

RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY REGARDING DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY OFFICE OF INTELLIGENCE AND ANALYSIS INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT TITLED, “RIGHTWING EXTREMISM: CURRENT ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CLIMATE FUELING RESURGENCE IN RADICALIZATION AND RECRUITMENT”

JUNE 4, 2009.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, from the Committee on Homeland Security, submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H. Res. 404]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Homeland Security, to whom was referred the resolution (H. Res. 404) directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit to the House of Representatives, not later than 14 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution, copies of documents relating to the Department of Homeland Security Intelligence Assessment titled, “Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment”, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the resolution as amended be agreed to.

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AMENDMENT

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That the Secretary of Homeland Security is directed to transmit to the House of Representatives, not later than 14 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution, copies of all documents relating to the Department of Homeland Security Office of Intelligence and Analysis Intelligence Assessment titled, “Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment”, including—

- (1) all source materials used in the drafting of that Intelligence Assessment;
- (2) written material reflecting when the research and writing of that Intelligence Assessment began;
- (3) a written description of the clearance process for that Intelligence Assessment and all other Office of Intelligence and Analysis-generated products that were produced for and disseminated to State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies prior to April 20, 2009;
- (4) any written opinions or guidance produced by the Department of Homeland Security Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties for the Office of Intelligence and Analysis on production and dissemination of assessments to State, local, and tribal law enforcement prior to April 20, 2009;
- (5) any written opinions or guidance, produced by the Department of Homeland Security Chief Privacy Officer for the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, on production and dissemination of assessments to State, local, and tribal law enforcement prior to April 20, 2009;
- (6) a written description of the clearance process for that Intelligence Assessment and all other Office of Intelligence and Analysis-generated products produced for and disseminated to State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies since April 20, 2009;
- (7) a written description of what role, if any, the Chief Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties of the Department of Homeland Security has played in the clearance process for Office of Intelligence and Analysis-generated products produced for and disseminated to State, local, and tribal law enforcement since April 20, 2009;
- (8) a written description of what role, if any, the Department of Homeland Security Chief Privacy Officer has served in the clearance process for Office of Intelligence and Analysis-generated products produced for and disseminated to State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies since April 20, 2009;
- (9) a written description of what role, if any, the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the Department has played in the clearance process for Office of Intelligence and Analysis-generated intelligence products produced for and disseminated to State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies since April 20, 2009;
- (10) the schedule of dates, if any, Office of Intelligence and Analysis employees received or will receive privacy and civil liberties training; and
- (11) any other written information on the internal controls on the clearance process for Office of Intelligence and Analysis-generated intelligence products that have been disseminated to State, local, and tribal law enforcement since April 20, 2009.

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

The purpose of H. Res. 404 is to provide for submission to the House of Representatives by the Secretary of Homeland Security of copies of all documents relating to the Department of Homeland Security Intelligence Assessment titled, “Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment”.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

On April 14, 2009, a copy of the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) report “Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment,” was leaked to the media. The Committee believes that the report, as released, raises significant privacy and civil liberties issues for many Americans—including veterans. The Committee understands that the report was distributed on a limited basis to law enforcement and was never intended to be released publicly. H. Res. 404 is a resolution of inquiry into the drafting and release process for this report and any changes to how DHS drafts, clears, and releases products generated by I&A for distribution to State, local, and tribal law enforcement.

H. Res. 404 is a resolution of inquiry, which, pursuant to Clause 7 of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, directs the Committee to act on the resolution within 14 legislative days or a privileged motion to discharge the Committee is in order.

Under the rules and precedents of the House, a resolution of inquiry is one of the methods used by the House to obtain information from the executive branch. According to Volume 7, Chapter 24, Section 8 of Deschler’s Procedure, it is a “simple resolution making a direct request or demand of the President or the head of an executive department to furnish the House of Representatives with specific factual information in the possession of the executive branch.”

HEARINGS

The Committee held no hearings on H. Res. 404.

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

The Committee on Homeland Security considered H. Res. 404 on May 19, 2009, and ordered the measure reported to the House with a favorable recommendation, as amended, by voice vote.

