

AMENDMENT NO. 1216

SEC. . STRENGTHENING SECURITY AT NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) A taped interview shown on al-Jazeera television on September 10, 2002, included a statement that al Qaeda initially planned to include a nuclear power plant in its 2001 attacks on the United States.

(2) In 2001, David Kyd of the International Atomic Energy Agency said that if a fully fueled large jetliner hit a nuclear reactor “then the containment could be breached and the cooling system of the reactor could be impaired to the point where radioactivity might well be set free.”

(3) Dr. Edwin Lyman, a physicist and former scientific director of the Nuclear Control Institute has noted that if a nuclear power plant were hit by a large commercial passenger jet, “significant release of radiation into the environment is a very real one.”

(4) Operating nuclear reactors contain large amounts of radioactive fission products that, if dispersed, could pose a direct radiation hazard, contaminate soil and vegetation, and be ingested by humans and animals.

(5) According to the organization Three Mile Island Alert, a nuclear power plant houses more than 1,000 times the radiation that would be released in an atomic bomb blast, and the magnitude of a single terrorist attack on a nuclear power plant could cause over 100,000 deaths.

(6) The federal government has offered Governors potassium iodide pills to distribute to people living near nuclear power plants in case of an attack, but no legislation has passed to protect against an attack in the first place.

(7) In the 108th Congress, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee approved bipartisan legislation to improve nuclear plant security. No action was taken by the full Senate.

(8) Last month, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee again approved bipartisan legislation to improve nuclear plant security.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the Congress should pass legislation to assess terrorist threats at each nuclear power plant and to establish new federal standards to protect against those threats.

AMENDMENT NO. 1217

(Purpose: To provide funding for interoperable communications equipment grants)

On page 77, line 18, strike “\$2,694,300,000” and insert “7,694,300,000”.

On page 79, line 22, strike the colon and insert a period.

On page 79, between lines 22 and 23, insert the following:

(7) \$5,000,000,000 for interoperable communications equipment grants: *Provided*, That such amount is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 402 of H. Con. Res. 95 (109th Congress):

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent there now be a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to explain to the Senate my absence during yesterday’s vote on S.

Res. 193, expressing sympathy for the people of the United Kingdom.

On Sunday, the Florida panhandle was struck by Hurricane Dennis, a category 3 storm. Last September, Hurricane Ivan also hit the same area causing extensive damage from which many had not yet fully recovered. I went to the area yesterday to survey the damage and meet with constituents affected by the disaster. I was able to visit the emergency operations center in three of the counties affected by Dennis.

Had I been present, I would have voted aye on the resolution. Because I was unable to vote my strong support for the resolution, I would like to express my thoughts at this time. We as Americans have close ties to Great Britain; and, extend to the British people our deepest sympathies as they cope with their losses. In response to these barbaric attacks, the United States and the community of free nations must unite with an even greater resolve to defeat those who seek to destroy liberty by slaughtering innocent civilians.

HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROGER C. SCHULTZ

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my congratulations and gratitude to an extraordinary Iowan. LTG Roger C. Schultz is stepping down from his distinguished position as Director of the Army National Guard for the National Guard Bureau. He assumed this position in 1998 and has served for 7 years, the longest anyone has held this title. I would like to take this opportunity to show Lieutenant General Schultz the appreciation that the country, the State of Iowa, and myself personally, have for his extensive commitment to the Army National Guard. He joined the Iowa Army National Guard in 1963, and from there he began a career that lasted 42 years.

Lieutenant General Schultz has had an extensive career. In his most recent position as director, he was responsible for the formulation, development, and implementation of all programs and policies affecting the Army National Guard. Previously, he served as Deputy Director for Military Support on the Department of the Army Staff, where he was responsible for coordinating all Department of Defense military support to civilian authorities, which included disaster relief. While stationed with the Iowa Army National Guard, he was in Command of the 2nd Brigade, 34th Division and served as the Army Guard Chief of Staff and Deputy Adjutant General. General Schultz also received several awards and recognitions for his exemplary service. He is honored with the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star, Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, Department of the Army Staff Badge, Army Superior Unit Award, Humanitarian Service Award,

the Combat Infantry Badge for service in the Republic of Vietnam, and many others.

General Schultz was born in LeMars, IA and enlisted when he was 18 years old. He was a student at officer candidate school at the Iowa Military Academy. Following these studies, he was commissioned in 1967 as an infantry officer. Shortly thereafter, he was sent to serve his country in the Republic of Vietnam with the 25th Infantry Division. During his several assignments, he also earned a bachelor’s degree in management from Upper Iowa University and a Masters degree in public administration from Shippensburg State University in Pennsylvania. He also attended Army War College.

