

ON WATCH IN WASHINGTON THE INFORMER

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MILITARY RETIREMENT PLAN OVERHAUL

A budget task force at the Pentagon is proposing the largest overhaul of the military retirement system in 50 years. It is advocating doing away with the traditional military pension system, opting instead for a 401(k) type of program.

"With the newly proposed Defense Business Board plan, all troops would receive yearly retirement contributions if they served at least 20 years. The money, however, would not vest until service reached at least three to five years and would then be payable at retirement age. If personnel left before that three-to five-year mark, the time served would be rolled over into Social Security," according to reports on [Fox News](#).

A mandatory "Uniformed Military Personnel Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)" would be the central focus of the plan. Contributions by the Department of Defense and the individual service member would be deposited in an account. The U.S. military already has a TSP program in operation. It was established in 1986 by Congress for both federal employees and service personnel. The difference is that those TSPs are voluntary and only include employee contributions, this plan will be mandatory for military personnel.

The forced enrollment in the government's version of a tax-deferred savings plan [doesn't sit well with the lawmaker who is responsible for opening the program to the military](#). Rep. Steve Buyer, R-Ind., the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee's military personnel panel, said some service members may not want their money tied up in the TSP because they receive no government match for their contributions, as federal civilian employees do.

After military pay stops, the military personnel [have several options for their TSP accounts](#). They will be able to make withdrawals from their TSP account without penalty (as early as age 59.5) and eventually would be required to make withdrawals soon after age 70.

The new TSPs -- functioning as a 401(k)-style account -- could include a government contribution amounting to as much as 16.5 percent of the member's annual pay, as well as a maximum annual tax-deferred contribution limit of \$16,500 by members. In addition, there is a \$5,500 annual tax-deferred "Catch-up Contribution" for service people age 50 or older, and adjustments for those serving in a combat zone. The proposed DBB retirement program would not impact disabled veterans or current retirees according to the report posted by Fox News reporter Jim Crogan. (Contributors: [Fox News](#), [The Military Guide](#), [Army Times](#)) (Contributors: [Fox News](#), [The Military Guide](#), [Army Times](#))

Thank our Heavenly Father for watching over our men and women in our armed services. Ask the Lord to bless their families and make provision for their-well being during and after their times of dedicated military service.

“And my God will liberally supply (fill to the full) your every need according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:19)

ABORTION CLINICS NM

[Operation Rescue](#) has obtained eight new 911 recordings that reveal a scandalous pattern of botched abortions at two Albuquerque abortion clinics. Together with five 911 calls released last month, the 13 calls show that life-threatening abortion complications requiring emergency assistance occur at the rate of one every 10 weeks.

The eight newly obtained calls were placed between November, 2008 and December, 2009, with six originating from Southwestern Women's Options, owned by Curtis Boyd, and the UNM Center for Reproductive Health, an abortion clinic that acts as an abortion training ground for the University of New Mexico.

"As disturbing as the critical nature of these life-threatening emergencies are, perhaps more disturbing are the callous attitudes of some of the abortion workers and their willingness to cover up for the abortionists," said Operation Rescue Senior Policy Advisor Cheryl Sullenger. "The clinic workers are careful about how much information they revealed to the emergency dispatchers, and in many cases, even attempt to shift the blame for the complications onto the woman. Their general actions and attitudes toward the woman they just injured are despicable."

One clinic worker from Southwestern Women's Options expressed concern over the questions the 911 dispatcher was asking. While she thought she was on hold, this exchange took place:

SWO Employee: [Whispering] I don't know - I don't know what information he's asking me.

Background Voice: Just talk to him - act dumb.

SWO Employee: [Whispering] Okay. Exactly. Yeah.

The latest tapes obtained under an open records act request made by Tara Shaver of Project Defending Life, who forwarded the recordings to Operation Rescue. They show women ranging in ages from 18 to 34 who were between 8 weeks and approximately 24 weeks pregnant.

Complications included:

- Uterine rupture with heavy bleeding.
- A panic-stricken 18-yr old patient with chest pains, numbness, and a severe headache after a late-term abortion.
- Cervical laceration with hemorrhaging.
- Uncontrolled bleeding after first and second trimester abortions.
- Multiple seizures.
- Abortion on a woman with an undiagnosed ectopic (tubal) pregnancy.

"It's just wrong for paramedics to have to clean up after these abortion quacks every ten weeks. We demand the immediate closure of the two Albuquerque clinics involved for the protection of the public," said Sullenger.

Operation Rescue is preparing new complaints against the abortionists involved. Three abortionists from Southwestern Women's Options, Curtis Boyd, Shelley Sella, and Susan Robinson are already under investigation by the New Mexico Medical Board.

[A video containing excerpts of the call has been released on YouTube.com.](#) The full recordings, written transcripts, and the Computer Aided Dispatch transcripts have also been released and are available at [OperationRescue.org](#).

