

Castle Statement on Thwarted Terrorist Plot -- August 10, 2006

WILMINGTON, DE -- Delaware Congressman Mike Castle, a former member of the House Intelligence Committee, today released the following statement regarding the thwarted terrorist plot that was broken up in the United Kingdom earlier this morning:

"I applaud the United Kingdom and United States law enforcement officers who have disrupted a very serious terrorist plot. Their coordination, cooperation and communication were top notch and underscore the importance of good intelligence and information sharing between governments.

"One of the critical lessons learned in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks is that we now live in a global community, where governments must cooperate and share information in order to ensure the security of their citizens. It appears that at least in this case, good intelligence work on the part of UK and US authorities may have facilitated the unmasking of an enormous and very dangerous plot.

"It is also encouraging to see the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and other US agencies - which were reconfigured following 9/11, were able to mobilize quickly with the goal of increasing security while at the same time working to make certain that travel remains open and relatively unburdened at US airports.

"We are gradually improving our ability to detect and disrupt terrorist plots - but it is essential that we continue to evolve our techniques and get to the point where we are thinking a few steps ahead of our enemies. This means improving security not only at airports, but also on rail lines, subways, buses, and ports."