

# Faces of

## Veterans

America's major Veteran's organizations have strongly urged the U.S. Congress to pass a national energy policy, one that includes development of the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

In a letter to Senator Tom Daschle, American Legion National Commander Richard J. Santos cited the current national security crisis and America's growing reliance on Middle East oil as a key reason to allow exploration in ANWR.

"War and international terrorism have again brought into sharp focus the heavy reliance of the United States on imported oil," Santos wrote. "During times of crises, such reliance threatens our national security and economic well being. The import of more than 50 percent of our petroleum ... further compounds our foreign trade balance at



a time when our energy demands continue unabated. It is important that we develop domestic sources of oil that are contained within our public lands - such as the supplies within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge."

The American Legion is not alone. The Vietnam Veterans Institute, AMVETS, and Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A also recognize the need for energy independence.

Veterans have fought for our freedom. They know how to protect our way of life.

**American Veterans Fought to Protect our Independence.**

**Now it is Your Turn: OPEN ANWR.**

**Increased Energy Independence  
Increased National Security**