



THE ROBERT S. STRAUSS CENTER

FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND LAW

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CONTACT: 512-471-6267

Nuclear Control Institute gift to support research on nuclear proliferation *Archives to be housed on UT campus*

AUSTIN, TEXAS – The Robert S. Strauss Center for International Security and Law at The University of Texas at Austin announced today it has received a \$133,200 gift from the Nuclear Control Institute (NCI) to establish a permanent endowment to help combat the spread of nuclear weapons. The Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Endowment will provide funds for research and education to reduce the risks of nuclear proliferation and nuclear terrorism, and especially to ensure that civilian applications of nuclear technology do not foster the spread of nuclear weapons to states or terrorist groups.

In addition, NCI will transfer its core paper archives, a unique collection that documents the institute's quarter-century of global nuclear nonproliferation activities, to the Center for American History at The University of Texas. The Strauss Center will house NCI's award-winning website, www.nci.org, an electronic archive offering instant access to essential historical documents.

Upon the transfer of its endowment, archives and website to the university, NCI will close its doors, after serving for 27 years as the leading non-governmental organization dedicated to reducing proliferation risks of civilian nuclear commerce. The decision by NCI's board of directors was spurred by the death, in 2007, of NCI's founding president, Paul Leventhal, a former senior staffer in the U.S. Senate and former journalist.

The Strauss Center also has created a scholarship fund to honor NCI's founder. The Paul L. Leventhal Scholarship fund will support students engaged in study or research related to the NCI archives or the activities supported by the Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Endowment.

“The spread of nuclear weapons will continue to be one of the most important issues we face in the 21st century,” Strauss Center Director James M. Lindsay said. “It is an enormous honor to be the recipients of Paul Leventhal's groundbreaking work. We are incredibly thankful to NCI and the Leventhal family for this generous gift that will benefit researchers and students for years to come.”

Ted Leventhal, who oversaw the transfer of the records from Washington to Austin, said, “My family and I are very grateful to The University of Texas for providing a home for my father's voluminous archive of his work on nonproliferation issues at the Nuclear Control Institute and in the United States Senate. Academics and students interested in nuclear nonproliferation will find the unique documents in this 200-box collection to be

insightful and rewarding, and perhaps inspiring enough to devote their careers to curbing the spread of nuclear weapons.”

Strauss Senior Fellow and Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs Associate Professor Alan Kuperman was instrumental in developing the Strauss Center’s relationship with NCI. Kuperman was a research assistant and legislative director at NCI from 1987-1989 and subsequently a frequent consultant to the institute.

“In addition to his personal accomplishments,” said Kuperman, “Paul mentored a generation of nonproliferation scholars and activists around the world. It is this legacy that the donation and scholarship fund will perpetuate by helping teach future generations how to combat the spread of nuclear weapons.”

The Robert S. Strauss Center for International Security and Law engages the best minds in academia, government and the private sector in developing practical solutions to the pressing problems of an increasingly globalized world. For more information on the Strauss Center, please visit www.RobertStraussCenter.org. For more information on the Center for American History, please visit www.cah.utexas.edu.

About the Nuclear Control Institute

NCI accomplishments include:

- Publishing five books on nuclear terrorism, nuclear arms reduction, nuclear nonproliferation, and the danger that a renaissance of nuclear energy could increase the spread of nuclear weapons unless past lessons are heeded;
- 1981-86: Convened a working group of public interest organizations in Washington, D.C., on nuclear proliferation issues;
- 1986: Established the International Task Force on Prevention of Nuclear Terrorism;
- 1987: Issued an investigative report that led Congress to ban air shipment of civilian plutonium over the United States;
- 1989: Held a conference in South America that helped avert a nuclear arms race between Argentina and Brazil;
- 1989: Organized a coalition of eminent U.S. scientists and diplomats to halt further production of nuclear-weapon materials;
- 1987-90s: Advocated successfully to preserve a U.S. program dedicated to phasing out global commerce in bomb-grade uranium;
- 1993: Helped persuade the U.S. government to cancel a proposed nuclear reactor that would have used bomb-grade fuel;
- 1990s: Intervened successfully with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to block a proposed export of bomb-grade uranium to Belgium; and
- 2006: Intervened successfully with the U.S. NRC to restore public disclosure of proposed exports of bomb-grade nuclear materials.

About Paul Leventhal

Paul Leventhal founded the Nuclear Control Institute in 1981 and served as its President for 22 years prior to becoming Founding President in June 2002. Before establishing NCI, Mr. Leventhal held senior staff positions in the United States Senate on nuclear power and proliferation issues.

He prepared five books for the Institute---*Nuclear Terrorism: Defining the Threat* (Pergamon-Brassey's, 1986), *Preventing Nuclear Terrorism* (Lexington, 1987), *The Tritium Factor* (with the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1989), *Averting a Latin American Nuclear Arms Race* (Macmillan, 1992), and *Nuclear Power and the Spread of Nuclear Weapons* (Brassey's, 2002). He lectured in a number of countries on nuclear issues, including as Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Cambridge University's Global Security Programme, 1991.

Mr. Leventhal organized the Institute's International Task Force on Prevention of Nuclear Terrorism (1986-87), its conference in South America on averting a nuclear arms race between Argentina and Brazil (1989), a coalition of eminent U.S. scientists and diplomats seeking a halt in further production of nuclear-weapon materials (1989), and a working group of public interest organizations in Washington on nuclear proliferation issues (1981-86).

He served as Special Counsel to the Senate Government Operations Committee, chaired by Senator Abraham Ribicoff (D-CT), 1972-76, and as Staff Director of the Senate Nuclear Regulation Subcommittee, chaired by Senator Gary Hart (D-CO), 1979-1981. He was responsible for the investigations and legislation that resulted in enactment of two landmark nuclear laws---the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, dividing the Atomic Energy Commission into separate regulatory and promotional nuclear agencies, and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978, establishing stricter controls on U.S. nuclear trade to combat the spread of nuclear weapons.

The non-proliferation act's requirement that countries accept international inspections on all their nuclear activities ("full-scope safeguards") as a condition of receiving U.S. nuclear assistance eventually was adopted as an international norm by the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

He also served as co-director of the bipartisan Senate Special Investigation of the Three Mile Island Nuclear Accident, co-chaired by Senators Hart and Alan Simpson (R-WY), 1979-1980, and prepared the "lessons-learned" legislation enacted in 1980 to require preventive measures and emergency planning for future accidents.

Mr. Leventhal came to Washington in 1969 as Press Secretary to Senator Jacob K. Javits (R-NY) after a decade of political and investigative reporting for the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *New York Post* and *Newsday*. In 1970, he took a leave from Javits' staff to serve as campaign press secretary to Senator Charles Goodell (R-NY). In 1972, he served as Congressional Correspondent for *National Journal* before returning to Capitol Hill to pursue legislative and investigative responsibilities.

Mr. Leventhal was a Research Fellow at Harvard University's Program (now Belfer Center) for Science and International Affairs and a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Institution, 1976-1977, concentrating on nuclear weapons proliferation under a grant from the Ford Foundation.

He served as Assistant Administrator for Policy and Planning at the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), 1977-1978.

He held a bachelor's degree in government, magna cum laude, from Franklin and Marshall College. The college presented him its Alumni Medal in 1988 for distinguished professional accomplishment and contributions to society, and an honorary doctor of laws degree in 2001. He held a master's degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

Mr. Leventhal died on April 10, 2007.

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