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TELEVISION PROGRAM TO "CBS NEWS' FACE THE NATION."



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GUESTS:

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER
D-Maryland; Democratic Whip

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN
R-Wisconsin; Chairman, House Budget
Committee

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM
R-South Carolina; Armed Services Committee

**MODERATOR/
PANELIST:**

Bob Schieffer, CBS News Political Analyst

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TRANSCRIPT

BOB SCHIEFFER: Today on FACE THE NATION, top Democrats tell embattled Congressman Anthony Weiner to get lost and more dire warnings on the economy. Anthony Weiner says he signed up for therapy after sending inappropriate pictures and messages to women. But Debbie Wasserman Shultz, the chairman of the Democratic Party and Nancy Pelosi the leader of the House Democrats say he has to resign.

We'll bring in Steny Hoyer, the number two Democrat in the House and Republican Congressman Paul Ryan, the architect of the Republican economic plan, to talk about that and whether the country is headed into another recession.

Senator Lindsey Graham is just back from Afghanistan. We'll ask him, is it going to be possible to bring our troops home from there on schedule.

It's all ahead on FACE THE NATION.

ANNOUNCER: FACE THE NATION with CBS News chief Washington correspondent Bob Schieffer. And now from Washington, Bob Schieffer.

BOB SCHIEFFER: And good morning again. The number two Democrat in the House leadership Steny Hoyer, the Republican chairman of the House Budget Committee, Paul Ryan, are in the studio with us. Mister Hoyer, this thing with Congressman Weiner turned even worse if that can be believed overnight. Now new photos of Weiner apparently-- which he apparently took of himself posing before a mirror, in the House gym have shown up on the website TMZ. At least that's what this all appears to be. And these are the tamest ones we are not going to show you the worst of them. Chairman of your party Debbie Wasserman Shultz the leader of the House Democrats Nancy Pelosi have both said it's time for him to resign. But I-- I-- as seeing this develop this morning, I have to ask. Aren't you going to have to move faster than that? Aren't you going to have to take some-- put pressure here to force him out immediately?

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (D-Maryland/Democratic Whip): Well, forcing him out will require a process but this is bizarre, unacceptable behavior. It's my understanding Mister Weiner has indicated he wants to take a leave. I-- I would hope he does so. I hope he reflects upon whether or not he can proceed. It seems to me extraordinarily difficult that he can proceed to represent his constituents in an effective way given the circumstances this bizarre behavior has led--

BOB SCHIEFFER (overlapping): Do you-- do you he should resign?

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: I think that certainly he has to consider that option. I don't see how he can proceed and effectively represent his constituency.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Mister Ryan, Republicans haven't said very much. There's an old saying in Washington--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (R-Wisconsin/Chairman, Budget Committee; overlapping): Yeah.

BOB SCHIEFFER: --don't get between a man and a firing squad. And I take it that's what a lot of Republicans have done. They've-- they've just sort of stood back and let this thing happen. But, you know, with congressional approval ratings down to sixteen percent and that's lower than Richard Nixon's approval ratings when he was forced out of the White House. It seems to me this is not just a problem for Democrats.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: It's a problem for the institution.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Hm.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: Yeah, this-- this is getting beyond ridiculous. I mean, I feel so sorry for Huma and her family most of all. But we've got to get this behind us because it's a distraction. And so yes, he should resign. I don't take pleasure in saying that because we've got important work to do and this is just a ridiculous distraction.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Is there something that can be done to speed this along or?

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: Well, there is a process. I don't know. It would take a little while for this process to go through. There is censuring. There's explicit-- you'd have to go through a process, you'd have to go through the-- the-- what the Ethics Committee I think would have to process--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Yeah, Paul.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: --this. This would take time. I think the fastest best way is for Anthony to resign.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Effectively, I think Paul and I and probably all his colleagues agree that any process, judicial process through--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): Yeah.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --the Ethics Committee is going to take time. I really don't know that we have that time. And I-- I would hope that Mister Weiner would use this opportunity to reflect upon whether or not he can effectively proceed. I don't see how he can. And I hope he would make that judgment.

BOB SCHIEFFER: All right. Well, let's-- let's talk about the economy. The Washington Post editorialized this week that the economy seems to be stuck in neutral now. And Washington seems at a loss at how to fix it. The post also suggested that the Republicans and Democrats are in such an ideological gridlock here that you may be unable to do anything about it. What do you say to that, Mister Hoyer?