The Committee adopted H. Res. 404, as amended, by voice vote. The following amendment was offered:

An Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute offered by Mr. Thompson (#1); was AGREED TO by voice vote.

COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires the Committee to list the recorded votes on the motion to report legislation and amendments thereto.

No recorded votes were requested during consideration of H. Res. 404.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has held oversight hearings and made findings that are reflected in this report.

NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY, ENTITLEMENT AUTHORITY, AND TAX
EXPENDITURES

Clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives does not apply, as H. Res. 404 does not provide new budgetary authority or increased tax expenditures.

STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives does not apply, as H. Res. 404 does not authorize funding.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, AND LIMITED
TARIFF BENEFITS

In compliance with rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, this bill, as reported, contains no congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of the rule XXI.

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

H. Res. 404 provides no Federal mandates.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act were created by this legislation.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives does not apply, as H. Res. 404 is not a bill or joint resolution.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF THE LEGISLATION

This provision directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit to the House of Representatives, copies of all documents relating to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Intelligence Assessment titled, "Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment" (Assessment) including all information on source material; timelines for the research and writing of this Assessment; the clearance process for the issuance of this Assessment and other products generated by the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis for dissemination to State, local, and tribal law enforcement prior to April 20, 2009; written opinions or guidance provided by the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties for the issuance of this Assessment and other products generated by the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis for dissemination to State, local, and tribal law enforcement prior to April 20, 2009; written opinions or guidance provided by the DHS Chief Privacy Officer for the issuance of this Assessment and other products generated by the

DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis for dissemination to State, local, and tribal law enforcement prior to April 20, 2009; the clearance process involved in issuance of products generated by the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis for dissemination to State, local, and tribal law enforcement since April 20, 2009; the written description of what role the Chief Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties plays in the clearance process for Office of Intelligence and Analysis-generated products for dissemination to State, local, and tribal law enforcement since April 20, 2009; the written description of the role the DHS Chief Privacy Officer plays in the clearance process for Office of Intelligence and Analysis-generated products for dissemination to State, local, and tribal law enforcement since April 20, 2009; written description of the role the DHS Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis plays in the clearance process for Office of Intelligence and Analysis-generated products produced for and disseminated to State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies since April 20, 2009; the schedule of dates that employees of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis have received or will receive privacy and civil liberties training; and other written information on the internal controls and clearance process for DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis-generated products that have been disseminated to State, local, and tribal law enforcement since April 20, 2009.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

H. Res. 404 makes no changes to existing law.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH CORRESPONDENCE

BENNIE G. THOMPSON, MISSISSIPPI
CHAIRMANPETER T. KING, NEW YORK
RANKING MEMBER

One Hundred Eleventh Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20515

April 14, 2009

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Napolitano:

I am writing regarding an April 2009 report generated by the Department's Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) entitled, "Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment". This report appears to raise significant issues involving the privacy and civil liberties of many Americans – including war veterans.

As I am certain you agree, freedom of association and freedom of speech are guaranteed to all Americans – whether a person's beliefs, whatever their political orientation, are "extremist" or not. What the U.S. Constitution does not protect is violent action based on those beliefs. I&A's intelligence mission, therefore, is properly directed to helping State, local and tribal law enforcement prevent terrorism and other violent crimes. Unfortunately, this report appears to have blurred the line between violent belief, which is Constitutionally protected, and violent action, which is not. I am disappointed and surprised that the Department would allow this report to be disseminated to its State, local and tribal partners in its present form.

As you know, the Committee's Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing & Terrorism Risk Assessment recently held a hearing on fusion centers and associated privacy and civil liberties issues. Participants engaged in a rigorous discussion of the facts and myths about how those centers conduct themselves, how they share information about terrorism and other crimes, and the extent to which Constitutional safeguards are built into their daily work. Our Members came away from the hearing confident that the Department's Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties has successfully partnered with I&A to develop and deploy an increasingly effective privacy and civil liberties training program at fusion centers. Given this positive collaboration, I am dumbfounded that I&A released this report.

