



# American Resource Center Newsletter

## U.S. Embassy Helsinki

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### THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON 50TH ANNIVERSARY



Fifty years ago on August 28, 1963, an estimated 250,000 people marched to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, where they heard Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech. The speech gave an impassioned voice to the demands of the U.S. civil rights movement: equal rights and justice for all citizens.

*"I have a dream that one day (Yes) this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal."*

It was a speech that the world cannot forget. On August 28, 1963, an estimated 250,000 people marched to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington where they heard Martin Luther King Jr. give a speech destined to resonate through the ages.

In what became known as the "I Have a Dream" speech, King gave impassioned voice to the demands of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement — equal rights for all citizens, regardless of the color of their skin.

Some historians maintain that King's speech, delivered at one of the largest civil rights demonstrations in U.S. history, was one of those rare moments that changed a nation — paving the way for a transformation of American law and life.

Even on the day of his "I Have a Dream" speech, when he was addressing Americans in particular, King was conscious of the worldwide impact of the march and its message. "As television beamed the image of this extraordinary gathering across the borders and oceans," he said, "everyone who believed in man's capacity to better himself had a moment of inspiration and confidence in the future of the human race."

The universal significance of the events of August 28, 1963, was underscored by Height. "Wherever I have been in the world these last 40 years, it's incredible to me how much people know about the Civil Rights Movement and Dr. King — often in very specific detail. The world was watching us on that day," she says. "The march touched the world as well as America."

# WEB PICKS

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## American Life

**The American Beginning** by Alan Taylor. New Republic, July 15, 2013.

The dark side of Crèvecoeur's "Letters from an American Farmer".

<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/113571/crevecoeurs-letters-american-farmer-dark-side>

**The Art of the Trailer** by Jason Kehe and Katie M. Palmer. Wired, July 2013.

In a world where fans follow the latest trailers with rabid devotion, the movie preview has become a genre unto itself—and a viral sensation. Here's what makes these shorts so epic.

<http://www.wired.com/underwire/2013/06/art-of-movie-trailer/>

**The Big Heart** by Tony Perrottet. Smithsonian Magazine, July/August 2013.

As Houston undergoes an ethnic and cultural transformation, its reputation grows as a place where people can dream big and succeed.

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/What-Makes-Houston-the-Next-Great-American-City-213879781.html>

**A Change is Gonna Come** by Michael A. Fletcher. Smithsonian Magazine, July/August 2013.

Fifty years ago, the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom transformed the nation. Participants recall the historic event.

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history-archaeology/an-oral-history-of-the-march-on-washington/>

**Enlightenment Engineers** by Noah Shachtman. Wired, July 2013.

Meditation and mindfulness are the new rage in Silicon Valley. And it's not just about inner peace—it's about getting ahead.

<http://www.wired.com/business/?p=82267>

**The Gates Effect** by Marc Parry, Kelly Field, and Beckie Supiano. The Chronicle of Higher Education, July 19, 2013.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has spent \$472-million (so far) on higher education. Why many in academe are not writing thank-you notes.

<http://chronicle.com/article/The-Gates-Effect/140323/>

**How the Western Was Lost (and Why It Matters)** by Michael Agresta. The Atlantic, July 24, 2013.

As superheroes, sequels, and international appeal influence Hollywood studios, films from the frontier are riding off into the sunset—just when America needs them most.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2013/07/how-the-western-was-lost-and-why-it-matters/278057/>

**No Self-Mockery, Please, We're American** by Terry Eagleton. The Chronicle of Higher Education, July 1, 2013.

Europeans are fine, while Americans are good. This, at least, would seem to be the opinion of Henry James, who knew both civilizations from the inside and never ceased to compare them.

<http://chronicle.com/article/No-Self-Mockery-Please-Were/140021/>

## Economy and Politics

**Does It Take a Village?** by Paul Starobin. Foreign Policy, July/August 2013.

Jeffrey Sachs dazzled the development world with his plan to end poverty. But now critics say there's no way to prove whether it works.

[http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2013/06/24/does\\_it\\_take\\_a\\_village](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2013/06/24/does_it_take_a_village)

**The End: Barnes & Noble in Silicon Valley** by Susan Berfield. Bloomberg Businessweek, July 25, 2013.

Barnes & Noble tried to transform the book business for the digital age. Too bad it forgot about the books.

<http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-07-25/the-end-barnes-and-noble-in-silicon-valley>

**The Happiness of Pursuit** by Jeffrey Kluger. Time, July 08, 2013.

Americans are free to pursue happiness, but there's no guarantee we'll achieve it. The secret is knowing how — and where — to look.

