

Nunn-Lugar Global 2010 Africa Trip Press Packet

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U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar (R-IN) leads a mission to Africa November 16-20 with a team of Pentagon arms control experts to help secure deadly biological diseases, in addition to destroying other lethal armaments.

"Deadly diseases like Ebola, Marburg, and Anthrax are prevalent in Africa," said Senator Lugar, the Ranking Member and former Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. "These pathogens can be made into horrible weapons aimed at our troops, our friends and allies, and even the American public. This is a threat we cannot ignore."

Senator Lugar and former Senator Sam Nunn (D-GA) developed the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program in late 1991 to secure and destroy nuclear, chemical and biological weapons in the republics of the former Soviet Union.

"Al Qaeda and other terrorist groups are active in Africa, and it is imperative that deadly pathogens stored in labs there are secure," Senator Lugar said. "Building cooperative programs with African countries are in our mutual security interests, and will also have the humanitarian effect of identifying and controlling new diseases that could quickly spread around the world."

Senator Lugar and the Pentagon team will inspect laboratories in Kenya and Uganda. These labs are used to diagnose infectious diseases, study the nature of the diseases, and facilitate treatment to help prevent outbreaks. Pentagon officials, however, have found insufficient security at the labs given the terrorist threat.

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates told Senator Lugar his high-level participation will help ensure the governments of Kenya and Uganda agree to work closely with US government agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control, to secure these laboratories, and work cooperatively to help prevent future disease outbreaks.

While in Africa, Senator Lugar and Pentagon officials will also visit Burundi where experts from the State and Defense Departments are working with the government to destroy large numbers of small arms and light weapons (SALW), such as shoulder fired surface to air missiles, rocket propelled grenades, and AK-47 assault rifles.

The weapons are being destroyed under the Lugar-Obama program, which was established as part of Nunn-Lugar through legislation passed by Congress after Senator Lugar and then Senator Barack Obama traveled to the former Soviet Union in 2005.

Burundi borders volatile areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and other African countries, and holds stores of weapons left from decades of conflict in the region. Securing and destroying these weapons are critical to eliminating regional conflicts and potential terrorist attacks in the world.

Senator Lugar's visit to Burundi is intended to help demonstrate the importance of Lugar-Obama SALW destruction program, and encourage other countries to participate.

The Pentagon non-proliferation team accompanying Senator Lugar is led by Andrew C. Weber, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Defense Programs; Ken Handelman, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Strategic Affairs; and Kenneth A. Myers III, Director, Defense Threat Reduction Agency.

Before going to Africa, Senator Lugar and Weber will address on November 8 the first international Conference on Science and International Security: Addressing the Challenges of WMD Proliferation and Terrorism to be held in Madrid, Spain.

The conference is sponsored by the Institute of Nuclear Fusion of the Polytechnic University of Madrid, and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory of California.



At the conference Senator Lugar will present the first annual Nunn-Lugar International Global Science and Security Engagement Award to Javier Solana for his work as Secretary General of NATO and European Union High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy on Terrorism and Intelligence Cooperation.

In November 1991, Senator Lugar and Nunn authored the Nunn-Lugar Act, which established the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program. This program has provided U.S. funding and expertise to help the former Soviet Union safeguard and dismantle its enormous stockpiles of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, related materials, and delivery systems.

In 2003, Congress adopted the Nunn-Lugar Expansion Act, which authorized the Nunn-Lugar Global program to operate outside the former Soviet Union to address proliferation threats. In 2004, Nunn-Lugar funds were committed for the first time outside of the former Soviet Union to destroy chemical weapons in Albania, under a Senator Lugar-led expansion of the program. In 2007, Senator Lugar announced the complete destruction of Albania's chemical weapons.

The Nunn-Lugar scorecard now totals 7,599 strategic nuclear warheads deactivated, 791 intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) destroyed, 498 ICBM silos eliminated, 180 ICBM mobile launchers destroyed, 651 submarine launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) eliminated, 492 SLBM launchers eliminated, 32 nuclear submarines capable of launching ballistic missiles destroyed, 155 bomber eliminated, 906 nuclear air-to-surface missiles (ASMs) destroyed, 194 nuclear test tunnels eliminated, 493 nuclear weapons transport train shipments secured, upgraded security at 24 nuclear weapons storage sites, built and equipped 20 biological monitoring stations, and

neutralized 1569.5 metric tons of Russian and Albanian chemical weapons agent.

Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belarus are nuclear weapons free as a result of cooperative efforts under the Nunn-Lugar program. Those countries were the third, fourth and eighth largest nuclear weapons powers in the world.

For details and updates throughout the week, visit the Nunn-Lugar Global page. Updates and photos will also be available at www.facebook.com/senatorlugar and www.flickr.com/senatorlugar.