I share my appreciation for the general with not only his neighbors in the State of Iowa but the entire country. He has proven himself to be versatile and fully capable of accepting and mastering the tasks placed before him. His enduring commitment to the safety of Americans is cause for admiration.

Again, I offer my congratulations and sincere appreciation to LTG Roger Schultz for his remarkable achievements in the Army National Guard. He has continually provided an invaluable service to his country and I thank him for his dedication and devotion to Iowa and to America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS**COMMENDING JOE KELLY McCUTCHEM**

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I am very pleased to rise and commend Mr. Joe Kelly McCutchen of Ellijay GA for his selection as outstanding alumni for the living history program of Georgia Tech.

Georgia Tech could not have made a better decision. Joe McCutchen is a living role model for community involvement, excellence in action, and sharing the American dream. His selection places him in the company of great Georgians like medal of honor winner General Raymond Davis, former President Jimmy Carter, astronaut Jan Davis, former Lockheed president Robert Ormsby, and Federal judge Marvin Shoob.

No one in northwest Georgia has had a greater positive effect on the young people than Joe. He constantly engages with young people to inspire them to excellence. He teaches the promise of free enterprise, and power of the American dream.

Joe McCutchen is also Georgia’s leading advocate for lower taxes and sound fiscal policy in government. He and his friend Oscar Poole travel to Washington often to present their Taxpayer Champion Award, and there is not a credible radio or television public policy call in show in the United States on which Joe has not participated.

Joe McCutchen has lived the American dream and commits his life to

sharing its promise with others. Georgia Tech is to be commended for its living history program and its selection of Joe McCutchen.●

IRAQ TRIP REPORT

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, during the July 4th recess, I traveled to Iraq and Jordan to evaluate the progress of Operation Iraqi Freedom. I ask unanimous consent that the full text of my trip report be entered into the RECORD at this point.

I spent two days—July 5 and 6—in Iraq and the morning of July 7 in Jordan. I believe mine was the first Congressional delegation to overnight in Iraq since the start of the war. It was also my fifth post-war trip to Iraq.

In Iraq, I spent a day and a half in Baghdad meeting with U.S. Embassy and military personnel and with Members of the Government of Iraq, including the President and Prime Minister. Additionally, I met with numerous Sunni Arabs, including officials of the Government, a member of the Iraqi National Assembly, and representatives of political groups, including some who had just been added to the Assembly's constitutional drafting committee. I also met with the Chairman of the constitutional drafting committee and the UN Special Representative, whose staff is advising on the drafting of the constitution.

I spent the remainder of the second day in Iraq in Fallujah in the Sunni Triangle, where I was able to meet with a number of U.S. servicemen and women, and was privileged to have dinner with ten Marine Corps and Navy personnel from Michigan.

Once again, I was deeply impressed by the dedication and professionalism of our servicemen and women and with their very high morale. I told them that the Congress and the American people are proud of them and back them one hundred percent, regardless of differing positions on the Administration's policies.

One purpose of my trip was to gauge the level of the insurgency. I found strong support for the recent assessment of General Abizaid, the regional U.S. Commander, that the insurgency is not weakening and that the flow of foreign jihadists into Iraq has increased. I found no support for Vice President Cheney's view that the insurgency is in its "last throes."

Another purpose of my trip was to assess the current and potential level of participation of the Sunni Arabs in the political and constitutional drafting processes, including the likelihood that the Iraqi constitution would be completed by August 15th (and therefore not needing to utilize the one six month extension allowed under Iraqi law). I was surprised by the optimism of most Iraqis that the constitution would be agreed by August 15th and particularly that the Sunni Arab participants (recently increased by 15) would likely be supportive of the draft. If that is true, that will pave the way for a referendum on the draft constitution on October 15th and a national election on December 15th.

If this optimism is not borne out, however, a way must be found to bring pressure to bear on the parties to make the reasonable compromises that will be required for agreement on the constitution. Everyone whom I met on this trip advised that none of the Iraqis—not just Shia and Kurd, but also Sunni Arab—want U.S. forces to leave now. They want our forces to be less visible and Iraqi security forces to be more visible, but they want us to stay for now.

Given that fact and given the consensus that a political solution is necessary if there is any prospect of defeating the insurgency, we need to make clear to the Iraqis that if they are unable to reach agreement on the constitution, we will reconsider our presence in Iraq and that all options will be on the table, including withdrawal. (The logic of that position is that if a political settlement is essential if there is a chance of lessening the insurgency, that without a political settlement the insurgency is not going to be defeated even with our presence.)

I focused on meeting with members of the Sunni Arab community, as I believe they are the key to a successful political process in Iraq. Most of them realize it was a mistake for them not to have participated in the January elections and they want to participate in the drafting of a constitution and in the follow-on elections. At the same time, the so-called former regime element that is fueling the insurgency in an attempt to block a political settlement comes from the Sunni Arab community, and too many members of that community sympathize with and provide support for the insurgents.

