

National Security Working Group
Weekly National Security Working Group Update
Congressman Jim Jordan (R-OH), RSC Chairman
Congressman Trent Franks (R-AZ), NSWG Chairman
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The National Security Working Group (NSWG) is comprised of Trent Franks, 2nd, AZ; Connie Mack, 14th, FL; Duncan Hunter, 52nd, CA and Allen West, 22nd, FL. We look forward to providing RSC members updates on national security issues and matters using this forum. We welcome your inputs.

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Unrest in Middle East: Evidence of the Approaching Mahdi-or Islamic Messiah (Rep Franks)

Iran's President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, has proclaimed the approaching arrival of the twelfth Imam who will spread Islam across the world. Former Revolutionary Guards officer Reza Khalili, who over a decade ago defected to the United States, has obtained a video produced by Ahmadinejad's office dissolving the President's scenario for Muslim world domination. This scenario involves the destruction of Israel, the United States and its allies. Reza Khalili has shared this video that is called *The Coming is Near* with the Christian Broadcasting Network and Newsmax. CBN news reporter Erick Stakelbeck writes, "This video has been produced by a group called the Conductors of the Coming, in connection with the Basiji -- the Iranian paramilitary force, and in collaboration with the Iranian president's office," said Reza Kahlili, a former member of Iran's Revolutionary Guards who shared the video with CBN News. Khalili has made a 28-minute version of the video with English subtitles available on his website. "Just a few weeks ago, Ahmadinejad's office screened this movie with much excitement for the clerics," Kahlili told CBN News. "The target audience is Muslims in the Middle East and around the world." Newsmax news reporter Kenneth Timmerman writes, "The film claims that the Hadith "map" leading up to the reappearance of the Mahdi includes the following way-points: The United States and Western colonial powers will invade Iraq. A revolution will take place in Yemen, and the "first soldiers" of the Mahdi will reach Mecca from Yemen. The people of Egypt "will rise up against their ruler." Jews will re-establish a government in Palestine, and the Muslims will be "separated from one another and be disunited." King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia will die, ushering in a final period of unrest and conflict with Israel that will lead directly to the Mahdi's return." French journalist Michel Taubmann, in his book, "The Bomb and the Koran," reports that Ahmadinejad believes he personally has been chosen by Allah to hasten the return of this Muslim messiah. A nuclear Holocaust is not a political tactic for Ahmadinejad and his regime but a religious prophecy.

NSWG Contact: Drew Nishiyama, Drew.Nishiyama@mail.house.gov or 5-4576 in Rep Franks' office

Global Combat Zone Recognition Act (Rep West)

For too long, America's political and military leadership has failed to properly define the enemy that so brutally attacked us on September 11th, and who we have been at war with for over a decade. The complexities of the 21st Century Battlefield require us to reassess and redefine what specifically constitutes a combat zone.

Our men and women in uniform today face a non-state, non-uniform belligerent who has no regard for international borders or boundaries, to include our homeland. Our fight against radical Islam is not just against

the Taliban in Afghanistan or al Qaida in Iraq, but against a global movement aimed at destroying western civilization as we know it.

It is time to put political correctness aside. We are at war with a radical ideology that has brought the fight to us time and time again. From Fort Hood, Texas, to Little Rock, Arkansas, to Fort Dix, New Jersey, to Frankfurt, Germany, radical Islamists have targeted the men and women of our Armed Forces simply because they were in uniform. Whether in the United States, Europe or the Middle East, any Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Marine killed or wounded in what is truly a global conflict deserves nothing less than to be treated as if they were fighting in Iraq or Afghanistan.

I have introduced legislation that will treat any Member of the Armed Forces who is killed or wounded in a terrorist attack as if he/she was killed or wounded in an active combat zone, retroactive to September 11th, 2001. Titled the Global Combat Zone Recognition Act, H.R. 1142 ensures that the men and women who are targeted specifically because they wear our nation's uniform are treated the same as those who are engaged in combat zones. I urge you to support this effort.

NSWG Contact: Josh Grodin, Josh.Grodin@mail.house.gov, or 5-3026 in Rep West's office

The President's Energy Policy and Threat to National Security (Rep Mack)

As the turmoil in North Africa and the Middle East continues, energy security is becoming a focus of the national security discussion. Reports on Tuesday, April 5, suggest that if unrest spreads to Saudi Arabia, the price of a barrel of crude oil could cost between \$200 - \$300 ppb in our not too distant future. The availability of oil is critical to our national security; America depends on a ready supply to fuel its transportation sector, including its defense and military infrastructure. In a speech at Georgetown last week, the President outlined his plan to reduce dependence on foreign oil. Part of the President's plan includes providing incentives to oil corporations to develop "inactive" oil leases. Despite the encouraging sound bites, a closer look at the so-called "incentives" reveals that the Administration plans on imposing tax penalties on oil companies that are still in the exploration stage of their lease. Department of Interior reports show that only 2.4% of Outer Continental Shelf Lands have been leased. The Administration continues to deny or delay the permitting process, effectively placing a moratorium on U.S. companies from increasing domestic drilling capacity. Instead of this backwards energy policy, President Obama should be offering real incentives for offshore oil drilling in Alaska and the Gulf of Mexico, boosting the Strategic Petroleum Reserves, and increasing energy cooperation with friendly neighbors like Canada in projects like the Keystone XL Pipeline.

NSWG Contact: Kristin Jackson, kristin.jackson@mail.house.gov, or 5-2536 in Rep Mack's office

Unmanned Ground Vehicles (UGV): An essential tool for Counter-IED (Rep Hunter)

In the early 1990's, a request for funding for the Predator UAV(s) in Bosnia was initiated by Congress, not the Pentagon. Today we are facing the same circumstances when it comes to providing funding for an essential Counter-IED (Improvised Explosive Device) tool, the Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV). Its application to the battlefield is as much a common sense solution to IED(s) as UAV(s) are to surveillance. Today in Afghanistan the most common IED is the pressure plate, a detonator that is activated by the weight of a soldier or vehicle. In 2010, IED(s) accounted for over 60% of combat deaths in Afghanistan. As the fight in Afghanistan shifts to one of mainly dismounted patrols through villages, the Taliban have also adjusted their techniques to increase casualties to these patrols by placement of pressure plate IED(s) in and around Afghan villages. A simple, 200 pound UGV robot, at the front of these dismounted patrols, could lead to a significant reduction in casualties to U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan. Yet, just as in the early 1990's in Bosnia, it appears the Congress will have to take the lead in lieu of inaction by the Pentagon on this critical Counter-IED tool.

NSWG Contact: Jimmy Thomas, jimmy.thomas@mail.house.gov, in Rep Hunter's office

Question or comments regarding RSC National Security Working Group items can also be directed to Bruce F. Miller, bruce.miller@mail.house.gov