

POINT BLANK

**STRAIGHT TALK
ABOUT WHAT YOU
CAN DO TO
PRESERVE YOUR
RIGHT TO KEEP AND
BEAR ARMS**



**May
2005**

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FOR THE RIGHT
TO KEEP AND
BEAR ARMS**

(a non-profit corporation)

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GUN GRABBERS STILL WANT YOUR FIREARMS

Make no mistake about it: congressional gun grabbers are still after Americans' guns!

They are just waiting for the chance to pounce, politically, on innocent, law-abiding American gun owners.

They hope another media-generated anti-gun bandwagon will develop so that they can move forward with various restrictive firearms control proposals.

Some of the anti-gun legislation already has been introduced in Congress, even though we're not yet even halfway through the first session of the 109th Congress.

Fortunately, thus far, the gun grabbers have been slowed down somewhat by the activities of pro-gun voters in recent elections, who have helped retire a number of anti-gun politicians from public office and replace them with officials more friendly to the interests of the Second Amendment community.

Following a number of recent horrible crimes committed with the misuse of firearms, for instance, the anti-gun New York Times was forced to lament, even in a headline, that, "Shootings Fuel a Drive to Ease Gun Laws."

Across the country, according to the Times article, "efforts to expand or establish laws allowing concealed handguns have been fueled by the horrifying shootings in the last month – of the family of a federal judge in Chicago, at the church service in Wisconsin, at courthouses in Atlanta and Tyler, Texas, and the nation's second-deadliest school shooting, on the Red Lake Indian Reservation in Minnesota."

The anti-gunners in Congress, though, are just hoping and waiting for a change in the winds of public opinion so that they can once again advance their anti-gun agenda.

In the U.S. Senate, the gun grabbers, still smarting from the sunset last September of the 10-year so-called "ban" on so-called "assault weapons," actually a ban on the importation and manufacture of certain semi-automatic firearms, are waiting for an opportunity to resurrect the "ban."

That political harridan from California, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, wants to see the "ban" reenacted for another 10 years, and her bill S. 620 would do that.

Feinstein hopes to use the proposal to undermine pro-gun legislation, such as a ban on harassing lawsuits against the firearms industry, when such legislation reaches the Senate floor.

(Continued on page 2)

GUN BANS DON'T STOP TERRORISTS

Seventy-five percent of Americans say banning guns would not reduce the threat from terrorists, according to a new Zogby International poll commissioned by the Second Amendment Foundation.

Only one in five respondents supported a gun ban and five percent were not sure. Zogby pollsters contacted 1,009 likely voters chosen at random nationwide between March 30 and April 1. The poll's margin of error is plus/minus 3.2 percent.

CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb said the poll shows that Americans are not buying terrorism as an excuse to pass more restrictive gun laws and that anti-gun groups are out of step with the American public.

"It's been pretty clear for a long time," he added, "that gun grabbers don't have a clue. All they want to

do is take guns away from people, any guns, all guns, and they don't care how much blood they dance through or how much false hysteria they spread to get the job done."

"Look at their track record," said Gottlieb: "Anti-gunners have used every excuse, every tragic event, to demand increasingly restrictive gun laws. They pushed gun bans to stop urban crime, but look how that has failed in places like Washington, D.C. and Chicago.

"They pressed for a gun-free school zones law but that hasn't stopped tragedies like Columbine and, more recently, Red Lake High School in Minnesota. And lately they've tried to gull America into supporting bans on certain firearms as a way to thwart terrorism."

He said, "America has finally awakened to what is essentially a

one-note campaign being waged against their gun rights. Present anti-gunners with a problem and their only solution is to take guns away from law-abiding citizens. Well, that's not a solution, it's a sham. Whatever else terrorists happen to be, they are criminals, and you do not stop criminals by disarming their intended victims. Average Americans have figured this out, and we can only wonder why the gun control has not."

GUN GRABBERS NEVER STOP TRYING

Continued from page 1

Referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, cosponsors include Sens. Barbara Boxer of California, Hillary Rodham Clinton and Charles E. Schumer of New York, Mike DeWine of Ohio, Christopher J. Dodd of Connecticut, Richard J. Durbin of Illinois, Carl Levin of Michigan, Barbara A. Mikulski of Maryland, Jack Reed of Rhode Island and John W. Warner of Virginia.

In the House of Representatives, another anti-gun politician, Rep. Carolyn McCarthy of New York,

has introduced her version of the proposal, H.R. 1312, and it has been referred there to the Judiciary Committee.

Anti-gunners in both Houses of Congress plan to use the reauthorization issue as a platform from which to launch other gun control proposals as well.

