

Coast Guard expressed concerns in port deal

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Citing broad gaps in U.S. intelligence, the Coast Guard cautioned the Bush administration weeks ago that it could not determine whether a United Arab Emirates-based company seeking a stake in some U.S. port operations might support terrorist operations.

The disclosure came during a hearing Monday on Dubai-owned DP World's plans to take over significant operations at six leading U.S. ports.

The Bush administration said the Coast Guard's concerns were raised during its review of the deal, which it approved Jan. 17, and that all those questions were resolved.

The port operations are now handled by London-based Penin-

sular & Oriental Steam Navigation Co.

"There are many intelligence gaps, concerning the potential for DPW or P&O assets to support terrorist operations, that precludes an overall threat assessment" of the potential merger, the unclassified Coast Guard intelligence assessment said.

"The breadth of the intelligence gaps also infer potential unknown threats against a large

number of potential vulnerabilities," the assessment said.

The Coast Guard said the concerns reflected in the document ultimately were addressed.

In a statement, the Coast Guard said other U.S. intelligence agencies were able to provide answers to the questions it raised.

"The Coast Guard, the intelligence community and the entire CFIUS (Committee on Foreign

Investments in the United States) panel believed this transaction received the proper review, and national security concerns were, in fact, addressed," the Coast Guard said.

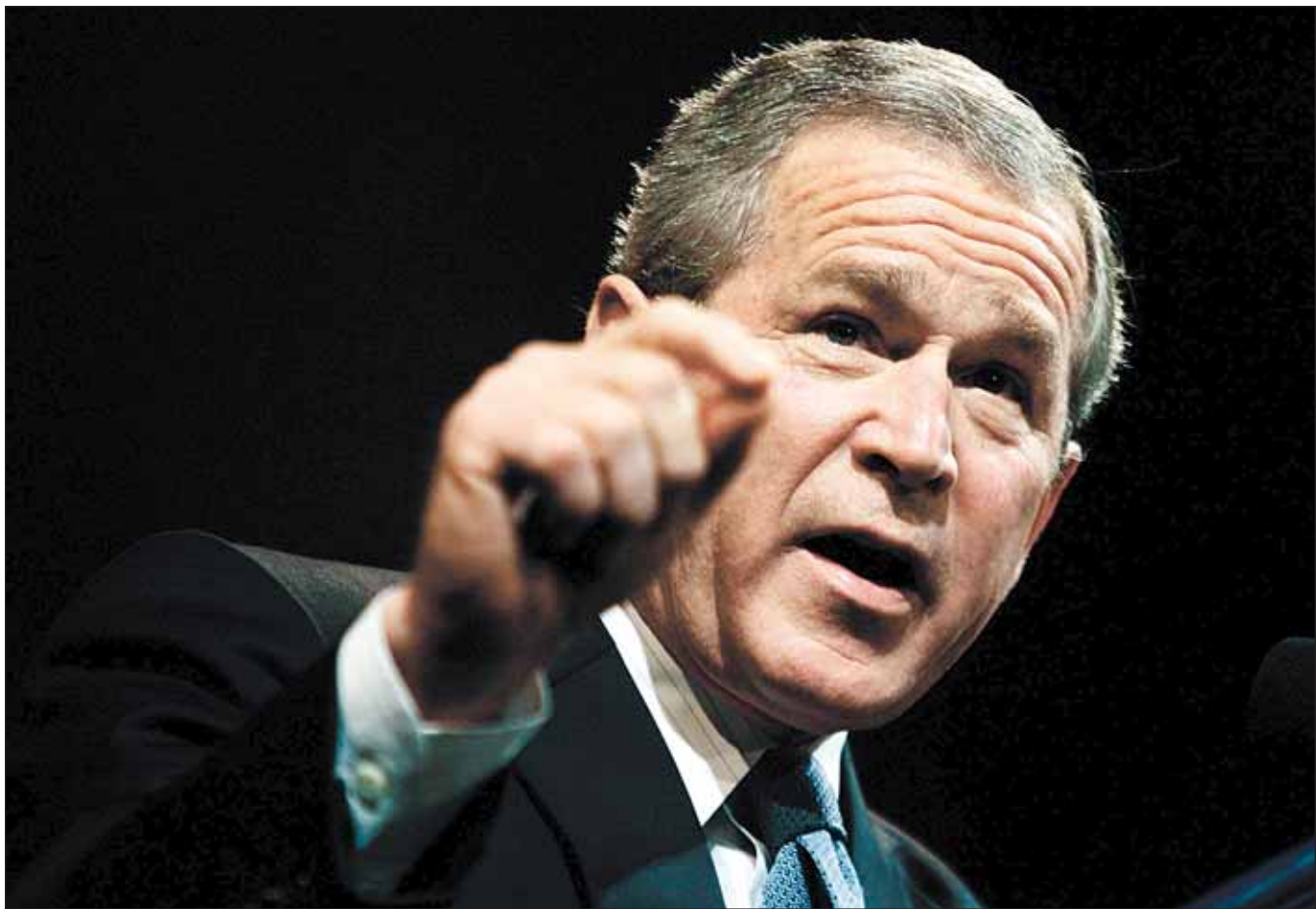
That multi-agency government panel reviews foreign purchases of vital U.S. assets.