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: I hope that's not the case. I-- I hope that we will be able to reach agreement on a number of very important things. First of all, the debt limit extension. This is causing-- ruining the markets, giving great apprehension in the business community, not only here but around the world. Secondly, I think we ought to be able to get together on substantial deficit reduction and debt reduction over the long term. I-- I think we have that responsibility. The American public expects that. In the last election they were concerned about two major issues from my perspective. That is jobs, getting jobs for them and their-- and their families and their people, their neighbors and getting this deficit under control. We ought to work

together to do that if we can work together. I think that's going to raise the confidence level here and around the world. And I think that will in itself have a very substantive effect.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Well, do you think, I mean, you know, saying you hope-- and I appreciate what you're saying. But you hope you can do that. Can you do it, Mister Ryan?

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: Well--

BOB SCHIEFFER: Is there a way here?

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: I think, it's Washington's policies over the last two years that have given us this slow economic growth--this stagnation, enormous tax uncertainty, enormous regulatory uncertainty because of health care and financial laws and debt uncertainty. On the last, one debt uncertainty, meaning, are we going to get our act together and prevent a debt crisis--that is where I hope we can get down payment on the problem. And this debt limit negotiation from my perspective given that there's no budget. I mean, it's been seven hundred and seventy-four days since the Senate passed the budget. That means that budget process is done. So hopefully, in the debt limit negotiations we can get a down payment on spending cuts and debt reduction. And I think that would help calm the markets and help us get to a recovery.

BOB SCHIEFFER (overlapping): Well, let me just say this--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): Bob, let me just say though if I can.

BOB SCHIEFFER (overlapping): Yeah, go-- go ahead.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Paul, you and I both know it's not realistic to say that the problem results from the last two years. In point of fact, we had the worst--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): Yes.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --recession starting in December of '07 under policies--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): No.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --that you supported and President Bush promoted. And we had three million jobs lost in the last year of the Bush administration, which was under the policies--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): Absolutely. Let me agree with your statement if I can. President Obama inherited a tough--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): Right.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: --problem. No two ways about it. I'm not suggesting that's not the case. What I am saying is I think what he's done since then is to make matters worse not better. I think that the economic policies that the President has pushed through Congress into law have made this recovery harder to sustain itself. And that to me is he inherited a tough problem and he didn't go with the right policies, he went with the wrong policies. And I think that is why we have very anemic economic growth.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): And-- and Paul and I disagree on--

BOB SCHIEFFER (overlapping): But don't you have to-- okay.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Paul and I disagree on that. After all, Mark Zandi who we like to quote--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): Yeah. I know you always say something--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): --we love to quote him, because he's not a Democrat. He was John McCain's economic advisor, Paul. And he and others-- Republicans, Marty Feldstein, not-- not somebody that we usually used to quote.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): Did you read his op-ed in Friday's Wall Street Journal.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: I did not.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: Okay.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: But the fact of matter is I did read some of his op-eds at the time we were considering what we needed to do to respond to this deepest recession we had.

BOB SCHIEFFER (overlapping): Well, and let me just ask you this.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): Forget about what the economists said. Look at the results. The economy is flat. And--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: The-- the economy has-- was put in the deepest recession that we've had since the Deep Depression of the Hoover administration.

BOB SCHIEFFER (overlapping): Well, let-- let me just me say, suppose we had a deep recession sitting here.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Yeah.

BOB SCHIEFFER: You are both reasonable men. And-- and you like one another.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: We do.

BOB SCHIEFFER: You personally are friends.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: That's correct.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Tell me something. That the Congress could agree on that would make this situation better. What would you-- where would you start?

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Let me say that where I would start is with Bowles-Simpson.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Is what?

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: The Bowles-Simpson Commission.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: The commission.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Erskine Bowles, the commission.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Okay, this is the deficit commission the President appointed.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: The deficit commission. Now the reason I say we ought to start with that is because we had a process. I wanted to see a statutory commission appointed that would have had real teeth. Unfortunately, we couldn't get the votes in the Senate. Largely Republicans wouldn't give us give us the votes to get that bill on the floor. So we-- so the President put in place a commission. That commission was bipartisan. Paul served on that commission. They did some very substantive work. Not only did they do substantive work but you saw three Republican members of Congress and three Democratic members of Congress support it along with Bowles, a Democrat and Simpson a Republican. And you saw five out of the six members of the-- the President's appointees support it, which means that it got eleven votes. Very frankly had Paul and Mister Camp and Mister Hensarling support it--

BOB SCHIEFFER (overlapping): Well--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --it would have had the fourteen out of eighteen--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): So--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --now let me said-- start, which would have meant then both Senator Reid and then Speaker Pelosi had pledged if they got the fourteen out of eighteen votes they would have put it on the floor. Was it perfect? No-- nothing's perfect. But it certainly serves as a basis, I think--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): Bob, if I may.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): --for bipartisan agreement.