We continue to ask CCRKBA Members and Supporters to keep in contact with elected public officials to help maintain our freedoms in the face of these legislative threats.



POINT BLANK

*"Straight talk about what you can do to
preserve your right to keep and bear arms."*

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CCRKBA SEEKS IMPROVEMENTS IN ANTI-TERRORIST LEGISLATION

CCRKBA joined recently with other public interest groups to promote improvements in the Patriot Act, and helped launch Patriots to Restore Checks and Balances (PRCB).

PRCB hopes to ensure congressional review and modification of a few provisions of the Act considered by many to be out of line with the Constitution. "These few specific provisions," said John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, "violate or could be used to violate freedoms enshrined in the Bill of Rights, including the right to privacy and the individual Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms. In working to strengthen our country in the war on terrorism, we want to make certain that we do not aid and abet terrorist interests by undermining those very freedoms which are the target of terrorist activity."

Speaking at a nationally-televised Capitol Hill press conference attended by dozens of reporters, Snyder declared that, "we are most concerned with any government initiative which could be used to undermine or even eviscerate the individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms. We believe this is the linchpin of our Bill of Rights, of our whole system of civil liberties, a right without which other civil rights really could not be guaranteed."

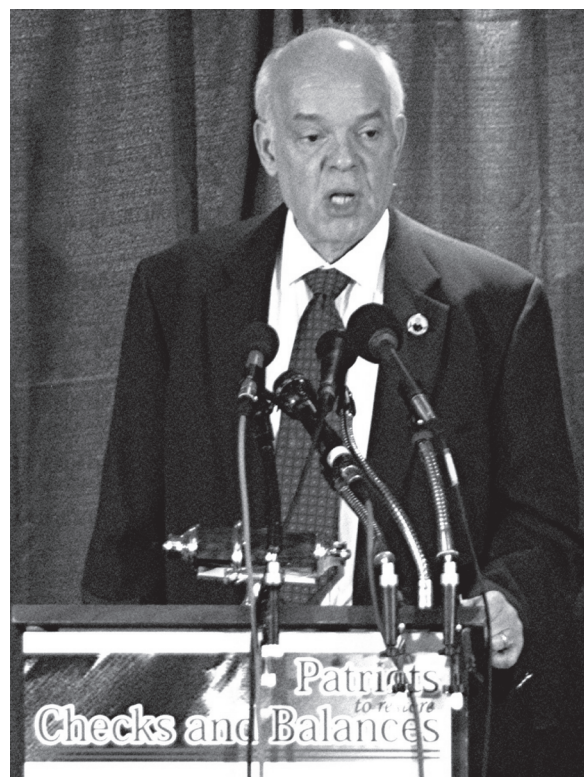
CCRKBA, the Second Amendment Foundation, the American Conservative Union, the Free Congress Foundation and a dozen other national organizations stated that, "when Congress passed the Patriot Act, just 45 days following the hor-

rific attacks on September 11, 2001, a majority in Congress voted to make certain that the most extraordinary provisions of the Act would be subject to congressional review and would expire in December 2005. Now is the time for Congress to review and consider amending these provisions to protect Americans' must fundamental freedoms, and bring the law into line with the checks and balances demanded by the Constitution."

Former Congressman Bob Barr of Georgia, the PRCB Chairman and holder of a CCRKBA Legislator of the Year Award, said, "there is no doubt the Patriot Act is necessary to provide law enforcement with the tools it needs to defeat terrorism. But, some of its powers just go too far, such as allowing federal agents to search your home and examine your possessions secretly and not inform you they've done so for an unlimited period of time. Some parts of the law give the federal government far too much power, and the Constitution's checks and balances are needed."

PRCB wants Congress to prevent federal agents from secretly collecting firearm purchase records about individuals without specific evidence linking them individually to foreign agents.

"The provisions in the Patriot Act which we question...easily could be used by some executive branch governmental authority against the le-



gitimate interests of America's scores of millions of law-abiding gun-owning citizens," CCRKBA's Snyder stated.

Snyder said that, "when push comes to shove, an ultimate protection against terrorist activity well could be an armed citizenry. If law-abiding American citizens, especially airline pilots, had not been legally prevented from carrying guns on the aircraft which crashed into the Pentagon and the Twin Towers on September 11, 2001, the result well may have been much different. If the political powers that be in this country really want to get after the terrorists in our midst, they should forget about promoting laws and regulations directed at our citizenry in general and instead work to solidify the vitality of our armed citizenry."

