

Congressman John D. Dingell



Serving Michigan's 15th Congressional District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 4, 2005

Contact: Adam Benson & Michael Robbins

(202) 225-0881 / (202) 271-8587

Rep. Dingell and Democratic Colleagues Slam Latest Ethnic Slurs from Conservative Gadfly Ann Coulter

Washington, DC - Led by Representative John D. Dingell (MI-15), the Dean of the House of Representatives, more than twenty Democratic Members of Congress sent a letter today to Robert Duffy, President of Universal Press Syndicate, and the distributor of Ann Coulter's weekly column. The letter demands an apology for the serial anti-Arab bigotry that has run through Ms. Coulter's columns.

In her most recent slur, writing on the Jeff Gannon controversy, Ms. Coulter wrote, "Press passes can't be that hard to come by if the White House allows that old Arab Helen Thomas to sit within yards of the president."

Congressman Dingell said, "Helen Thomas is an esteemed, unbiased journalist who deserves respect for her decades covering both Democratic and Republican Presidents. Ann Coulter and her ilk have done nothing but poison our political discourse with their vile, hate-filled harangues. She is not a journalist, a public-servant, nor an analyst and if not for her venom she couldn't come up with enough words to fill a classified ad, let alone a column."

The Democratic Members of Congress called upon Ms. Coulter's publisher to be more vigilant in rooting out anti-Arab language in its columns.

"Too often, the mainstream media tolerates anti-Arab prejudice in a way that it would not if the same language was directed against African-Americans, Latinos, Asians, or Jews," Dingell said. "Our effort today is aimed at correcting that disturbing practice."

A copy of the letter and the names of the signatories are attached.

###