



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Oct. 3, 2006

Contact: Jamal D. Ware
(202) 225-4121

House Intelligence Committee Announces Report on North Korean Strategic Threat

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, announced the release of a committee report on strategic and intelligence challenges posed by North Korea.

“North Korea’s weapons proliferation and continued threats to America and its neighbors must be taken seriously,” Hoekstra said. “This concern is heightened in light of today’s announcement by the regime that it plans to conduct a nuclear test. The international community must increase diplomatic pressure on North Korea in advance of any nuclear test. It’s in the interest of all the world’s people to turn back the clock on the spread of nuclear weapons.”

The committee staff report, “Recognizing North Korea as a Strategic Threat: An Intelligence Challenge for the United States,” is the fourth in a series of unclassified assessments on intelligence reform and strategic threats the committee has made available to the public.

The report focuses on the threat posed by North Korea and its military, how it games nuclear diplomacy, and how it engages in criminal activity, including drug trafficking and counterfeiting.

It also includes a timely section on the possibility of a North Korean nuclear test.

“As an unclassified assessment, this report is aimed at providing information for the American people to use in understanding the very real challenges our nation faces from North Korea,” Hoekstra said. “It completes the series of reports the committee planned to produce and will hopefully foster greater public discussion of the North Korea issue.”

The HPSCI North Korea report can be accessed at:
<http://intelligence.house.gov/Media/PDFS/NorthKoreaReport092806.pdf>.