

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2601

**COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**
RANKING DEMOCRAT, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIA
AND THE PACIFIC

Gary L. Ackerman
Congress of the United States
5th District, New York

218-14 NORTHERN BOULEVARD
BAYSIDE, NY 11361
(718) 423-2154

**COMMITTEE ON
FINANCIAL SERVICES**
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS,
INSURANCE AND GOVERNMENT
SPONSORED ENTERPRISES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS AND CONSUMER CREDIT

<http://www.house.gov/ackerman>

For Immediate Release

Contact: Jordan Goldes

June 7, 2006

718-423-2154

**ACKERMAN BLASTS HOMELAND SECURITY CHIEF CHERTOFF OVER
CUTTING HOMELAND SECURITY FUNDS TO NEW YORK CITY**

*Ackerman reminds Secretary Chertoff of New York City's many national icons with 10
postcards*

Rep. Gary L. Ackerman (D-Queens/L.I.) sent ten vintage postcards of New York City icons to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Michael Chertoff in response to DHS's recent slashing of homeland security funds to New York City. DHS cut homeland security grants by \$83 million, or 40 percent. This outrageous decision was based in part on New York City's supposed lack of "national icons." In order to remind Secretary Chertoff that New York City is proud to have numerous national icons, and that they are still vulnerable to terrorist attack, Rep. Ackerman, along with Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) and other members of the New York City's Congressional Delegation are sending the Secretary postcards of New York City's famous landmarks. Rep. Ackerman stated, "The Department of Homeland Security and Secretary Chertoff need to understand that New York City still remains the number one target for terrorists, cutting funds now only makes us more susceptible to attack. The federal government must continue to put its resources where there is the highest probability of an attack, it's just common sense."

Rep. Ackerman's postcards, reproductions of originals from the Congressman's collection of vintage 20th Century postcards, included images of famous places such as: the icon of icons, the Empire State Building, the Times Building, Times Square, the New York Stock Exchange, Trinity Church, the Flatiron Building, Grace Church, Cathedral of St. John the Divine, and the Bowne House.

Rep. Ackerman's postcards read:

Empire State Building (American landmark). Even an ape could find it!

Greetings from Times Square! Wish you here: the Times Building, an American Landmark!

Ever hear of Times Square? It's where the year begins! In N.Y.!

The New York Stock Exchange! It's an American landmark!

Trinity Church, N.Y.C. George Washington prayed here upon being sworn in as America's first President! Landmark!!

Historical Landmark, the Flatiron Building in N.Y.!

New York City, Icons R Us!

Greetings from Grace Church, N.Y.C., a landmark!

St. John the Devine, American landmark, N.Y.C.!

The Bowne house in Flushing, N.Y. where the "Flushing Remonstrance" was signed, declaring religious freedom in America. A N.Y. American icon and landmark! Wish you were here!

If you would like to send Secretary Chertoff a postcard about New York City icons, his address is:

**Secretary Michael Chertoff
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528**

###