



National veterans group tells Flint crowd that U.S. dependence on foreign oil threatens national security

By Beata Mostafavi | Flint Journal

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FLINT, Michigan — Matt Ross said the first place his Army crew was sent to protect in Iraq was an oil field.

It was just one sign of what he believes is the country's dangerous dependence on foreign oil and helped move him to fight for an overhaul in America's energy policy.

The Iraq veteran spoke at the UAW Local 651 post today on a Flint stop by a national bus tour by vets traveling the country with one message: oil independence is vital to America's national security.

"That money is used to fund the people who are fighting our soldiers," Ross said of what the group **Operation Free** estimates is \$1 billion a day spent on buying oil from overseas countries such as Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

Ross and three other veterans spoke at the roundtable discussion as part of the Veterans for American Power National Tour, which will include similar events in 16 more states over the next two months.

The group urged people to write their legislators and get involved in their communities to help push for renewable clean energy that will lead the country down a path of oil independence.

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