

01/16/2009 Moran Speaks to Staff College At Fort Leavenworth

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Discusses Legislation to Prevent Guantanamo Detainees Coming to Kansas

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran visited Ft. Leavenworth this week to speak to the nearly one thousand military officers attending the Command and General Staff College (CGSC). During his visit, Moran discussed national defense issues and legislation he sponsored, introduced by Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins (KS-02), to prohibit federal funding to transfer prisoners at Cuba's Guantanamo Bay detention center to Ft. Leavenworth's U.S. Disciplinary Barracks.

"It does not make sense to locate Guantanamo detainees at Ft. Leavenworth," Moran said. "The fort houses military families and was not designed to hold enemy combatants who pose a threat to national security. Ft. Leavenworth military facilities simply do not have the resources required for this national responsibility. We should not jeopardize the safety of Kansans."

President-elect Barack Obama's transition team has indicated the new administration will close detainee operations at Guantanamo Bay. Fort Leavenworth's U.S. Disciplinary Barracks, along with military sites in California and South Carolina, have been suggested as a potential site for relocating the detainees.

Moran visited with CGSC students about national defense issues facing our country. He discussed Iraq and Afghanistan, military spending, and the importance of strengthening benefits to support service members, their families and veterans. He explained that members of Congress should actively engage in conversation with members of the military to help them make good decisions regarding national defense.

Kansas U.S. Senators Sam Brownback and Pat Roberts also oppose transferring Guantanamo Bay detainees to Fort Leavenworth.

Moran is a senior member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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