

**National and Homeland Security Report**  
**1st District Spring Conference**  
**May 7th 2023**

**Jim Schmidt**

Last week masked Iranian Navy Commandos seized a tanker bound for Houston from Kuwait.

After news of the seizure, a dozen Senators are making a bipartisan appeal to the President to reinvigorate the power of U.S. authorities to seize Iranian oil assets under an enforcement program, they say has been allowed to languish. They also complain that the Homeland Security Departments' Security Investigation Office has been constrained in seizure operations by lack of money. The Program has seized \$228 million since 2019 but the Office has not recently been given money that is available under the Treasury Forfeitures Fund, to conduct seizures of Iranian oil. They say that it is unacceptable this program has been allowed to languish. Still waiting for the White House response to the request.

The U.S. recently sent the nuclear guided missile submarine USS Florida to the area. Signaling to Tehran that the US will not tolerate Iran targeting its troops and shipping or those of its allies. The Sub was converted from ballistic-missiles to tomahawk missiles. U.S. Subs travel around the world without our adversaries knowing their location. We are allowing the presence of the Florida to become public to let Iran know their activities in Syria and Iraq are unacceptable and we can impose a high cost to their actions.

There are 2 good American Legion sites to go to concerning National Security:

Weekly Legislative Update: to subscribe contact Katie Isaacson/Legislative Associate at [kisaacson@legion.org](mailto:kisaacson@legion.org)

National Security Weekly Report: to subscribe contact Andre Brown/Administrative Assistant at [ABrown@legion.org](mailto:ABrown@legion.org)