

May 21, 2002

Dear _____:

Thank you for contacting me about the United Nations and the International Criminal Court (ICC). It is extremely valuable to know the views and concerns of my constituents and I appreciate the chance to respond.

As you may know, President Bush denounced the United States' signature from the 1998 treaty signed in Rome to create the first-ever permanent war crimes tribunal. The ICC is a threat to American soldiers and leaders. President Bush sent a clear message today that we do not support this rogue court. By withdrawing the United States from the treaty, the president reassured the men and women of our armed forces that he will vigorously protect their precious constitutional rights as they defend America.

America firmly supports efforts to hold tyrants, dictators, and war criminals accountable for their crimes. We do not believe, however, that creating an unaccountable new international legal bureaucracy is likely to accomplish that objective. Under the ICC, our soldiers fighting in terrible conditions at far corners of the globe will now be at a risk of politically motivated prosecutions and imprisonment by a rogue court. The ICC constrains U.S. policymakers and jeopardizes our ability to thoroughly eliminate the cancer of international terror networks.

I am a longtime sponsor of H.R. 4169, The American Services Members Protections Act, which would forbid U.S. involvement with the ICC. Please rest assured that I will continue to fight against any legislation on the House floor that supports U.S. involvement in the ICC.

Thank you for contacting me about this very important issue. I would also like to direct you to my website, <http://tomdelay.house.gov>, for more up to date information. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. It is an honor to serve you in the United States House of Representatives. Sincerely,

Tom Delay
Member of Congress