

to search for security risks by looking under passengers' clothing in a particularly privacy intrusive inspection.

I share many of Mr. Nader's concerns, and include a copy of article from www.commondreams.org for the record. Last summer I worked with many of my colleagues in the House on both sides of the aisle to pass an amendment to the TSA Authorization bill which addressed some of the problems with the TSA's use of these AIT machines. Our amendment prohibited the use of AIT for mandatory primary screening at airports, required the TSA to give passengers the option of a pat-down search, and prohibited TSA from storing, transferring, or copying AIT images of passengers.

These technologies need not invade Americans' privacy so intrusively in order to secure our flights and passengers effectively. After the failed Christmas Day bombing attempt, which AIT may or may not have helped prevent, I renewed my call for the inventors and manufacturers of AIT machines to enhance privacy protections to permit broader deployment of these technologies without the trade-off to Americans' rights of privacy.

Some AIT manufacturers have responded with scanners with "auto detection" capabilities, which reduce the costs and risks of error associated with human screeners. These scanners also produce images that go beyond merely blurring faces to blurring the outline of the scanned passenger's body. As I observed last December, these technologies have already been deployed in Amsterdam at the very airport from which the Christmas Day bomber traveled to the United States. My staff has seen these machines in action, and I feel the TSA should look seriously at whether these enhanced scanners could replace the privacy intrusive scanners currently deployed in airports across America.

I hope my colleagues will join with me in discussing the security and privacy issues surrounding AIT, and the concerns raised by Mr. Nader and others. We all want air travel to be as safe as possible, but this can be accomplished without sacrificing our privacy and dignity, and that of our fellow Americans.

[From www.commondreams.org, June 24, 2010]

NAKED INSECURITY
(By Ralph Nader)

If you are planning to fly over the 4th of July holiday, be aware of your rights at airport security checkpoints.

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has mandated that passengers can opt out of going through a whole body scanning machine in favor of a physical pat down. Unfortunately, opting for the pat down requires passengers to be assertive since TSA screeners do not tell travelers about their right to refuse a scan. Harried passengers must spot the TSA signs posted at hectic security checkpoints to inform themselves of their rights before they move to a body scanning security line.

Since the failed Christmas Day bombing of a Northwest Airlines flight by a passenger hiding explosives in his underwear, TSA has accelerated its program of deploying whole body scanning machines, including x-ray scanners, at airport security checkpoints throughout the United States. Scanning machines peak beneath passengers' clothing

looking for concealed weapons and explosives that can elude airport metal detectors. So far, TSA has placed 111 scanners at 32 airports. They expect to have 450 scanners deployed by the end of the year at an estimated cost of \$170,000 each.

Privacy, civil rights and religious groups object to whole body scanning machines as uniquely intrusive. Naked images of passengers' bodies are captured by these machines that can reveal very personal medical conditions such as prosthetics, colostomy bags and mastectomy scars. The TSA responded by setting the scanners to blur the facial features of travelers, placing TSA employees who view the images in a separate room and assuring the public that the images are deleted after initial viewing.

Yet, a successful Freedom of Information Act lawsuit by the Electronic Privacy Information Center against the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) uncovered documents showing that the scanning machines' procurement specifications include the ability to store, record and transfer revealing digital images of passengers. The specifications allow TSA to disable any privacy filters permitting the exporting of raw images, contrary to TSA assurances.

It begs logic that the TSA would not retain their ability to store images particularly in the event of a terrorist getting through the scan and later attacking an aircraft. One of the first searches by the TSA would be to review images taken by the scanners to identify the attacker.

The Amsterdam airport is using a less intrusive security device called "auto detection" scanning which generates stick figures instead of the real image of the person and avoids exposing passengers to radiation. Three United States Senators recently wrote to DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano urging her to consider these devices. (<http://bit.ly/bJFn5K>)

More pointedly, security experts, such as Edward Luttwak from the Center for Strategic and International Studies, have come forward questioning the effectiveness of whole body scanners since they can be defeated by hiding explosives in body cavities. The General Accounting Office, an investigative arm of Congress, has stated that it is unclear whether scanners would have spotted the kind of explosives carried by the "Christmas Day" bomber.

About one-half of these body scanning machines use low dose x-rays to scan passengers. Last May, a group of esteemed scientists from the University of California, San Francisco wrote to John Holdren, President Obama's science adviser, voicing their concerns about the rapid roll out of scanners without a rigorous safety review by an impartial panel of experts. The scientists caution that the TSA has miscalculated the radiation dose to the skin from scanners and that there is "good reason to believe that these scanners will increase the risk of cancer to children and other vulnerable populations." (<http://n.pr/bKGCKX>).

