

U.S. Congressman Nick Raha

WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

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RAHALL CALLS FOR OLD WAR ON A NEW FRONT -- ECONOMIC WAR MUST BE WAGED, AMERICAN INTERESTS PROTECTED --

LOGAN, WV -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today praised the fine young men and women who fought so bravely in Operation Desert Storm, and warned West Virginians that, "now an old war must be fought on a new front."

In speeches given at Fourth of July festivities in Logan, Welch, and Pineville, Rahall called on all Americans to protect American interests and fight for American jobs.

"For too long, too many have taken advantage of U.S. generosity. There was a time when that was okay, when we could carry the world on our back. But that time is long gone," warned Rahall. We have to prepare for the future. A future in which communism will no longer be our major threat, but competition will."

"Allies like Japan, who contributed minimal effort and expense to Operation Desert Storm, can no longer be allowed to reek economic havoc on the United States."

Rahall also welcomed home the troops from the Persian Gulf and thanked all of those who had served in the armed forces for their contribution in keeping America free.

"Their sacrifice -- just like the sacrifice of those who served in Vietnam, and Korea before that, and World War II before that -- makes us proud, makes today special, and keeps us grounded in the faith that this is the greatest country on the face of the earth."

Rahall said that the highway bill that Congress would pass this year will bring between \$123 billion and \$153 billion to build and fix new roads over the next five years, as well as bolster rural and small urban transit systems. It will be an integral part of American competitiveness leading into the 20th century.

Rep. Rahall is the 5th ranking Member of the Public Works and Transportation Committee. He is also a ranking Member of the Surface Transportation Subcommittee.

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