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CONTACT: Michael Serpe
202-225-3452

RAHALL RECEIVES LEGION AWARD - DISCUSSES NATION'S SECURITY

Huntington, West Virginia --- West Virginia's Fourth District Congressman Nick J. Rahall, recently became only the ninth person to receive the West Virginia American Legion's "Distinguished Service Award".

Congressman Rahall was presented the award at the recently-held Legion Mid-Winter Conference in Huntington.

"It is certainly a great honor to be recognized by those men and women who have done so much for our great country in the time of its greatest need -- the veterans," Rahall said. "It is an award I will long cherish," the Congressman stated.

In his remarks to the Conference, Congressman Rahall discussed the status of America's national security, and he stressed, "Strength cannot be based on the power of arms alone."

"Our strength and security comes from the vigor of our economy and the responsiveness of our political system," Rahall observed. "There is no simple way to insure America's national security. In foreign affairs, the quick-fix is likely to be a botched job," the Beckley native expressed.

Rahall also noted that the challenge America faces from the Soviet Union is "far from the only one we face."

"To give the Kremlin credit for every instance of upheaval, every breach of the tattered fabric of peace, is to overestimate Moscow's reach and misread both the superpower rivalry and its global setting," Congressman Rahall stated.

"Not every guerrilla is a Soviet agent. Not every peace demostrator is a Soviet agent," Rahall said.

"The world is too full of complicated motives, of historic hatreds, of poverty, of injustice, greed and despair to let us attribute all of its troubles to a single cause or conspiracy," Rahall observed.

"If we let ourselves become obsessed by the threat of Communist involvement everywhere, we will not be able to deal with the causes of instability anywhere," Congressman Rahall concluded.

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