David Brenner, director of Columbia University's Center for Radiological Research, has also voiced caution about x-raying millions of air travelers. He was a member of the government committee that set the safety guidelines for the x-ray scanners, and he now says he would not have signed onto the report had he known that TSA wanted to scan almost every air traveler. (<http://www.columbia.edu/~djb3/>)

Passenger complaints to TSA and newspaper accounts of passenger experiences with scanners contradict TSA assurances that

checkpoint signs provide adequate notice to travelers about the scanning procedure and the pat down option. Travelers, who reported that they were not fully aware what the scanning procedure involved, said they were not made aware of alternative search options. (<http://nyti.ms/9hGtUO>)

Many travelers complained about their privacy, and their families' privacy, being invaded. Some were concerned about the radiation risk, particularly to pregnant women and children. Some travelers felt bullied by rude TSA screeners. The Wall Street Journal reported that one woman who refused to go through the body scanner was called "unpatriotic" by the TSA screener.

Expensive state-of-the-art security technology that poses potentially serious health risks to vulnerable passengers, invades privacy, and provides questionable security is neither smart nor safe. For the White House it is a political embarrassment waiting to happen.

President Obama should suspend the body scanning program and appoint an independent panel of experts to review the issues of privacy, health and effectiveness. After such a review, should the DHS and TSA still want to deploy body scanners at airports, they should initiate a public rulemaking, which they have refused thus far, so that the public can have their say in the matter.

If you experience any push-back from TSA screeners when you assert your right to refuse to go through a whole body scanner and request a pat down security search instead, please write to info@csrl.org.

Ralph Nader is a consumer advocate, lawyer, and author. His most recent book—and first novel—is, *Only The Super Wealthy Can Save Us*. His most recent work of non-fiction is *The Seventeen Traditions*.

RETIREMENT OF FRANK WILLIAMS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA'S BALDY VIEW CHAPTER

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Frank Williams from the Building Industry Association's Baldy View Chapter.

Frank dedicated his career at the BIA to helping families achieve the American Dream of home ownership. He led the Baldy View Chapter with distinction, promoting quality communities, facilitating business opportunities for the Association's members, and always working to increase the public's awareness about the importance of home ownership.

Frank was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Building Industry Association Southern California, Inc. Baldy View Chapter in April of 1992. Working from the Association's Rancho Cucamonga offices, he planned, directed, budgeted and coordinated all programs and administrative activities of the Baldy View Region, which includes all of San Bernardino County and all areas east of the 605 in Los Angeles County.

Under Frank's leadership, the Baldy View BIA has become a true partner with Congress to help cultivate an environment where more

Americans can turn the dream of home ownership into reality. I commend Frank for working with Congress to create the conditions necessary to make home ownership available to more families.

Frank Williams is the recipient of the 1998 Fair Housing Award from the Fair Housing Council of San Bernardino County. He was named the National Association of Home Builders "Gary Komarow Memorial Executive Officer of the Year" in 1999.

While the BIA is losing an exceptional leader, I know our community and our Nation will continue to benefit from Frank's enthusiasm and vision for the cause of housing. Frank has been a tireless community leader and advocate for affordable housing, and he has been instrumental in helping to promote home ownership on the national level. With Frank's dedication, we have been able to raise national awareness about the housing needs of Californians. I am confident his work will continue into the future.

Frank is the Founder, Chairman of the Board and President of Housing Action Resource Trust (HART), a non-profit affordable housing provider that has assisted 50,000 families to buy homes. He also serves as a Commissioner to the San Bernardino County Housing Authority and is a fully-accredited Commissioner on the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officers. In addition, he was recently appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to a Joint Land Use Task Force within the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

There are many grateful people who have benefited from Frank's mentorship and vision over the years. On Wednesday, July 7, Frank's colleagues, friends and family are gathering to thank him for his leadership and dedication to the cause of home ownership.

Frank Williams has been a champion for increasing home ownership and promoting community development. I am very proud to congratulate him on his retirement and I commend him for his dedication to furthering housing opportunities for Californians and all Americans.

HONORING THE 2010 NATIONAL JUNIOR DISABILITY CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the participants and sponsors of the National Junior Disability Championships. This annual competition, founded by Wheelchair Sports USA, has helped teach the value of sports to young athletes since 1984. It began as a small competition for wheelchair athletes ages 7 to 21. Since that time, it has continued to grow both in nature and number. The competition expanded in scope to include athletes with many different types of disabilities, not just those in wheelchairs. Athletes with spinal cord injuries, cerebral palsy, blindness, and many other disabilities now participate in the competition. Re-

flecting this expansion in mission, the sponsoring organization changed its name to Wheelchair & Ambulatory Sports USA. The diversity of sports offered also increased. Although only three sports were initially offered, athletes now participate in seven areas of competition. Over 300 athletes from around the country participate each year.

