



Foreign Policy -- Defense -- Documents on the web -- February 2010

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS:

The White House

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE UNITED STATES CALLING ON THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT TO FULFILL ITS HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. February 8, 2010.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/joint-statement-european-union-and-united-states-calling-iranian-government-fulfill>

PRESIDENT OBAMA AND CIA DIRECTOR PANETTA SPEAK AT CIA MEMORIAL SERVICE

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. February 5, 2010.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/president-obama-and-cia-director-panetta-speak-cia-memorial-service>

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT IN STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. U.S. Capitol. January 27, 2010.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-state-union-address>

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT OBAMA, FORMER PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON, AND FORMER PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH ON THE RECOVERY AND REBUILDING EFFORT IN HAITI

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. Rose Garden. January 16, 2010.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-obama-former-president-bill-clinton-and-former-president-george-w>

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT ON THE SITUATION IN HAITI

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. Diplomatic Reception Room. January 16, 2010.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-situation-haiti>

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT ON STRENGTHENING INTELLIGENCE AND AVIATION SECURITY

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. State Dining Room. January 7, 2010.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-strengthening-intelligence-and-aviation-security>

PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM REGARDING 12/25/2009 ATTEMPTED TERRORIST ATTACK

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. January 7, 2010.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/presidential-memorandum-regarding-12252009-attempted-terrorist-attack>

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT ON SECURITY REVIEWS

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. Grand Foyer. January 5, 2010.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-security-reviews>

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ON PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FROM HIS ONGOING CONSULTATION ABOUT THE DETROIT INCIDENT

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. Kaneohe Bay Marine Base, Kaneohe, Hawaii. December 29, 2009.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/statement-president-preliminary-information-his-ongoing-consultation-about-detroit->

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT OBAMA AND RUSSIAN PRESIDENT MEDVEDEV AFTER MEETING

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. Bella Center, Copenhagen, Denmark. December 18, 2009.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-obama-and-russian-president-medvedev-after-meeting-0>

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT OBAMA AND PRESIDENT SLEIMAN OF LEBANON AFTER MEETING

The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. Oval Office. December 14, 2009.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-obama-and-president-sleiman-lebanon-after-meeting>

Department of State

REMARKS ON THE SITUATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Treaty Room, Washington, DC. February 5, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/02/136558.htm>

REMARKS WITH BAHRAINI FOREIGN MINISTER SHAIKH KHALID BIN AHMED AL KHALIFA AFTER THEIR MEETING

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Treaty Room, Washington, DC. February 3, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/02/136480.htm>

INTERVIEW WITH INDIRA LAKSHMANAN OF BLOOMBERG RADIO

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Paris, France. January 29, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/136290.htm>

REMARKS WITH FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER BERNARD KOUCHNER

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Paris, France. January 29, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/136280.htm>

REMARKS ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPEAN SECURITY

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. L'Ecole Militaire. Paris, France. January 29, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/136273.htm>

REMARKS AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. London, United Kingdom. January 28, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/136159.htm>

REMARKS WITH BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY DAVID MILIBAND AND YEMENI FOREIGN MINISTER ABU BAKR ABDULLAH AL-QIRBI

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. London, United Kingdom. January 27, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/135930.htm>

RELEASE OF THE AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN REGIONAL STABILIZATION STRATEGY

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Treaty Room, Washington, DC. January 21, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/135515.htm>

REMARKS WITH EU HIGH REPRESENTATIVE FOR FOREIGN POLICY CATHERINE ASHTON AFTER THEIR MEETING

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Treaty Room, Washington, DC. January 21, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/135530.htm>

REMARKS WITH YEMENI FOREIGN MINISTER ABUBAKR AL-QIRBI AFTER THEIR MEETING

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Philip Crowley, Assistant Secretary, Department Spokesman. Treaty Room, Washington, DC. January 21, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/135537.htm>

REMARKS ON INTERNET FREEDOM

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. The Newseum, Washington, DC. January 21, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/135519.htm>

THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MARKING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE U.S.-JAPAN TREATY OF MUTUAL COOPERATION AND SECURITY

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Secretary of Defense Gates, Minister for Foreign Affairs Okada, Minister of Defense Kitazawa. Washington, DC. January 21, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/135312.htm>

REMARKS ON DEVELOPMENT IN THE 21ST CENTURY

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Remarks to the Center for Global Development, Washington, DC. January 6, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/134838.htm>

REMARKS AT THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Copenhagen, Denmark. December 17, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/12/133734.htm>

REMARKS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS AGENDA FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Georgetown University's Gaston Hall, Washington, DC. December 14, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/12/133544.htm>

REMARKS AT THE FIRST DIPLOMACY BRIEFING SERIES MEETING, FOCUSED ON THE ISSUES AND CHALLENGES OF U.S. RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Washington, DC. December 11, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/12/133453.htm>

INTERVIEW WITH RIZ KHAN OF AL JAZEERA TV ENGLISH

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Washington, DC. December 10, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/12/133451.htm>

REMARKS AT PRESS CONFERENCE AT NATO HEADQUARTERS

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Brussels, Belgium. December 4, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/12/133205.htm>

AFGHANISTAN: ASSESSING THE ROAD AHEAD

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Opening Remarks Before the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Washington, DC. December 3, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/12/133082.htm>

ADMINISTRATION'S STRATEGY FOR AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Opening Remarks Before the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Washington, DC. December 2, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/12/132953.htm>

