

# National Republican committee attacks Massa, Kuhl denies role



**Kuhl**



**Massa**

**By ROB MONTANA**  
STAFF WRITER

Democrat Eric Massa has drawn the ire of a Republican group, and it's not U.S. Rep. John "Randy" Kuhl, R-29.

The National Republican Congressional Committee

has issued a press release attacking Massa, who is running for the 29th District seat in the 2008 election. The release says Massa has yet to take a position on the actions of Washington Democrats who the NRCC says are playing "political games

instead of protecting America's security."

"Just last week, the Democrats skipped town after repeatedly blocking bipartisan legislation to renew the terrorist surveillance program, opening the floodgates for their trial

## **CAMPAIGN08**

lawyer friends to tie up the court systems with frivolous lawsuits against private telecommunications companies who have done their patriotic duty in choosing to assist in terrorist surveil-

lances," the release stated. "Will the \$5,000 in campaign cash that Massa has taken from trial lawyers convince him to vote in lock-step for Pelosi's dangerous national security agenda?"

Massa responded to the

**Turn to 7A**

## Continued from 1A

attack, saying this is a pattern of the Republican party.

"From the same people that lied to you about the reasons for invading Iraq, denied health care to our children, shipped our jobs overseas and then illegally tapped your phones comes more of the same false negative Washington attacks," he said. "During the 2006 election cycle, they had no problem lying to working families of Western New York about me and here we go again.

"It is clear that Randy Kuhl wants to help George W. Bush and Dick Cheney gain the ability to secretly tap your telephone without any cause and without a warrant, but we have something called the Constitution which must be upheld," Massa added. "This is about George Bush and his corporate allies breaking the law and now trying to change it, nothing more. I defended the Constitution for 24 years in the United States Navy and I refuse to surrender our freedom in a spree of fear and falsehoods as the Randy Kuhl

and George W. Bush want us to."

The NRCC release also stated Massa had accepted \$57,800 in contributions from Democratic leaders in Washington, saying it proves he "has already shown he will embrace the Democrat leadership in Washington."

"The voters want a Congressman who will work to strengthen our national security, not weaken it, and House Democrats have failed to do so at every turn," said NRCC Communications Director Jessica Boulanger in a prepared statement. "Massa's cozy ties to the Democrat leadership and lobbyists in Washington make him a liability for the people of New York's 29th Congressional District."

Massa said Kuhl is one who hasn't been there for the people in the district.

"Randy Kuhl has been in lockstep with George W. Bush for over three years now, and quite frankly I find it unbelievable that he still refuses stand up to this failed administration," he said.

Kuhl also was asked about the press release, but said he

did not have anything to do with it, or know that it was being distributed. He did say it was interesting that Massa has said he doesn't take money from political interest groups, but the release states he's taken money from Democratic leaders in Washington.

"If he is going to continue to claim that he has does not accept donations from political interest organization then I would expect him to return the money," Kuhl said. "It appears that it is not just (U.S.) Rep. Eliot Engel (D-17) questioning Mr. Massa's 'fitness to serve in Congress.'"

"The 29th District needs a Representative who stands up and fights for them, not one who hides their head in the sand when our national security is at risk," he added. "Keeping America safe and standing up to voice opposition for a man who has served this country with honor and dignity should not be partisan issues."

**GLOBAL  
PACKAGE  
SERVICES INC.**

---

The release, Massa said, was meant to deflect negative attention from the congressman.

“Make no mistakes about it, this baseless and negative attack is simply designed and intended to take the attention off of a recent negative story about Randy Kuhl in a national magazine,” he said.

Asked how much of a sign

the release was regarding his plans to seek re-election, Kuhl gave a familiar answer.

“As I have said before I have not decided if I will run for re-election,” he said. “I am taking all of the steps necessary to be a candidate, but right now I am focusing on doing the job that I was elected to do.”