I am particularly struck by the report's conclusion which states that I&A "will be working with its state and local partners over the next several months to ascertain with greater regional specificity the rise in rightwing extremist activity in the United States, with a particular emphasis on the political, economic, and social factors that drive rightwing extremist radicalization." [emphasis added]. I would like more information about what types of activities I&A intends to undertake in the next few months in this regard.

Additionally, please provide a written description of your clearance process for I&A-generated intelligence products that are to be disseminated to State, local, and tribal law enforcement. In general terms, I would like information on what role, if any, the Chief Privacy Officer and the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties play in the preparation and clearance process for such products. I also would like information on what role, if any, they played with respect to this specific report.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my Chief Counsel, Rosaline Cohen, at 202-226-2616.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bennie G. Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bennie" being more prominent.

Bennie G. Thompson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security

Cc: Peter King
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security

*Secretary*U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528**Homeland
Security**

April 25, 2009

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Thompson:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Department of Homeland Security's recent risk assessment entitled, "Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment." This intelligence product was released earlier this month to our State, local and tribal partners. I appreciate the questions you raised about the assessment, and I am happy to respond.

As you know, the Department of Homeland Security was created in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Preventing future attacks on the homeland, whether by foreign or homegrown terrorists, remains the Department's number one priority. To accomplish this mission, the Department must share accurate, actionable, and timely threat-related information with our State, local and tribal partners so they can take appropriate action to protect their communities.

The assessment at issue was produced by the Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) in the regular course of the Department's information sharing work. Such assessments provide a vital service to state, local, and tribal authorities who often rely on DHS for intelligence and analytical support.

I fully appreciate the concerns raised by you and others about this particular assessment. I&A, as part of its analysis work, does not focus on individuals or groups solely based on their First Amendment-protected associations, beliefs, or speech. Instead, I&A targets criminal behavior that poses a threat to the nation.

Regarding your specific concerns, it's clear that the message in the assessment could have been made more directly and succinctly, and that there was a breakdown in the clearance process before its distribution. I want you to know that we have initiated new controls to ensure that there is more internal review of these products. The level of consultation between I&A and the Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties was inadequate in this process. I am particularly concerned that issues raised by the Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties were not resolved prior to the assessment's release. That

The Honorable Bennie Thompson
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will not happen in the future.

With this reinvigorated privacy and civil liberties process in place, the Department will continue to assess the risks posed by individuals and groups who engage in criminal or violent criminal activity that endangers the homeland, regardless of their ideology.

Those threats are real. The recent addition of the first American to the FBI's list of Most Wanted Terrorists for his role in a string of corporate bombings in California; the arrests in 2007 of citizens who were plotting an attack on Fort Dix; the arrest of a white supremacist in 2002 who had stockpiled enough sodium cyanide in his east Texas home to kill everyone inside a 30,000 square-foot building; and the Oklahoma City bombing are just a few examples of the dangers we face. The Department has a responsibility to prevent these types of attacks. It also has a responsibility to inform our state, local and tribal partners about illegal activity that may be a precursor to terrorism and other violent crime.

The April I&A assessment was intended to provide situational awareness of just these kinds of threats. In response to your request, I have directed my staff to provide information to the Committee about I&A's production and dissemination process, the lack of internal review, and the steps I will be taking to fix the problem.

Thank you again for sharing your concerns with me. I look forward to a successful and productive partnership with the Committee on Homeland Security, and I encourage you to call me if you have any additional concerns.