CCRKBA PROMOTES DC GUN LAW REPEAL

"We are continuing our efforts to promote congressional repeal of the onerous anti-gun provisions of the statutes governing life in our Nation's Capital," John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said in Washington, D.C.

"In this connection," he continued, "we commend Rep. Mark Souder of Indiana for reintroducing a measure to restore Second Amendment rights in the District of Columbia. A similar measure passed overwhelmingly in the U.S. House of Representatives last year but, by the time the issue was about to come up for consideration by the U.S. Senate, it was late in the year and final action was not taken on it.

"This is a new Congress. We are renewing our efforts get this job done.

"We ask CCRKBA Members and Supporters, as well as all law-abiding American gun owners, to contact their U.S. Representative and both of their U.S. Senators and urge them to support this most worthwhile cause."

Congressman Souder's measure, H.R. 1288, with a number of original cosponsors, has been referred to the House Committee on Government Reform, under the chairmanship of Rep. Thomas M. Davis, III of Virginia. Supporters of H.R. 1288 could write Chairman Davis at 2157 RHOB, Washington, D.C. 20515, phone him at (202) 225-5074 or fax him at (202) 225-3974 and ask him to hold public hearings soon on this bill.

"Souder's proposal, if enacted into law," said Snyder, "certainly would go a long way to remove an intolerable burden placed on law-abiding Washington, D.C. residents by the District of Columbia government.

As things stand now, decent people in the Nation's Capital are unable to obtain the means necessary for defense against violent criminals. It is an absolute disgrace that people in the Capital of the world's greatest nation are unable to protect themselves, even in their own homes, against violent thugs."

Snyder noted that, "under current D.C. law, decent people can't get a handgun for defense of themselves and their families, even in their own homes. In addition, they can't keep rifles or shotguns loaded or even fully assembled. The whole D.C. system has allowed violent criminals to run rampant, knowing they can't be stopped by local law-abiding citizens. The current situation is a monument to stupidity."

H.R. 1288 would permit law-abiding citizens to possess handguns and rifles in their homes and businesses, repeal the registration requirements for firearms and ammunition and eliminate criminal penalties for the possession and carrying of firearms by people in their homes and businesses. It also would correct an erroneous provision that treats some firearms as if they are machine guns.

Under the U.S. Constitution, the District of Columbia has a special status as a federal city and the federal government may exercise authority it.

The bill would amend the D.C. Code so that the municipal government could not prohibit, or unduly burden the ability of law-abiding citizens to acquire firearms for sporting, self-protection or other lawful purposes.

Short-titled the District of Columbia Personal Protection Act,

H.R. 1288 would find as a matter of national public policy that the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution provides that the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed, and that the Second Amendment specifically protects the rights of individuals, including those who are not members of a militia or engaged in military service or training, to keep and bear arms.

H.R. 1288 would state that the law-abiding citizens of the District of Columbia are deprived by local laws of handguns, rifles and shotguns that are commonly kept by law-abiding persons throughout the United States for sporting use and for lawful defense of their persons, homes, businesses and families.

It also would state that the District of Columbia has the highest per capita murder rate in the Nation, which may be attributed in part to local laws prohibiting possession of firearms by law-abiding persons who would otherwise be able to defend themselves and their loved ones in their own homes and businesses.

H.R. 1288 would lay it out that the Gun Control Act of 1968, as amended by the Firearms Owners' Protection Act of 1986, and the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act of 1993, provide comprehensive federal regulations applicable to the District of Columbia as elsewhere. In addition, existing District of Columbia criminal laws punish possession and illegal use of firearms by violent criminals and felons. Consequently, it would find "there is no need for local laws which only affect and disarm law-abiding citizens."

GUN GRABBERS PUSHING BANS ON CERTAIN SALES

Congressional gun grabbers are working to ban gun sales to individuals named on terrorist watch lists even though critics question the lists' accuracy and say mistakes could deprive law-abiding citizens of their Second Amendment rights.

Congressman Steve King of Iowa said last month he will not support legislation that would deny U.S. citizens their constitutional rights through a secret list.

The gun grabbers, though, obviously are trying to frame the terrorist issue in such a way that it may be used as a wedge through which to attack and undermine the traditional, individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms.

As Congressman King stated, "boarding an airplane is a privilege, owning a gun is a right."

Ant-gun Rep. Carolyn McCarthy of New York, however, has introduced a bill, H.R. 1195, to include persons who may be prevented from boarding an aircraft in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. It would add the no fly list used by airlines to the System used by gun store owners to make mandatory background checks.

