FOR ACTUAL COST, LOCAL TRANSPORTATION, AND OTHER OFFICIAL EXPENSES, AUTHORIZED (02/16-22) UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED BELOW.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS (HCFA):
ENGEL/STEINBAUM/SCHOENTHALER/JACOBSTEIN/SULLIVAN

HOUSE FINANCIAL SERVICES (HFS):
HINOJOSA

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY (HHOME):
SOUDER/CUELLAR (02/16-17)

HOUSE RULES CMTE (HRULES):
FOXX

HOUSE TRANSP. AND INFRASTRUCTURE CMTE (HTRANS):
SCHMIDT

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS CMTE (HAC):
SALAZAR

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE (HSPKR):
KING

ONLY THE M&IE RATE, PLUS 50 FOR ACTUAL COSTS, IS AUTHORIZED WHEREVER GOVERNMENT HOUSING OR PRIVATE LODGING IS PROVIDED. INDIVIDUAL TRAVELERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY CHARGES TO THEIR ROOMS.

9. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO REPORT COSTS IN THE FOLLOWING REPORT FORMAT:

CODEL JONES EXPENDITURES FOR VISIT TO EREHWON, JUN 1-5, 2002 (PROVIDE FISCAL DATA FOR TRIP HERE)

PER DIEM (2167)DOLS 300
--JONES, REP JOHNDOLS 125
--POLT, REP GEORGEDOLS 175
--PER DIEM RETURNED UNSPENT (JONES)DOLS 20

TRANSPORTATION (2166)DOLS 200
--AIR TRANSPORTATIONDOLS 200

OTHER EXPENSES (2168)DOLS 800
-- INTERPRETERS (ESTIMATE COSTS)DOLS 300
-- OVERTIME (LOCAL STAFF) DOLS 300
-- CONTROL ROOM DOLS 200

THE ABOVE FORMAT SHOULD BE USED FOR ALL EVENTS/SERVICES EXPECTED TO BE INCURRED BY POSTS WHICH WILL BE CHARGED TO CODEL FUND CITE. REQUEST ACTUAL COSTS, OR COST ESTIMATES IF ACTUAL COSTS ARE NOT KNOWN, BE PROVIDED TO H NLT 15 DAYS AFTER CODEL'S DEPARTURE, AND FINAL COSTS WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE. CABLES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE ATTN OF H AND RM/F/DFS/FO/AA/CAA (USING OREF AND AFIN TAGS).
CLINTON
BT
#3135

NNNNUNCLASSIFIED STATE 00013135

EXHIBIT 15

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

27 February 2009

Office of Legislative Liaison
B-322 Rayburn Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eliot Engel
2161 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Engel,

Thank you for choosing the Air Force for your travel to Mexico, Nicaragua, and Jamaica. It was a true pleasure providing you assistance on the trip. A list of your incurred expenses follows:

Item	Quantity	Cost
In-flight Meals	2	$20.54
Mexico City: El Refugio	1	$24.36
Mexico City: Event tour	1	$6.85
Managua: El Tiscapa (Lunch)	1	$34.56
Managua: Natural site tour	1	$5.70
Kingston: Morgan's Harbor (Lunch)	1	$24.65
Kingston: Devon House tour	1	$5.00
Kingston: Entrance fee	1	$2.31
Kingston: Lunch	1	$11.28
Total Amount		**$135.25**

Please provide a check for this amount, payable to the US Treasury, to the Air Force Liaison office in the Rayburn House Office Building (room B-322) as soon as possible. If you have any questions, or if I can be of assistance in any way, please call me at (703) 571-[redacted] Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

CALVIN E. DANIELS JR, Major, USAF
Congressional Liaison

EXHIBIT 16

CODEL ENGEL
Trindad and Tobago, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines
April 17-21, 2009
11(c) Trip Report

On April 17-21, 2009, the Honorable Eliot L. Engel of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, led a bipartisan Congressional Delegation on official business to Trinidad and Tobago, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The purpose of this trip was to participate in the Fifth Summit of the Americas and meet with government and non-government officials regarding political and economic developments, and bilateral relations with St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Participants