<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,2146449,00.html?pcd=pw-edit>

**Making Jobs Good** by John Schmitt and Janelle Jones. CEPR, April 2013.

This report evaluates the likely impact of several policies that seek to address job quality, including universal health insurance, a universal retirement system (over and above Social Security), a large increase in college attainment, a large increase in unionization, and gender pay equity.

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/good-jobs-policy-2013-04.pdf>

**Selling the Fourth of July** by Bryant Urstadt. Bloomberg BusinessWeek, June 27, 2013.

Like most American holidays, the Fourth of July is no longer just a time to think about the past with friends. It's a crucial moment in an enormous economic machine. And like many American standards, it's changing. Budweiser, the signature American beer, is owned by a Belgian company; fireworks are made in China; even the big summer song is by two French guys. But take the wide view. A cacophonous influx of foreigners trying to make a buck might make for the most American holiday possible.

<http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-06-27/selling-the-fourth-of-july>

**What Would Bill Do?** Bloomberg BusinessWeek, June 13, 2013.

Rarely short on advice, former President Clinton agreed to field questions on critical economic concerns from five U.S. civic and business leaders, including three CEOs. He replied in his unofficial capacity as consultant-in-chief.

<http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-06-13/bill-clinton-on-manufacturings-importance-to-u-dot-s-dot-job-growth>

## Global Challenges

**How Big Business Can Save the Climate: Multinational Corporations Can Succeed Where Governments Have Failed** by Jerry Patchell and Roger Hayter. Foreign Affairs, September/October 2013.

To stop climate change, the international community should shift focus from setting targets countries can't meet to compelling multinational corporations to act. The immense power wielded by a small number of companies might be just what is needed to save the planet.

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/139642/jerry-patchell-and-roger-hayter/how-big-business-can-save-the-climate>

**Petroleum to the People: Africa's Coming Resource Curse—and How to Avoid It** by Larry Diamond and Jack Mosbacher. Foreign Affairs, September/October 2013.

Over the next decade, a massive wave of new oil and gas discoveries will transform Africa. If the resource curse plays out as it usually does, this oil boom will only serve to entrench authoritarian rule and inhibit democracy. Unless, that is, African governments embrace a radical approach: handing a large share of the new revenues directly to the people as taxable income.

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/139647/larry-diamond-and-jack-mosbacher/petroleum-to-the-people>

**Yosemite Wildfire - In Focus** by Alan Taylor. Atlantic Monthly, August 26, 2013.

For the past 10 days, firefighters in California have been struggling to contain the Rim Fire, now one of the largest in the state's history, as it blazes across the Stanislaus National Forest and into Yosemite National Park. As of last night, the Rim Fire had burned nearly 240 square miles, disrupted hydroelectric power supply to San Francisco, and destroyed 23 structures. The fire is only 15 percent contained and still threatens thousands of homes in the mountainous region.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/infocus/2013/08/yosemite-wildfire/100581/>

## International Relations

**JFK's American University Speech Echoes Through Time** by Daryl G. Kimball. Arms Control Today, June 2013.

In the modern age, U.S. presidents have delivered dozens of addresses on international peace and security, but few have been as profound or consequential as John F. Kennedy's "Strategy of Peace" address delivered 50 years ago on June 10 on the campus of American University in Washington.

[http://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013\\_06/Looking-Back-JFKs-American-University-Speech-Echoes-Through-Time](http://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013_06/Looking-Back-JFKs-American-University-Speech-Echoes-Through-Time)

**A Path Out for Egypt** by H.A. Hellyer. The Brookings Institution, August 19, 2013.

Widespread violence in Egypt has crippled the country and solutions are now necessary to prevent long-term civil strife between the Muslim Brotherhood faction and supporters of the military-backed interim government. H.A. Hellyer writes that Egypt needs credible individuals who can effectively mediate the situation and an alternative voting system in the next round of presidential elections.

<http://goo.gl/PvUpQz>

**The Role of Villain: Iran and U.S. Foreign Policy** by Paul R. Pillar. Political Science Quarterly, Summer 2013.

Paul R. Pillar examines why Iran has become a major focus of attention of U.S. foreign policy and finds that even a nuclear-armed Iran would not pose the major threat that is commonly assumed. The Iran issue simply fills a traditional American psychological and political need to have a foreign adversary.

<http://www.psqonline.org/article.cfm?IDArticle=19091#>

**Will Turkey Weather the Middle East Storm?** by Kemal Derviş. The Brookings Institution, August 20, 2013.

A cycle of terrible violence has taken over much of the Middle East. Its center has shifted from Iraq (where sectarian strife has recently escalated again) to Syria, but it encompasses Egypt, Yemen, Libya, and Tunisia as well. Farther east, Afghanistan is suffering its second decade of violent conflict, while Pakistan seems to be chronically on the brink of war, civil war, or social breakdown.

<http://goo.gl/6cbfQw>

