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President's Report:

Eight years ago, the late American Security Council Foundation Chairman Emeritus RADM Robert Spiro made a chilling prediction. He observed that the younger generation lacked an understanding of the Declaration of Independence and especially the Bill of Rights. He noticed a decline in civility in the country, and people showing less respect for their neighbors and fellow citizens. If this continued, he said, in the coming years there would be a general decline in public respect for the nation as a whole.

RADM Spiro recommended the creation of the Step Up America: A Call to Good Citizenship program to help educate our youth on the importance of understanding our freedoms and the need to be a good citizen. It has become the Foundation's major effort to re-educate children and adults about the uniqueness of the United States and our defense of freedom in the World.

But unfortunately RADM Spiro's predictions have been borne out. Today we see increasing disrespect for freedom of speech, with pro-American public speakers being shouted down and demonstrations in Congressional hearings rooms. We see disrespect from athletes and others refusing to stand for the national anthem during sporting events.

The progressive left is attacking every aspect of American life, and condemning the nation as responsible for all the world's problems. The efforts to destroy our history involves attacks on our monuments throughout America, including statues of George Washington, Jefferson and most people that founded the Declaration of Independence. We need to alert America that there are people within the United States that do not like this country and want to change this country into a socialist nation, they want a monarch, they want a powerful one person leader who will promote socialism and let all of the money of the United States be lead through this socialist dynasty they want to develop. This effort to tear down the country is described in grim detail in the new book *Erasing America: Losing Our Future by Destroying Our Past* by ASCF friend and support Dr. James S. Robbins. I recommend it for your reading.

The American Security Council Board of Directors will not let freedom be destroyed by this new generation of haters of the United States, our Constitution and the Bill of Rights. It's time for people to wake up and see the threats that are engulfing the United States, and fight back against the movement to discredit the United States as a world leader and redefine our nation.

Through our Step Up America program we have reached over 2500 students in schools throughout the state of Florida, teaching the importance of understanding our founding documents and what it means to be a responsible engaged U.S. citizens. Our new interactive learning project "The Franklin project" will help us reach even more students in the state and across the country. We kindly ask that you support our cause by visiting www.stepupamericaprogram.org and become a member today. In *Erasing America* Dr. Robbins notes that our program is key to promote engagement through schools, civic and religious organizations, law enforcement and veterans' groups, scouting troops and other civic institutions. The goal of the program is to introduce young people to the American principles



and institutions, increase engagement with community organizations and foster a positive and informed outlook on civic life.

In addition to the domestic challenges to American freedom, we continue to face threats from abroad. The number one problem with our foreign policy has been threats from China followed by Russia, Iran and North Korea. We haven't forgotten about them. The FBI recently pegged China as the number one counter-intelligence challenge for the Bureau. Russia and China are conducting joint war games –the largest such military exercise in decades, and for the first time including Chinese ground troops. We are a threat to these two countries because of our stand for freedom and human rights, and they remain our strategic adversaries.

In the Middle East, Iran continues its malign behavior, bolstered by an infusion of billions of dollars from the fatally flawed 2015 nuclear agreement. Iranian expansionism, support for terrorism, and continuing ballistic missile program, all present a growing threat to peace and stability.

In North Korea, early optimism of a denuclearized Korean peninsula has met with stalls, delays and disappointment.

All of these threats, as well as the challenges of unchecked immigration, cybersecurity, and narcotics trafficking, deserve to be placed high on our agenda as we move forward.

I would like to note in closing the loss of one of our great American conservative commentators. Charles Krauthammer was a tireless advocate of American freedom, a man who bravely overcame tremendous personal challenges to become one of the most noted and respected commentators on the American political scene. He expressed his ideas artfully and with power, whether in print, on television, or speaking in public.

Charles Krauthammer's views and beliefs were very much aligned with the mission of the American Security Council Foundation. His voice in support of the cause of freedom will be missed. We hope to continue his efforts going forward.

Yours for Peace Through Strength,

Dr. Henry A. Fischer
President & CEO
ASCF