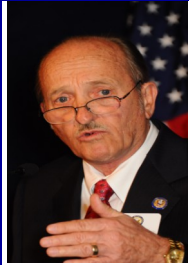




# American Security Council Foundation National Security Report “Peace through Strength®”

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2011



## President's Corner

Dr. Henry A. Fischer  
President & CEO

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our military establishment for the daring raid on Osama Bin Laden's secret hide-away in Abbotabad, Pakistan. The skill and efficiency shown by our Special Operations community, is a reflection of what our military forces are capable of and should be commended for—time and time again. “You can run....but you can't hide from us forever”, could be a phrase synonymous with our “Quiet Professionals”.

Meanwhile back at home, gas is still over \$4 a gallon. As we remain dependent on oil from the Middle East, oil prices for this fall only mean higher prices for the American consumer at the pump....I hope that \$5 to \$7 is not in the future. Our Project Energy Independence will solve the Nation's energy import problem by using our vast, abundant and local energy reserves of shale gas, shale oil and nuclear energy and turn it into an energy export solution.

The missile defense systems in the United States have run into the Administration's large-scale cuts in FY 2010 and the proposed budgets FY 2011 and FY 2012 will not make up lost ground. Similarly, the Administration has cancelled or curtailed promising missile defense programs and joint projects with U.S. allies, including the Airborne Laser and the “third site” missile defense system in Poland the Czech Republic. Coupled with the Senate consented ratification of the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) with Russia, which imposes sweeping restrictions on U. S. missile defense options; it appears that the Administration is seriously misreading

**President's Corner Continued on page 6**

## Members of Congress Recognized at 2011 “Peace through Strength®” Leadership Awards



Mark Renehan, Robert D. Johnson, Gen. Frederick Kroesen (ASCF First Vice President), Brig. Gen. Donald B. Smith (ASCF Chairman), Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Dr. Henry A. Fischer (ASCF President), Hon. Bill McCollum, H. Daniels Corrigan and Betsy Fischer

The American Security Council Foundation hosted the 2011 Peace through Strength® Leadership Awards on March 10, 2011 in the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C. The awards are presented annually to members of Congress whose efforts have, in the words of ASCF Chairman Brigadier General Don Smith (USA, ret.), “provided vision and leadership and have epitomized the principles of the American Security Council Foundation in helping keep the United States of America free and strong.”

A bipartisan group of five Senators and thirteen members of the House of Representatives received awards:

The International Security Leadership Award was presented to Senator Ben Nelson (D- Nebraska).

The Peace through Strength® Leadership Award for National Defense was presented to Senator Jon Kyl (R - Arizona).

The Peace through Strength® Leadership Award for Energy Independence was presented to Senator Orrin Hatch (R - Utah).

The Peace through Strength® Leadership Award for Foreign Relations was presented to Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R - Florida).

The Peace through Strength® Leadership Award for the Security of The Western Hemisphere was presented to Congressman Connie Mack (R-Fl).

**Leadership Awards Continued on page 2**

## Recognizing a Wounded Warrior

*By Gary James - ASCF Director of Operations*



On Friday March 11, 2011, board members of the American Security Council Foundation presented a plaque to Lance Corporal John Curtin, U.S. Marine Corps, in recognition of his selfless service to the United States of America. The event took place at Walter Reed Army Medical Center where LCPL Curtin is recovering from serious wounds received in Afghanistan in February 2011.

The plaque was presented "in appreciation for your sacrifice and selfless service to the United States of America which epitomize the motto of the American Security Council Foundation, 'Peace Through Strength®.'"

The plaque was presented by ASCF Chairman Brigadier General Donald B. Smith (USA, ret.), ASCF President and CEO Dr. Henry A. Fischer, ASCF Director Mark Renehan, Senior Advisory Board Member Xavier Piedra, Director of Operations Gary James, Dr. Joseph Crawford and Kevin Crawford.

"There are times when freedom isn't free," Gen. Smith said on presenting the award. "We have to fight to defend our way of life, and this can unfortunately cost blood sweat and tears." He said that LCPL Curtin was "a Marine and an American hero. Take that from an Army guy." Gen. Smith also presented a letter from New York State Senator Gregory R. Ball, who represents LCPL Curtin's home town. The Senator thanked LCPL Curtin for his courageous service to the United States.