Rep. Eliot L Engel, D-NY
Rep. Connie Mack, R-FL
Rep. Donald M. Payne, D-NJ
Del. Donna M. Christensen, D-VI
Rep. Gregory W. Meeks, D-NY
Rep. Mary Bono Mack, R-CA
Rep. Yvette D. Clarke, D-NY
Resident Commissioner Pedro Pierhisi, D-PR

Mr. Jason Steinbaum, Staff Director, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, HFAC
Mr. Cliff Stammerman, Staff Director, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight, HFAC
Mr. Stephane LeBouder, Staff Director, Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade, HCFS
Mr. Peter Quilter, Senior Professional Staff, HFAC
Mr. Eric Jacobstein, Professional Staff Member, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, HFAC
Ms. Robyn Wapner, Minority Professional Staff Member, HFAC
Ms. Julie Schoenthaler, Staff Associate, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, HFAC
Ms. Deanne Samuels, Executive Assistant and Scheduler, Rep. Howard Berman/HFAC
Ms. Kiersten A. Stiansen, Foreign Affairs Officer, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, DOS
Ms. Crystal D. Ford, Assistant Deputy Director, House Affairs, U.S. Southern Command

Official Meetings

Trinidad- April 17

- Meeting with President of El Salvador Antonio Saca and President-Elect of El Salvador Mauricio Funes
- Meeting with President of Panama Martin Torrijos
- Opening Session of the Fifth Summit of the Americas (Speeches by President of Argentina Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, President of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega, Prime Minister of Belize Dean Barrow, President of the United States Barack Obama, and Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago Patrick Manning)
- Reception hosted by the Summit Secretariat

Trinidad – April 18

- Meeting with President of Chile Michelle Bachelet
- Working breakfast with Secretary General of the Organization of American States José Miguel Insulza
- Meeting with President of Uruguay Tabaré Vazquez
- Meeting with President of Honduras Manuel Zelaya
- Meeting with President of Ecuador Rafael Correa
- Meeting with President of Haiti Rene Preval

- Meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton
- Meeting with Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Heads of State
- Meeting with President of Mexico Felipe Calderón
- Meeting with President of Argentina Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner
- Meeting with President of Colombia Alvaro Uribe
- Meeting with President of the United States Barack Obama

St. Vincent and the Grenadines- April 19

- Country Team Brief with U.S. Charge d'Affaires to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean D. Brent Hardt
- Meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Trade Sir Louis Straker
- Meeting with Peace Corps Deputy Country Director Helen Petrozzola and Jems Progressive Community Organization
- Site Visit with U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer
- Reception hosted by U.S. Charge d'Affaires to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean D. Brent Hardt
- Meeting with Political Opposition Leaders, including Former Prime Minister Arnhim Ulric Eustace

St. Vincent and the Grenadines- April 20

- Meeting with Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ralph Everard Gonsalves
- Press Conference with Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ralph Everard Gonsalves
- Meeting with Governor General Sir Frederick Nathaniel Ballantyne
- Working lunch with Ministers and government officials hosted by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Trade Sir Louis Straker
- Briefing by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Trade Sir Louis Straker on development, infrastructure, and the tourism industry

