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FROM THE FRONT PAGE

THE MIAMI HERALD

HOMELAND SECURITY

Ridge sees terror threat to 'symbolic' U.S. events

BY SHANNON KATZREY

WASHINGTON — Worried that terrorists have been emboldened by the recent train bombings in Spain, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge warned Monday that possible new strikes against Americans at upcoming events, from the debut of the World War IV movie to the national political convention.

With as many as 100,000 people gathered in the next few months, we must be aware

of the threat to our lives," Ridge said to radio and television audiences in Las Vegas. "We don't need a terrorist attack to make us feel like we're in danger."

To help increase defenses, Ridge announced the creation of a working group to focus on key vulnerabilities such as rail and air travel, chemical facilities and the nation's electrical grid. Members of the group will come from nine other government agencies as

well as the Department of Homeland Security. The group will reach out to local government officials, police and the private sector to review and, in some cases, speed up the implementation of security measures. Two recent presidential directives called for the creation of the group.

"This is the kind of thing people thought that Homeland Security was doing

all along," Ridge said. "The economic summit in Georgia and the national political convention in Boston and New York have been classified as national security special events, which means they are already subject to intense security organized by the Secret Service."

"It's shocking to me that they're only doing this now," Ridge said. "This is the kind of thing people thought that Homeland Security was doing

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WAR ON TERROR

Detainees' legal fate on the line

*SUPREME COURT FROM 1A

court will release an audiotape of the arguments immediately after the session.

The arguments in two consolidated cases, *Rasul vs. Bush* and *Hamdi vs. Bush*, will challenge the detention system. Here a conservative appointed by Richard Nixon who has troubled against the death penalty.

More than 25 groups and individuals have weighed in with briefs on the case. The British Parliament, three former Pentagon lawyers and a host of national security experts and lawyers.

DEFENDING ADVOCATES

Examples from the briefs filed by the two sides in the Guantanamo case.

"Endorsement of the government's position — that no court had jurisdiction to review detention of a citizen in a place where the government has no control and where it is not responsible for the actions of its agents — would be a grave injustice. It would be a grave injustice to the United States and to the world."

— Former U.S. chief appellate judge John A. Gibson, on behalf of the families of U.S. detainees

"The judicial review of the military's operations at Guantanamo would directly intrude on important national security interests. The government has a strong interest in the confidentiality of its operations. It is not responsible for the actions of its agents. It is not responsible for the actions of its agents. It is not responsible for the actions of its agents."

— Solicitor General Theodore Olson, representing the Bush administration and speaking on behalf of the families of U.S. detainees

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