

The Register-Guard

Chance of death by terrorist small

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February 6, 2017

Regarding President Trump's executive order banning all immigration from the seven Muslim nations that former President Obama advised Americans not to travel to (he didn't ban travel from those nations, and he certainly didn't ban immigration from them), it's enlightening to note the opinion of the definitely conservative Cato Institute: In a September study, Cato estimated that the chances of being killed by a refugee terrorist from one of those nations at one in 3.64 billion. For comparison, Google estimates that your chances of being struck not once, but twice, by lightning at one in 9 million. Yes, you're 400 times more likely to be struck by lightning twice than to be killed by a refugee terrorist.

Cato goes on to say: "The federal government has an important role to play in screening foreigners who enter the United States, and to exclude those who pose a threat to the national security, safety, or health of Americans... . [However,] the hazards posed by foreign-born terrorists are not large enough to warrant extreme actions like a moratorium on all immigration."

And just for the record, no American has ever been killed by a refugee admitted to the U.S. under Obama's administration. Our existing vetting system works just fine. Wake up, America, and stop being so afraid of stupid things that aren't likely to happen to you. You're much more likely to be killed by a legally purchased U.S. gun.

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