For some of these young athletes, the National Junior Disability Championships competition provides a pathway to qualify for the U.S. Paralympics team. More importantly, however, it provides these young people the opportunity to develop the values of teamwork, sportsmanship, hard work, and perseverance offered by sports. Participants also benefit in other ways. For example, research shows the importance of physical activity in both the physical and mental development of children. This event removes the barriers that so often prevent these young people with disabilities from participating in sports, allowing them to reap the benefits of athletic competition.

In closing, I would also like to congratulate the athletes participating in the National Junior Disability Championships. It takes great perseverance, commitment, and strength of spirit to participate in this type of competition. I wish you the best of luck as you prepare for your respective athletic events.

IN TRIBUTE TO BOBBY POPE

HON. JIM MARSHALL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Bobby Pope, of Macon, Georgia, who is retiring after a long and illustrious tenure as Athletic Director of Mercer University. I rise to thank Bobby for his extraordinary commitment to Mercer Athletics, his promotion of academic and athletic excellence within the Atlantic Sun Conference, and his overall contributions to the local community.

Madam Speaker, for over 20 years Bobby Pope, Dean of the Atlantic Sun Conference, has served as the Athletic Director for Mercer University. During his tenure, Mercer athletics have thrived, and its student-athletes have achieved impressive success both on and off the field. The program now includes 14 NCAA Division I teams plus the addition of the first-ever fulltime coaches for men's and women's lacrosse teams in the upcoming year. Bobby Pope's commitment to building and strengthening Mercer athletics can further be seen in the recent renovations of existing fields and the construction of a state-of-the-art facility for student-athletes and coaches.

With Bobby Pope at the helm, Mercer University has twice won the Atlantic Sun Conference's All-Academic Trophy. Since its inception in 2007, the Atlantic Sun Conference post-graduate scholarship recognizing excellence and integrity has been awarded to a Mercer student-athlete. During Bobby's tenure, the cumulative grade point average for Mercer

Bear student-athletes never fell below 3.0—a testament to his commitment to academic excellence.

Madam Speaker, Bobby Pope's passion and commitment to athletics and promoting sportsmanship extend beyond Mercer University. He has been very active in the Atlantic Sun Conference—twice serving as Conference President, as well as serving as a member on numerous Conference committees. Bobby has also made innumerable contributions to the local community as treasurer of the Macon Touchdown Club and through his service on the Mayor's Recreation Master Plan Committee, as well as the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Authority. Indeed, he was recognized for his lifelong contributions to Middle Georgia Athletics when he was inducted into the Macon Sports Hall of Fame on April 28, 2006. Also, for over 35 years, his broadcast of local sports news on the "Saturday Scoreboard" gave us the good, the bad, and the ugly about our Georgia Bulldogs, Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets, and other middle Georgia sports teams.

Also, for over 35 years, his broadcast of local sports news on the Saturday Scoreboard gave us the good, the bad, and the ugly about our Georgia Bulldogs, Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets, and other Middle Georgia sports teams.

Madam Speaker, it is fitting for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to include this brief acknowledgement of the accomplishments of Bobby Pope as Athletic Director of Mercer University. As he assumes his new role as the Executive Director for the Mercer Athletic Foundation, Bobby will undoubtedly continue to contribute to the success and accomplishments of Mercer Athletics. Few leave such enduringly positive legacies.

COMMENDING THE GEORGE MASON HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' AND BOYS' SOCCER TEAMS ON WINNING THE VIRGINIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize the George Mason High School girls' and boys' soccer teams for winning their respective State 1A Soccer Championships. On June 12th at Radford University, the George Mason High School Mustangs of Falls Church valiantly defeated Radford High School 3-1 to capture their third consecutive state title. The following day, the boys' team displayed equally outstanding talent by defeating Radford 2-1 to capture their second consecutive state championship.

The girls' championship win follows a remarkable season of 18 wins, 3 losses, and 1 tie. Junior midfielder Hannah Walker scored twice and sophomore forward Leah Roth had a goal and an assist. Nichole Mitchell played tough as the starting goalkeeper, only allowing one goal in the net from a penalty kick. After the final moment of the game, the George Mason players victoriously rushed the field