U.S. STRATEGY IN AFGHANISTAN

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Opening Remarks Before the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Washington, DC. December 2, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/12/133019.htm>

MESSAGE TO PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Washington, DC. December 1, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/12/133093.htm>

MESSAGE TO PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN

By Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. Washington, DC. December 1, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/12/133087.htm>

THE PRACTICE OF PARTNERSHIP: THE 2009 CYRIL FOSTER LECTURE

By William J. Burns, Under Secretary for Political Affairs. Oxford University, Oxford, United Kingdom. November 26, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/p/us/rm/2009a/133268.htm>

Department of Defense

MEASURING STABILITY AND SECURITY IN IRAQ

Report to Congress In accordance with the Department of Defense Supplemental Appropriations Act 2008 (Section 9204, Public Law 110-252). December 2009. 83 pages.
http://www.defense.gov/pubs/pdfs/Master_9204_29Jan10_FINAL_SIGNED.pdf
This report includes specific performance indicators and measures of progress toward political, economic, and security stability in Iraq, as directed by legislation. This is the eighteenth report in this series of quarterly reports.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AGENCY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

Department of Defense. November 16, 2009. 39 pages.

http://comptroller.defense.gov/afr/fy2009/Department_of_Defense_Fiscal_Year_2009_Agency_Financial_Report.pdf

The Department of Defense Agency Financial Report (AFR) for Fiscal Year 2009 provides an overview of the Department's financial information and performance goals and objectives. It also describes its priorities in response to challenges encountered in defense of the United States.

Congress

U.S. DRUG POLICY IN LATIN AMERICA

By Ray Walser, Ph.D. Testimony before the Committee on the Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, of the United States House of Representatives. October 15, 2009. 12 pages.

<http://foreignaffairs.house.gov/111/wal101509.pdf>

The production, processing, trafficking and consumption of illicit drugs, in Walser's opinion, constitute the gravest threat to overall human security in the Americas. The bulk of the drug trade is conducted by ruthless and powerful criminal organizations that possess the capacity to corrupt and destroy entire nations.

Congressional Research Service

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THE NATIONAL COUNTERTERRORISM CENTER (NCTC) -- RESPONSIBILITIES AND POTENTIAL CONGRESSIONAL CONCERNS

By Richard A. Best Jr. Congressional Research Service. January 15, 2010. 13 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135891.pdf>

The attempted attack on a US-bound airliner on December 25, 2009 and the earlier shootings at Fort Hood Army Base in November 2009 have led to increased concerns about the effectiveness of the laws, regulations, and organizational relationships created in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks to prevent future terrorist attacks. Within the sprawling U.S. Intelligence Community, the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) was specifically established to bring together all available information on terrorism, analyze the

nformation, and provide warning of potential attacks on the U.S. Questions exist about the roles and missions of NCTC and whether it is fulfilling its statutory responsibilities. Potentially, there are also concerns about the relationship between NCTC and the Counterterrorism Center of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) which, prior to the establishment of NCTC, was responsible for performing much of NCTC's current mission.

U.S. IMMIGRATION POLICY ON HAITIAN MIGRANTS

By Ruth Ellen Wasem. Congressional Research Service. January 15, 2010. 12 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135890.pdf>

The devastation caused by the January 12, 2010, earthquake in Haiti is focusing world attention on the humanitarian crisis and prompting U.S. leaders to reconsider current policies on Haitian migration. Some Members of Congress have long criticized the interdiction and mandatory detention of Haitians who attempted to enter the United States without proper immigration documents as too harsh given country conditions. Proponents of immigration control policies have held sway for many years in large part because they argue that more lenient treatment of Haitians would serve as a magnet for illegal migration from the poorest nation in this hemisphere. Whether the balance should tip more toward humanitarian policies as a consequence of the earthquake is an issue before the 111th Congress.

ARMS SALES: CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW PROCESS

By Richard F. Grimmett. Congressional Research Service. January 8, 2010. 9 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135900.pdf>

This report reviews the process and procedures that currently apply to congressional consideration of foreign arms sales proposed by the President. This includes consideration of proposals to sell major defense equipment, defense articles and services, or the re-transfer to third party nations of such military items.

IRAN: U.S. CONCERNS AND POLICY RESPONSES

By Kenneth Katzman. Congressional Research Service. January 6, 2010. 63 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135893.pdf>

President Obama has said his Administration shares the goals of previous Administrations to contain Iran's strategic capabilities and regional influence. The Administration has not changed the previous Administration's characterization of Iran as a "profound threat to U.S. national security interests." It formulated approaches to achieve those goals that differ from those of its predecessor though, by expanding direct diplomatic engagement with Iran's government and by downplaying discussion of potential U.S. military action against Iranian nuclear facilities. However, the domestic unrest in Iran that has burgeoned since alleged fraud in Iran's June 12, 2009, presidential election has presented the Administration with a choice of whether to continue to engage Iran's government or to back the growing ranks of the Iranian opposition.

LAOS: BACKGROUND AND U.S. RELATIONS

By Thomas Lum. Congressional Research Service. January 4, 2010. 12 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135892.pdf>

The United States and the Lao People's Democratic Republic (LPDR) cooperate in important areas despite ideological differences and U.S. concerns about alleged human rights abuses against the ethnic Hmong minority. The U.S. government has gradually upgraded its relations with the communist state, which has strong ties to Vietnam and growing economic linkages with China.

