

News  
From \_\_\_\_\_

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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## AWACS TO BENEFIT ENTIRE MID-EAST REGION: RAHALL

WASHINGTON D.C. --- "AMERICA'S STRATEGIC INTERESTS, AS WELL AS THE SECURITY OF THE ENTIRE MIDDLE EAST REGION, INCLUDING ISRAEL, WILL BE SERVED BY THE SALE OF AWACS PLANES TO SAUDI ARABIA," SAID U.S. REPRESENTATIVE NICK J. RAHALL, (D-WV).

RAHALL'S STATEMENT CAME IN PREPARATION FOR THE VOTE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NEXT WEDNESDAY ON THE PROPOSED SALE OF THE AERIAL SURVEILLANCE PLANES TO SAUDI ARABIA.

"THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS MADE THE CRUCIAL DECISION THAT THE SALE OF AWACS TO SAUDI ARABIA IS NEEDED FOR THE DEFENSE OF THIS KEY COUNTRY," RAHALL STATED. "FOR THE SALE TO BE BLOCKED, WOULD BE A DRAMATIC SIGN OF NATIONAL WEAKNESS AND INEFFECTIVENESS TO THE SOVIET UNION," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL OBSERVED.

"THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION DO NOT HAVE THE SAME AIMS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND SINCE SAUDI ARABIA SHARES AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO RESIST COMMUNISM, ALONG WITH ISRAEL AND EGYPT, I FEEL IT IS IMPERATIVE TO ASSIST THEM IN THIS ENDEAVOR," RAHALL SAID.

THE CONGRESSMAN WENT ON TO POINT OUT, "SAUDI ARABIA HAS BEEN A MAJOR FORCE WORKING FOR MODERATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THEIR FIRM STAND FOR OIL PRICING RESTRAINT AND THEIR WILLINGNESS TO INCREASE OIL PRODUCTION WHEN IT IS NEEDED IN THE WESTERN INDUSTRIAL NATIONS, SHOWS THEIR DESIRE TO MAINTAIN A STRONG FRIENDSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES."

"I BELIEVE IT IS TIME THAT WE SHOW THEM THAT FRIENDSHIP IS A TWO-WAY STREET," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL SAID.

"NOW MORE THAN EVER, AMERICA'S INTERESTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST MUST BE PROTECTED. WE CANNOT CLOSE THE DOOR ON A NATION THAT IS WILLING TO JOIN US IN THE EFFORT TO BRING STABILITY TO THIS LONG EMBATTLED REGION OF THE WORLD. FOR THIS REASON, I WILL SUPPORT THE SALE OF AWACS TO SAUDI ARABIA," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STATED.