The report raised questions about the security of the companies' operations, the backgrounds of people working for the compa-

nies, and whether other foreign countries influenced operations that affect security.

Sen. Susan Collins, chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, released an unclassified version of the document at a briefing Monday.

The Bush administration agreed Sunday to DP World's request for a second review of the potential security risks related to the deal.



President Bush's second term has been laden with problems, making legislators and the public uneasy about the nation's security. AP PHOTO

Report links state with high rate of pregnant smokers

88 Indiana counties ranked higher than national average

By KEN KUSMER
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS

Almost one in five Indiana mothers were unable to break the powerful addiction of smoking while they were pregnant, a rate nearly double that of the nation as a whole, a report issued Monday said.

Also, only four of Indiana's 92 counties had rates of smoking pregnant women below the national average of 10.7 percent in 2003, said the report from the Indiana Youth Institute, a non-profit agency that promotes the healthy development of children. They were Hamilton (5.4 percent), LaGrange (9.0), Adams (10.3) and Hendricks (10.6).

The state average that year was 18.5 percent, down from 20.9 percent in 1999 and about 29 percent in 1990, the report said.

Johnson and Marion counties ranked below the state average with 15.2 percent and 17.6 percent, respectively, the report said.

"The number one barrier," said Sally Edington of the Healthier Moms and Babies program in Fort Wayne, "is that smokers in general are so highly addicted that it's just difficult to imagine not smoking."

Women served by the Fort Wayne nonprofit are less likely to quit smoking permanently than they are to quit only temporarily while pregnant or to merely reduce the number of cigarettes they smoke while pregnant, said Edington, Healthier Moms project coordinator.

She cited a lack of faith in medicines and other smoking cessation treatments, fears of gaining weight and being unable to handle stress, and smoking by others in their social circles as impediments to getting moms-to-be to quit.

"When you ask some women if they want to quit, they don't," Edington said.

But the risks they run for themselves and their babies are high, the youth institute's report said:

- Smoking increases the rate of miscarriage by 30 percent to 50 percent.
- Babies are twice as likely to die from sudden infant death syndrome.
- Hyperkinetic disorders such

AT A GLANCE

The problem: 18.5 percent of Indiana mothers reported smoking while pregnant during 2003, compared with a national rate of 10.7 percent.

The reasons: Experts say many women are unable to break the addiction of smoking and do not understand the risks to their babies, among other factors.

The solutions: Anti-smoking activists and youth advocates say the state needs more education about the risks and pregnant smokers need more support from the fathers-to-be, from their doctors, from faith-based leaders and others in breaking the cycle of addiction.

as attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity are nearly three times as common among children born to smokers.

• A baby's growth may slow because as much as 25 percent of oxygen may not reach the placenta.

• Each cigarette smoked in the third trimester reduces the infant's birth weight by nearly an ounce, and women who smoke during pregnancy are more than twice as likely to deliver infants with low birth weights, placing them at greater risk of experiencing vision, hearing and cognition problems.

