



For Immediate Release:
June 22, 2011

Contact: Heather Moeder Molino
Office: (202) 225-7690
Mobile: (703) 615-5371

Ruppersberger Releases Statement on Obama Speech about Troop Draw Down

(Washington, DC) – Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD), Ranking Member on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, released the following statement following President Obama's speech about a troop draw down in Afghanistan.

"Ten years ago, our country was viciously attacked and 3,000 innocent men, women and children were killed on 9-11. Afghanistan and the Taliban were providing safe haven for Osama Bin Laden and his terrorist network. Together with an outraged world, America launched 'Operation Enduring Freedom' to topple terrorism and keep our country safe. We must not forget why this all started.

Allied forces must continue to hold on to the progress we've made as we turn over security to Afghan forces. I am pleased that President Obama is drawing down troops in a way that gives the commanders on the ground the resources, time and flexibility they need to react to the situation in the field while also bringing our brave men and women home."

#####