November 11, 2003

TO: Condoleezza Rice

FROM: Donald Rumsfeld

SUBJECT: Contacting Combatant Commanders

My understanding is that the NSC is making direct calls to the offices of combatant commanders, like Abizaid, to tell them that they need to be on a secure video or at meetings. That is not the way things should be done.

Please have your folks conduct any business with combatant commanders or their subordinates through John Craddock in my office.

Thanks.

DHR:dh 111103-12