BOB SCHIEFFER (overlapping): Okay. Well, let's see what Mister--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): So-- so what happened was that the President then disavowed his own commission. He put out a budget that did nothing to fix the problem. Republicans since we didn't like all the details in the commission, we took a dozen or so ideas from the commission put it in our budget and we passed a budget to fix this problem, to pay off the debt, to grow the economy, to save Medicare, to fix this social safety net. And we put our plan out there. Then the President just launched another commission, the Biden Commission, which is now underway. We need real leadership on this. Steny has exercised leadership but not every Democrat is Steny Hoyer in the White House and in the Senate.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Well, Mister Ryan, tell me this. What is one thing that you could say Republicans are willing to do this that you think Mister Hoyer might go along with?

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: I think most people agree we have a big spending problem in Washington. That it's inescapable. And so we do want to get spending under control. We've simply said very easily for every dollar that people want to raise the debt limit, we should cut more than a dollar's worth of spending. We've put 6.2 trillion dollars of spending cuts on the table. There's plenty to choose from. And so we would like to think that somewhere that the Democrats will be willing to get spending under control--

BOB SCHIEFFER (overlapping): So--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: --and get the debt under control.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Let-- let me say, the reason I start with the commission. What did the commission do? Everything was on the table. Now unfortunately Mister Ryan and others have taken spending, excuse me, revenues off the table. He's right. We need to constrain and cut spending where appropriate, both on domestic, on defense, on entitlements, so that we get a handle on spending. But at the same time what the commission said supported by three Republican members of the Congress of the United States in the United States Senate said we need to do-- also have revenues as the component. So that the problem I have with Paul and where Paul and I have the difficulty is, Paul is a Camp disciple, if you will. Supply side economics--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: Guilty. Yeah.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Supply side economics frankly--

BOB SCHIEFFER: Well--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --has failed. It failed in the Reagan administration where we incurred 1.4 trillion dollars in new deficits. It failed in the (INDISTINCT).

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: Steny, Steny. Did the commission recommended supply side economics. The commission recommended lowering tax rates to burden the base.

BOB SCHIEFFER (overlapping): Let me just say something here.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: No, that's--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: That is slow growth economics. So Erskine Bowles is saying lower tax rates--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Paul Ryan.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: --for economic growth.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: And you-- as you know I agree with that.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: So we agree with that.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: No, you-- you don't think that revenues ought to be any part of this component.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: No we think revenues should grow--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: You like--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: --like growing the economy. And raising tax rates hurts economic growth.

BOB SCHIEFFER: All right. Let me ask you.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: But Bob--

BOB SCHIEFFER: Both of you. Both of you--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --that's an important point because with all due respect that was your argument in 1981. That was your argument in 2001.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: I was a kid in 1981, so.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Not your personal argument.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): So-- so but--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --or our camps--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): Okay so let's--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --but your camps. Now listen to me. That was the argument in 1981. That was the argument in 2001. And both times we had continuing large deficit--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): So deficit difference today--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --growing to--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): --is we're putting up the spending cuts. Difference today is we're putting out a spending controls--

BOB SCHIEFFER: Okay.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): --and the tax reform.

BOB SCHIEFFER: I got it.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: And I congratulate you for that.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): Spending controls and tax reform for economic growth as well.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: But what you're also doing is--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): I can tell you want to--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: What-- what you're also doing is you're doing it in a-- in a partisan way. Clearly, your Medicare proposal was rejected soundly. We don't need to change Medicare's guarantee in order to make sure that it's fiscally sustainable.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: So when you say partisan, we took this idea from Bill Clinton's commission that John Burroughs shared.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): You didn't have--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): It's an idea that originally came to Brookings Institution.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: You didn't have one conservative Democrat vote for it. And-- and your Democrat--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): I think-- wonder who is being partisan about Medicare these days and who is not.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Well--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): The sooner we deal with Medicare the better off we all are.

BOB SCHIEFFER: And-- and don't you've got to agree with--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: If you want to get I've had to go into Medicare.

(Cross talking)

BOB SCHIEFFER: You go to. You-- you Medicare I think, there's no nobody who doesn't say that Medicare could possibly sustain in its current state. It's going to go broke. Don't you have to reform it? Mister Ryan wants to replace it.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): That's-- that's-- the issue, reform is.

