

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

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IN THIS ISSUE

Guns Against Terror	1
Bloomberg, a Blooming Idiot	2
Amicus Filed to Gut DC Ban	3
City Gun Grabbers	4
CCRKBA Acts on Vitter Amendment	5
Citizen Action Project	5
Defender of the Month	6
Quick Shots	7

**CITIZENS
COMMITTEE
FOR THE RIGHT
TO KEEP AND
BEAR ARMS**

(a non-profit corporation)

**National Headquarters:
1250 N.E. Tenth Place
Bellevue, Washington 98005**

**Capitol Hill Office:
1250 Connecticut Ave, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036**

GUNS AGAINST TERROR



John Negroponte, Director of National Intelligence, and John Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, greeted each other recently in the Nation's Capital. Ling Woo photo.

A few themes keep cropping in the news these days.

There is continuous news of terrorist attacks on innocent people around the world. These include assaults by the same kind of people who perpetrated suicide bomber attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001. The fifth anniversary of the bombings on both Washington, D.C. and New York City takes place on September 11, 2006.

At the same time, we face ongoing attacks on the right of law-abiding

Americans to acquire firearms for protecting life itself. An example of this is New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg's campaign to organize other mayors throughout the country in pressing Congress for enactment of extremist gun control legislation.

Bloomberg is trying to zero in on gun dealers in other states and promote across the board laws similar to those in New York so that law-abiding citizens won't be able to own and carry legally firearms suitable for defensive purposes. Washington, D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams is one of Bloomberg's chief allies in this effort.

Attacks on gun ownership from gun grabbers within the United Nations augment the domestic political attacks on Americans' right to keep and bear arms. Fortunately, these efforts failed last month in New York during the UN Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. This temporary pro-gun victory came about largely through the efforts of the Bush Administration.

These attacks on our right to personal self-defense come as our lives and our culture confront physical attack from what in reality amounts to a guerilla world war perpetrated by terrorists operating not only in other countries but in our own as well.

Experts on these matters including government officials such as Director of National Intelligence (DNI) John D. Negroponte point out those terrorists can be expected to attempt 9/11 style attacks on us in the future.

As government officials also point out, their agencies cannot guarantee absolutely that officials can prevent attacks from terrorists.

Ultimately, who defends our lives, our country and our cultural values? The armed citizen. You and me.

N.Y. MAYOR BLOOMBERG A BLOOMING IDIOT, SAYS CCRKBA

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg is "a blooming idiot" for giving testimony that supports illegal aliens while attacking the rights of American gun owners, CCRKBA charged.

During testimony before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee at a hearing in Philadelphia, reported the Cybercast News Service, Bloomberg said: "Although they broke the law by illegally crossing our borders...our city's economy would be a shell of itself had they not, and it would collapse if they were deported. The same holds true for the nation."

CCRKBA accused the mayor of being "a blooming idiot" for preferring to see the country overrun by illegal aliens than give a break to law-abiding gun owners.

"While Bloomberg has launched a campaign to attack the rights of American gun owners," said CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb, "it is obvious he is rather selective about whom he considers a criminal."

"He doesn't seem at all alarmed that among the millions of illegal aliens sneaking into this country are criminals and possible terrorists," Gottlieb added. "But evidently, he thinks he is rather selective about whom he considers a criminal."

Bloomberg also told the hearing, which was chaired by Sen. Arlen Specter (R-PA), that if the government expects more border patrols to stop undocumented workers from pouring into the country, "you might as well sit on the beach and tell the tide not to come in."

Gottlieb also disagreed with Bloomberg's assessment of border control enforcement, Cybercast re-

ported.

"More than a year ago," Gottlieb recalled, "CCRKBA launched a campaign calling on the Bush Administration to concentrate on border control, not gun control. We knew then, as we know today, that Americans are greatly concerned about illegal aliens."

"While many of those illegal immigrants are here to take jobs, others come here to commit crimes, ranging from drug trafficking to murder," Gottlieb observed. "Some of their victims have been police officers on duty. Yet there hasn't been a whimper from Mayor Bloomberg about this, only about ratcheting down on firearms.

"New York City has suffered a recent rash of stabbings, some of which apparently were committed by illegal aliens, yet where is the mayor's concern about that? It's not the weapon, it's the criminal."

During the hearing last month, Bloomberg also called the nation's immigration laws "fundamentally broken" because employers are required "not to do anything more than eyeball" a workers' documents while knowing that bogus Social Security documents and "fake green cards are a dime a dozen."