EXHIBIT 17

zed Statement of Expenses

Date	Location	Description	O/M Receipt	O/M Non-Receipt	Collection O/M	Contingency Receipt	Con Non-Rec	Collection Contingency
16-Apr-09	Andrews AFB	Commissary for Delegation Room				$299.15		
16-Apr-09	Andrews AFB	Baggage Tip at Commissary				$10.00		
16-Apr-09	Bolling AFB	Shoppette-Delegation Room Beverages				$68.00		
16-Apr-09	Pentagon	Alamo Flag - Friendship Pins				$225.00		
16-Apr-09	OAS Gift Shop	OAS Lapel Pins				$120.00		
16-Apr-09	Trinidad	Hyatt Baggage Tip	$75.00					
17-Apr-09	First Citizens Bank--Trinidad	US to Trinidad Conversion Fee: 69 TT Fee at $1 US = 6 TT				$11.50		
17-Apr-09	Hyatt--Trinidad	Delegation Room Charges: 720 TT at 6:1 = $120.00				$120.00		
17-Apr-09	Hyatt--Trinidad	Waterfront Restaurant Dinner for Members/Staff/Escorts for 15	$2,000.00		$2,000.00			
18-Apr-09	Trinidad	Ground Transportation/Guide				$520.00		$222.90
18-Apr-09	Hyatt--Trinidad	Tips (Baggage)	$4.17					
18-Apr-09	Trinidad	Dinner, Angelo's Italian for 9	$757.21		$757.21			
18-Apr-09	Trinidad	Angelos Foreign Transfer Fee (Col Lawhead had to pay with personal credit due to Class A fund issues)					$7.57	
18-Apr-09	Trinidad	Lunch (El Pecos on the Grill) for 12	$81.00		$81.00			
18-Apr-09	Trinidad US Embassy	Lost Passport Fee for Replacement Passport for Ssgt John White				$100.00		
19-Apr-09	Hyatt--Trinidad	Hotel Incidentals (CM Meeks)	$3.31		$3.31			
19-Apr-09	Hyatt--Trinidad	Hotel Incidentals (CW Clarke)	$2.65		$2.65			
19-Apr-09	St Vincent	Dinner Beverages (Meals inclusive in hotel price but not drinks) for Members/Staff/Escort for 14	$39.38		$39.38			
19-Apr-09	Trinidad	Hyatt Baggage Tip	$10.00					
19-Apr-09	Trinidad	Reservation Change Fee (CW Clarke)	$36.50					
20-Apr-09	Hyatt--Trinidad	Tips (Baggage)	$10.00					
20-Apr-09	St Vincent	Delegation Room Charges				$266.90		
20-Apr-09	St Vincent	Tips (Baggage)	$5.00					

20-Apr-09 St Vincent	Box Lunches for Members/Staff/Escorts for 13	$108.17		$108.17				
20-Apr-09 St Vincent	Room Incidentals (CM Engel)	$11.26		$11.26				
20-Apr-09 St Vincent	Room Incidentals (CM Meeks)	$33.75		$33.75				
20-Apr-09 St Vincent	Room Incidentals (CW Clarke)	$41.25		$41.25				
20-Apr-09 St Vincent	Young Island Resort Baggage Tip	$50.00						
20-Apr-09 Trinidad	Hyatt Baggage Tip	$40.00						
20-Apr-09 Trinidad	Hyatt Baggage Tip	$10.00						
21-Apr-09 Hyatt--Trinidad	Control Room Phone Charges (Rm 2118)	$0.99						
21-Apr-09 Hyatt--Trinidad	Control Room Phone Charges (Rm 2122)	$26.45						
21-Apr-09 Hyatt--Trinidad	Delegation Room Breakdown (Bed Removal, Furnature)				$402.50			
21-Apr-09 Andrews AFB	Specialty Food Items from MilAir				$88.22			
21-Apr-09 Hyatt--Trinidad	Delegation Room				$1,502.65			
13-May-09 Hyatt--Trinidad	Credit for overcharge of delegation room				-$508.87			
21-Apr-09 Andrews AFB	Mil Air Meals (41 PAX, 23 Breakfast and 41 Lunches)	$476.34		$193.70				
21-Apr-09 St Vincent	Airport Transportation Tip	$20.00						
21-Apr-09 Trinidad	Hyatt Baggage Tip	$40.00						
22-Apr-09 Pentagon	Bank charge for 1127 TT bought at 6.1 sold at 7.17:1 (6.1 = 187.83, 7.17:1 = 157.20 difference is 30.63				$30.63			
Total		**$3,882.43**	**$0.00**	**$3,271.68**	**$3,255.68**	**$7.57**	**$222.90**	**$3,651.10**

EXHIBIT 18

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

4 May 2009

Office of Legislative Liaison
1160 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1160

The Honorable Eliot Engel
2161 Rayburn Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Engel,

Thank you for choosing the Air Force for your travel to Trinidad and St. Vincent. It was a pleasure providing you assistance on the trip. A list of your incurred expenses follows:

