

September 22, 2006

Bill O'Brian
Letters Editor
The Washington Post
1150 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20071

To The Editor,

Your article (*Ties to GOP Trumped Know-How Among Staff Sent to Rebuild Iraq*, Sept. 17) by Rajiv Chandrasekaran is inaccurate.

You claim I ignored real threats such as childhood disease. In fact, we provided 30 million doses of vaccines for three million children.

Chandrasekaran reported I focused on privatizing Saddam's corrupt medical supply bureaucracy, a complete error of fact.

Chandrasekaran said we imposed U.S. solutions without regard for Iraqi input. In truth, all initiatives were consensus-based collaborations with Iraqi counterparts.

Chandrasekaran reported that the CPA team had a \$793 million US-funded budget. In fact, it was \$1 billion, all from an Iraqi government no longer parasitized by Saddam.

Chandrasekaran maintained I spent almost all the budget on clinics and maternity hospitals, leaving nothing for emergency rooms. In fact, \$130 million funded medical equipment for programs including general hospitals, \$50 million funded a new pediatric hospital, \$25 million helped reduce maternal and infant mortality, and \$17 million funded critical training programs.

Sincerely,

James K. Haveman, Jr.