

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington D.C. --- Fourth District Congressman Nick J. Rahall, (D-WV), has intensified his efforts to maintain the Minuteman III missile system.

The House Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations will consider President Carter's proposed recommendation to recind the \$105 million for the Minuteman III on September 28.

In a letter to Subcommittee Chairman, Rep. George Mahon, (D-Tex), Congressman Rahall said, "I wish to call to your attention the weakening effect this action would have on our national defense as well as the many jobs that are at stake in my Congressional District."

Rahall pointed out that the West Virginia Electronics Plant in Princeton, employs over 600 people and is the only production line for the Inter-continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) guidance and control system in the United States.

Congressman Rahall also cited an alternative proposal to keep the plant in operation, if the Minuteman III missile was scraped. "Many proven features of the Minuteman III guidance and control systems, if applied, would maximize and modernize the present Minuteman II missile," Rahall said.

"Jobs, as well as a major facet of our Nation's defense system are in jeopardy, " Congressman Rahall explained, "therefore I urge your support for the Minuteman III program."

Both Congressman Rahall and U.S. Senator Robert C. Byrd have been strong supporters of the Minuteman III missile since President Carter decided to halt production of the B-1 Bomber.

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