McCarthy herself, though, admitted weaknesses in her approach. "I realize not everyone on the no fly list is a terrorist or has terrorist ties," she said.

In an apparent attempt to put a good face on her proposal, she stated that, "any law-abiding citizen

wrongly included on the list will be able to follow the Transportation Security Administration's procedure for quick removal from the list."

The National Shooting Sports Foundation, whose officials participate regularly in the CCRKBA-sponsored Gun Rights Policy Conference, says the recent revelations that the secret government lists include Senators and Representatives.

The Washington Times reported last month that among those who say they have been stopped at airports because their names are on the no-fly list are Sen. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts and Reps. John Lewis of Georgia and Don Young of Alaska, Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

The issue of Senate confirmation of presidential nominations is heating up again. In March, President Bush nominated John Bolton, Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month, to be our Ambassador to the United Nations.

The United Nations has taken the lead in promoting worldwide gun control. It was Undersecretary Bolton who, at the UN's Conference on Small Arms held in New York City three years ago, put his foot down and gave a resounding "NO" to the UN plan. Undersecretary Bolton has long been a critic of the UN, allegedly saying at one point that, "if the UN secretary building in New York lost 10 stories, it wouldn't make a bit of difference."

Undersecretary Bolton's case is the latest in a series of battles over nominees by President Bush to a variety of posts, especially judicial nominations. Liberal Democrats are blocking many of President Bush's nominees through threatened filibusters. (Unlike the filibuster portrayed in the movie *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, today's filibusters don't require strong legs and long wind. A quick head count of at least 41 Senators – there are 55 Republican and 44 Democrat Senators, along with Independent Jim Jeffords – is enough to block a nominee.)

Now is the time to call, e-mail or write to your U.S. Senators and urge them to support Undersecretary Bolton's nomination to this critical post, along with President Bush's judicial nominees. Senate e-mail addresses, telephone numbers and home state office contact information is available at <http://www.senate.gov>. You also may find their home office telephone numbers and addresses in the blue "government" pages of your telephone directory. The snail mail address for U.S. Senators is the individual Senator's name, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

CCRKBA Honoree:

MACKETT CONTINUES FIGHT FOR ARMING AIRLINE PILOTS

Captain David Mackett, President of the Airline Pilots Security Alliance (APSA), is the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month for May.

In nominating Captain Mackett for the Award, John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said that, "one of the issues with which we have been most concerned in recent years is the arming of qualified commercial airline pilots. In fact, after the airline suicide attacks on the Pentagon and the Twin Towers on September 11, 2001, CCRKBA was the first organization to call publicly for the arming of these men and women. We think it is absolutely insane for the government, through the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), to prevent this.

"We've worked with Dave and other spokesmen for pilots' organizations on legislation to rectify this situation. Some of this legislation has been signed into law but the TSA keeps dragging its feet on this issue. Fortunately, Dave is not letting up on this issue and neither are we. We've already received assurance that legislation will be introduced again this year in Congress to ensure that qualified volunteer commercial airline pilots are armed in the cockpit. Dave has been and is working hard to make sure this reasonable policy finally is adopted by

the powers that be. Our hats are off to him. He certainly deserves to receive a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award."

Captain Mackett, whose group, APSA, was formed specifically to lobby for guns in the cockpit, says tens of thousands of his colleagues are interested in the Federal Flight Deck Officer (FFDO) program which began two years ago. Between 4,000 and 4,500 pilots have been trained and deputized to carry guns in the program, but that is just a fraction of the 95,000 pilots who fly for U.S. airlines.

"We have an armed pilots program that's arming very few pilots," says Mackett, who hasn't signed up because of the way the program is run. He told the Associated Press the TSA isn't moving to get substantially more pilots to carry guns because it has never really wanted the program.

Pilots must volunteer, take a psychological test and complete a week-long firearm training program run by the government to keep a gun in the cockpit. Mackett says it can take from two months to a year to get a gun from the time an online application is submitted. Some pilots never even hear back from TSA.

Mackett says the psychological testing and background checks are unnecessary because pilots already have been carefully vetted by their airlines to be able to fly commercial jets.

Dave wants Congress to enact legislation "to fix serious deficiencies in the present FFDO program, deficiencies that have kept airline pilots from volunteering by the tens of thousands to be armed.

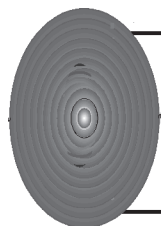
"While none of us truly relishes the new responsibilities that come with being a commercial airline pilot in the post-9/11 world, we all know the realities, realities that include a much-improved but still porous airport security program, and a terrorist threat that still sees commercial aviation as an attractive target. As airline pilots, our fundamental mission remains the same: get our passengers, our crew, and our cargo safely to its destination. It is unfortunate but true that fulfilling that mission now requires new tools, including an armed cockpit."

