

**AMBASSADOR KENNEDY:** As you will see in the report, the full report, we did consider that. There are -- I believe it's 1450 -- 1492 Diplomatic Security special agents in the entire world. If you consider the fact that there is almost 700 protective security contractors in Iraq, plus we have protective security contractors in other countries as well, it would mean essentially that the Diplomatic Security Service would either all be in Iraq or all getting training to go there or just have gotten back.

The Diplomatic Security Service is simply not small enough to do this mission without assistance and that is why the State Department has been using personal security service contractors for a number of years in Haiti, in Liberia, and Afghanistan. So this road is a road the State Department has been down before. Given the limited size of the Diplomatic Security Service, it -- by having this combination of federal agents and contractors, we feel that's the right balance.

Secondly, though, you ask about the U.S. military. The U.S. military is a force projection entity. It is not -- its specialty is not personal protection. There are a small number of personnel who are trained, either uniformed military or military/civilian working for the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division or the Air Force Office of Special Investigations or the U.S. Navy. So there are simply not enough trained personnel.

If you go back to 2003 when the civilian administration, the CPA, was under DOD auspices, as the security threat came up, the issue was raised about how do we provide additional protective services support for the then-administrator, the CPA, and for other senior civilians and distinguished visitors. And it was DOD that made the determination that they did not have enough trained personal protective services personnel within DOD and they dispatched contractors to Iraq then and as the requirement is even greater now than it was in 2003, the U.S. military does not have the personnel to take on the task.

And we interviewed, as you will see in the report, a large number of senior U.S. military officials and that question was specifically asked and not one of them believed that the U.S. military had the resources to undertake that. In fact, there's a finding, and you'll see this when you read the report, "The U.S. military in Iraq does not consider it feasible or desirable under existing conditions in Iraq for the Department of Defense to take on the responsibility for provision of PPS, Personal Protective Security services support, to the Embassy."

**QUESTION:** Okay, thanks.

**OPERATOR:** Our next question comes from August Cole. Your line is open.

**QUESTION:** (Inaudible) play? Can you talk a little bit about that? I mean, is this a situation where they're in command of a convoy?

**AMBASSADOR KENNEDY:** I'm sorry, your voice started in the middle of a sentence.

**QUESTION:** Sure, I'll start over. The role that the Diplomatic Security agents will play in the convoys?

**AMBASSADOR KENNEDY:** Yeah, they are the officer in charge.