There are a number of issues that will need to be resolved if a draft constitution is to be agreed upon by August 15th. These include the role of Islam; the form of the government (i.e. parliamentary or presidential); the relationship between the national government and the provinces and the degree to which natural resources will belong to the provinces or the national government; and the degree of autonomy that will reside in the regions. Since the oil resources of Iraq are located in the Shia south and the Kurdish north, these are issues that are extremely important to the Sunni Arabs, whose area lacks oil resources.

The decision of the National Assembly to accept 15 Sunni Arabs as members of the constitutional drafting committee, despite the Sunni Arabs lack of participation in the election, hopefully augurs well for the kind of compromises that will need to be made by all three of the main political factions for a draft constitution to be reached.

Although the successful drafting of a constitution, with the active participation of the Sunni Arab community, is very important and may help create an environment within which the insurgency can be dramatically reduced, it will not automatically achieve that result. The Sunni Arabs with whom we met, although from different groups, complained of the extended detention of their brethren, the perceived focus of raids by Coalition and Iraqi security forces on their community, the forced unemployment of hundreds of thousands of Sunni Arabs fired in the de-Baathification process and denied the pensions to which they contributed. They expressed a preference for the U.S. military to leave the cities and to locate on bases removed from populated areas, and the need for at least a rough estimate as to when Coalition forces will be withdrawn.

I explored in depth the training and equipping of Iraqi security forces. It is clear that a great deal of time was wasted during the existence of the Coalition Provisional Authority or CPA. While it appears that progress is being made now, it is moving slowly and will take quite some time before Iraqis will be capable of dealing with the insurgency on their own.

In his recent speech to the nation on Iraq, President Bush said, with respect to the training and equipping of Iraqi security forces, that "as Iraqis stand up, we will stand down." General Casey, the overall commander on the ground in Iraq, acknowledged to me that he is working on a plan whereby units of the Iraqi security forces would first partner with Coalition military

units and gradually take the lead in military operations, then will assume control in selected provinces, and gradually assume control more broadly until they ultimately can control the entire country. Part of that plan provides for Coalition forces to be reduced as Iraqi security forces become more and more capable.

I also spoke to General Casey and to Iraqi officials about the need for greater progress in the review of Iraqis detained by Coalition or Iraqi forces and the need to either release or try them. While some progress has been made in this area, it has been too slow in coming and much more must be done and done quickly.

In Jordan, I was pleased to be able to meet with King Abdullah. King Abdullah had just finished presiding over the closing session of a three day International Islamic Conference that he had organized. This visionary and critically important Conference was attended by top Muslim authorities from around the globe. It was aimed at finding common principles among various Muslim schools of thought and isolating and delegitimizing those who preach violence in the name of Islam.

Two things need to happen within the next 40 days to improve chances of a successful outcome in Iraq.

A draft of the Iraqi constitution needs to be agreed and sent to the National Assembly by the constitutional committee no later than August 15—the timetable the Iraqis have set for themselves. All of the people with whom I spoke—whether Sunni, Shia, or Kurd—agree that that date should and can be met.

There also needs to be a more detailed road map for drawing down U.S. forces. General Casey, commander of the multi-national forces in Iraq, has said that it should be possible for a fairly significant reduction in U.S. force levels in the first few months of next year. But what is so far missing are the decision criteria for determining when that reduction can begin so that presidential rhetoric and statements of intent are turned into a credible and reassuring roadmap for Iraqis taking ownership of the risks and responsibility for their own security and survival.

After much prodding by Congress, the Administration has finally created and implemented a capability assessment system for determining the readiness of Iraqi military and police units to conduct counter-insurgency operations—whether alongside of Coalition units, or in the lead but with Coalition support, or independently. Now there must be a detailed plan, mutually agreed to by the Coalition and Iraqis, with measurable benchmarks to determine progress, and with a reasonable estimate of the time required to reach those benchmarks. Only in this way can we know the approximate number of Iraqi units that need to be capable of counterinsurgency operations so that coalition units can first withdraw from cities and other visible locations and begin a withdrawal from the country as a whole.

It is essential that such a plan be promptly agreed to and implemented, and its outline publicly announced, so as to provide reassurance to the American public which is expressing growing concern about simply being told we need to "stay the course" in Iraq, and to the Iraqi public which needs to see that U.S. forces will not be in their country indefinitely. Both publics must see that the President's statement that "as the Iraqis stand up, we will stand down" is not just a bumper sticker slogan.

Secretary Rice has said that we will be in Iraq as long as we are needed. Without adopting and implementing a measured and credible plan, coalition forces could be "needed" for an indeterminate time. Without such a plan, Iraqis may never assume the