Yours Very Truly,



Janet Napolitano

Name of Document	Subject	Source	Author	Publisher	Notes	Date
Background						
Tahereh of Hate: Why They Bombed Oklahoma City	Background	Book	Kerry Noble	Voyageur Publishing		Feb-98
Secrets, Plots & Hidden Agendas: What You Don't Know About Conspiracy Theories	Background	Book	Paul T. Coughlin	InterVarsity Press		1999
Intelligence Report	Background	Report	n/a	The Southern Poverty Law Center		Spring 2009
Bornout: Vinlanders Social Club on the Decline	Background	Report/ Article	David Holthouse and Laurie Wood	The Southern Poverty Law Center		Winter 2008
Military						
White Supremacist Recruitment of Military Personnel since 9/11	Military	Report	n/a	Federal Bureau of Investigation		7/7/2008
Richard Poplawski: The Making of a Lone Wolf	Military	Article	n/a	Anti-Defamation League		4/8/2009
Hate Groups Are Infiltrating The Military, Group Asserts	Military	Article	John Kilmer	The New York Times		7/7/2006
A Few Bad Men: Ten years after a scandal over neo-Nazis in the armed forces, extremists are once again warning their way into a recruit-starved military.	Military	Article	David Holthouse	The Southern Poverty Law Center		7/7/2006
Bachus convicted on 13 charges in April shoot-out	Military	Article	George Hasselberg and Lisa Miller	Wisconsin State Journal		2-9-2009
Economy						
Annual Threat Assessment of the Intelligence Community for the Senate	Economy	Report	Dennis C. Blair	Office of the Director of National Intelligence		2/12/2009
Select Committee on Intelligence	Economy	Article	Carris Johnson	Washington Post		1/11/2009
Bad Economy May Fuel Hate Groups, Experts Warn	Economy	Chat room	n/a	n/a		n/a
The Economic Crisis: Who Exactly Is Behind It?	Economy					

Seven Point Seven Trillion and Counting	Economy	Blog	n/a	http://haturnershow.blogspot.com	11/24/2008
Hat Turner Show Blog	Economy	Blog	n/a	http://haturnershow.blogspot.com/2009/02/endgame-this-summer.html	2/24/2009
Hat Turner Show Blog	Economy	Blog	n/a	http://haturnershow.com	n/a
Hat Turner Oil Pricing Poll	Economy	Website Poll	n/a	http://haturnershow.blogspot.com/	11/25/2008
Bloodshed and Death is coming to American Businessmen	Economy	Blog	n/a	http://haturnershow.blogspot.com/	11/19/2008
European Regulators given oversight of U.S. Finances	Economy	Blog	n/a	http://www.adl.org/m-air-interenet/Anti-Semitism_Financial_Crisis.htm	10/24/2008
Financial Crisis Sparks Wave of Internet Anti-Semitism	Economy	Website	n/a	Anti-Defamation League	10/16/2008
Anti-Semitic Conspiracy Theories Spread Globally As World Markets Crumble With Financial Crisis	Economy	Press Release	n/a	http://www.gold-eagle.com/editorials-1/le040109.html	4/2/2009
Major Global Turning Point	Economy	Chat room	n/a	Indiam Milna	10/26/2008
The Bank and Finance Crisis!	Economy	Blog	n/a	www.nsalp.org	n/a
Sond The Jewish Bankers Running Hillary Clinton Gives Away The US!!	Economy	Flyer	n/a		3/1/2009
Thumbs down Hershey Closing Peppermint Patties Plant in Pa. (moving to Mexico)	Economy	Chat room	n/a		
This is NOT a Financial Crisis-This is a GLOBALIZATION CRISIS	Economy	Chat room	n/a		2/21/2009
Does Parental Unemployment Cause Right Wing Extremism?	Economy	Discussion Paper	Thomas Seidler	DIW Berlin	Feb-07
The poverty terror myth	Economy	Article	Carl Murphy	Fortune Magazine	3/13/2007
Poverty 'fueling terrorism'	Economy	Article	n/a	BBC News	3/22/2002
Obama					

