

Lecture ...from Page 1

Sen. Chambliss also spent a fair amount of time discussing his earlier work in intelligence, when he served on the Intelligence Committee in his last two years in the House of Representatives.

"Serving on the Intelligence Committee kind of changed my focus from a legislative perspective," said Sen. Chambliss. "And really from a worldwide perspective, because all of a sudden, I went inside the room, and I was privy to all the secrets that were going on around the country and around the world. I knew who was spying on who. And you also learn where the pitfalls are, where the bad guys are."

"And you learn about the fact that there are an awful lot of people around the world who wake up every morning thinking of ways that they can kill and harm Americans. We're the greatest nation in the world, we're the freest nation in the world, but we're also the envy of a lot of people out there."

To Sen. Chambliss, America projects symbols of freedom and democracy — symbols that those who would do America harm wish to destroy.

"The last two years I spent on the House side as a member of the Intelligence Committee really opened my



eyes," said Sen. Chambliss. "I was chairman of a newly created committee on terrorism and homeland security. Now, back then, nobody was all that concerned about terrorism."

Up to that point, America had experienced terror from afar via embassy bombings and the like, but nothing as devastating as the acts of terrorism committed on Sept. 11, 2001.

"We had a few things that happened to us, but we didn't have a worldwide network of terrorists that we knew about that wanted to attack us, and particularly attack our homeland," said Sen. Chambliss. "But boy, did that ever change. Leading up to Sept. 11, my subcommittee was focused on nothing but that issue."

Sen. Chambliss highlighted his work in those days leading up to Sept. 11, with U.S. Rep. Jane Harman, a Democrat from California.

"While we didn't vote alike on other matters, when it came to national security, we were in lock step," said Sen. Chambliss. "Jane and I put this trip together in January of 2001, where we were going to the Middle East, where the storm was brewing. And we knew it was brewing because of the information that we had received behind closed doors."

The trip included a visit to Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Israel. During the trip to Israel, Sen. Chambliss said his group wished to speak with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

"We started our trip in Egypt, and Hosni Mubarak was the president of Egypt at that time," said Sen. Chambliss. "President Mubarak came into a room where all of us were and were waiting on him. We had a schedule of about 15 or 20 minutes with him, and we were going to be very fast-paced trying to interrogate him about some issues that we needed to know about."

"He came into the room, he went around and shook hands with everybody, and he looked at me and he said, 'Congressman, I'm here, I'll tell you anything you want to know, and I'm at your pleasure.'"

That 15 or 20 minutes turned into two hours.

"Now, he was a dictator, and he's sometimes referred to as a cruel dictator," said Sen. Chambliss. "And he may have been, but he ran that country like nobody else could run that country at that time, and

you've seen what's happened since he was overthrown. It's been a very contentious part of the world, obviously."

"That started us off, and the last thing he told me was, as we wound up our conversation — he knew we were going to Ramallah, and he knew we were going to see Arafat," said Sen. Chambliss. "He did not like Arafat, even though they were Arab brethren together. But he looked me in the eye, and he said, 'Congressman, here's what I want you to know about Yasser Arafat. When you meet with him, he's going to look you in the eye, and he's going to lie to you.'"

This stuck with Sen. Chambliss, who said that when he met with Arafat, Arafat told him, "Congressman, I really do want peace in the world for my grandchildren."

"And I said, 'Well, Mr. President, if you're serious about it, you heard what I said about my president's commitment to you,'" said Sen. Chambliss. "And if you want peace, we will work with you."

It wasn't long, however, before Mubarak's warning to Sen. Chambliss about Arafat rang true.

"Two days later, I picked up the paper, and here's a group of Palestinians who had gone into a bar mitzvah in Israel, and had started firing automatic weapons and had killed 21 young Jewish folks," said Sen. Chambliss. "What I knew was that what Mubarak had told me was exactly right — that he'd look me in the eye and he'd lie to me. And he never showed any signs of accepting peace from that point forward."

That was just one of a few anecdotes Sen. Chambliss shared Thursday on his time spent in American intelligence.

As for the future of peace in the Middle East and for Americans around the world, Sen. Chambliss is

hopeful but realistic.

How much longer will the War on Terror last?

"It's going to be a long and enduring war, and it's obviously totally unconventional from anything we've ever fought before," said Sen. Chambliss. "We're going to win it in the back alleys, and we're going to win it by fighting against people who won't look us in the eye and try to take us out on the battlefield. They're going to hide behind women and children, and in hospitals and whatnot, and shoot at us, and just dare us to shoot back at them."

"That's the kind of mentality that we're facing from an adversary standpoint right now, and it's just going to take a whole different mindset. We'll prevail. We have the world's greatest military, but all the F-22s in the world are not going to win this war. It's going to take the meaningful development of a strong attitude by the neighborhood, i.e., the folks who have the most to lose from this."

And the U.S. is not the country that has the most to lose, according to Sen. Chambliss.

"It's the Arab neighborhood," said Sen. Chambliss. "It's the folks in the UAE, and Saudi Arabia and other parts of the Arab world that have the most to lose, because their economies are just tanking. Unemployment in all of those countries is 30 to 40 percent. It's going to take the Europeans standing up and saying we've had enough."

"And again, America's going to have to lead, but it's going to take a strong commitment on the part of the Europeans, the Middle East, and you're going to have to engage the Russians and the Chinese on this," said Sen. Chambliss. "Everybody's going to have to circle the wagons. If you don't do that, then it's going to be a very dangerous world that your children grow up in, and none of us want to see that happen. I think it will happen eventually — I think this latest thing, we're seeing the Jordanians and the Egyptians all of a sudden come to the forefront and provide good, strong leadership."

Former U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor Zell Miller, who attended the lecture with Shirley Miller, his wife, closed the evening by thanking Chambliss for his time.

"Thank you for your service," said Gov. Miller. "May you have a wonderful time back home. You are a great, great senator, and we're all very, very proud of you."

Bust..

continued from Page 1

amphetamine, Sheriff Mason said.

Also, investigators recovered numerous items that they believe to be reported stolen items. Investigators believe the items were involved in a swap for drugs deal, Union County Sheriff's Detective Sgt. Tyler Miller said.

Both Robert Hughes and JoAnne Hughes remain in custody.

Robert Hughes has a history of drug-related convictions dating back to 1996, Georgia Department of Corrections records show.

The case remains under investigation and more charges are pending, Sheriff Mason said.

1

**Advertising
in the
North
Georgia
News
Pays!**

Contact
Joe Collins
706-745-6343
706-835-8769

1