BOB SCHIEFFER: And that's one thing. But I mean with reform--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): With the guarantee--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): The difference is we--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): --we want to-- we don't want to change it for current seniors because we should keep the promise we made to them.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): Well, that's not accurate.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): And so for the next--

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): Oh, you know, that's not accurate.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: --for the next generation we think we got to go a system that's solvent and secure--more money for the poor and more money for the sick, less money for the wealthy. Steny and I were two of, I think, eighteen Republicans and Democrats in 2009.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Just two-- two of eighteen to vote against increasing benefits for wealthy seniors.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Right.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: So there hopefully is a coalition evolving where we should at least have some interest.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER (overlapping): Paul and I have some areas of agreement as you hear, Bob. But when Paul says there are no cuts to those who are currently on Medicare that's not accurate. He repeals the Affordable Care Act. He repeals--

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (overlapping): Well, hold on.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: --the wellness provisions, the benefits that are in there. He pro-- he repeals the preventive benefits. And he repeals the help that we give to prescription drug for those in the Donut Hole. So to say that no benefits are changed-- but having said that, what Paul should have learned, what all of us should have learned is if we're going to move forward in a fiscally responsible way and-- and politically adopt not just talk about adopt and objective, it will be because we work together and very frankly come to a solution together.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN: The mistake we made was we took an idea that use to be a Democratic idea supported by Democrats in the 1990s. And we foolishly thought perhaps this is the start of bipartisan talks. And what we got was partisanship. What we got was--

BOB SCHIEFFER: Gentlemen, I-- I-- I would love to continue this, but we've got Lindsey Graham.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: There's been a lot of demagoguery.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Lindsey Graham is waiting in the wings down in Clemson and I better talk to him in a second. Thanks to both of you.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Thank you.

BOB SCHIEFFER: And Congressman Hoyer, we'll see you soon. Congressman Ryan, you're going to be joining Erica Hill and me along with some of your fellow Republicans in a CBS News Town Hall on the economy that will air Tuesday morning at 8 AM on THE EARLY SHOW. As for FACE THE NATION back with Lindsey Graham in just a minute.

REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER: Thank you, Bob.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Thank you.

(ANNOUNCEMENTS)

BOB SCHIEFFER: And back now with Republican Senator Lindsey Graham, just back from two weeks in Afghanistan and Libya. He's in Clemson, South Carolina, this morning. And this was just going to be a little debrief Senator Graham on how you think things are in Libya, I mean in Afghanistan.

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM (R-South Carolina/Armed Services Committee): I didn't-- I didn't go to Libya, Bob.

BOB SCHIEFFER: I'm sorry. I'll take that back.

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM: I didn't go to Libya. I went to Afghanistan, yeah.

BOB SCHIEFFER: But let me just ask you this. You put out a pretty strong statement you and John McCain and Joe Lieberman yesterday--

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM: Yeah.

BOB SCHIEFFER: --about what's happening in Syria after we saw these--

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM: Yeah.

BOB SCHIEFFER: --horrendous pictures of-- of people being shot and killed and demonstrators. You said it's time for the administration to do more than it's doing. What-- what needs to be done here?

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM: I get the regional partners to tell the Assad has to go and put everything on the table now including military force because if we don't turn this dynamic around the Red Cross can't go into the Syria. It's wholesale slaughter now. And we're about to get Qaddafi going. I think we need to turn our attention strongly to Syria with the regional cooperation like we have in Libya.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Well, when you say it's time to think about military force. You're talking about sending in U.S. troops in-- in to Syria?

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM (overlapping): No-- no-- no do--

BOB SCHIEFFER: What are you talking about?

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM: Put on the table with the regional partners, Turkey is being overrun by Syrian refugees to put on table at the United Nations in an international way aid to the Syrian people. Humanitarian disasters are bound, what we did in Libya to protect the people against a rogue regime. If it made sense to protect the Libyan people against Qaddafi, and it did because they were going to get slaughtered if we hadn't sent NATO in when he was on the outskirts of Benghazi. The question for the world is have we gotten to that point in Syria? And I think we may not be there yet but we're getting very close. So if you really care about protecting the Syrian people from slaughter, now is the time to let Assad know that all options are the table.

BOB SCHIEFFER: And-- and I think you also called for expelling the Syrian ambassador from the United States.