Bill Stanczykiewicz, president and chief executive of the Indiana Youth Institute, said pregnant women not only need education about the risks but support from doctors, faith-based leaders, the babies' fathers and others.

All must help break a smoking cycle in a state where more than a quarter of the population lights up. Indiana's smoking rate of 26.1 percent among all adults was sixth highest among all states in 2003.

"I truly is going to take a team effort by all of us to overcome this culture of smoking in Indiana," Stanczykiewicz said.

Karla Sneeas, executive director of the state agency Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation, said help is on the way. The volunteer group Smokefree Indiana will start a telephone hot line in the coming weeks targeting pregnant smokers who want to quit.

Also, between the start of the year and May, the cities of Columbus, Indianapolis, Greenfield, Carmel, Greenwood, and Jeffersonville will have banned smoking in public areas, including restaurants, Sneeas said. Many of the people who work in those areas are women of childbearing age.

"When people work in smoke-free environments, they are more likely to quit and stay quit," Sneeas said.

Fading confidence

GOP governors: Missteps by Bush administration taking toll

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON

If President Bush thinks he has problems in the nation's capital, he should hear what his allies are saying in the state capitals.

Republican governors, more tuned to grass-roots politics than their Washington counterparts, warn that the administration's fumbles in the past few months are taking a toll back home. Their constituents are seeing mistake after mistake, from the slow response to a hurricane-ravaged New Orleans to prescription drugs and ports security.

The GOP governors worry that the series of gaffes threatens to undermine public confidence in Bush's ability to provide security, which has long been his greatest strength among voters.

"You've got solid conservatives coming up speaking like they haven't before, it's likely that something's going on at the grass roots," said Republican Mark Sanford of South Carolina. "Whether it's temporary or not remains to be seen."

The unease was clear during the weekend, including nearly half of the Republicans attending the winter meeting of the National Governors Association. The conference was taking place in a capital enthralled by the political firestorm over government plans to approve takeover of operations at six U.S. ports by a United Arab Emirates company.

Democrats see opportunity, and even those in conservative states say the administration's missteps will have a ripple effect politically at home.

"I do think there's a considerable degree of skepticism about what's been happening at the federal level," said Democrat Kathleen Sebelius of Kansas. "If you didn't pick it up on Katrina, you did when you tried to help your parents' get drugs through the new Medicare program.

But it wasn't Bush's political opponents alone who saw weaknesses. So did his allies

AT A GLANCE

Worried governors: Republican governors are nervous about the shaky public image of President Bush and how that may affect upcoming elections.

Ailing image: Bush is facing criticism on issues including Hurricane Katrina, the Medicare drug prescription program, National Guard troop reductions, the economy and the war in Iraq.

Unsure outcome: Despite Bush's troubles, some governors said much could change before the November elections.

— listing the days of chaos in New Orleans after the hurricane, the nationwide confusion over the drug prescription program that forced many states to step in to help seniors get medications, and the ports security debacle that has drawn criticism from leading Republicans in Congress and the states.

The bigger problem, though, as Republican Don Carcieri of Rhode Island and several others saw it, is Iraq.

"The biggest cumulative effect weighing on everybody is the war," Carcieri said.

Republican Haley Barbour of Mississippi said midterm elections for second-term presidents are historically disastrous for parties in power, a fact that has Republican governors skittish about November.

"Anybody with a brain ... knows '06 historically could be a weak year for Republicans," said the former chairman of the Republican National Committee. "It has less to do with the weakness of the president."

For Republican Mitch Daniels of Indiana, who served in the administration as budget director before running for governor, the stumbles are undeniable but must be seen in context.

"There's a lot of lousy luck involved," he said. "I'm not saying the White House hasn't had better days, but I'm probably not nearly so hard on them as most."

"I'm proud to have been associated with this administration. But second terms are tough. I think they've caught some bad breaks."

IN THEIR WORDS

On Hurricane Katrina response



"This is hindsight, but it was a mistake to bury FEMA under the Department of Homeland Security."
—Gov. Bob Taft, R-Ohio

On changes to Medicare



"Probably the design of the plan could've been better."
—Gov. Don Carcieri, R-R.I.

On war in Iraq



"What was ebullient before ... is a more muted response. (Support for the war) ... is at a quieter level."
—Gov. Mark Sanford, R-S.C.