IRAQ: POST-SADDAM GOVERNANCE AND SECURITY

By Kenneth Katzman. Congressional Research Service. December 29, 2009. 59 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135970.pdf>

The Obama Administration is facing a security environment in Iraq vastly improved over that which prevailed during 2005-2007, although rifts in Iraqi society are still not reconciled, providing the potential for the security situation to deteriorate significantly.

CHINA NAVAL MODERNIZATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. NAVY CAPABILITIES -- BACKGROUND AND ISSUES FOR CONGRESS

By Ronald O'Rourke. Congressional Research Service. December 23, 2009. 41 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135946.pdf>

In the debate over future U.S. defense spending, including deliberations taking place in the current Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR), a key issue is how much emphasis to place on programs for countering improved Chinese military forces in coming years. Observers disagree on the issue, with some arguing that such programs should receive significant emphasis, others arguing that they should receive relatively little, and still others taking an intermediate position. The question of how much emphasis to place in U.S. defense planning on programs for countering improved Chinese military forces is of particular importance to the U.S. Navy, because many programs associated with countering improved Chinese military forces would fall within the Navy's budget.

NAVY IRREGULAR WARFARE AND COUNTERTERRORISM OPERATIONS: BACKGROUND AND ISSUES FOR CONGRESS

By Ronald O'Rourke. Congressional Research Service. December 23, 2009. 27 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135972.pdf>

Statements from Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and other Department of Defense (DOD) officials suggest that DOD budgets in FY2010 and subsequent fiscal years will place a certain amount of emphasis on capabilities for conducting irregular warfare (IW) operations, such as counterinsurgency operations. In addition, counterterrorism (CT) operations have been a DOD area of emphasis since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

AIR FORCE F-22 FIGHTER PROGRAM: BACKGROUND AND ISSUES FOR CONGRESS

By Jeremiah Gertler. Congressional Research Service. December 22, 2009. 67 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135942.pdf>

Procurement of Air Force F-22 fighters began in FY1999, and a total of 187 have been procured through FY2009. The issue for Congress is whether to approve the Administration's proposal in the FY2010 budget to end F-22 procurement at 187 aircraft, or reject that proposal and provide funding in FY2010 for the procurement of additional F-22s in FY2010 and/or subsequent years. The White House has vowed to veto any bill that supports the acquisition of F-22s beyond the 187 that have been procured through FY2009.

U.S. NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH INDIA: ISSUES FOR CONGRESS

By Paul K. Kerr. Congressional Research Service. December 17, 2009. 47 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135952.pdf>

India, which has not signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and does not have International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards on all nuclear material in peaceful nuclear activities, exploded a "peaceful" nuclear device in 1974, convincing the world of the need for greater restrictions on nuclear trade. The United States created the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) as a direct response to India's test, halted nuclear exports to India a few years later, and worked to convince other states to do the same. India tested nuclear weapons again in 1998. However, President Bush announced July 18, 2005, he would "work to achieve full civil nuclear energy cooperation with India" and would "also seek agreement from Congress to adjust U.S. laws and policies," in the context of a broader partnership with India.

NORTH KOREA'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS: TECHNICAL ISSUES

By Mary Beth Nikitin. Congressional Research Service. December 16, 2009. 27 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135932.pdf>

This report summarizes what is known from open sources about the North Korean nuclear weapons program -- including weapons-usable fissile material and warhead estimates -- and assesses current developments in achieving denuclearization.

THE U.S. SECRET SERVICE: AN EXAMINATION AND ANALYSIS OF ITS EVOLVING MISSIONS

By Shawn Reese. Congressional Research Service. December 16, 2009. 24 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135934.pdf>

The U.S. Secret Service has two missions, criminal investigations and protection. Criminal investigation activities, which have expanded since its inception as a small anti-counterfeiting operation at the end of the Civil War, now encompass financial crimes, identity theft, counterfeiting, computer fraud, and computer-based attacks on the nation's financial, banking, and telecommunications infrastructure, among other areas. Protection activities, which have expanded and evolved since the 1890s, include the safety and security of the President, Vice President, their families, and other identified individuals and locations. In March 2003, the U.S. Secret Service was transferred from the Department of the Treasury to the Department of Homeland Security as a distinct entity. During an April 2008 hearing on the FY2009 budget request for the U.S. Secret Service, Members of Congress raised questions related to the missions and organizational location of the Service:

Are the two missions of the Service compatible and how should they be prioritized? Is the Department of Homeland Security the most appropriate organizational and administrative location for the Secret Service?

UNITED NATIONS REFORM: U.S. POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

By Luisa Blanchfield. Congressional Research Service. December 15, 2009. 35 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/135930.pdf>

Since its establishment in 1945, the United Nations has been in a constant state of transition as various international stakeholders seek ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the U.N. system. The 111th Congress will most likely continue to focus on U.N. reform as it considers appropriate levels of U.S. funding to the United Nations and monitors the progress and implementation of ongoing and previously approved reform measures.

THINK TANKS AND RESEARCH CENTERS:

The opinions expressed in these publications do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government

BEYOND EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR HAITI: THE CHALLENGE OF EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

By Daniel Kaufmann, Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development. The Brookings Institution. January 19, 2010.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/0119_haiti_kaufmann.aspx

The devastation, death toll and suffering in Haiti pain us all. With the exception of the tsunami in Asia, the extent of this tragedy is unprecedented for a country not at war. With current technology the scope of human and physical destruction has been immediately transmitted and broadcast globally. Such technology has also facilitated the outpouring of private financial contributions to charity.

