Yesterday I had a chance to talk to many of my colleagues about the prison abuse scandal and I found that most were as angry as I am about the disgraceful behavior at Abu Ghraib prison but also anxious to get beyond it and get back to winning the war.

I told a lot of colleagues on the floor that I thought we needed to release all the photos in one lump, prosecute the soldiers and commanders involved and then we could move on. I sent a letter to Secretary Rumsfeld urging the Pentagon to do just that.

As I said to members who disagreed with me, I believe it is not "if the photos come out," it is "when." As such, we should do as Lincoln said, "Give the people the facts and the Republic will be saved." In this case, it might just be the Iraqi Republic we are saving.mrp