

“Global Threats to U.S. Vital Interests In the 21st Century”

**The Honorable Peter Hoekstra, Chairman
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence**

February 2, 2005

The Committee will come to order. I welcome the Members – both those who are returning and those who are just beginning their service on this important Committee. Before beginning this hearing I would like to introduce the new Members on the Republican side of the dais:

- Jo Ann Davis (VA-01)
- Mac Thornberry (TX-13)
- Heather Wilson (NM-1)
- John McHugh (NY-23)
- Todd Tiahrt (KS-4)
- Mike Rogers (MI-8)
- Rick Renzi (AZ-1)

Welcome to you all, and to the returning Members of the Committee.

Today’s hearing is our first for the 109th Congress and I hope that it will help set the tone for much of our overall work. Over the next two years, I intend for the Committee to conduct a comprehensive and fundamental review of the potential threats facing the United States in the coming years, and the allocation of our intelligence capabilities and resources to those threats.

Our analysis will be both broad and deep. In addition to reviewing these questions as policy matters, we will use our findings, as they evolve, to inform and drive our program and budget review of intelligence programs. Our findings will also direct the Committee’s increased emphasis on congressional oversight of intelligence activities.

Done properly, intelligence is not about today or yesterday – it’s about tomorrow. So our review will not necessarily be directed to the “hot topics” of the day, but instead to the far more important question of how we can best anticipate, detect, and react to the threats we anticipate five or ten years in the

future, and perhaps prevent them from even occurring. This effort will not be quick or easy. Much of it necessarily must be conducted in closed session of the Committee to protect discussion of our nation's intelligence capabilities, now and in the future. But the review is critical to ensure that we improve our capabilities to obtain the effective and focused national intelligence capabilities on which there is broad bipartisan consensus that we must achieve.

We recently received one look at the type of issues that must be reviewed in an unclassified assessment from the National Intelligence Council, Mapping the Global Future, that was intended to look to potential challenges as far as 2020. The report notes the likely emergence of China and India as major global powers, and the possible rise of others such as Brazil and Indonesia. The NIC warns of the dangers of pervasive insecurity caused by failed states, lagging economies, natural resource shortages, religious extremism, and uneven population growth. It warns that terrorism is likely to evolve and present threats under new guises; and that the threats from proliferating technology will continue to challenge the developed world. Charting out a course of the potential threats will require good decisions by our leaders, and it will require good intelligence. The Committee's job is to ensure that our leaders have the intelligence capabilities they will require to meet the future threats.

Today's hearing begins this effort with an overall survey from distinguished experts on their view of the potential threats facing the United States. We are fortunate to have their expertise as our "keynote".

Richard Perle is Resident Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. He also has been a long-time member of the Defense Policy Board, serving as its chairman from 2001-2003. He served as Assistant Secretary of Defense of International Security Policy during the Reagan Administration.

R. James Woolsey is former Director of Central Intelligence, and has served in a range of positions in the Pentagon, the Department of State, and Capitol Hill. Mr. Woolsey is presently Vice-President at Booz Allen Hamilton. I am told Mr. Woolsey may be a few minutes late in arriving.

Dr. Gregory Treverton is a senior policy analyst at RAND, where he heads their Intelligence Security and Defense Program. He also is a former Vice Chairman of the National Intelligence Council.

Kurt Campbell is Senior Vice President at CSIS, where he directs the International Security Program. Kurt served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of

Defense for International Security Policy in the Clinton Administration, where he was particularly focused on Asia policy.

Michael Swetnam is the Chairman and CEO of the Potomac Institute. A career naval officer, Mr. Swetnam has worked closely with the Defense Science Board, the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, and various elements of the Intelligence Community.