On ports security



"I don't think he was well served by the bureaucracy."
—Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, R-Idaho

BY THE NUMBERS

Percentage of mothers who reported smoking while pregnant in 2003, as reported by the Indiana State Department of Health:

County	Rate	County	Rate	County	Rate
Bartholomew	19.0	Johnson	15.2	Shelby	23.5
Brown	17.8	LaGrange	9.0	Vermillion	35.5
Hamilton	5.4	Marion	17.6		
Hancock	16.6	Monroe	16.3	Indiana	26.1
Hendricks	10.6	Morgan	23.1	National	10.7

DAILY JOURNAL READERS' GUIDE

MAIN PHONE NUMBER
736-7101

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday

ADDRESS

2575 N. Morton St. (U.S. 31)
P.O. Box 699
Franklin, IN 46131

DELIVERY, BILLING QUESTIONS
736-2777; (888) 736-7101

6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday,
7 a.m. to noon Saturday.
Subscribers should call if they have not received a newspaper by 7 a.m.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
736-2700; (888) 736-7101

8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday
Fax: 736-2754

STORY IDEAS, NEWS TIPS
736-2712

After 5 p.m.: 736-2723
Fax: 736-2766
newstips@thejournalnet.com

SPORTS

Send sports scores, stories and suggestions to:
rmorwick@thejournalnet.com

ADVERTISING
736-2786

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday
Fax: 736-2713

POSTMASTER

Send address changes to:
Daily Journal, P.O. Box 699,
Franklin, IN 46131
Periodical Class Postage
Paid at Franklin, IN
Daily Journal (USPS 565-520)

VOLUME

Volume 43, No. 193

BACK ISSUES, DIGITAL PHOTOS

Copies of the Daily Journal are available for six months. Digital files of photos published in the newspaper are available on CDs. Please call 736-7101.

COPYRIGHT

© The Daily Journal, 2005
All rights reserved.

ABOUT THE DAILY JOURNAL

The Daily Journal is an award-winning newspaper published daily except Sundays and Christmas at 2575 N. Morton St., Franklin, IN 46131.

Founded in 1963, the Daily Journal is owned by Home News Enterprises L.L.C. and is one of Indiana's most widely recognized and honored community newspapers.

The Daily Journal is committed to responsible reporting, professional business practices and dedicated community service.

The newspaper is a member of the Associated Press, Hoosier State Press Association, Inland Press Association and Certified Audit of Circulations.

TO SUBSCRIBE

Subscription rates are listed below. To subscribe, call 736-2777.

Single copy	
Monday-Friday	\$.50
Weekend issue	\$ 1.00
Home delivery	
Month	\$ 10.40
Year	\$ 118.80
Mail delivery	
4 months	\$ 49.00
8 months	\$ 98.00
12 months	\$ 147.00
Student	
1 semester	\$ 47.00
2 semesters	\$ 96.00
Military	
4 months	\$ 42.00
8 months	\$ 80.00
12 months	\$ 113.00

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

P.O. Box 699
Franklin, IN 46131
letters@thejournalnet.com

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Publisher
Jeffrey W. Owen 736-2744
jowen@thejournalnet.com

Editor

Scarlett Syse 736-2749
syse@thejournalnet.com

Assistant managing editor

Michele Holtkamp-Frye 736-2774
mholtkamp@thejournalnet.com

Assistant managing editor

Jennifer L. Gaskin 736-2721
jgaskin@thejournalnet.com

Circulation director

Mike Warren 736-2711
mwarren@thejournalnet.com

Delivery manager

Bruce Powell 736-2702
bpowell@thejournalnet.com

Administrative manager

Linda Wirey 736-2751
lwirey@thejournalnet.com

Information technology manager

Kathy McDermott 736-2782
kmcdermott@thejournalnet.com

PAYMENTS

Payments can be made by cash, check, MasterCard or Visa. Readers also can sign up for E-Z Pay plan and have their monthly subscriptions deducted automatically from their checking accounts, Visa or MasterCard. Questions about payments can be directed to 736-7101.

WEB SITES

www.thejournalnet.com
www.djclassifieds.com