Corporal Curtin's mother Mary Ann and his brother Ben were in attendance.

Please follow links below for additional information on LCPL Curtin.

[www.youtube.com/ascfusaorg#p/a/f/0/1Us01p6Wfn8](http://www.youtube.com/ascfusaorg#p/a/f/0/1Us01p6Wfn8)

[www.marinejohngcurtin.com](http://www.marinejohngcurtin.com)



## Leadership Awards Continued from page 1



Also receiving awards were Congressional Advisory Board Members Cong. Marsha Blackburn (TN), Cong. Tom Latham (IA), Cong. Joseph R. Pitts (PA), Cong. Bill Posey (FL).

Receiving awards but not in attendance were Senator Roy Blunt (MO), - Cong. Dan Burton (IN), Cong. Jo Ann Emerson (MO), Cong. Donald A. Manzullo (IL), Cong. Howard P. McKeon (CA), Cong. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA), Cong. Michael C. Burgess MD (TX). Cong. Eric Cantor (VA), Cong. Fred Upton (MI).

Previous recipients of the International Security Leadership Award include former Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, and

former Senators Howard Baker (R-TN), Sam Nunn (D-GA) and Robert Dole (R-KS).

Also attending the event were Cong. Nan Hayworth (NY), Cong. Rich Nugent (FL), Mr. Dale Ormond representing LTG Caslen (Commander Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth KS), Dr. John Lenczowski President of Institute for World Politics, Mr. Tommy Sears, Executive Director for The Center for Military Readiness, Dr. Joseph Crawford and Mr. Kevin Crawford. Ms. Jessica Watson, who could not attend, was recognized for her outstanding support of the American Security Council Foundation.

Photo: Mr. Mark Renehan, Mr. Xavier Piedra, Hon. David Nolte, Senator Ben Nelson (D-NE), Mr. Gary James, Brig. Gen. Donald B. Smith (ASCF Chairman) and Dr. Henry A. Fischer (ASCF President)



## "U.S. Strategy in the Post bin Laden World"

*By Dr. James S. Robbins*

On May 1 U.S. special operations forces killed Osama bin Laden, ending an almost decade long man-hunt and delivering justice for al Qaeda's victims. And while bin Laden's death does not end the terrorist threat; it does present opportunity for policymakers to reorder America's national security priorities to cope with a variety of emerging threats.

The takedown of America's public enemy number one vindicated the war on terrorism framework established by President George W. Bush after the September 11, 2001 attacks and continued in large measure by his successor. Bin Laden's demise was a long time coming, but it arrived the way it had been expected, with a lucky intelligence break leading to a quick tactical solution.

Terrorism will not end with bin Laden. Low intensity political violence is as old as history, and will continue to be the weapon of choice for violent extremists. Al Qaeda will attempt to adapt to a new world without its founder, though it faces a number of potentially fatal pressures, such as internal factional tensions, the disruption of funding networks that were known only to bin Laden, and U.S. exploitation of the treasure trove of information captured in Abbottabad. Al Qaeda may evolve into a new type of threat under new leadership, but the group as it once was has ceased to be.



The threat posed by radical Islam beyond al Qaeda has also not been defeated. The ongoing political disturbances in the Middle East have presented Islamist groups with unprecedented opportunities to further their political agenda and perhaps even take power in countries like Egypt and Tunisia. This would present significant challenges to U.S. policy and strategy in the region.

However, larger strategic issues are looming. While the United States spent most of the last decade focused on the threat of terrorism, new challenges emerged. China is using its economic growth to underwrite military modernization and an energetic space program. Russia, buoyed by high energy and gold prices, is wielding renewed global influence, often at the expense of the United States. Iran is translating oil profits into continuing its drive for regional hegemony in the Middle East and, despite recent setbacks caused by the stuxnet computer virus, pursuing nuclear weapons capability. Venezuela, also awash in oil money, is forging strategic alliances with Iran and China, continuing to build up the anti-U.S. Bolivarian alliance in Latin America, and has suggested that it may pursue nuclear capabilities as well.

Energy is at the center of many of these state-based strategic issues. Oil profits have long funded terrorism and the export of radical Islam; energy is now financing rising conventional strategic challenges. Yet the United States has failed to integrate energy policy into its national security strategy with a view towards increasing energy independence, lowering global energy prices and reducing the amount of surplus wealth available to energy-based rogue states to pursue policies that are harmful to U.S. interests.