Item	Quantity	Cost
Dinner-Hyatt Waterfront Trinidad (17 Apr 09)	1	$170.13
Lunch (El Pecos on the Grill, Trinidad 18 Apr 09)	1	$6.75
Dinner (Angelos Italian, Trinidad 18 Apr 09)	1	$84.14
Lunch-St Vincent (20 Apr 09)	1	$8.32
Dinner-St Vincent (19 Apr 09, Inclusive meal, drinks were extra)	1	$2.82
Young Island Resort, St Vincent, Room Incidentals (20 Apr 09)	1	$11.26
Total Amount		**$283.42**

Please provide a check for this amount, payable to the "US Treasury", to the Air Force Liaison office in the Rayburn House Office Building (room B-322) as soon as possible. If you have any questions, or if I can be of assistance in any way, please call me at (703) 697-[redacted] Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

JEFFREY E. WARMKA, Lt Col, USAF
Congressional Liaison

EXHIBIT 19

PURCHASE ORDER, RECEIVING REPORT AND VOUCHER

P.O. NUMBER

DATE May 29, 2009

PURCHASER
American Embassy, Tegucigalpa, Honduras
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Contract Number

Vendor
CODEL ENGEL/DELAHUNT
Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Voucherng Control # of last payment

Order is hereby placed with the above-named vendor for the articles described below, to be furnished to PRCG

FMS Control#

Date May 29, 2009

Item No	Articles or Services	Quantity	Unit Price Cost	Per	Amount $ or L/Pa
	CASH PAYMENT				
	FULL DAY OF PER DIEM (M&IE ONLY) PLUS $50.00 FROM JUNE 01-02, 2009 IN SAN PEDRO SULA				
	REP. ELIOT ENGI $127.50 X L@18.90 L. 2,409.30 @ 6/10				L. 9,601.20
	REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT L. 2,400.30 @ 4/10				
	MR. JASON STEINBAUM L. 2,400.30 – Received in DS Not accepted in HN				
	MR. ERIC JACOBSTEIN L. 2,400.30 @ 5/10				

Signature of Ordering Officer

Title

Total Amount L. 9,601.20

Ordered Items received on _____ date

_____ Signature of Receiving Officer

Title

Approved L. 9,601.20

Ex. Rate L. 18.90
$508.00

Availability of funds
$508.00 00X0483.1 2089 2089910248 2167

Payment
complete X
partial
final

Amount billed, as per bill (s)
Differences L. 9,601.20
JES
L. 9,601.20

Pursuant to authority vested in me, I certify that this voucher is correct and proper for payment

May 29, 2009 Date

JAMES D WICKERSHAM Certifying Officer

FMO Title

ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION

$508.00 L. 9,601.20 00X0483.1 2089 2089910248 2167

Check No Dated for

Payee
CODEL ENGEL/DELAHUNT
(Signature - Title)

Cash L. 9,601.20 On

JAM / FM Office Tegucigalpa

DS-2076

EXHIBIT 20

CODEL Engel
El Salvador, Honduras
May 31-June 2, 2009
11(c) Trip Report

From May 31-June 2, 2009, the Honorable Eliot L. Engel, Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, led a Congressional Delegation on official business to El Salvador and Honduras. The purpose of this trip was to attend the inauguration of President of El Salvador Mauricio Funes, and the Organization of American States General Assembly in San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

Participants

Rep. Eliot L. Engel
Rep. William D. Delahunt

Jason Steinbaum, Staff Director, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere
Eric Jacobstein, Professional Staff, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere (Honduras only)

Official Meetings

El Salvador– Mary 31
Pathways to Prosperity meeting with Secretary of State Clinton and Foreign Ministers of participant countries
Meeting with Millennium Challenge Corporation staff and beneficiaries of rural electrification program with Secretary of State Clinton
Vital Voices meeting with Women Entrepreneurs with Secretary of State Clinton
Dinner at Foreign Ministry with various Foreign Ministers attending the inauguration of President Funes

El Salvador- June 1
Attend Inauguration of President Funes
Tour photo exhibit of history of U.S.-Salvadoran relations at U.S. Ambassador's residence
Lunch hosted by Foreign Minister of El Salvador in Presidential garden with members of new cabinet
Visit USAID project "Alternativa," which helps Salvadoran artisans and crafts makers
Meet President Mauricio Funes

