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Inglis speaks against missile defense cuts

By Rudolph Bell
STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Bob Inglis on Monday criticized the Obama administration for cutting back on missile defense research, saying the world isn't getting safer, as shown by communist North Korea's recent missile test.

"This is no time to go wobbly on missile defense," the Fourth District congressman said, referring to Defense Secretary Robert Gates' recent decision to cut the budget of the Missile Defense Agency by \$1.4 billion.

Inglis, just back from a seven-day trip to the Middle East and India, spoke to reporters during a press conference at his downtown office. The White House didn't immediately respond to his criticism Monday.

Inglis said the Obama administration should be putting its "pedal to the metal" on missile defense research, not just to protect national security but also because of the "fiscal and technology stimulus" it brings.

The Greenville Republican faces up to four candidates so far in the 2010 primary election to decide whether he will represent the Greenville/Spartanburg area for a seventh term.
