

(WASHINGTON) Congressman Allen West (FL-22), a 22 year veteran of the United States Army, and now a member of the House Armed Services Committee, provides insight on his trip to Afghanistan in a letter addressed to House Armed Services Committee Chairman Howard P. "Buck" McKeon.

excerpts from the letter:

"The keys to success to Afghanistan are not complicated to assess."

"We must establish a secure environment and deny the enemy sanctuaries across the border in Pakistan..."

"The increase in Improvised Explosive Device (IED) activity is being supported by explosive material and ammonium nitrate, coming out of Pakistan..."

"...the central government in Kabul led by Hamid Karzai is replete with corruption and fraud..."

"There must be mandatory education for the Afghanistan National Security Forces (ANSF)..."

"The President's message about troop reductions is met with skepticism and concern, not just with the Afghan people but even with some of our own troops. I fear that we have a repeat Tet moment where we had an enemy on the ropes..."

The entire letter sent to Chairman McKeon is [attached here](#) .

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