White Supremacists and President-Elect Obama: Two Reports	Obama	Report	n/a	Anti-Defamation League	2008
White Supremacists Vent Rage Over Obama's Win Overview	Obama	Article	n/a	Anti-Defamation League	11/8/2008
Two Men Charged With Federal Gun Violations, Third Man Charged With Possession Of Methamphetamine	Obama	Press Release	DOJ Press Release	Department of Justice	8/26/2008
White extremists lash out over election of first black president	Obama	Article	Howard Witt	n/a	11/23/2008
	Obama	Chat room	n/a	http://hatterbloospot.com/2008/11/anti-obama-hate-rises-all-over-usa.html	11/16/2008
OBAMA: "AMERICA NO LONGER A CHRISTIAN NATION"	Obama	Chat room	n/a	http://whiteandia.org/index.php?topic=125.0	6/23/2008
"Kill This Nigger?" Goes To Print	Obama	Press Release	n/a	http://overthrow.com/isr/news.asp?articleID=10980	10/3/2008
Hate Groups Newest Target	Obama	Article	Ell Saslow	Washington Post	6/22/2008
OBAMA WILL DIE	Obama	Chat room	n/a	http://strider333.blogspot.com/kkk_threatens_obama	2/15/2008
Demand Mr. Obama Prove his Eligibility and Citizenship	Obama	Flyer	n/a	National Socialist American Labor Party (NSALP)	
Domestic terrorism activities grow after vote, expert says	Obama	Article	Robert Medley	http://newsok.com/domestic-terrorism-activities-grow-after-vote-expert-says/article3321561	11/13/2008
Man held in Fla. On charge of threatening Obama	Obama	Article	Curt Anderson	Associated Press	
Barack Obama Targeted by Extremists on the Internet	Obama	Article	n/a	Anti-Defamation League	7/18/2008

White supremacists hope Obama win prompts backlash	Obama	Article	Emily Wagner Pettus	Associated Press		8/8/2008
Nigger President	Obama	Chat room	n/a	http://www.idunderground.com/thread.php?threadid=11218		1/27/2008
who do NOT represent but, rather, rule???	Obama	Chat room	n/a			8/29/2008
What if Obama Was Assassinated???	Obama	Chat room	n/a	Vanguard News Network Forum	http://www.vnnforum.com/showthread.php?t=66307	2/9/2008
What if Obama Was Assassinated???	Obama	Chat room	n/a	Vanguard News Network Forum	http://www.vnnforum.com/showthread.php?t=66307	2/10/2008
The Obama Assassination	Obama	Blog	n/a	Overthron.com Blog		8/26/2008
Barak Obama's Change "He Wants Us To Believe In"	Obama	Flyer	n/a	National Socialist American Labor Party (NSALP)	a second flyer behind	n/a
Fight Obama	Obama	Blog	n/a	Stormfront.org		12/22/2008
I Will Kill Obama Nigger	Obama	Blog	n/a	SPLC Blog		1/31/2009
Zay Zeey & Southa Boy Fight (He Talks About It)	Obama	Comment Wall	n/a	YouTube		
Obama's Gun Ban List Is Out	Obama	Blog	n/a	http://www.informars.com/obamas-gun-ban-list-is-out/		3/13/2009
This Will Anger Many	Obama	Google Group	n/a	http://groups.google.com/group/misc.faxe/s/m5q/c48d44e0bb689638		1/31/2009
H.R. 45 Blair Hall's Firearm Licensing and Record of Sale Act of 2009	Obama	Summaries	n/a	http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/111/4581ar-summary	Help Pass The Ammunition Accountability Act is behind	
Feds undercut ammo supply	Obama	Blog	n/a	NSM Yahoo Group		3/18/2009
Sacramento Gunshow	Obama	Blog	n/a	Postings from March and April 2009 http://www.stormfront.org/forum/showthread.php?t=581270		3/15/2009