With Osama bin Laden dead and the al Qaeda network severely disrupted, it is a good time to review U.S. global strategy in order to begin to counter the new rising conventional and nuclear threats, and to attack the energy-based centers of gravity that have created these new challenges.

The 9/11 commission said that America's greatest weakness leading up to the attacks was a failure of imagination. Without a new strategic framework for the post-bin Laden world, the United States is liable to fail that test again, with greater consequences.

## Saving the United States Economy

By Dr. Henry A. Fischer

It's no secret that America has an addiction to foreign oil—and lives on foreign oil purchased at a rate of more than a billion dollars each day, the addiction threatens our economy, our environment and our national security. With over \$337 billion spent on foreign oil in 2010 and trending in 2011 to \$384 billion, these purchases amount to almost \$650,000 per minute—dollars that are not being recycled in our economy and helping to reduce the deficit.

The United States should integrate energy into its geostrategic understanding of the world, and begin to shift foreign purchase away from unstable regions such as the Middle East. Emphasis on domestic production of oil, natural gas and alternative energies would increase America's energy independence, create jobs, and potentially create new export markets among rising energy consumers such as China.

An aggressive policy of developing and securing affordable, abundant energy must be at the heart of our strategy. China, Russia, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, Venezuela, and Nigeria are among the world's rising energy powers. Each has aggressive energy production as a key element of its national strategy. Each is establishing stronger electric grids but, more importantly, aggressively establishing itself as a rising global source of conventional and unconventional oil.

Furthermore, the more money that adversary states acquire from foreign energy purchases, the more is available to underwrite threatening activities such as support for regional and global terrorism, conventional arms buildups, and nuclear proliferation. This is an enduring pattern; the United States has sent uncounted billions of dollars into the Mideast region that have converted them into weapons of mass destruction programs, globally networked terrorist groups, and a hostile internationally promoted anti-Western ideology. The flow of dollars abroad has also allowed foreign countries to buy up U. S. debt and weakened the dollar as a unit of international currency.

## Natural Gas Vehicles Took the Hill



Not even a few April showers could keep NGVs from taking the Hill last month. Vehicles powered by American natural gas came from all across the country to demonstrate to policy makers, the media, and the public that natural gas as a vehicle fuel is a here and now technology.

Energy expert and entrepreneur T. Boone Pickens spent the morning speaking with reporters and event attendees alike, answering some big questions about ways in which we can jump-start the use of natural gas fuel in the U.S. "It's a national security issue more than anything else," said Rep. Sullivan at the event. "But it is also about the environment, the economy and American jobs."

Each vehicle, from sedan to school bus, was accompanied by a representative who was available during the event to answer questions and speak to attendees on a one-on-one basis about the benefits of natural gas. Whether it was a truck driver, the CEO of a major corporation, or a small business owner, the participants all had the same message—natural gas is a clean and cost-effective way to run their vehicles.

The "New Alternative Transportation to Give Americans Solutions" (NAT GAS) Act (HR 1380)—sponsored by Congressman John Sullivan (R-OK), Dan Boren (D-OK), John Larson (D-CT) and Kevin Brady (R-TX)—was recently highlighted by President Obama as a bipartisan solution when addressing our future energy needs. Since it was introduced on April 6, it has gained the support of 179 cosponsors.

Participating companies included Ryder Systems, Inc.; Dillon Transport, Inc.; The Vehicle Production Group, LLC; IMPCO Automotive; Unity Disposal & Recycling, LLC; BAF Technologies; Washington Gas; Westport Innovations; Navistar; and the Lower Merion County school district of Pennsylvania.

To see entire article go to: <http://www.ngvc.org>



## Shale Gas and Shale Oil - A New Frontier

By Dr. Henry A. Fischer



The revolution of shale oil and natural-gas has arrived, moreover, at a moment when rising oil prices, sparked by turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa, and the nuclear crisis in Japan have raised anxieties about energy security.

Shale oil production, with the use of hydraulic fracturing (known as “fracking”), has changed the energy equation for energy production. Shale formations are found in Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, Utah, Colorado and Wyoming. The formations in Pennsylvania, New York and West Virginia are called the “Mighty Marcellus” whereas the “Rocky Mountain Energy Corridor” is made up of Utah, Colorado and Wyoming.