Honduras – June 1
Dinner hosted by President of Honduras Manuel Zelaya

Honduras – June 2
Meeting with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Foreign Ministers
Inaugural Session of Organization of American States (OAS) General Assembly
Meeting with Israeli Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Daniel Ayalon
Meeting with Secretary General of the OAS Jose Miguel Insulza
Meeting with U.S. Ambassador to Honduras Hugo Llorens
Meeting with President of Paraguay Fernando Lugo
Meeting with Foreign Minister of Venezuela Nicolas Maduro

EXHIBIT 21

Prepared by American Embassy Panama

Panama mgie

DATE: JANUARY 2, 2010

RECEIVED IN CASH FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY, PANAMA.

CODEL: ENGEL

NAME: REP. ELIOT L. ENGEL

PANAMA PER DIEM 96 DAY(s) X 2 LESS ____ % = $ 192

PANAMA SUBSISTENCE 50 DAY(s) X 2 LESS ____ % = $ 100

TOTAL = $ 292 USD

AUTHORIZED AS FOLLOWS:

REFERENCE: CABLE STATE 131518

FISCAL DATA: 00X0488.1 2089 010094 2167

SIGNATURE: Eliot L. Engel

SSN

AMERICAN EMBASSY BOGOTA COLOMBIA

PER DIEM AUTHORIZED BY UNCLAS STATE 131518
FOR CODEL ENGEL

ARRIVING IN CARTAGENA IN JANUARY 7- LEAVING IN JANUARY 10

DAYS	M&IE	ENHANCE	TOTAL	TOTAL
3	$ 110.00	$ 50.00	$ 160.00	$ 480.00 USD
$ 1,968.60				$ 944,928.00
	ROUNDING TO THE PESO			72
				$ 945,000.00

TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE PAID DURING THE VISIT
OFFICIAL EXCHANGE RATE

REP. ELIOT L. ENGEL

Signature: Eliot L. Engel

EXHIBIT 22

CODEL ENGEL
Panama, Argentina, Colombia
January 3-10, 2010
11(c) Trip Report

From January 3-10, 2010, the Honorable Eliot L. Engel of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, led a Congressional Delegation on official business to Panama, Argentina and Colombia. The purpose of this trip was to meet with government and non-government officials regarding political and economic developments, and general bilateral relations with each country.

Participants

Rep. Eliot L. Engel, D-NY
Rep. Lynn Woolsey, D-CA
Rep. Shelley Berkley, D-NV
Res. Com. Pedro Pierluisi, D-PR
Mr. Christopher McMullen, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs, U.S. Department of State
Mr. Jason Steinbaum, Staff Director, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, HFAC
Mr. Peter Quilter, Senior Professional Staff Member, HFAC
Mr. Eric Jacobstein, Professional Staff Member, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, HFAC

Official Meetings

Panama – January 3, 2010

- Reception with Ambassador of Panama to the United States Jaime Aleman and President of Panama Ricardo Martinelli

Panama – January 4, 2010

- Country Team Briefing by U.S. Ambassador to Panama Barbara J. Stephenson and Embassy staff
- Meeting with Vice President and Foreign Minister of Panama Juan Carlos Varela, Minister of Economy and Finance of Panama Alberot Vallarino, Minister of Government and Justice of Panama Jose Raul Mulino, and Minister for Commerce and Industry of Panama Roberto Henriquez
- Working lunch with President of Panama Ricardo Martinelli
- Briefing by Juan Wong, Assistant Project Manager, Canal Expansion Program and site visit to the Panama Canal
- Reception hosted by U.S. Ambassador to Panama Barbara J. Stephenson