RUSSIA'S IRAN POLICY: A CURVEBALL FOR OBAMA

By Ariel Cohen, Ph.D. The Heritage Foundation. January 15, 2010. 10 pages.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2010/pdf/bg_2359.pdf

Russia's interests in Iran fundamentally diverge from those of the United States. Russia considers Iran a partner and de facto ally in its plans to reshape the power balance in the Middle East and dilute U.S. influence in the region. The U.S. should expect only token assistance from Russia in countering the Iranian nuclear threat. Instead, the U.S. needs to develop a broader policy that convincingly argues that Iran will lose -- even if it obtains nuclear weapons and that clearly demonstrates to the Russians that the risks of betting on Iran outweigh the potential rewards.

AN ISRAELI PREVENTIVE ATTACK ON IRAN'S NUCLEAR SITES: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE U.S.

By James Phillips. The Heritage Foundation. January 15, 2010. 10 pages.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2010/pdf/bg_2361.pdf

Iran's nuclear weapons ambitions are ominous in light of its hostile foreign policy and longstanding support for terrorism. But Iran's repeated threats to annihilate the state of Israel while it develops the world's most dangerous weapons have created an even more explosive situation. If diplomatic efforts to defuse the situation fail, Israel may see no other choice than to launch a preventive strike against Iran's nuclear facilities. Heritage Foundation Middle East expert James Phillips maps out the likely results of an Israeli attack, outlines Iran's probable reaction, and explains why it is now crucial that the Obama Administration take action to mitigate and defend against Iran's response to an Israeli strike.

ANALYSIS OF SECRETARY OF STATE CLINTON'S ASIA ARCHITECTURE SPEECH

By Michael J. Green, Ernest Bower, Victor Cha, Charles Freeman. Center for Strategic and International Studies. January 13, 2010.

<http://csis.org/publication/analysis-secretary-state-clinton%E2%80%99s-asia-architecture-speech>

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton delivered an important speech at the East-West Center in Hawaii on Tuesday explaining the United States' enduring interests in the Asia-Pacific region and the intention of the Obama administration to play a leading role in constructing an open and inclusive regional architecture for the future. It deserves credit for being one of the more comprehensive statements on architecture given so early in a new U.S. administration.

AL-QAEDA IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

By Matthew Levitt and Bruce Riedel. The Washington Institute for Near East Policy. January 13, 2010.

<http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/templateC05.php?CID=3161>

On January 11, 2010, Matthew Levitt and Bruce Riedel addressed a special Policy Forum luncheon at The Washington Institute to discuss the emergence and potential of al-Qaeda-inspired groups in the Palestinian arena.

THE STATUS REPORT: OBAMA'S CHALLENGES IN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN

By Vanda Felbab-Brown. The Brookings Institution. January 12, 2010.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/0112_afghanistan_pakistan_felbabbrown.aspx

One year ago, Brookings experts wrote a series of 12 memos to the incoming president on the most pressing policy issues facing the country. Now they assess the administration's progress on those issues in The Status Report, a daily series of commentary with video to be featured in POLITICO's Arena. Vanda Felbab-Brown gives President Obama a B for laying out the right strategy on Afghanistan and Pakistan but doing it too late in 2009 to stem the insurgency, corruption and apathy.

OBAMA'S DISAPPOINTING YEAR IN LATIN AMERICA

Julia E. Sweig, Nelson and David Rockefeller Senior Fellow for Latin America Studies and Director for Latin America Studies, interviewed by Robert McMahon, Editor. Council on Foreign Relations. January 12, 2010.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21177/obamas_disappointing_year_in_latin_america.html

The administration's first year, says Julia E. Sweig, CFR's director for Latin American studies, began with promising steps, including new gestures on expanding ties with Cuba. However, it has so far missed out on opportunities to place U.S. relations with Latin America on sounder footing.

AFGHAN METRICS: HOW TO LOSE A WAR - AND POSSIBLY HOW TO WIN ONE

By Anthony H. Cordesman. Center for Strategic and International Studies. January 12, 2010. 185 pages.

http://csis.org/files/publication/100112_AfghanLngMetrics.pdf

Nine months after President Obama announced a new strategy in Afghanistan, the U.S. still seems undecided as to how to actually shape and implement that strategy and how to measure its success. President Obama may have made his decisions, but it is far from clear that his Administration has agreed on how to act upon them, or has the right mix of civil-military capabilities to do so.

TERRORISM RISKS AND "TIMELESS PROBLEMS"

Richard K. Betts, Adjunct Senior Fellow for National Security Studies, Council on Foreign Relations, interviewed by Bernard Gwertzman, Consulting Editor. Council on Foreign Relations. January 8, 2010.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21161/terrorism_risks_and_timeless_problems.html

While recent intelligence failures have stirred concern and controversy, they are "timeless problems," says CFR Adjunct Senior Fellow Richard K. Betts,... "The price of reducing one risk is sometimes to raise another risk or raise the cost to a level that doesn't seem worthwhile."

TERRORISM'S NEW AVATARS -- PART I

By Bruce Riedel. Yale Global Online. January 7, 2010.

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/terrorism%E2%80%99s-new-avatars-part-i>

Fighting Al Qaeda in Yemen is an important battle of a broader war. The fact that Yemen is now at the forefront of the US counter-terrorism effort does not, however, mean the fight is going to be easy.