Recoverable oil reserves in the Rocky Mountain Corridor alone amount to 800 billion barrels or more—currently the proven world oil reserves are roughly 1.2 trillion barrels.

The lion’s share of the world’s oil shale sits in the United States, mostly on our federal lands in regions already active in energy development. The Rocky Mountain Energy Corridor extending from Alberta down through New Mexico contains more recoverable energy in oil shale, oil sands, coal, coal-to-liquids, and natural gas than the entire world’s fossil fuel reserves a few times over. Energy resources in the Rocky Mountain Energy corridor give North America the choice of becoming the next global energy power.

In the future EPA actions should be judged against their negative impact on national security, perhaps through mandatory “energy impact study” oversight provisions. As Congressman Fred Upton (R-MI) states “When we see regulations run amok, threatening to drive jobs overseas and make energy cost more, we have a duty to change course and stop the reckless bureaucratic rulemaking”.

Meanwhile, a new type of fracturing process is appearing on the market called “LPG fracturing”. This unique process utilizes gelled LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) in the fracturing process, instead of water. The result is significant savings on material handling expenses and fracture cleanup, while also offering increased well productivity. The gelled LPG used in the fracturing process has the ability to generate the necessary fracture system, and carry the proppant (sand) through the wellbore and into the oil and gas reservoir being stimulated without the use of water or harmful chemicals. Virtually 100% of the LPG used to fracture the shale can be recovered; whereas, utilization of water leaves approximately 60% of the water below ground. This process was first tested in 2008.

Concerns have been raised about the possibility that hydraulic fracturing could contaminate the aquifers that supply drinking water. But “hydraulic fracturing” occurs below drinking-water aquifers, separated by a mile or more of impenetrable rock. The extraction of oil and gas is a highly regulated activity by the individual states and the EPA, either under the “Clean Water Act” or the “Safe Drinking Water Act”.

The industry, for its part, points to a long safety record, where some form of “hydraulic fracturing” has been used in more than a million wells in the last 60 years. The known reserves of shale gas are estimated to be more than a 100-year supply.

T. Boone Pickens, has invested over \$80 million promoting his plan of developing and utilizing multiple energy sources including natural gas. While Mr. Pickens originally announced his energy policy in 2008, he now has over one million supporters. One example of executing Mr. Pickens’ plan is AT & T’s conversion of over 8,000 vehicles to CNG (compressed natural gas) in 2009, at an anticipated cost of \$350 million--this move is expected to save 49 million gallons of gasoline in the first 10 years and create or save approximately 1,000 jobs per year over the first five years of the initiative.

The new alternative transportation to give Americans solutions (NAT GAS) Act HR 1380 sponsored by Cong. John Sullivan (R-OK), Dan Boren (D-OK), John Larson (D-CT) and Kevin Brady (R-TX) was introduced to Congress on April 6, 2011 and it has gained the support of over 170 co-sponsors.

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the situation, both domestically and internationally. The loss of our Space Program will leave us weak and vulnerable by attempting to rely on Cold War deterrence, which is inadequate in a world of proliferation of missile technology and weapons of mass destruction. Congress needs to put the overall missile defense program back on track and enact into law a U.S. "protect and defend strategy". Congress should begin by adding \$850 million to the President's proposed missile defense budget for FY 2012 to fund the necessary changes and protect U. S. citizens.

In the Western Hemisphere, the Columbia Free Trade Agreement has been stopped due to pressure put on Congress by major labor unions — leaving our number one ally in Latin America to suffer to Chinese and Iranian infiltration. This legislation definitely needs our attention as a lack of a trade agreement can haunt us forever if others take our place at the table.

Speaking of "hot air", the President recently went to the U.S.-Mexican border (El Paso, TX) to spell out his plans to overhaul the nation's immigration laws. He is currently arguing that his plan will turn undocumented immigrants into legal taxpayers, benefiting the U.S. economically—whereas it is just grand scale posturing while the borders are just marginally secure.

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The doctrine of "Peace Through Strength®" and strong support for our military helped secure our nation's victory in the Cold War. Today, our nation faces new insidious threats from abroad and constant vigilance must be maintained. Please join with us today, in this quest to keep America free from the threat of terrorism, by insisting on and maintaining a strong military defense.

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