Panama to Argentina – January 5, 2010

- Reception hosted by U.S. Ambassador to Argentina Vilma Martinez

Argentina- January 6, 2010

- Country team briefing by U.S. Ambassador to Argentina Vilma Martinez and Embassy staff
- Meeting with Foreign Minister of Argentina Jorge Taiana
- Meeting with President of the Argentina Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) Luis Grynwald and President of the Israelite-Argentina Assocaitions' Delegation (DAIA) Jorge Kirszenbaum and visit to the AMIA building to participate in a ceremony commemorating the victims of the 1994 terrorist attack.
- Working lunch with Argentine labor leaders
- Meeting with Mayor of Buenos Aires Mauricio Macri
- Meeting with President of Argentina Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner
- Press Conference at Argentine Presidential Palace

Argentina to Colombia - January 7, 2010

- Visit to site of former Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires destroyed in terrorist attack
- Working dinner with U.S. Ambassador to Colombia William Brownfield

Colombia- January 8, 2010

- Country team briefing with U.S. Ambassador to Colombia William Brownfield and Embassy Staff
- Working lunch with Mayor of Cartagena Judith Pinedo
- Site visit to Escuela Taller, a USAID-funded project to reintegrate former child combatants
- Briefing at Colombian Naval Base by Admiral Guillermo Barrera, Commander of the Colombian Navy
- Press Conference at Naval Base
- Reception hosted by U.S. Ambassador to Colombia William Brownfield

Colombia – January 9, 2010

- Meeting with President of Colombia Alvaro Uribe [Participants: Minister of Defense of Colombia Gabriel Silva, Minister of Trade of Colombia Luis Guillermo Plata, Higher Commission for Peace of Colombia Frank Pearl, Director of Accion Social Diego Molano, Colombian Ambassador to the United States Carolina Barco, and Deputy Chief of Mission for the Embassy of Colombia in the United States Silvia Constain]
- Press Conference with President Uribe
- Working lunch with Afro-Colombian leaders including President of RedAfro Donaldo Barrios, Council Member Gloria Sanchez, Rosario Island Council Member Ever de la Rosa, and various community leaders representing education and industry sectors.

Colombia - January 10, 2010

- Visit to Cartagena Port – Briefing by Antinarcotics Police Acting Director Henry Gamboa and Port General Manager Alfonso Salas

EXHIBIT 23

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

12 January 2010

Office of Legislative Liaison
B-322 Rayburn Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eliot Engel
2161 Rayburn Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Engel,

Thank you for choosing the Air Force for your travel to Panama, Argentina and Colombia. It was a true pleasure providing you assistance on the trip. A list of your incurred expenses follows:

Item	Quantity	Cost
In-flight Meals ($7.71 ea)	3	$23.13
Medical Prescription	1	$14.91
Dinner – Cabana las Lilas (w/Amb), Buenos Aires	1	$80.39
Dinner – La Bruschetta, Cartagena	1	$45.51
Lunch – Juan del Mar (w/Mayor), Cartagena	1	$49.98
Lunch – El Boni (w/Afro-Colombians), Cartagena	1	$44.65
Total Amount		**$258.57**

Please provide a check for this amount, payable to the US Treasury, to the Air Force Liaison office in the Rayburn House Office Building (room B-322) as soon as possible. If you have any questions, or if I can be of assistance in any way, please call me at (202) 225-[redacted]. Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

Heidi E. Cornell

HEIDI E. CORNELL, Lt Col, USAF
Congressional Liaison

EXHIBIT 24

Form approved by the Comptroller General of the United States

PURCHASE ORDER, RECEIVING REPORT AND VOUCHER

PURCHASE ORDER NO. | DATE 02/12/2010

D.O. VOU. NO.

PURCHASER: THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, OR: - THIS DOCUMENT PREPARED AT

DEPT OF STATE
AMERICAN EMBASSY, TEL- AVIV

OF 263

EMERGENCY CASH PAYMENT REQUESTED ADMINISTRATIVELY APPROVED

CONTRACT NO.