TERRORISM'S NEW AVATARS -- PART II

By Gabriel Weimann. Yale Global Online. January 12, 2010.

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/terrorisms-new-avatars-part-ii>

Al Qaeda recruits terrorists on-line, turning the democratic space on its head. One of the little-noticed facts that connects many recent acts of terrorism -- from Nidal Malik Hassan,

the Fort Hood Shooter, to Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the Christmas day bomber, is the growing use of the Internet by terrorists not only to spread their propaganda but also to recruit and raise funds.

CHRISTMAS DAY TERROR PLOT HIGHLIGHTS NEED TO SHARPEN INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM

By Lisa Curtis, Matt Mayer, Jena Baker McNeill, and Charles Stimson. The Heritage Foundation. January 8, 2010. 2 pages.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2010/pdf/wm_2751.pdf

The post-mortem on the attempted airline terrorist attack on December 25, 2009, demonstrates the importance of continually honing and refining U.S. intelligence capabilities and systems to meet ongoing terrorist threats. President Obama should ensure that American domestic and foreign intelligence agencies as well as U.S. military, diplomats, and domestic law enforcement agencies remain on a war footing in order to prevent future terrorist catastrophes.

TRANSATLANTIC INFORMATION SHARING: AT A CROSSROADS

By Hiroyuki Tanaka, Rocco Bellanova, Susan Ginsburg, Paul De Hert. Migration Policy Institute. January 7, 2010. 60 pages.

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/infosharing-Jan2010.pdf>

The attempted Christmas Day attack on a U.S. airliner has refocused interest on the data collected by governments on international travelers, and how information sharing can be used to prevent terrorism and secure travel if properly shared and analyzed. In the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the United States and European Union worked out agreements to expand the sharing of personal information about international travelers as a mean to prevent acts of terrorism and fight international crime. However, according to the study, negotiations on a binding international agreement that will govern the sharing of personal information for law enforcement purposes between the U.S. and the European Union face significant challenges.

SECURITY SECTOR REFORM: A CASE STUDY APPROACH TO TRANSITION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

By Sarah Meharg, Aleisha Arnusch. Strategic Studies Institute. January 5, 2010. 119 pages.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/download.cfm?q=960>

The authors explore the definition of SSR as it has emerged in the international community. The makeup of the security sector is examined, emergent principles are identified for implementing SSR in the community of practice, and the outcomes that SSR is designed to produce are specified. The supporting case studies of Haiti, Liberia, and Kosovo assess the impact of SSR programs on host nation security sectors. The authors conclude that those conducting SSR programs must understand and continually revisit the policy goals of SSR programs so as to develop concepts that support a transitional process that moves forward over time.

BASES, BULLETS, AND BALLOTS: THE EFFECT OF U.S. MILITARY AID ON POLITICAL CONFLICT IN COLOMBIA

By Oeindrila Dube and Suresh Naidu. Center for Global Development. January 4, 2010. 47 pages.

http://www.cgdev.org/files/1423498_file_Dube_Naidu_Military_Aid_FINAL.pdf

Does foreign military assistance strengthen or further weaken fragile states facing internal conflict? The authors find that U.S. military assistance to Colombia may increase violence and decrease voter turnout.

EXCEPTIONAL MEETS UNIVERSAL: MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON AT THE UNITED NATIONS

By Edward C. Luck. The Century Foundation. January 4, 2010. 26 pages.

<http://www.tcf.org/publications/internationalaffairs/luck.pdf>

This report is one in a series commissioned by The Century Foundation to explore issues of interest to American policymakers regarding Russia, aimed at identifying a framework for U.S.-Russian relations and policy options for a new administration and Congress that could help right the two countries' troubled relationship at a crucial juncture. The papers in the series explore significant aspects of U.S.-Russian relations, outlining a broad range of reasons why Russia matters for American foreign policy and framing bilateral and multilateral approaches to Russia for U.S. consideration. A high-level working group, co-chaired by Gary Hart, former U.S. senator from Colorado, and Jack F. Matlock, Jr., former U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union, has provided direction to the project and offered recommendations for action that the United States might take.

MORE EFFECTIVE SECURITY, NOT MORE DRACONIAN SECURITY

By Edward Alden. Council on Foreign Relations. January 4, 2010.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21105/more_effective_security_not_more_draconi

The failed Christmas bombing plot is proving to be the first real test of the Obama administration's approach to homeland security. Will it respond with intelligent and targeted measures that improve the country's ability to defeat plots by a ruthless and adaptable enemy? Or will it react, as the Bush administration so often did after 9/11, with knee-jerk initiatives that look tough because they visibly delay or inconvenience many travelers but do little to enhance security?

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: HOW AND WHY TO SALVAGE THE PENTAGON'S QUADRENNIAL DEFENSE REVIEW

By The Honorable James Talent and Mackenzie Eaglen. The Heritage Foundation. January 4, 2010. 16 pages.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2010/pdf/bg_2351.pdf

The Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) process is broken. Instead of establishing a road map for defense programs for the next 20 years, previous QDRs have been too budget-

driven, purposefully shortsighted, and politically motivated. Congress can salvage the QDR process through thoughtful revisions and by reinforcing the guiding principles and intent of the original legislation. Congress should take particular care to protect the QDR process from arbitrary budget pressures and to provide for a truly independent judgment of the final QDR report by an outside panel.

OBAMA'S YEAR ONE

By Robert Kagan. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Published in the World Affairs, January/February 2010.