Dave was born in Bitburg, Germany in 1963. His dad was a career U.S. Air Force officer stationed there. Growing up, Dave and the family moved a lot with the Air Force, living in both domestic and international cities.

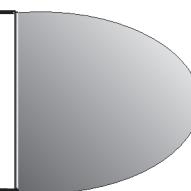
He graduated from Ohio State with a degree in Aviation Engineering and a double specialization and was selected to fly the university corporate aircraft when Ohio State officials required air travel. Dave informs *Point Blank* that he is a graduate of Level Two of the three levels of the defensive tactics program taught to United States Special Warfare Teams and "also of a nationally recognized small arms training school. I am a lifetime member of a national level firearms academy and expect to attain instructor status in the Kobushi Sessen Jutsu system of close quarters defensive tactics later this year, workload permitting."

Dave has 20 years' flying experience and has been flying the Boeing 737 for the last 10 years.

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QUICK SHOTS



CCRKBA announced its opposition to H.R. 1423, the proposed Childproof Handgun Act of 2005, by Rep. Bill Pascrell of New Jersey and eight original cosponsors. The bill would ban the manufacture, sale, delivery and transfer of handguns that cannot be personalized. It would define personalized as meaning that integral to the handgun as a device or feature that allows the handgun to be fired only by a particular individual; is not capable of being readily deactivated; and may allow the handgun to be personalized to one or more additional individuals. Referred to the House Judiciary Committee.



A USA Today article last month showed that the Clinton-era Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) project wasted millions of dollars, never put the promised 100,000 new police on the streets, and has not been a panacea for crime. CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb suggested the revelations suggest it was not the non-existent new police on the streets, but passage of right-to-carry statutes in dozens of states that had a greater effect on reducing violent crime rates over the past decade. "The gun rights community was right all along," he said. "We knew from the start that Bill Clinton's COPS program was a cop-out. While Clinton and his Attorney General Janet Reno were discouraging citizens from arming themselves against crime, and making it as hard as possible for citizens to exercise their Second

Amendment rights, they created what has amounted to one more government boondoggle."



In New Mexico, CCRKBA applauded Governor Bill Richardson for signing legislation that expands the state's concealed carry law, allowing more citizens to arm themselves legally for personal protection. "Not only did Gov. Richardson's signature extend the valid term of a concealed pistol license to four years," said CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron, "but he also lowered the minimum age for obtaining a license to 21 years, and in the process, he recognized the new law as a crime reduction measure. Gov. Richardson's support for concealed carry is well documented in that he was instrumental in getting the original law through the legislature two years ago. Now he's signed common-sense reform legislation that expands this law, with the understanding that it will deter criminals and empowers more New Mexico citizens to protect themselves."



In Milwaukee, Wisconsin, CCRKBA said the District Attorney's office "made the right call" in deciding not to file any charges against a 64-year-old man who fatally shot one of five youths who attacked him in a gas station in early April. Milwaukee Assistant DA Karen Loebel made the announcement after reviewing the evidence from the shooting. The older man, from Yorktown,

Arkansas, had stopped at the gas station to ask for directions. An altercation erupted in which Moss and several other youths beat and kicked the victim before he pulled a gun from under the front seat of his van and fired. "This was clearly a life-threatening situation in which the victim could have been gravely injured or killed," said CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron. "It's just the kind of crime Wisconsin residents should be able to defend themselves against. However, Gov. Jim Doyle used his veto to nix a common-sense concealed carry law. It sent the wrong message to criminals."



In Kansas, CCRKBA said new legislation there is a good first step toward bringing the gun rights of Sunflower State residents into the 21st Century. The legislation contains a new section that preempts local gun ordinances, so that all firearms regulation will be uniform, from one end of the state to the other. Gun control extremists have condemned the bill, contending it prevents Kansas communities from passing their own gun laws. "Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has signed this common sense legislation," said CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron, "in the interests of protecting state residents and visitors from the confusion that invariably results from patchwork gun laws that may change from one city to the next. Such laws work perfectly in other states, and there is no reason to believe that the same kind of law won't work here."

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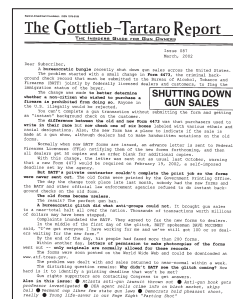
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