Operation Rescue is one of the leading pro-life Christian activist organizations in the nation and has become a strong voice for the pro-life movement in America. Operation Rescue is now headquartered in a former abortion clinic that it bought and closed in 2006. From there, Operation Rescue launches its innovative new strategies across the nation, exposing and closing abortion clinics through peaceful, legal means. Its activities are on the cutting edge of the abortion issue, taking direct action to stop abortion and ultimately restore legal personhood to the pre-born in obedience to biblical mandates. Contact: Troy Newman, President, 316-841-1700; Cheryl Sullenger, Senior Policy Advisor, 316-516-3034; both with Operation Rescue, info@operationrescue.org

(Contributors: [Christian Newswire](#), [Operation Rescue](#), [YouTube](#))

Pray that the darkness of the abortion strategies in America be exposed and brought out into the light so that they can be dealt with by the established laws of the land. Ask that the lives of the innocent be preserved.

*“God is to us a God of deliverances and salvation; and to God the Lord belongs escape from death.”
(Psalm 68:20)*

U.S. CONCERN: AL-QAIDA POISON THREAT

Citing unnamed intelligence officials and classified intelligence reports, the newspaper said al Qaeda's affiliate in Yemen has been trying to acquire large quantities of castor beans, used to [produce ricin](#).

Al Qaeda may be trying to produce the [deadly poison ricin to use in attacks](#) against the United States.

Citing unnamed intelligence officials and classified intelligence reports, a New York Times article cited by Jihad Watch said al Qaeda's affiliate in Yemen has been trying to acquire large quantities of castor beans, used to produce ricin.

It said the apparent intent was to pack the poison around small explosives that could be exploded to disperse the ricin, a white powdery substance so deadly that a speck can kill if inhaled or taken into the bloodstream.

[The New York Times](#) said the apparent intent was to detonate the explosives in enclosed spaces like a shopping mall or airport.

Top security aides were briefed about the threat last year, the report said, and have received updates since then but added that senior American officials said there was no indication an attack was imminent.

[The New York Times also noted](#) that there were limits on ricin's utility as a weapon because it loses its potency in dry, sunny conditions – like those in Yemen – and is not easily absorbed through the skin like some other nerve agents.

Officials said ricin was among the threats being tracked by a secret government task force created after printer cartridges packed with powerful explosives were found in cargo bound for Chicago in October 2010, according to the Times report.

It said the task force was working with Saudi officials and with the remnants of Yemen's intelligence agencies to counter the threat. It said regional al Qaeda affiliates, especially al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, were seen as a menace to the United States and US interests abroad.

The virtual collapse of Yemen's government has enabled al Qaeda to widen its control in the country and strengthen its operational ties with al Shabab, the Islamic militancy in Somalia, the Times said.

To learn more about *RICIN and how deadly this element is* <[click here](#)>.

(Contributors: [YNet News](#), [New York Times](#), Capitol Hill Prayer Partners, [Reuters](#), [Jihad Watch](#))

Ask the Lord that every hidden thing – related to this threat of a ricin attack - be revealed to those in authority related to this threat of a ricin attacks in any form or method. Be comforted with the absolute fact that God knows all. Ask our Father that He release the grace that any attack of this nature be thwarted!

"For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light." (Mark 4:22)

BILL TO ADD SECURITY TO U.S. POWER PLANTS

Workers hired at most power plants are not required to undergo FBI background checks even though a federal report warns the plants are a likely route for terrorists, said U.S. [Sen. Charles Schumer said Sunday](#) while unveiling legislation that would change this loophole.

"[Power plants and utilities present](#) a tempting and potentially catastrophic target to extremists who are bent on wreaking havoc on the United States, which is why thorough background checks on all workers with access to the most sensitive areas of these operations are a must," Schumer said.

"The DHS report is a wake-up call that we must ensure those with access to our most critical infrastructure — and our power supplies — are not compromised by extremist influences."

This bill would require FBI background checks on all employees of major power plants, Schumer said.

Read the CRS Report for Congress on the Vulnerability of Nuclear Power Plants to Terrorist Attack <[click here](#)> PDF 6 page Document. (Contributors: [Associated Press](#), [CBS](#), Capitol Hill Prayer Partners)

It is now almost ten years since the tragedy of 9/11. Offer a word of praise that this bill has been introduced and ask for its swift passage. If there are any legal "loopholes" that would allow innocent civilians to be labeled as terrorists in this legislation, ask that that language be removed in the final draft. Offer praise, too, that just like Nehemiah, God is raising up those who are now finding--and sealing--"breaches" in our walls of security, that we might live safely on our own land.