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=24688>

If Obama's policies were to produce a geopolitical doubleheader --defeat in Afghanistan and a nuclear-armed Iran-- his historical legacy could wind up being a good deal worse than that of his predecessor. If he manages to make progress in Afghanistan and finds some way to stop Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, he will be remembered for saving the world from a dire situation. Less noticed amidst these crises, however, has been a broader shift in American foreign policy that could have equally great and possibly longer-lasting implications. The Obama presidency may mark the beginning of a new era in American foreign policy and be seen as the moment when the United States finally turned away from the grand strategy it adopted after World War II and assumed a different relationship to the rest of the world.

FIXING INTEL: A BLUEPRINT FOR MAKING INTELLIGENCE RELEVANT IN AFGHANISTAN

By Major General Michael T. Flynn, USA, Captain Matt Pottinger, USMC, Paul D. Batchelor, DIA. Center for a New American Security. January 2010. 28 pages.

http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/press/AfghanIntel_Flynn_Jan2010_code507_voices.pdf

The new report by the Center for a New American Security (CNAS) critically examines the relevance of the U.S. intelligence community to the counterinsurgency strategy in Afghanistan. The authors argue that the United States' intelligence apparatus still finds itself unable to answer fundamental questions about the environment in which U.S. and allied forces operate in and the people they are trying to protect and persuade.

AVOIDING A CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE IN THE U.S. NUCLEAR DETERRENT

By John P. Caves, Jr. Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University. January 2010. 6 pages.

<http://www.ndu.edu/press/Strforum/SF252/SF252.pdf>

The United States needs to modernize and ensure the long-term reliability and responsiveness of its aging nuclear deterrent force and nuclear weapons infrastructure. It cannot otherwise safely reduce its nuclear weapons, responsibly ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, confidently deter and contain challenges from rising or resurgent nuclear-armed near peers, and effectively dissuade allies and partners from acquiring their own nuclear weapons. Modernization is fundamental to avoiding a future crisis of confidence in the U.S. nuclear deterrent.

JONGLEI'S TRIBAL CONFLICTS: COUNTERING INSECURITY IN SOUTH SUDAN

Africa Report N°154. International Crisis Group. December 23, 2009. 39 pages.

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/africa/horn_of_africa/4_jongleis_tribal_conflicts_countering_insecurity_in_south_sudan.pdf

A failure to stabilize Jonglei and other areas of concern risks seeing South Sudan become increasingly unstable ahead of next year's national elections and the 2011 self-determination referendum. The report examines the situation in South Sudan, where violent conflict claimed several thousand lives in 2009. Inter-tribal fighting, while not a new phenomenon, has taken on a new and dangerously politicized character, with the worst violence in and around the vast, often impassable state of Jonglei.

SUDAN: PREVENTING IMPLOSION

Africa Briefing N°68. International Crisis Group. December 17, 2009. 24 pages.

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/africa/horn_of_africa/b68_sudan_preventing_implosion.pdf

According to the report, if the international community does not step in to ensure full implementation of Sudan's North-South peace deal and shore up other failing centre-periphery agreements, the country risks a return to all-out civil war. The report examines the situation in the run-up to national elections due next year and the early 2011 referendum on self-determination in the South.

LITTLE SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM AMONG MUSLIM AMERICANS

By Richard Wike, Pew Global Attitudes Project, Greg Smith, Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. December 17, 2009.

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1445/little-support-for-terrorism-among-muslim-americans>

Recent events such as the Fort Hood shootings and the arrest of five Muslim American students in Pakistan have raised questions about the threat of homegrown terrorism in the United States. However, the Pew Research Center's comprehensive portrait of the Muslim American population suggests it is less likely to be a fertile breeding ground for terrorism than Muslim minority communities in other countries. Violent jihad is discordant with the values, outlook and attitudes of the vast majority of Muslim Americans, most of whom reject extremism.

PUBLIC DIPLOMACY 2.0: WHERE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MEETS "NEW MEDIA"

By Helle C. Dale. The Heritage Foundation. December 8, 2009. 11 pages.

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/PublicDiplomacy/bg2346.cfm>

Can Facebook and Twitter change the world? Can all the nifty new social-networking sites promote democracy and a better understanding of American values around the world? The potential is certainly there -- as was seen in the invaluable Twitter updates during the post-election protests in Iran. The U.S. government is embracing Web 2.0 for an ambitious strategy of reaching previously untapped populations around the world -- call it Public

Diplomacy 2.0. While the potential progress is undeniable, so is the potential danger. Public diplomacy expert Helle Dale explains the recent developments, strategies, benefits, and risks of cyber diplomacy.

BALANCING A BULLISH TURKEY

By Steven A. Cook, Hasib J. Sabbagh Senior Fellow for Middle Eastern Studies. Council on Foreign Relations. December 4, 2009.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/20904/balancing_a_bullish_turkey.html?breadcrumb=%2F

Although bilateral ties have improved markedly in the last two years as Ankara has demonstrated it is an asset to Washington in Iraq, the Caucasus, and Afghanistan, there are significant differences between the two countries in other areas, notably the Middle East.

U.S. SEEN AS LESS IMPORTANT, CHINA AS MORE POWERFUL

Annual Report, by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, in association with the Council on Foreign Relations. December 3, 2009. 112 pages.

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/569.pdf>

The general public and members of the Council on Foreign Relations are apprehensive and uncertain about America's place in the world. Growing numbers in both groups see the United States playing a less important role globally, while acknowledging the increasing stature of China. And the general public, which is in a decidedly inward-looking frame of mind when it comes to global affairs, is less supportive of increasing the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan than are CFR members.

