

Senate Democratic Policy Committee Hearing

“An Oversight Hearing on the Bush Administration’s Plan to Rebuild Iraq’s Hospitals, Clinics and Health Care System: What Went Wrong?”

Witness Biographies

Ali Fadhil

Fulbright Scholar, New York University

Ali Abbas Fadhil is a doctor, reporter, interpreter, and independent filmmaker. Trained as a physician at the Baghdad University College of Medicine, Dr. Fadhil left Iraq in 2001 to practice at a private hospital in Yemen, but returned to Baghdad in June 2003. He soon began working as an interpreter for the *Financial Times*, and left medicine in mid-2004 to pursue a career in journalism.

Dr. Fadhil’s articles on the 2005 battle for Fallujah have appeared in *The Guardian*, *Le monde*, and other newspapers worldwide. He has worked as an interpreter or reporter for a wide range of news outlets, including *The Guardian*, *The New Yorker*, National Public Radio, and the *Financial Times*. Dr. Fadhil has also directed and produced investigative documentaries, including “Iraq’s Missing Billions,” and was named Young Journalist of the Year by the Foreign Press Association in 2005.

Dr. Fadhil is now a Fulbright scholar earning a masters degree in journalism from New York University.

Mary Paterson

Associate Professor, Catholic University School of Nursing

Dr. Mary Paterson is a registered nurse and currently an Associate Professor and Assistant Dean at the School of Nursing at Catholic University. She holds a Master’s Degree in Nursing from Georgetown University and a Ph.D. in Health Services and Policy Analysis from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Paterson has 26 years of experience in the provision of health services, health administration, teaching and academic research, and international health development work.

In addition to her work in inner-city hospitals in Washington, D.C., and with poor populations in rural Florida, Dr. Paterson served in the Army Nurse Corps as a reserve officer, participating in field hospital maneuvers and troop support. As an international health development specialist, Dr. Paterson provided health policy advice and training in roughly 15 countries in the Middle East, Africa, Central Europe and the former Soviet Union. From 1999 to 2001, she served as the Chief of Party for the USAID Egypt Health

Care Reform Project. In 2002 and 2003, she provided technical supervision over a \$100 million portfolio of USAID-funded health projects as an International Health Practice Manager at Abt Associates, Inc. Because of her experience with U.S. and foreign health care systems, knowledge of the Middle East, culturally sensitive approach to health sector reforms, and background in the Army Reserves, in 2003 she was selected to lead the Iraq Health Systems Strengthening Project.

Dr. Richard Garfield

Professor of Nursing, Columbia University

Richard Garfield is a Professor of Nursing and Coordinator of a World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization Nursing Collaborating Center at Columbia University. He is also a Visiting Professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Dr. Garfield has applied his expertise in epidemiology and community health promotion to humanitarian crises around the world. He has assessed the impact of economic embargoes in Cuba, Haiti, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan Iraq, and Liberia, for both national governments and UN organizations.

Dr. Garfield has visited Iraq each year since 1996, to collaborate with UNICEF, the World Food Program, and the Iraqi Ministry of Health. Prior to 2003, he evaluated the quality of mortality studies and created independent estimates of mortality changes, evaluated the overall humanitarian impact of the Oil for Food Program, participated in research on income and living standards in northern Iraq, and pioneered a meta-analysis of nutritional status during the 1990s. Since the 2003 invasion, Dr. Garfield has worked in Iraq for WHO, UNICEF, and the International Medical Corps to assist in reconstruction, manage the reactivation of health services, and prepare the post-Oil for Food UN program. He has collaborated with both the Coalition Provisional Authority and the Iraqi Ministry of Health, and was a member of the Humanitarian Assessment group of the Independent Inquiry Committee into the UN Oil for Food Program.

Hala Al Saraf

Fulbright Scholar, Columbia University

Hala Saraf is a Fulbright scholar of health policy at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University. She is working this summer at World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Prior to commencing her Fulbright studies, Ms. Al Saraf was employed at the World Health Organization (WHO) office in Baghdad, where she administered and coordinated Iraqi human resource development training programs, workshops and fellowships in Iraq, Jordan and elsewhere. Ms. Al Saraf has managed the health program budget for the WHO Baghdad office, developed and implemented fundraising proposals for the rehabilitation of health centers in Iraq, and managed a project on the rehabilitation of primary health care in Iraq funded by the United Nations Development Program.

Ms. Al Saraf holds a degree in English translation from Mustansiriya University in Iraq, a certificate in public health from the University College of London, and a diploma in humanitarian assistance from the Fordham University Center for International Health and Cooperation.