"And I went out by night . . . and viewed the walls of Jerusalem which were broken down . . ." (Nehemiah 2:13)

AHMADINIJAD: IRAN WILL RESPOND IF U.S. & ISRAEL ATTACK

Iranian president tells Russia Today news network that although Iran would retaliate harshly in the event of attack, there is no reason to launch a strike against the Islamic republic.

"We have a saying in our language: If someone throws a smaller stone (at you), you should respond with a bigger stone," the Iranian president said, adding, "we will defend ourselves within our capabilities."

The international community has called on Iran to halt its nuclear program, leveling sanctions against the Islamic country, however, Iran claims the program is for peaceful purposes and continues to enrich uranium. (SOURCE:[Ha'aretz](#))

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Pray for God's wisdom to be granted to these national leaders to respond as the Lord would desire them to respond. God has His time table to deal with Iran (Persia) according to His Word. Rest in the truth that the Prince of Persia fails to ever see any victories!

" . . . the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits." (Daniel 11:32)

EIGHT WAYS TO TRULY HELP THE HOMELESS

What do you do when you see someone holding up a sign, "Will Work for Food"? Do you roll down your window and give them money? Do you pretend you didn't see them?

Nobody likes to be confronted by the homeless - their needs often seem too overwhelming - but we all want to treat them fairly and justly. Here are some simple guidelines to equip you to truly help the homeless people you meet:

- 1. Never give cash to a homeless person:** Too often, well intended gifts are converted to drugs or alcohol - even when the "hard luck" stories they tell are true. If the person is hungry, buy him or her a sandwich and a beverage.
- 2. Talk to the person with respect:** Taking time to talk to a homeless person in a friendly, respectful manner can give a wonderful sense of civility and dignity. And besides being just neighborly, it gives the person a weapon to fight the isolation, depression and paranoia that many homeless people face.
- 3. Recognize that homeless people (and their problems) are not all the same:** The homeless are as diverse as the colors of a rainbow. The person you meet may be a battered woman, an addicted veteran, someone who is lacking job skills...the list goes on.
- 4. Share God's love whenever you can:** If Jesus were walking the earth today, He would certainly spend time with the homeless. He would speak with them, heal them, and help them. Today, Jesus chooses to work through those who believe and follow Him.
- 5. Pray for the homeless:** Exposure to the elements, dirt, occasional violence, and lack of purpose all drain years from a person's life. God can use your prayers and the brutality and the futility of life on the street to bring many of the broken to Himself.
- 6. Take precautions for your own safety:** Some living on the streets are criminals and fugitives running from the law. Always be prudent while talking with street people. Stay in areas where other people can see you. Don't take unnecessary chances.
- 7. Encourage the homeless to get help through mission outreach programs:** Every day many mission outreaches around the country strive to demonstrate Christ's love and compassion by offering essential physical, emotional, and spiritual services to people in need. Through a 24-hour operation run by volunteers, staff, and program-graduates, The Mission, in Washington, DC, for example provides a variety of services that include: food, clothing and household goods distribution and guest services for men. Additionally, the DC Mission's Spiritual Transformation Program gives dedicated students the tools they need to overcome addictions and other life-controlling issues.
- 8. Support mission outreaches in your area:** Mission outreaches are supported by caring individuals, churches, businesses, and civic groups who see the value of sharing their resources with the less

fortunate. (Contributor: Dave Treadwell, Executive Director, Central Union Mission, Washington, DC. For more information about their program in the Washington, DC area <[click here](#)>.)

Ask the Lord to show you how you might help with the growing issue of homelessness in your area. Ask the Lord to reveal the already established works of helping the homeless in your area and joining their efforts.

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'" (Matthew 25:34-36)

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL PRAYER CAUCUS FOUNDATION PRAYER UPDATE

Religious Freedom Part of U.S. Foreign Policy? - The bill, introduced by Congressman Frank Wolf (R-Virginia), would essentially "amend the 1998 International Religious Freedoms Act, and also [reauthorize] the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), which is going to lose its funding this September."

H.R. 2023 - Public Expression of Religion Act: H.R. 2023, the Public Expression of Religion Act, which would limit the remedies available to parties that bring lawsuits against expressions of religion...The bill would modify the law so each side pays its own attorney fees, removing the monetary incentive that activist groups have in bringing these types of cases.

H.R. 2070 - Please pray for the World War II Memorial Prayer Act of 2011 which would require the Secretary of the Interior to place a plaque at the World War II Memorial or inscribe on the Memorial President Franklin D. Roosevelt's D-Day prayer, which has been entitled "Let Our Hearts Be Stout."

H.Res.253 - Members of the Congressional Prayer Caucus introduced legislation affirming America's religious and spiritual heritage, and to designate the first week of May as America's Spiritual Heritage Week."

H.Res. 211 - This piece of legislation is aimed at recognizing the important influence the Ten Commandments had on our Founding Documents and Principles.