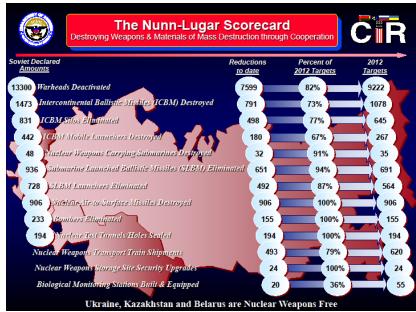
Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program

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Senator Lugar makes annual oversight trips to Nunn-Lugar sites around the world.



Recent Quotes from Senator Lugar on Africa

On October 21, 2010, U.S. Senator Dick Lugar delivered remarks to the Sagamore Institute Africa Commission Event in Indianapolis. Below are select quotes from the event. The full speech may be accessed at:

http://bit.ly/arOwR6

- "Americans are coming to understand that a stable and prosperous Africa can better cooperate on a range of shared concerns, from weapons proliferation and terrorism, to environmental challenges and contagious diseases."
- "During the last several years we have been able to put in place the building blocks for a sustained American engagement in Africa that can complement international efforts."
- "More work needs to be done to provide incentives for private investment in Africa and to ensure that the revenues from Africa's natural resources will go to all of its citizens."
- "A big part of prevention is encouraging medical research on developing better drugs and, ultimately, a vaccine."
- "Vaccines have been one of the most cost-effective public health measures of the modern era of medicine. With U.S. leadership, the global community has eradicated smallpox, and we are close to eradicating polio. Vaccines for diseases such as measles and tetanus have dramatically reduced childhood mortality worldwide."
- "In all these areas, the legislation that Congress has enacted and the proposals underway have the potential to form the type of sustainable, comprehensive program of engagement toward Africa that we lacked in past decades."

- "The United States' greatest contribution, however, will come from the energy and compassion of individual Americans who understand that Africa is not an abstraction of poverty, disease, and conflict."
- "The next decade must show how the United States worked in partnership with African nations to expand peace and opportunity."



Senator Lugar Biography

Dick Lugar is an unwavering advocate of U.S. leadership in the world, strong national security, free-trade and economic growth.

This fifth generation Hoosier is the U.S. Senate's most senior Republican and longest serving U.S. Senator in Indiana history.

He is the Republican leader of the Foreign Relations Committee and a member and former chairman of the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee. He was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 1976 and won a sixth term in 2006 with 87 percent of the vote, his fourth consecutive victory by a two-thirds majority.

Senator Lugar graduated first in his class at both Shortridge High School in Indianapolis and Denison University in Granville, Ohio. He attended Pembroke College at Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, studying politics, philosophy and economics. Senator Lugar volunteered for the U.S. Navy in 1957, ultimately serving as an intelligence briefer for Admiral Arleigh Burke, Chief of Naval Operations.

Senator Lugar manages his family's 604-acre Marion County corn, soybean and tree farm. Before entering public life, he helped manage the family's food machinery manufacturing business in Indianapolis with his brother Tom.

As the two-term mayor of Indianapolis (1968-75), he envisioned the unification of the city and surrounding Marion County into one government. Unigov, as Mayor Lugar's plan was called, set the city on a path of uninterrupted economic growth. He served three terms on the U.S. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, including two terms as the Vice-Chair of the Commission, and served as President of the National League of Cities.

Senator Lugar has been a leader in reducing the threat of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. In 1991, he forged a bipartisan partnership with then-Senate Armed Services Chairman, Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), to destroy these weapons of mass destruction in the former Soviet Union. To date, the Nunn-Lugar program has deactivated more than 7,500 nuclear warheads that were once aimed at the United States.



As Chairman of the Agriculture Committee, Senator Lugar built bipartisan support for 1996 federal farm program reforms, ending 1930s era federal production controls. He has promoted broader risk management options for farmers, research advancements, increased export opportunities and higher net farm income. Senator Lugar initiated a biofuels research program to help decrease U.S. dependency on foreign oil. He also led initiatives to streamline the U.S. Department of Agriculture, reform the food stamp program and preserve the federal school lunch program.

Combining his experiences on the Foreign Relations and Agriculture Committees and recognizing that energy security impacts every aspect of life in the United States, from the cars we drive and how much we pay at the gas pump to our vulnerability to foreign terrorism and our relationships with other countries, Senator Lugar launched the Lugar Energy Initiative.

Senator Lugar has promoted policies that spur economic growth, cut taxes, lead to job creation, eliminate wasteful government spending and reduce bureaucratic red tape for American businesses.

His Hoosier commonsense has been recognized many times including such awards as Guardian of Small Business, the Spirit of Enterprise, Watchdog of the Treasury, and 40 honorary degrees from colleges and universities in 14 states and the District of Columbia. He was the fourth person ever named Outstanding Legislator by the American Political Science Association.

Richard Lugar and his wife, Charlene, were married September 8, 1956, and have four sons and thirteen grandchildren.

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