Immigration

Extremists Declare 'Open Season' on Immigrants: Hispanics Target of Incitement and Violence Overview	Immigration	Article	n/a	Anti-Defamation League	5/23/2006
Ku Klux Klan Rebounds	Immigration	Report	n/a	Anti-Defamation League	2007
Immigration Fervor Fuels Racist Extremism	Immigration	Article	n/a	The Southern Poverty Law Center	5/17/2006
Five in DeKalb militia are denied bail, sixth gets out	Immigration	Article	David Brewer and Press	The Huntsville Times	5/2/2007
Four charged with gun violations	Immigration	Article	Tom Morton	Casper Star Tribune	4/18/2007
Report from the front lines	Immigration	Report	n/a	National Socialist Movement	12/11/2008
Militia / Sov. Cit.					
<i>United States v. Graham</i> , 275 F.3d 490	Militia / Sov. Cit.	Opinion	n/a	Open Jurist	12/17/2001
Obama Wants a secret police	Militia / Sov. Cit.	Blog	n/a	A Well Regulated Militia	10/14/2008
Second American Revolution Victory Guide	Militia / Sov. Cit.	Blog	n/a	A Well Regulated Militia	11/29/2007
Southern California Militia	Militia / Sov. Cit.	Blog	n/a	White Revolution	Aug-08
Friend says 2 accused in Woodburn bombing talked of robbing bank for years	Militia / Sov. Cit.	Article	Helen Jung	The Oregonian	2/27/2009
<i>United States v. Wolff</i>	Militia / Sov. Cit.	Penalty Summary	n/a		8/21/2008
Dead Body, Suspicious Materials Found in Grafton Home-West Virginia	Militia / Sov. Cit.	Article	n/a	http://www.wdvtv.com/news/local/26391259.html	8/8/2008
Lost Soldier Driven By Faith In The Militia Movement, Bill Gleason Found His Cause, And Died For It.	Militia / Sov. Cit.	Article	David McHugh	Detroit Free Press	2/19/1997

ADDITIONAL, MINORITY, AND DISSENTING VIEWS

REPUBLICAN MEMBER VIEWS

Committee Report to Accompany H. Res. 404, a Resolution of Inquiry “Directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit to the House of Representatives, not later than 14 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution, copies of documents relating to the Department of Homeland Security Intelligence Assessment titled, ‘Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment’.”

INTRODUCTION

The Republican Members of the Committee on Homeland Security (“Committee”) are pleased that the Committee reported favorably (as amended) to the full House H. Res. 404, the Resolution of Inquiry. We appreciate this nearly unprecedented display of cooperation on a Resolution of Inquiry, and we commend the Majority for their support.

BACKGROUND

On April 14, 2009, media reports described an “assessment” issued by the Department of Homeland Security entitled, “Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment.” The release of this report raised serious concerns across the country about its depiction of military veterans as recruits for terrorists, as well as its overly broad characterizations of those who oppose gun control, free trade agreements, abortion, and same-sex marriage.

It is critical the Committee conduct a bipartisan inquiry into the process within the Department of Homeland Security that led to the development and release of the report, as well as what steps have been taken to ensure a similar intra-departmental breakdown does not occur again. Therefore, Committee Republicans, joined by the House Republican Leadership, introduced the Resolution of Inquiry because of the seriousness of the issue and the need for answers.

The Chairman’s Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute reflects and builds on the provisions included in H. Res. 404. According to a parliamentary expert at the Congressional Research Service, it is “nearly unprecedented” that a resolution of inquiry is amended during the markup process. Rather, most such resolutions are reported with a negative recommendation by the Majority—regardless of which party is in power.

The Chairman’s Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute recognizes the merits of H. Res. 404 and aims to address the serious

issues raised by the Department's "Rightwing Extremism" report. The Resolution of Inquiry, as amended, is comprehensive and will allow the committee to conduct bipartisan oversight on this issue. As the Chairman stated during the markup, the resolution requires that the Secretary transmit all written documents, including e-mails, related to the production and dissemination of this report. The Resolution, as amended, further requires that the Secretary transmit these documents to the House of Representatives within 14 days after the date the resolution is adopted.

We believe that this is the only way to fully explore how this report was created and what new procedures are in place to ensure that a similar breakdown does not happen again. We, therefore, thank the Majority for their bipartisan support in favorably reporting this critical resolution, and we look forward to working with the Majority to ensure that this resolution is considered by the full House and the Department fully complies with its provisions.

PETER T. KING,
Ranking Member.
 MARK SOUDER.
 MIKE ROGERS.
 CHARLES W. DENT.
 PAUL C. BROWN.
 PETE OLSON.
 STEVE AUSTRIA.
 LAMAR SMITH.
 DANIEL E. LUNGREN.
 MICHAEL T. MCCAUL.
 GUS M. BILIRAKIS.
 CANDICE S. MILLER.
 ANH "JOSEPH" CAO.

○