

## October 5, 2006 Congressman Murtha is quoted in Bob Woodward's book, "State of Denial"

For Immediate Release

Oct. 5, 2006

Congressman Murtha is quoted in Bob Woodward's book, "State of Denial"

Pg. 423-424

"The next day Congressman Jack Murtha, a Pennsylvania Democrat, introduced a resolution in Congress calling for American troops in Iraq to be 'redeployed' - the military term for returning troops overseas to their home bases - 'at the earliest practicable date.' Murtha, a former Marine Corps drill instructor and the first Vietnam veteran elected to Congress, has excellent sources among the armed forces. No one had better credentials as a supporter of the military than the 73-year-old Murtha. Murtha had voted for the October 2002 resolution authorizing the president to use military force in Iraq. A four-time visitor to Iraq, Murtha made weekly trips to the military hospitals to visit wounded Iraq veterans."

"'The war in Iraq is not going as advertised,' Murtha said. 'It is a flawed policy wrapped in illusion.' The military was suffering, he said on the House floor. Choking back tears, he added, 'Our military has done everything asked of them. It is time to bring them home.' Many of the troops had become demoralized and were poorly equipped. Two years after the war, their very presence in Iraq was impeding Iraq's progress toward stability and self-governance."

"This was shocking and the House Republicans knew it had to be met head-on."

"House Armed Services Chairman Duncan Hunter, a California Republican, introduced a resolution that cynically twisted Murtha's proposal for a pullout 'at the earliest practicable date.' Hunter's resolution called for an immediate troop pullout. Murtha himself could not and did not vote for it. It was defeated, 403-3."

"Murtha's was a voice from deep inside the soul and conscience of the American military. Informed military officers knew he was speaking for many more than himself."