NEGATIVE VIEWS OF U.S. UNCHANGED IN TURKEY

By Richard Wike, Erin Carriere-Kretschmer. Pew Center Research. December 3, 2009.

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1429/negative-views-of-america-unchanged-in-turkey>

While overall ratings for the U.S. have improved throughout much of the world, in Turkey they remain dismal -- only 14% of Turks expressed a positive view of the U.S. in the spring 2009 Pew Global Attitudes survey, the lowest rating among the 25 nations included in the poll.

PRUNING THE NUCLEAR TRIAD? PROS AND CONS OF BOMBERS, MISSILES, AND SUBMARINES

By Kingston Reif, Travis Sharp, and Kirk Bansak. The Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation. December 3, 2009.

http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/policy/missiledefense/articles/120309_nuclear_triad_pros_cons/

As the United States and Russia negotiate bilateral reductions in nuclear warheads and delivery vehicles, attention must be paid to the composition of each country's strategic arsenal of nuclear-armed bombers, land-based missiles, and submarine-based missiles.

To understand the stability that arms control helps foster and that makes the United States safer, one must consider the arguments traditionally made about the strengths and weaknesses of each leg of the nuclear triad.

HANDING BACK RESPONSIBILITY TO TIMOR-LESTE'S POLICE

Asia Report N°180. International Crisis Group. December 3, 2009. 37 pages.

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/asia/south_east_asia/180_handing_back_responsibility_to_timor_lestes_police.pdf

The report recommends the United Nations to hand over formal control of the Timor-Leste police as soon as possible. A protracted process that began in May has taken a bureaucratic approach to assessing whether they are ready to take charge, but the reality on the ground is that the Timorese police have long operated under their own command. A longer handover may further damage relations between the UN's third-largest policing mission and the Timor-Leste government, which has refused to act as a full partner in implementing reforms.

ASSESSING THE AFGHAN SURGE

Council on Foreign Relations. December 2, 2009.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/20877/assessing_the_afghan_surge.html?breadcrumb=%2F

Response to Obama's plan has been varied across the political spectrum, as supporters and opponents parse the president's words for details.

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER: FORGING A STRATEGIC U.S.-EU PARTNERSHIP

By Daniel S. Hamilton, Frances G. Burwell, et al. The Atlantic Council of the United States. December 1, 2009. 96 pages.

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/65/US-EUPartnership.pdf

The report outlines a comprehensive plan for renewing U.S.-EU relations. According to the report, the world that created the transatlantic partnership is fading fast. The United States and Europe must urgently reposition and recast their relationship as a more effective and strategic partnership. It is a moment of opportunity, to use or to lose.

COMMITMENT TO NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION: NEW DIRECTIONS UNDER THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

Prepared remarks delivered by John Isaacs to the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs. The Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation. December 1, 2009.

http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/policy/iran/articles/120409_nonproliferation_new_under_obama/

"I would like to talk about one of science's greatest, and most deadly, inventions -- the nuclear bomb. While interest in nuclear weapons issues has faded since the end of the Cold War and the demise of the Soviet Union, the problem remains. Not just one problem, but 23,000 problems, the estimated total of these highly destructive weapons that exist on this planet. 23,000 weapons, most of which are substantially larger than those that destroyed

two Japanese cities at the end of World War II. It is important to remember that while the world is concerned over the impact of global warming, starvation in too many countries, worldwide pandemics and the threats of terrorism or biological weapons attacks, only nuclear weapons have the capacity to obliterate entire cities with one bomb and entire countries in massive nuclear exchanges and perhaps destroy most life on this earth. To repeat, only nuclear weapons have the capacity to obliterate entire cities with one bomb and entire countries in massive nuclear exchanges and perhaps destroy most life on this earth.”

THE ENDURING IRAN-SYRIA-HEZBOLLAH AXIS

By Michael Rubin. American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. December 2009. 6 pages.

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/20091216-MEO-Dec09-g.pdf>

The Obama administration would like to move Syria into the camp of more moderate Arab states, but there is scant evidence that Syria is willing to give up its support for terrorist organizations. Like Iran, it remains a destabilizing and dangerous force in the region.

PAYING FOR THE TROOP ESCALATION IN AFGHANISTAN: TEN WAYS TO CUT BASELINE DEFENSE SPENDING TO FIGHT THIS WAR WITHIN OUR MEANS

By Lawrence J. Korb, Sean Duggan, Laura Conley, and Jacob Stokes. Center for American Progress. December 2009. 25 pages.

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/12/pdf/afghan_funding.pdf

The 30,000 additional U.S. soldiers and Marines that President Barack Obama ordered to deploy to Afghanistan earlier this month are already beginning to depart for the region. The authors believe this troop escalation must be only one part of an overall strategy to reverse the deteriorating security situation in that country if the United States is to achieve its long-term objectives of preventing Afghanistan from once again becoming a launching pad for international terrorism and preventing a power vacuum in that country from destabilizing the region.

TAIWAN’S GAMBLE: THE CROSS-STRAIT RAPPROCHEMENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY

By Abraham M. Denmark and Richard Fontaine. Center for a New American Security. December 2009. 8 pages.

http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/press/Taiwan_Denmark_Dec2009_USTaiwan.pdf

President Obama’s recent visit to Beijing highlighted several issues of mutual interest and concern for the U.S.-China relationship, and the fact that Taiwan was not a major issue of contention highlights the rapidly changing dynamics of the cross-Strait environment. The policy brief details the risks and rewards associated with this evolving cross-Strait environment and lays out several policy recommendations for the United States.