Rather than "winking at businesses that hired illegal immigrants," Bloomberg said, the government should require all workers to carry "biometric" cards that use DNA or a fingerprint ID – and require that employers check such cards against a national database.

"Mayor Bloomberg should be demanding tighter security along our borders instead of mounting dubious gun shop stings as a way to thwart crime," Gottlieb noted. "In-

stead of interfering with ongoing criminal investigations to grab a headline, Bloomberg should devote his energies to making this country more secure, and that doesn't require him to trample on anyone's gun rights.

"He would rather harass American gun owners who have broken no laws, instead of going after illegal aliens who have broken our immigration laws by just being on our soil."

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

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Publisher Alan M. Gottlieb
Managing Editors J. H. Versnel
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 Bob Kukla
 Herb Stupp
 Peggy Tartaro
 Joe Waldron

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CCRKBA ACTS TO GUT DC GUN BAN

CCRKBA joined recently with the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) and the Madison Society and a number of university professors in filing a legal brief supporting a move to overturn the gun ban in Washington, D.C.

The case, *Shelly Parker et al v. District of Columbia*, before the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, could have significant implications on the individual right to keep and bear arms.

CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb, also the SAF Founder, said the Parker case has the potential of bringing the Second Amendment "clearly and unmistakably into focus as an individual civil right."

In their amicus brief, CCRKBA and partners noted that the Parker case challenges "the quasi-religious faith" that believes more firearms will result in more violent crime. Instead, they argue that there is ample research that shows "nations with more gun ownership generally have lower violent crime and murder rates than nations that forbid guns."

The Brandeis brief notes further that handgun prohibitions, like the one now in effect in the Capital, "invariably fail to reduce violence." In the five years prior to enactment of the District's handgun ban, the murder rate fell, but in the five years after the ban took effect, the murder rate increased. In the ensuing decades, the District's murder rate "has been the highest in America excepting the few years when it came in second or third."

The brief cites two recent gun law surveys, one by the National Academy of Sciences and the other by the Centers for Disease Control, both

of which admitted they could find no gun control measure that has reduced violent crime, gun accidents or suicides.

"The Parker case challenges the political correctness of a gun ban to its core," Gottlieb stated. "We believe this case will demonstrate that a civil right is not subject to the political whim of any municipal government, and that the Bill of Rights may not be suspended at the city limits."

Underlying the enactment of the D.C. anti-gun laws challenged by CCRKBA and the others, according to the brief, "is the quasi-religious faith that the more guns (particularly handguns) there are, the more violence and death there will be and, concomitantly, the fewer guns, the fewer deaths. We call this faith quasi-religious because, though there are scores of relevant studies in the United States and elsewhere, none shows more guns in a society equals more violence and death. If there is any correlation, it is that nations with more gun ownership generally have **lower** violent crime and murder rates than nations that forbid guns.

"There are endless varieties of deadly instruments in every environment. The incidence of these instruments being used in violence is determined by basic socio-cultural and economic factors, not by the mere availability of any particular lethal instrument."

The CCRKBA brief states also: "The unique relevance of firearms is that they alone allow weaker people to resist predation by stronger ones." The brief also cites an article by Linda Gorman and David B. Kopel, "Self-Defense: The Equalizer," from

15 Forum for Applied Research and Public Policy 92 (2000), which states: "Reliable, durable and easy to operate, modern firearms are the most effective means of self-defense ever devised. They require minimum maintenance and, unlike knives and other weapons, do not depend on an individual's physical strength for their effectiveness. Only a gun can allow a 110 pound woman to defend herself against a 200 pound man."

The brief notes that, "each year guns are used three to six times more often to repel criminals than by criminals in attempting crimes."

Among the distinguished university professors signing on to the brief as individual amici are Frederick Bieber, Harvard Medical School, Boston MA; Joseph Magaddino, California State University at Long Beach; Edward Leddy, St. Leo College, Virginia Beach VA; Gary Mauser, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia; Glenn Meyer, Trinity University, San Antonio TX; Michael Munger, Duke University, Durham NC; Carol K. Oyster, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse WI; Jeremy Rabkin, Cornell University, Ithaca NY; Lance Stell, Davidson College, Davidson NC and Carolinas Medical Center, Charlotte NC; and Thomas Velk, Professor of Economics and Chairman of the Department of American Studies, McGill University, Montreal, Canada.

Distinguished emeritus professors signing on include David J. Bordua, University of Illinois, Urbana IL; John J. Furedy, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada; Gary R. Pearlstein, Portland State University, Portland OR; and Lawrence Southwick, State University of New York, Buffalo NY.

