

# **Staff Briefing: Why Congress should unite against IEDs**

## **The Global Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Epidemic and its Impact on Veterans, Global Stability, and Homeland Security:**

*Why Congress should unite against IEDs*

**Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
2pm-3pm**

(Follow-on dialogue available 3pm-4pm)

**Rayburn 2456**

*Hosted by*

**Representative Elton Gallegly**

*Featuring*

**LTG (USA, Ret) Francis Kearney**

Former Deputy Director

Strategic Operational Planning at the National Counter-Terrorism Center

**COL (USA, Ret) Robert C. Morris, Jr.**

Founder, Partners International Foundation

*Representing*

The Global Campaign against Improvised Explosive Devices (IED)

**Representatives of Veterans Service Organizations, Ambassador Zango Abudu (Nigeria)  
and representatives of other Embassies to the United States will attend**

The IED is becoming the weapon of choice for groups seeking to achieve their goals through violence. Excluding the monthly IED incidents during 2010 in Iraq and Afghanistan, there are estimated to be, on average, three IED detonations each day in the remainder of the world. IED use by drug cartels in Mexico and South America is on the rise while use is increasing in Africa. It may be only a matter of time before IEDs are used by gangs in the United States.

IEDs are the number one cause of casualties for American service members and will be for the foreseeable future. Similar injury statistics are likely much higher for the civilian populations effected by IED attacks.

This briefing and dialogue will provide Members and their staffs: an understanding of the complexity and scope of the global IED threat; Impact of IED injuries on our veterans; Homeland Security Implications; the importance to foreign policy; need for a holistic public-private international solution; and why Members of Congress should unit on this issue and sign the proposed letter to President Obama on IEDs with a status of current signatories.

Please join us for an update and discussion regarding each of these critical cases. Ample time will be allotted for questions and answers. *Read ahead packets are available upon request to: bob.morris@partners-international.org.*

**Please RSVP with you intent to attend NLT April 20, 2012**