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Skoch Comments on Afghanistan Troop Levels

Retired Air Force Brigadier General Bernie Skoch, Republican candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, expresses dismay at Obama Administration Delay

Fayetteville, AR, September 30, 2009 – Retired Air Force Brigadier General Bernie Skoch issued the following statement regarding the pending request for increased troop levels in Afghanistan by Army General Stan McChrystal:

"It is sorely disappointing that a president that decried his predecessor for not paying sufficient attention to events in Afghanistan is now deferring pleas from his on-the-scene commander for increased troop levels.

"In just two years, the number of Americans killed by roadside bombs in Afghanistan is up 400 percent. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff has called for higher troop levels. General Stan McChrystal, our senior commander in Afghanistan, has said that unless levels are increased we are at risk of mission failure. What more does President Obama need to understand? What counter-strategy other than surrender to terrorism will he propose? If we are truly committed to winning this fight, he can't ignore the needs of his men and women in uniform. If he wants to surrender, he should say so.

"And I am equally disappointed in our Congress for failing to bring pressure on the president for a speedy response to General McChrystal. Congress is made up of representatives of the people, and the American people don't believe in leaving our troops in the field waiting for the support they say they need."

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