CCRKBA HITS ACTIONS OF CITY GUN GRABBERS

CCRKBA recently blasted anti-gun activities of officials in two major American cities, Chicago, Illinois and Jersey City, New Jersey.

These reactions by CCRKBA officials came as part of ongoing CCRKBA efforts to combat unending attempts by anti-gun politicians throughout the United States to undermine and eventually eliminate the individual Second Amendment civil rights of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms. The attacks on the right to keep and bear arms come from politicians at all levels of government.

In Chicago, CCRKBA accused the Chicago Crime Commission of exploiting the activities of drug gangs to attack gun rights.

The Commission's new 272-page "Gang Book" details Chicago's drug gangs and offers several recommended strategies to fight these criminals. Incredibly, at the top of the list, is a recommendation to limit handgun sales to one per month, and impose a ban on .50-caliber long-range sport utility rifles.

"If this proves anything," observed CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron, "it's that the anti-gun obsession rampant in the office of Mayor Richard Daley is now infecting the Crime Commission. What's next? Will the city's public health experts decide that banning handguns and ugly rifles is the only way to cure alcoholism or cancer?"

"Illinois already has some of the strictest gun laws in the country and a virtual ban on handguns for law-abiding citizens in Chicago. Yet, drug gangs thrive in the Windy City and its suburbs, and common street criminals don't have any

trouble arming themselves. Heaping more restrictions on honest gun owners is not going to stop these thugs, and the people who dreamed up this proposal know it."

CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb said the implication that restrictive gun laws somehow might curtail drug activity by gangs is ludicrous.

"According to the *Chicago Sun-Times*," Gottlieb noted, "highly sophisticated gangs have figured out ways to infiltrate government agencies and even police and sheriff's departments. They have already proven they can get around restrictive gun laws, which ultimately penalize only law-abiding citizens.

"Show me one crime that a ban on the .50-caliber rifle would have prevented. Show me one crime in which a drug gang used such a rifle, anywhere in the country. Identify one gang that would be put out of business by limiting the ability of a competitive shooter to acquire just one handgun per month."

Gottlieb said that, "if the Commission thinks this is such a smart strategy, maybe they should limit drug dealers to one ounce of cocaine each month. Perhaps they should ban syringes, after telling people with diabetes and other serious medical problems that their health is less important than making a political statement."

In Jersey City, CCRKBA called the one-gun-a-month ordinance passed there by the city council "a pathetic sham" designed to give the public a false impression that this will address the city's violent crime problems.

"These one-gun-a-month measures will not prevent dangerous criminals

from arming themselves," said Waldron. "All these kinds of laws ever accomplish is to make it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to buy firearms. There is no evidence that any such law ever stopped a single crime. This is nothing more than a 'feel good' effort to deceive the good citizens of New Jersey that their council has struck a blow for law and order."

The council action came at the end of a debate involving supporters and opponents of the measure.

"Somebody in Jersey City, or any other community, is going to have to show me proof that a one-gun-a-month law has stopped a crime," Waldron said. "Essentially, what you have with this vote is the Jersey City Council insulting the intelligence of its residents, and we're disappointed that some residents seem not to mind that. Law-abiding firearm owners, of course, are intelligent enough to realize they're being penalized for the illegal acts of people they don't know, and over whom they have no control.

"It clearly appears that this ordinance is in conflict with state law. Not surprisingly, this measure won the blind support of CeaseFire New Jersey. They are the same extremists who supported the 'smart gun' legislation, and they have never met a radical gun restriction with which they did not immediately fall in love."

Waldron said that, "CeaseFire essentially is a criminal support group because they fight for laws that provide a safe working environment for criminals. You do not fight crime by disarming victims."

SENATE VOTE FOLLOWS CCRKBA ACTION ALERT

When the United States Senate voted 84-16 to prohibit confiscation of legally-owned guns from private citizens during emergencies like last year's Hurricane Katrina, the victory came on the heels of a CCRKBA Action Alert calling for support of the prohibition.

The Senate embraced an amendment by Sen. David Vitter of Louisiana, a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month. He attached his measure to the Homeland Security Appropriations bill, H.R. 5441. The Senate subsequently passed H.R. 5441 by voice vote.

The Vitter amendment prohibits the use of funds appropriated under H.R. 5441 for the confiscation of lawfully possessed firearms during an emergency or national disaster.

Earlier, the House of Representatives had passed its version of the appropriations bill. The overall measure now goes to a conference committee. Then the bill goes back to both Houses for final action and then to the White House for presidential approval.

