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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-3303

February 10, 2014

The Honorable Joe Wilson  
The Honorable Susan Davis  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Chairman Wilson and Ranking Member Davis:

I have recently learned that the leadership of the Marine Corps has decided to place the publication "Marine Corps Times" in areas at the Marine Corps Exchanges and the commissaries where it will not be easily found.

Additionally, the Marine Corps' leadership has made it known that this publication should not be purchased for reason of professional development of our Marines or sailors. In my view, the Marine Corps is making a blatant attempt to punish the "Marine Corps Times" for their articles investigating the questionable actions of the commandant.

I find these actions reprehensible! In America, a free and open press is critical to democracy. If you start to control what our service members read then we, as a nation, have a critical problem!

If this action is allowed to stand, then what will prevent other service chiefs from taking similar actions? I respectfully request that you both hold a hearing on this issue as soon as practical and that all correspondence and documentation regarding this decision-making process made available. The truth is absolute to freedom. I thank you for your leadership on this matter and thank you very much for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Walter B. Jones  
Member of Congress

CC: Chairman Buck McKeon  
Ranking Member Adam Smith