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM: It has gotten to the point where Qaddafi's behavior and Assad's behavior are indistinguishable. The reason we went in to Libya is to protect the Libyan people from wholesale slaughter when they protested Qaddafi started killing them in the streets. He took his army, turned them on his own people. That's exactly what's happening in Syria. If we could have a power change, a regime change in Syria that breaks Syria from Iran, the world would be a much better place but it's going to take regional and international cooperation to get there. But if you really care about the Syrian people, preventing them from being slaughtered, you need to put on the table all options including a model like we have in Libya.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Let me turn now to Afghanistan which is why we invited here this morning.

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM: Yeah. Yeah.

BOB SCHIEFFER: So you're just back. You were there what? A couple of weeks, you do your reserve training.

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM: About-- about-- about, yeah, I was there as Senator Graham and Colonel Graham spent eight days. Two years ago we about lost Afghanistan. We didn't have enough troops. President Obama made the right decision to send thirty thousand surge forces in. We're now on offense. The enemy is under siege in the south. They're recruiting twelve-year-old suicide bombers. The places we'd lost in the south we now have back. The-- the Afghan people and security forces are getting much bolder against the enemy. So I'm very encouraged that we're on offense. We've got a long way to go but this has turned around in the last year pretty dramatic on the security front.

BOB SCHIEFFER: Are we going to be able to start bringing these troops home as President Obama said we would do? Can we do that on schedule?

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM: Yes, sir. I think this in the next few weeks, I look at Secretary Gates and General Petraeus has said for a modest withdrawal somewhere in the three-- three to five thousand range, reducing surge forces from thirty by three to five thousand. But if the Afghan security forces, Bob, keep getting better their army and police are better today than any time I've seen, the training programs work much better. We could stay on track to reduce our forces by 2014. The goal is to transition to Afghan control. There are nine-- ninety-eight thousand U.S. forces in Afghanistan. If progress continues in Afghanistan, where there are no safe havens for the insurgents, virtually no safe havens, we could have a substantial number of our troops at home with the Afghans in the lead if we'll stay with the program we have today. The biggest threat to Afghanistan is no longer inside the country. It is Pakistan's safe havens.

BOB SCHIEFFER: And what about Pakistan? CIA Director Leon Panetta was there and he kind of read the riot act to the intelligence service there. What about this?

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM: Yeah. Well, I think it's the biggest threat to our efforts in Afghanistan. The-- when we provide information to Pakistanis about IED factories, in Pakistan on their side of the border being used to kill our troops, they give information to the enemy and these places are, before we can get there the Pakistani army can get there to neutralize these threats. The IED factories are disassembled. And, quite frankly, Bob, I'm tired of telling a South Carolina family, sorry about losing your son in Afghanistan, to an IED made in Pakistan and there's nothing we can do about it. So my message to the Pakistanis, you got to choose who you're with and the safe havens in Pakistan are the biggest threat to our progress in Afghanistan. I appreciate the drone attacks but we need benchmarks and measurements in

terms of future cooperation with Pakistan and Afghanistan. We need to start measuring our progress in both countries and we're on a collision course with Pakistan. If this doesn't change soon, I would urge the President to use more aggressive military force against safe havens in the Pakistan side of the border being used to kill our troops and undermine progress in Afghanistan. This cannot sustain itself.

BOB SCHIEFFER: All right. Senator Graham, thank you so much.

And I'll be back in a moment with some final thoughts.

(ANNOUNCEMENTS)

BOB SCHIEFFER: Finally today, the author Kurt Vonnegut once observed that life was more or less a replay of high school. And with every passing day that comparison becomes more apt in describing Washington. The one difference is that high school stays in session most of the time. Yet the parallels with high school are inescapable. Just think about this. Distractions, such as vanity and the mania for gossip and the short attention span that prevents focusing on problems even long enough to try to understand them, unbridled meanness, toward those who are not part of your crowd. The cliquishness that requires group think. If you don't believe exactly what we believe, you can't be part of our crowd. We're right. You're always wrong and don't confuse us with facts. An inability to act for fear it will cause a loss of popularity. Oh, and did I miss old-fashioned jealousy and insecurity, which seems to be a factor no matter the issue? Which brings me to this scandal over Anthony Weiner, the New York congressman who sent out those pictures of--how shall I say this--himself to women on the internet. I think most high school students would have been smarter than that. But here's the other part. A high school student who did what Weiner did would have been expelled in a matter of hours. Not until late yesterday, did leaders of Weiner's own party finally say he should resign. Well, good. My question is what took them so long?

Back in a second.

(ANNOUNCEMENTS)

BOB SCHIEFFER: That's it for us. We'll see you Tuesday morning on THE EARLY SHOW with our report on the Republican Economic Summit and of course next Sunday on FACE THE NATION.

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