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October 17, 2014

The Honorable Edward R. Royce
Chairman
House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

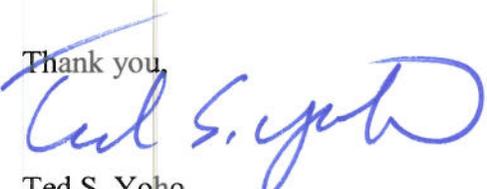
Dear Mr. Chairman,

On June 30, 2009, then-PFC Bergdahl wandered off his base in Paktika province. While the circumstances of what led him to do this and whether or not it was desertion are still being investigated, President Obama decided, without the consent of Congress as mandated by law, to transfer 5 detainees to Qatar in exchange for this possible deserter. The five detainees Khairullah Khairkhwa, Abdul Haq Wasiq, Mohammed Fazl, Noorullah Noori, Mohammed Nabi Omari are now out of U.S. control and have received a hero's welcome home. I respectfully request that the House Foreign Affairs Committee convene a hearing to obtain an update on the activities and threat, if any, the five released Taliban may pose to the United States.

There is a growing concern that they may be able to safely escape from Qatar and run to the new Taliban allies ISIL. As we support our allies in the region in combating ISIL I am concerned that the five detainees may be able to escape and/or aid ISIL in their assault on our allies. The House Foreign Affairs Committee has the right of jurisdiction over this issue as it is a direct national security concern that will affect the United States' foreign policy.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter. I look forward to working with you and the committee.

Thank you,


Ted S. Yoho
Member of Congress