VENDOR:

CODEL ENGEL
AMERICAN EMBASSY
TEL AVIV

DATE

ACCOUNT

CASH PAYMENT

ORDER IS HEREBY PLACED WITH THE ABOVE-NAMED VENDOR FOR THE ARTICLES DESCRIBED BELOW TO BE FURNISHED TO -

ITEM NO.	ARTICLES OR SERVICES	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE COST	UNIT PRICE PER	AMOUNT U.S. $
	PER DIEM FOR CODEL ENGEL - FEB 14-FEB 19, 2010 PAYMENT IN U.S.D. AS PER CODEL'S REQUEST!! JERUSALEM PER DIEM CALCULATIONS: M&IE - $ 132.00 per day X 5 days = $ 660.00 Transportation - $ 50.00 X 5 days = $ 250.00 TOTAL: $ 910.00/PERSON * 2 MEMBERS = $ 1,820.00				$1,820.00

PAID

REF: STATE 011575.010132

TITLE

TOTAL AMOUNT U.S.D. $1,820.00

3

ON _____ (DATE) EXCEPT AS FOLLOWS:

X

(SIGNATURE OF RECEIVING OFFICER)

MICHAEL PEARLSTEIN

TITLE: CONTROL OFFICER

AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

PAYMENT

COMPLETE ☒ | AMT BILLED AS PER ATTACHED BILL(S) U.S.D. $1,820.00

PARTIAL ☐ | DIFFERENCES DG

FINAL ☐ | AMOUNT VERIFIED CORRECT FOR U.S.D. $1,820.00

APPROVED FOR:

$1,820.00

PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME, I CERTIFY THAT THIS VOUCHER IS CORRECT AND PROPER FOR PAYMENT

12-Feb-10 | GEORGETTE KAMKAR | CO

EXCHANGE RATE: TO $ 1.00 | DATE | (AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICER) | (TITLE)

ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION:

$1,820.00 - 00-X0488.0001-2089-2089010132-0-2167

CHECK NO. _____ DATED _____ 19__ FOR $_____ ON TREASURER OF U.S.

CHECK NO. _____ DATED _____ 19__ FOR $_____ ON

CHECK NO. _____ DATED _____ 19__ FOR $_____ ON

PAYEE (SIGNATURE AND TITLE)

NSN 7540-00-148-0083 | ORIGINAL - D.O. VOUCHER | OPTIONAL FORM 208 (REV. 7-87) DEPT. OF STATE

10206-102

EXHIBIT 25

CODEL ENGEL
Israel
February 13-19, 2010
11(c) Trip Report

From February 13-19, 2010, the Honorable Eliot L. Engel of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, led a Congressional Delegation on official business to Israel. The purpose of this trip was to participate in the Jerusalem Conference and meet with government and non-government officials regarding political and economic developments, and general bilateral relations.

Participants

Rep. Eliot L Engel, D-NY
Mr. Jason Steinbaum, Staff Director, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, HFAC

Official Meetings

February 13-14, 2010: Travel

February 15, 2010
- Working lunch with Member of Knesset Nissim Ze'ev (SHAS)
- Spoke at Knesset conference on the Jews of the Middle East Diaspora and H.Res.185of the 110th Congress Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the creation of refugee populations in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf region as a result of human rights violations.

February 16, 2010
- Meeting with Deputy Foreign Minister of Israel Danny Ayalon
- Meeting with Dora Shavit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Deputy Director General for Central and South America
- Meeting with Baruch Binah, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Deputy Director General, North America Division
- Spoke at Jerusalem Conference Panel Discussion on Iranian Threats to the Region and Beyond
- Visited Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial
- Meeting with Foreign Minister of Israel Avigdor Lieberman

February 17, 2010
- Meeting with Consul General of U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem Daniel Rubinstein
- Meeting with Palestinian Prime Minister Salaam Fayyad
- Spoke at Jerusalem Conference Panel Discussion on the Future of U.S.-Israeli Relations
- Meeting with opposition leader and Kadima Chair Tzipi Livni
- Visited Mt. Herzl National Cemetery and paid respects at grave sites of former Prime Ministers Yitzhak Rabin and Golda Meir, and others

February 18, 2010
- Meeting with Member of Knesset Arieh Eldad (National Union) and visited several West Bank sites
- Meeting with Minister of National Infrastructure Uzi Landau
- Meeting with U.S. Ambassador to Israel James Cunningham
- Meeting with Prime Minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu
- Visited Rabin Center Museum and Archival Center about the life of Yitzhak Rabin

February 19, 2010: Travel