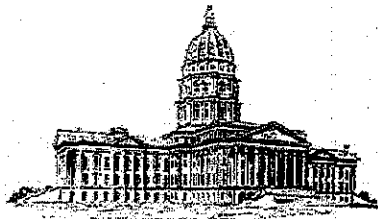


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TONY BARTON
41ST DISTRICT

Madame Chair, Committee,

When I swore an oath to become a Representative part of that oath was to ensure the safety of the citizens of the State of Kansas from threats both foreign and domestic. I would say we have an issue before us that concerns me in respect to the safety of our citizens and the State of Kansas for the following reasons:

A brief bit of history:

March 17, 1980, then President Jimmy Carter signed into law the Refugee Resettlement Act. The Bill was sponsored by the late Ted Kennedy, along with then Senator Joe Biden and passed in the Senate 85-0 after it was agreed that the U.S. was not taking in the largest number of Vietnamese boat people during that period of war. The Act capped the number of refugees at 50,000. It could be increased by the President only after consulting with Congress. In an emergency the President could admit refugees but, again, "only after consulting with Congress."

1. There is no evidence of a consultation taking place with Congress.
2. It appears Congress has little to no role in this process. They have relinquished their position to the State Dept. The process is limited to a letter prepared by the President that is sent to the UN/High Commissioner for Refugees, and then signed off on by Congress.
3. In recent years the number of refugees has reached 70,000 people from 70 countries (not including tens of thousands granted asylum for various reasons; victims of human trafficking; or the vast number of unaccompanied alien children within the Office of Refugee Resettlement in the Department of Health and Human Services).
4. In fiscal year 2013 ORR Director Edkinder Negash reported that they cared for 143,000 arrivals from 65 countries. In addition to the "refugees" they also deal with "a whole host of other categories of legal immigrants."

Right now there is a lobbying campaign by NGO's [Non-Governmental Offices] such as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and the International Rescue Committee (2 of 9 State Department refugee contractors) to increase FY2015 ceiling to 100,000 people to accommodate 15,000-30,000 Syrians to be admitted to the US from UN camps. Sunni Muslims are the dominate group living in these camps, so one can conclude that the Syrians arriving in the US are Muslims.

The Refugee Resettlement Act is inadequate to deal with the potential influx of people coming into Kansas.

There is no adequate vetting process to determine if these refugees are a danger to our citizens. In some cases, there are no records and no way to know who the refugees are: what their backgrounds are; if they have criminal histories; or if they are hostile to the US.

For example, we are not able to account for the location of the Somali population within the United States borders. For about three decades, from 1983 to 2008, [to the present? 1983-2008 is only 25 years.] 118,479 Somalis who are virtually 100% Muslims were resettled into the United States. A U.S. Census Bureau report for 15 major metropolitan areas showing their African-born population puts the total number of Somalis in major U.S. cities at 76,205. Pew Research shows that there were 118,479 Somalis in the United States at that

time. Where did the rest go? How come we are unable to account for them? What happened during the Census?

Other issues with the Refugee Resettlement Act of 1980 and the impact on Kansas:

- Most people who come under the "refugee" status require assistance. We do not have the resources nor the finances necessary to help them nor can we facilitate multitudes of people within the borders of this state. Aid will eventually run out.
- The school system here is already stating it is inadequately funded. It would not have the means to deal with the increased student count nor the language barriers that arise with the influx of refugees from countries in the Middle East, Africa from countries such as Somalia, where there are presently language barrier issues.
- Federal funding does not include money that is needed for TANF; subsidized housing; most healthcare; education costs for children; and costs that are associated with the criminal justice system including translators that are a required mandate from President Clinton. These costs must be absorbed by state and local government which presents a major Constitutional issue regarding States Rights.

Lastly, I want to share from a recent news article from CNN, just one specific selection which states and I quote:

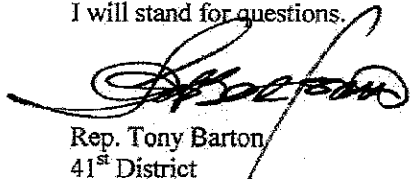
James Clapper, Director of National Intelligence

"Clapper warned that ISIS and its eight branches were the NO. 1 terrorist threat, and that it was using the refugee exodus from violence in Iraq and Syria to hide among innocent civilians in order to reach other countries."

Clapper said ISIS was "taking advantage of the torrent of migrants to insert operatives into that flow," adding that they were "pretty skilled at phony passports so they can travel ostensibly as legitimate travelers."

I am first and foremost concerned about the safety of the citizens of the State of Kansas and the economy of our state.

I will stand for questions.



Rep. Tony Barton
41st District
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PEW Research Religion & Public Life Project, Muslims Americans: No Sign of Growth in Alienation or Support for Extremism, Section 1: Demographic Portrait. 30 August 2011

Pew Research Religion & Public Life Project, The Religious Affiliation of U.S. Immigrants: Majority Christian, Rising Share of Other Faiths, 17 May 2013

Top intelligence official: ISIS to attempt U.S. attacks this year



By Ryan Browne, CNN

Updated 2:39 PM ET, Tue February 9, 2016 | Video Source:

CNN

Story highlights

James Clapper said that ISIS was infiltrating refugees escaping from Iraq and Syria

Clapper warned that ISIS and its eight branches were the No. 1 terrorist threat

Washington (CNN) Top U.S. intelligence officials said Tuesday that ISIS was likely to attempt direct attacks on the U.S. in the coming year and that the group was infiltrating refugees escaping from Iraq and Syria to move across borders.

ISIS "will probably attempt to conduct additional attacks in Europe, and attempt to direct attacks on the U.S. homeland in 2016," Lt. Gen. Vincent Stewart, director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, testified on Capitol Hill Tuesday.

Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, who was also at the Senate Armed Services Committee hearing, estimated that violent extremists were active in about 40 countries and that there currently exist more terrorist safe havens "than at any time in history."

Clapper warned that ISIS and its eight branches were the No. 1 terrorist threat, and that it was using the refugee exodus from violence in Iraq and Syria to hide among innocent civilians in order to reach other countries.



Clapper said ISIS was "taking advantage of the torrent of migrants to insert operatives into that flow," adding that they were "pretty skilled at phony passports so they can travel ostensibly as legitimate travelers."

ISIS fighters have reportedly seized Syrian passport facilities with machines capable of manufacturing passports.

The testimony follows the director of National Intelligence's release of the "Worldwide Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community."

The assessment notes that "approximately five dozen" ISIS-linked people were arrested in the U.S. during 2015.

66 photos: The ISIS terror threat

Clapper said that more than 38,200 foreign fighters, including at least 6,900 from Western countries, have traveled to Syria from more than 100 countries since 2012.

On the counter-ISIS campaign in Iraq and Syria, Stewart said it was unlikely that the Iraqi city of Mosul would be liberated in 2016.

READ: Terror threat in Europe 'as high as it's ever been,' officials say

While the assessment calls ISIS the "preeminent terrorist threat," Clapper also said that "al Qaeda affiliates are positioned to make gains in 2016."

While the assessment calls ISIS the "preeminent terrorist threat," Clapper also said that "al Qaeda affiliates are positioned to make gains in 2016."

Clapper called the Yemen-based al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula and the Syria-based al Nusra Front the "most capable al Qaeda branches."

The testimony also touched on the Iran nuclear deal, cybersecurity and cyber-espionage, North Korea's nuclear and missile program and Russia's military build-up.