Sen. Vitter cited the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms. He said that during an emergency people should be allowed to hold onto "legally possessed firearms to defend your life, your property" at a time when telephone lines and cell phones probably are not operating and victims "can't reach out to law enforcement authorities."

Sen. Vitter noted that 10 states, including Louisiana, have passed similar laws. The others are Missis-

sippi, Florida, South Carolina, Virginia, Alaska, Idaho, Kentucky, New Hampshire and Oklahoma.

"Urgent Action Required," proclaimed the CCRKBA Action Alert, distributed electronically the day before the Senate vote. "Stop Gun Confiscation in Citizens' Hour of Need! Stop the forcible confiscation of firearms from law-abiding Americans. Support the Vitter amendment!"

The Alert noted that, during the Hurricane Katrina crisis, the New Orleans Police Superintendent issued orders for the confiscation of firearms, allegedly under a state emergency powers law. Law-abiding citizens were using guns to protect themselves, their families and their property.

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

Election Day 2006 is less than 100 days away. Earlier Citizen Action Projects have addressed volunteering to support pro-gun political candidates and meeting with elected officials when they're back in the district on recess.

The most critical factor in all elections is voting. We shouldn't have to ask this, but are YOU registered to vote? Is your registration up to date? Address correct? Are your family members, shooting or hunting buddies and co-workers registered to vote? Have you requested an absentee ballot? (Highly recommended as Election Day comes in the middle of many hunting seasons across the United States.)

Voters, and prospective voters, have more options for registration available today than they did in the past. A call to your county election office or county auditor's office will provide the locations where you and your friends can register or update your registrations.

The mid-term elections historically have a smaller turnout than the big presidential election years draw. And historically the president's party loses seats in Congress in a mid-term election.

Now it's 2006 and the political climate may be changing. The smaller turnout means that those who do make the effort to vote – and get their friends to vote – will have more impact on the final results.

Congress and President Bush gave us a major victory last year in enacting the Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, protecting gun manufacturers from frivolous and nuisance lawsuits. Just a short time ago, the Senate amended the Homeland Security Appropriations Act to prohibit gun confiscation during states of emergency, as happened in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina. Do you think a Senate Judiciary Committee chaired by Chuck Schumer would have done that? No! Or would a President Hillary sign it? No! We'll see you at the polls!

AMERICAN DIPLOMAT THE CCRKBA DEFENDER

This month, CCRKBA selects as its Gun Rights Defender of the Month an American diplomat who stood up in the United Nations recently in defense of our Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms. He did this during the UN Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

That diplomat is Robert G. Joseph, the United States Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

In making the nomination for the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award, John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, noted that, "the right to keep and bear arms, indeed the very right to self-defense, the right to defend life itself, has been, is and will continue to be under political and mainstream media assault not only in the United States but throughout the world. In recent years, international gun grabbers, including those in our own country, have been trying to use the United Nations and this UN Conference to promote restrictive gun control laws throughout the world, including here in the United States.

"Recently, over the Fourth of July period of all times, these UN gun grabbers worked during this Conference to promote their anti-gun agenda. It concluded without reaching conclusion or agreements, even regarding future meeting times and locations. Observers at the Conference, though, including CCRKBA Chairman Alan M.

Gottlieb, cautioned that these international gun grabbers will get together later to continue to work for the elimination of the right to keep and bear arms."

Snyder said that, "one of the major reasons for this at least temporary failure of the UN gun grabbers was the position of the United States under the Bush Administration, with this position being so forcibly and cogently voiced by Under Secretary Joseph. He stood up to the UN gun grabbers, and he really deserves this Award."

Speaking as a diplomat, Dr. Joseph indicated that the United States already has "an agenda for effective action to address the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, covering military style arms such as shoulder-fired missiles and rocket systems, light mortars, machine guns and automatic rifles."

Dr. Joseph stipulated, though, that, "the U.S. Constitution guarantees the rights of our citizens to keep and bear arms, and there will be no infringement of those rights. The United States will not agree to any provisions restricting civilian possession, use or legal trade of firearms inconsistent with our laws and practices. Many millions of American citizens enjoy hunting and the full range of firearm sports, and our work will not affect their rights and opportunities. As an officer of the Executive Branch of my government, I took an oath to protect the Constitution – a duty that is an honor to uphold.

