

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.

- China Building Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) Weapons (Rep Franks)

The Washington Times reported last week that China “is developing electromagnetic pulse weapons that it plans to use against US aircraft carriers in any future conflict over Taiwan.” The findings were part of a declassified intelligence report that was made public. The report provided details on China’s pulse weapons and their intended use. Dubbed the “trump card” or “assassin’s mace,” the EMP weapons are being developed in secrecy. The report detailed “trump card as new low-yield, possibly enhanced, EMP warheads, while assassin’s mace would apply if older warheads are employed.” China would use EMP weapons to attack Taiwan’s infrastructure as well as U.S. carriers if a conflict began in the Taiwan Strait.

The 2005 report discussed China building low-yield EMP weapons, but the report did not confirm if the Chinese have built the weapons. The DF-21 ballistic missile would be the platform for the EMP weapon if China was to attack Taiwan and US forces.

The Washington Times report further confirms China’s rapid military growth and desire to develop weapons that will lead to destabilizing of the region. The 1979 Taiwan Relations Act requires the United States “help maintain peace, security, and stability in the Western Pacific.” Additionally, the Taiwan Relations Act “makes clear that the United States decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People’s Republic of China rests upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means.”

For China to develop EMP weapons and indicate the weapons are designed to be used against Taiwan and US forces will lead to a destabilized Western Pacific. The US must defend Taiwan and its interests. The Obama Administration must make it clear to the Chinese government that any use of EMP weapons will result in swift and overwhelming response by the United States.

The Chinese development of EMP weapons is yet another reason why the US electrical infrastructure must be protected. The affects of electromagnetic pulses are well-documented. The detonation of a nuclear warhead over the US can cripple our electrical infrastructure. The EMP Commission, Departments of Defense, Energy, and Homeland Security, the National Academy of Sciences, FERC, and NASA, all report that the electric infrastructure is highly vulnerable to a man-made or naturally occurring EMP event.

We must immediately move forward to protect our electronic infrastructure from the devastation that could come from EMP. HR 668, the SHIELD Act, must be passed and implemented in order to protect the US electrical infrastructure against any attack from China, North Korea, Iran and terrorists who are committed to killing millions of Americans.

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- Prioritizing Foreign Assistance Strengthens National Security (Rep Mack)

In a time of limited financial resources, we must prioritize a foreign affairs budget that focuses spending on U.S. allies that support U.S. policy and principles. We cannot afford to give away money to governments whose policies threaten our national security. In the July 20th full committee mark up of The Foreign Relations Authorization Act, amendments were made to eliminate foreign aid funds for Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, and Venezuela. The Committee also voted to halt U.S. contributions over the upcoming Fiscal Year 2012 to the Organization of American States (OAS) due to their lack of enforcement of their Democratic Charter, which reaffirms member's commitment to the values of democracy and freedom. The U.S. is currently funding countries that do not support the fundamental principles of freedom, security, and prosperity. Venezuela should be named a State Sponsor of Terrorism because of its prolonged support of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), Hezbollah, the National Liberation Army (ELN), and the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). Argentina is ignoring its international obligations by refusing to recognize U.S. and international judgments in favor of bondholders who are owed more than \$7 billion and costing the U.S. economy tens of billions of dollars. Bolivia, one of the world's largest drug producing countries, has kicked out the U.S. Ambassador and the Drug Enforcement Administration. Ecuador has also kicked out the U.S. Ambassador, while actively limiting freedom of speech, maintaining ties to the FARC, and failing to cooperate with drug eradication or anti-money laundering and terrorism efforts. Nicaragua hosts the largest Iranian embassy in the hemisphere and its leader Daniel Ortega is poised to run for reelection in direct violation of the country's constitution.

The OAS and the countries named above are destabilizing forces that are allowing transnational criminal organizations and narco-terrorist groups to grow in power and threaten the national security of the United States. A positive step can be made by prioritizing funds toward countries that promote democracy and do not undermine our hemisphere's freedom. We must reform our foreign assistance by seeking to foster prosperous relationships based on shared values. Now more than ever, the U.S. needs to actively cultivate and solidify relationships with our allies like Colombia and Panama with who Free Trade Agreements are still pending. Holding rogue states accountable, promoting freedom, security, and prosperity, and prioritizing foreign aid while downsizing our national debt should be goals of U.S. foreign policy. H.R. 1798, the Judgment Evading Foreign States Accountability Act of 2011 (JEFSFA), holds foreign states like Argentina accountable for refusing to satisfy its international financial obligations. H.R. 2542 holds the OAS and its member countries accountable by withholding 20% of U.S. contributions to the OAS for every Permanent Council meeting that does not address Venezuela's anti-democratic actions. H.Res. 247 calls for Venezuela to be a designated a State Sponsor of Terrorism.

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