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March 27, 2024

Honorable Lloyd Austin III
Secretary of Defense
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1400

Dear Secretary Austin,

The Conference Report that accompanied the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2024 contained a requirement ([p. 1283](#)) for you to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on support to partner country forces. This briefing was to occur not later than 90 days after the enactment of the NDAA and include data on the number of coups carried out by units of militaries in the United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) area of responsibility (AOR) who received training and equipping by the Department of Defense (DoD).

On March 21, 2024, one day before the briefing was required to occur, the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) held a hearing on the security challenges in the Greater Middle East and Africa. When I asked General Michael Langley whether HASC would receive the briefing on time, he responded: "You'll get your answer, Congressman." It is now several days past the due date, and I have yet to receive the information the DoD is required to provide.

Given the DoD has failed to meet the congressionally mandated deadline, I am formally requesting the briefing or report on security cooperation with African military units who received DoD training and equipping, and subsequently overthrew their governments within the AFRICOM AOR.

Please coordinate with my Military Legislative Assistant, Mr. Derrick Miller, at Derrick.Miller@mail.house.gov by no later than April 5, 2024, to arrange for me to be briefed or to transmit a report with the relevant information.

Sincerely,



Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress

cc: General Michael E. Langley
Commander, Africa Command
U.S. Africa Command