"The long-established U.S. positions on two other topics also remain unchanged. First, we are resolute in our belief that regulating ammuni-

tion is beyond the mandate of this body and would be ineffective, prohibitively costly, and is best addressed elsewhere – if at all. And second, while we will of course continue to oppose the acquisition of arms by terrorist groups, we recognize the rights of the oppressed to defend themselves against tyrannical and genocidal regimes and oppose a blanket ban on non-state actors. We believe lengthy debate on these topics will only serve to distract us from our areas of agreement and dilute the collective will required to combat the international illicit trade in small arms and light weapons."

As Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, Dr. Joseph is the principal Department of State officer for non- and counterproliferation matters, as well as for arms control, arms transfers, regional security and defense relations, and security assistance. Previously, he served as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Proliferation Strategy, Counterproliferation and Homeland Defense, National Security Council. In this position he was responsible, under the supervision of the National Security Advisor, Dr. Condoleezza Rice, now Secretary of State and herself a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month, for developing and coordinating U.S. policies and strategies for preventing and defending against threats to the U. S. from weapons of mass destruction.

Dr. Joseph received his MA from the University of Chicago and his Doctorate from Columbia University.

The U.S. House of Representatives voted 230-191 recently to repeal a law requiring gun dealers to provide trigger locks on all handguns sold in the United States. The vote came on an amendment attached to the fiscal year 2007 spending bill (H.R. 5672) for the Departments of Commerce, Justice and State, which includes the Justice Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATFE). The mandatory trigger lock provision was included in a bill President Bush signed into law last year. It was part of a law designed to protect gun makers from harassing lawsuits designed to bankrupt them. Rep. Marilyn Musgrave of Colorado, honored in 2004 by CCRKBA during the national Gun Rights Policy Conference, proposed the repeal amendment. She said that trigger locks boost the cost of guns and "do not stop accidental shootings."



Florida Governor Jeb Bush told reporters in commenting on the Sunshine State's drop in crime that armed citizens are part of the equation. He said, "law-abiding citizens that have guns for protection actually probably are part of the reason we have a lower crime rate," reported the Fort Lauderdale *Sun-Sentinel*. Commenting, CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb said that Gov. Bush shows he has "a clear understanding about what works to stop criminals in their tracks. Legally armed citizens are a threat to nobody but criminals and Florida's crime statistics prove that the presence of firearms in the

hands of law-abiding citizens benefits the entire community. In explaining why crime rates have dropped, we think Gov. Bush nailed it."



Violent crime in the United States increased for the first time in four years, according to a report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It went up 2.5 percent in 2005 from 2004. The preliminary FBI report indicated that the total number of murders increased 4.8 percent from the previous year. The FBI bases its report on numbers gathered by state and local law enforcement agencies. They measure four violent offenses, murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault, and four property crimes, burglary, larceny, auto theft and arson, but do not measure drug crimes.



In Tucson, Arizona recently, a homeowner fought off intruders with a handgun, reported the *Tucson Citizen*. In home invasion, the homeowner woke up at about 3:20 in the morning because he heard the sound of someone trying to break in through a wrought iron security door with a crow bar, said Tony Portney, a sheriff's dispatch supervisor. The homeowner, whose name was not released, yelled "freeze," and got a pistol. Looking out of his house, he spotted two vehicles, a car and a pickup, on a dirt road near his property. One was described only as a white

sedan, possibly a Nissan or Honda Accord, and a dark-colored Chevrolet pickup. Both vehicles started to leave, then stopped and the homeowner heard gunshots coming from the vehicles, Portney said. The homeowner fired three shots at the suspects, described only as two men ages 18 to 20. Portney said the homeowner was not wounded and it could not be determined if either of the suspects was hit.



In Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, the State House of Representatives plans to meet next month in a one-day special session to discuss gun control issues, House leaders said recently. Votes taken during the session would be nonbinding as a way to promote discussion. Ken Stoffler, legislative chairman of the Allegheny County Sportsmen League, said, "we will not allow one gun a month legislation to pass."



In Birmingham, Alabama, a homeowner shot a burglary suspect after finding the man inside her home. It happened on a very early late June morning, said police, when Jason Kennedy broke into the house in the 300 block of 61st Street North. He hid when the woman and her companion returned home. When the homeowner discovered Kennedy, she shot him and held him at bay until authorities arrived, police told NBC13-TV. Kennedy was taken to UAB hospital to face burglary and drug charges upon release.



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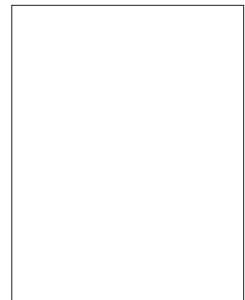
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