

March 1, 2007: Sanchez Visits Troops in Iraq

Rep. Sanchez Leads Congressional Delegation

to Visit Troops in Iraq

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On March 7, 2007, Rep. Loretta Sanchez, ranking woman on the House Armed Services Committee, led a female congressional delegation to visit troops in Iraq. This marks Sanchez's third visit to Iraq most recently in 2004.

Sanchez met with troops from the 34th Battalion which included local soldiers from Anaheim, Garden Grove and Santa Ana.

"I'm glad I had a chance to talk to our local troops who are doing an exemplary job," said Sanchez. "It also gives them an opportunity to share their concerns about their mission in Iraq."

"I assured the troops that Congress continues to support them and will keep them protected." Although Sanchez voted against going to war she has continuously supported supplemental bills that provide funding for adequate equipment and training.

Many soldiers expressed frustrations in being overextended, some staying for more than 18 months without redeployment.

"The overextension has been an issue for this Administration since the beginning of the war. An unclear strategy and bad planning has flawed this mission for over 4 years now and it's affecting our military families."

Sanchez has positioned herself as a leader on the House Armed Services Committee serving on the Military Personnel Subcommittee where she works to ensure the total well-being of our military servicemembers. She also provided continued support for military families sponsoring health fairs and events that honor Southern California military families for their sacrifices.

Other Members of the congressional delegation to Iraq included: Reps. Hilda Solis (D-CA), Allyson Schwartz (D-PA), Shea-Porter (D-NH), and Nancy Boyda (D-KS).