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PUBLIC NOTICE FOR UPCOMING RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING ON 15
MAY 2013 NS NEWPORT RI
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NEWPORT DAILY NEWS

Weapons for Syrian rebels remains 'option,' Hagel says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is rethinking its opposition to arming the rebels who have been locked in a civil war with the Syrian regime for more than two years, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said Thursday, becoming the first top U.S. official to publicly acknowledge the reassessment.

During a Pentagon news conference with British Defense Secretary Philip Hammond, Hagel said arming the rebels was one option that the administration was considering in consultation with its allies. But he said he personally had not decided whether it would be a wise or appropriate move.

"Arming the rebels — that's an option," he said. "You look at and rethink all options. It doesn't mean you do or you will... It doesn't mean that the president has decided on anything."

Hammond said his country was still bound by a European Union arms embargo on Syria, but he said Britain would look at the issue again in a few weeks when the ban expires



Associated Press
Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, left, and British Defense Secretary Philip Hammond participate in a joint news conference at the Pentagon in Washington on Thursday.

and make a decision based on the evolving situation on the ground.

Hagel's comments affirmed what had been a quiet but emerging dialogue within the

Obama administration: That arming the rebels might be preferable amid growing indications that the Syrian regime has used chemical weapons against its own people, an

action President Barack Obama characterized as a "game-changer" that would have "enormous consequences."

Asked for his thoughts on the evolving issue, Obama said Thursday that the U.S. will continue to evaluate its options.

"We want to make sure that we look before we leap and that what we're doing is actually helpful to the situation as opposed to making it more deadly or more complex," Obama said at a news conference in Mexico.

Both Hagel and Hammond also indicated that strong evidence still was needed to provide a solid legal basis for any military action the U.S. or its allies might take.

"There is a very strong view that we have to have very clear, very high-quality evidence before we make plans and act on that evidence," Hammond said. "If there were future use of chemical agents, that would generate new opportunities for us to establish a clear evidence of use to a legal standard of evidence."



Associated Press
Advertisement promotes the 2013 National Rifle Association's annual convention which began today in Houston.

In celebration mood, gun lobby convenes

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Fresh off a huge victory over President Barack Obama on gun control, the message from the National Rifle Association is clear: The fight has just begun.

The powerful gun rights lobby gathers in Houston this weekend for its annual convention and organizers anticipate a rollicking, Texas-sized party — both to celebrate the victory in Washington and recharge the troops for more political struggles as gun control advocates tally their own successes in states around the country.

"If you are an NRA member, you deserve to be proud," Wayne LaPierre, the NRA's brash, no-compromises chief executive wrote last week to the organization's 5 million members, telling them they "exemplify everything that's good and right about America."

The NRA couldn't have picked a friendlier place to stage its annual event. More than 70,000 people are expected to attend the three-day "Stand and Fight"-themed event, which includes a gun trade show, political rally and

strategy meeting.

Texas, with its frontier image and fierce sense of independence, is one of the strongest gun rights states in the country. More than 500,000 people are licensed to carry concealed handguns, including Gov. Rick Perry, who once bragged about shooting a coyote during a morning jog.

Concealed handguns are allowed in the state Capitol, where simply showing a license allows armed visitors to bypass metal detectors.

Friday's big event is a political forum with speeches from several state and national conservative leaders, including Perry, former GOP vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin, former Pennsylvania senator and presidential candidate Rick Santorum and Sen. Ted Cruz, a Republican Texas firebrand who has become one of the top tea party voices in Washington since being elected last year. LaPierre speaks to the convention Saturday before the "Stand and Fight" rally at night.

NRA spokesman Andrew Arulanandam predicted the convention will draw the largest crowd in its history.

U.S. calls for N. Korea to release American

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. called Thursday for North Korea to grant amnesty and immediately release a Korean-American sentenced to 15 years' hard labor for "hostile acts" against the state.

Kenneth Bae, 44, a Washington state man described by friends as a devout Christian and a tour operator, is at least the sixth American detained in North Korea since 2009. The others eventually were deported or released without serving out their terms, some after trips to Pyongyang by prominent Americans, including former presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter.

Analysts say Bae's sentencing could be an effort by Pyongyang to win diplomatic concessions in the ongoing standoff

over its nuclear program. But there was no immediate sign a high-profile envoy was about to make a clemency mission to the isolated nation which has taken an increasingly confrontational stance under its young leader Kim Jong Un, who has the power to grant special pardons under the North's constitution.

State Department spokesman Patrick Ventrell said the U.S. was still seeking to learn the facts of Bae's case. He said the Swedish Embassy in Pyongyang, which handles consular matters there for the U.S., did not attend Tuesday's Supreme Court trial and that there hasn't been transparency in the legal proceedings.

"There's no greater priority for us than the welfare and

safety of U.S. citizens abroad, and we urge the DPRK authorities to grant Mr. Bae amnesty and immediate release," Ventrell told a news conference, referencing the socialist country's formal title, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

North Korea has faced increasing international criticism over its weapons development. Six-nation disarmament talks involving the Koreans, the United States, Japan, China and Russia fell apart in 2009. Several rounds of U.N. sanctions have not encouraged the North to give up its small cache of nuclear devices, which

Pyeongyang says it must not only keep but expand to protect itself from a hostile Washington. Tensions have escalated since it conducted its third nuclear test since 2006 in February.

Pyeongyang's tone has softened somewhat recently, following weeks of violent rhetoric, including threats of nuclear war and missile strikes. There have been tentative signs of interest in diplomacy, and a major source of North Korean outrage — annual U.S.-South Korean military drills — ended Tuesday.

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PUBLIC MEETING
NAVAL STATION NEWPORT
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)
MEETING

Wednesday, May 15, 2013
Officer's Club, NAVSTA Newport
Meeting begins at 6:30 pm

You can meet fellow citizens and representatives from the Navy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, and you can help plan studies and restorations of cleanup sites.

For additional information and our schedule, go to the RAB Internet Web Site at www.rabnewportri.org. Additional information is available at the Navy's Internet Web Site at <http://go.usa.gov/Tsy>.

If you have any questions or need to arrange base access, please call 401.841.7671 at least 5 business days prior to the meeting date.

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(Stickers are ONLY available at Second Beach)

2013 Second Beach Parking Stickers Pre-Season Sale at Main Gate to Second Beach

Dates: Saturday, May 11, 2013 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 12, 2013 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 18, 2013 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

2013 Second Beach Parking Stickers Sale during Beach Season Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day

Sales of parking stickers will continue at the Gazebo near the main gate to Second Beach (at the intersection of Hanging Rocks Road and Sachuest Point Road) when the beach opens for the season on Saturday, May 25 (Memorial Day Weekend) and continue every day from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. until Labor Day, weather permitting.

2013 Parking Sticker Rates

Resident	\$70.00
Senior resident	\$65.00
Non-resident	\$140.00
Senior non-resident	\$130.00
Resident motorcycle	\$30.00
Non-resident motorcycle	\$60.00
Daily weekday	\$10.00
Daily weekend/holiday	\$20.00
Daily motorcycle	\$10.00

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