

## LARSON AND SIMMONS ASK ARMY SECRETARY TO EXPLAIN COMANCHE DECISION TO DELEGATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 10, 2004

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WASHINGTON, D.C.- U.S. Reps. John B. Larson (CT-1) and Rob Simmons (CT-2) today sent the following letter to Acting Army Secretary Les Brownlee requesting that he meet with members of the state's Congressional Delegation to discuss and explain the Army's decision to cancel the Comanche helicopter program. Both lawmakers serve on the House Armed Services Committee.

The text of the letter is as following:

March 10, 2004

The Honorable Les Brownlee

Acting Secretary

United States Army

Room 3E700 The Pentagon

Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Brownlee:

As members of the House Armed Services Committee, we are writing today on behalf of the entire Connecticut delegation to request a meeting seeking to learn more about the Army's decision to cancel the Comanche helicopter program.

We are very concerned by the sudden termination and subsequent press reports about the future of Army aviation. For years, the Comanche program was touted by our delegation and the Army as an essential part of the future of Army aviation. We have several questions and concerns about the Army's decision and future plans.

As you may know, much of the work generated by the Comanche program was taking place in our home state of Connecticut. We are faced with hundreds of dedicated aviation employees who rightfully demand more answers to the sudden cancellation of their program. We look forward to meeting with you at your earliest convenience.

All the best,

S/ Rob Simmons

Member of Congress

Second District, Connecticut

S/ John B. Larson

Member of Congress

First District, Connecticut

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