

OPERA – fiche sociographique - défense

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Catégorie : Législatif

Dates de naissance / décès :

Né le 24 juin 1958

Lieu de naissance :

Munich, Allemagne.

Genre : Male

Lieu de résidence (si DC avant l'accession à un poste retenu, avec si possible l'année de l'emménagement à DC):

Formation :

BA/BS	political science, BA, Bates College, 1980
MA/MS	
PhD	
Law degree (JD...)	
Autre	

Profession initiale :

Carrière :

1981 – 82 : librarian, research, center for defense information (?)

1982 – 85 : researcher, Institute for Policy Studies (?)

1985 – 89 : research fellow, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

1989 – 91 : Senior Researcher associate, National Resources Defense Council (?), Washington

1991 – 96 : legislative assistant, Senator Carl Levin D-Mich

1996 – 2007 : professional staff member, subcom. On Strategic forces, Senate Com. On armed Services

2007 - : lead professional staff member, subcom on emerging threats and capabilities/subcom on strategic forces, Senate com on armed services.

W. Genieys, Operationalizing Programmatic Elites Research in America, OPERA : ANR-08-BLAN-0032.

Co-author: Nuclear Battlefields, 1985, Superpowers at Sea, 1987, Nuclear Weapons Databook, vol. 5, 1994; editor: Security at Sea, 1989.

Sources biblio/bio, articles, divers.

In the first session of the 110th Congress, the Senate Armed Services Committee continued to monitor the nuclear intentions of Iran and North Korea, while overseeing a significant reordering of President Bush's priorities for missile defenses.

Richard Fieldhouse is a key committee staffer in these areas, advising Chairman Carl Levin, D-Mich., on such issues as nuclear arms, chemical and biological warfare, and nonproliferation policy. Fieldhouse, in his second decade as a professional staffer with the panel, also covers issues before its Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, chaired by Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I.

Since the attacks of September 11, 2001, U.S. officials have stepped up their attention to the threat that would be posed by nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons in the hands of any hostile state or terrorist.

Iran and North Korea have long been the focus of nuclear nonproliferation efforts. North Korea's test of a short-range missile in 2006 aroused the fears of neighboring nations, which, along with the United States and others, have pursued the six-nation talks aimed at persuading North Korea to give up its nuclear ambitions.

While talks with North Korea yielded some hope in early 2007 for that nation's "denuclearization," there remained grave concern about the path that both North Korea and Iran have followed toward securing nuclear arsenals.

Increasingly, the spotlight has turned to Iran's nuclear pursuits, but the picture was muddied late in 2007 with the release of unclassified portions of the National Intelligence Estimate. The document's tentative finding was that Iran had discontinued development of key aspects of its nuclear program.

That prompted Democrats to criticize Mr. Bush's aggressive rhetoric about Iran's nuclear program and to call for greater emphasis on diplomacy and have complicated the administration's push for consideration of multinational sanctions against Iran. The Armed Services Committee's experts expected to continue their oversight of the North Korea and Iran situations, as well as other nonproliferation issues.

Meanwhile, Democrats continued aggressive oversight of the nation's missile defense program. Levin, Reed, and Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., the new chairman of the Strategic Forces Subcommittee, have criticized its cost, management, and prospects for becoming reliably operational within a reasonable amount of time.

The defense authorization for fiscal year 2008 called for a \$9.8-billion budget for the strategic missile defense, a reduction of more than half a billion dollars from the president's request.

Fieldhouse joined Levin's personal office staff in 1991 and moved to the committee in 1996. Before Capitol Hill, he researched and wrote about defense issues at private sector organizations, including the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

Source : First Street <http://firststreet.cqpress.com/documents/staffanalysis-2008-35739.aspx>, consulté en juin 2012

Sources additionnelles :