U.S.-CAMBODIA DEFENSE RELATIONS: DEFINING NEW POSSIBILITIES

By Lewis M. Sterntug. Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University. December 2009. 6 pages.

<http://www.ndu.edu/press/Strforum/SF251/SF251.pdf>

Cambodia's lax border controls, widespread corruption, extremely active arms trade, and surfeit of small arms remaining from the Third Indochina War have made Phnom Penh an attractive platform for transient interests, as well as a staging ground for numerous activities that challenge the safety and well-being of the region. China has actively pursued security ties with Cambodia through modest assistance programs whose significance has been magnified by the lack of similar U.S. efforts, which were severely curtailed as a result of congressionally imposed restrictions in the aftermath of the 1997 coup. U.S. interests in Southeast Asia would be well served by a stepped-up program of cooperation with Cambodia in areas such as counterterrorism, peacekeeping, counternarcotics, disaster response, and stability operations. U.S. early investment in Cambodia's future, beginning with support for the regional peace process, would provide a useful foundation for cooperation between the two countries that would have beneficial impact for Southeast Asia as a whole.

ESTABLISHING LEADERSHIP ON CIVILIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN

By William B. Taylor, Jr. and J Alexander Their. United States Institute of Peace. December 2009. 6 pages.

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/civilian_assistance_afghanistan.pdf

The leaders argue why leadership of civilian assistance is necessary for success in Afghanistan, and lay out the best options to move forward.

AL-QAEDA IN THE ISLAMIC MAGHREB: ALGERIAN CHALLENGE OR GLOBAL THREAT?

By Jean-Pierre Filiu. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. November 30, 2009. 16 pages.

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/al-qaeda_islamic_maghreb.pdf

Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), an Algerian jihadi group that pledged allegiance to Osama bin Laden in 2006, garnered worldwide media exposure after simultaneous attacks in December 2007 on the United Nations building and the Constitutional Court in Algiers. AQIM, however, has not been able to sustain this level of violence and failed to transform itself into a North Africa-wide organization. Still, the danger of terrorism in the region is real and considerable attention should be devoted to North Africa and the Sahel.

ON THE KNIFE'S EDGE: YEMEN'S INSTABILITY AND THE THREAT TO AMERICAN INTERESTS

By Andrew M. Exum and Richard Fontaine. Center for a New American Security. November 20, 2010. 7 pages.

http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/yemen_Policy_Brief_0.pdf

In this policy brief, CNAS Fellow Andrew Exum and Senior Fellow Richard Fontaine outline the severity of Yemen's internal security challenges and offer several policy recommendations to improve regional stability and reduce the threat to U.S. national interests.

THE U.S.-INDIA NUCLEAR DEAL

By Jayshree Bajoria. Council on Foreign Relations. November 20, 2009.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/9663/usindia_nuclear_deal.html?breadcrumb=%2F

A proposed groundbreaking nuclear deal between the United States and India is raising questions and concern in both countries, according to the author.

GOING JIHAD: THE FORT HOOD SLAYINGS AND HOME-GROWN TERRORISM

By Brian Michael Jenkins. RAND Corporation. November 19, 2009. 8 pages.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/testimonies/2009/RAND_CT336.pdf

Testimony presented before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee on November 19, 2009.

VISION FOR VICTORY IN AFGHANISTAN -- PART I & II

By Michael E. O'Hanlon. The Brookings Institution. November 18, 2009.

Part I:

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/1118_afghanistan_ohanlon.aspx

Part II:

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/1119_afghanistan_ohanlon.aspx

On a recent weeklong visit to Afghanistan sponsored by the U.S. military, Michael O'Hanlon met with Afghan and foreign officers and officials whose mood countered the overall dismal outlook and recent reports of violence there. O'Hanlon's visit left him with guarded optimism about prospects for creating a safe and stable Afghanistan.

EXAMINING THE U.S. COUNTERTERRORISM PRIORITIES AND STRATEGY ACROSS AFRICA'S SAHEL REGION

Lianne Kennedy-Boudali. RAND Corporation. November 17, 2009. 11 pages.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/testimonies/2009/RAND_CT335.pdf

This is the testimony presented before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, subcommittee on African Affairs on November 17, 2009.

YOUTUBE WAR: FIGHTING IN A WORLD OF CAMERAS IN EVERY CELL PHONE AND PHOTOSHOP ON EVERY COMPUTER

By Cori E. Dauber. Strategic Studies Institute. November 16, 2009. 135 pages.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/download.cfm?q=951>

Terrorist attacks today are often media events in a second sense: information and communication technologies have developed to such a point that these groups can film, edit, and upload their own attacks within minutes of staging them, whether the Western media are present or not. In this radically new information environment, the enemy no longer depends on traditional media. This is the "YouTube War." This monograph methodically lays out the nature of this new environment in terms of its implications for a

war against media-savvy insurgents, and then considers possible courses of action for the Army and the U.S. military as they seek to respond to an enemy that has proven enormously adaptive to this new environment and the new type of warfare it enables.

BOSNIA'S DUAL CRISIS

Europe Briefing N°57. International Crisis Group. November 12, 2009. 20 pages.

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/europe/balkans/b57_bosnias_dual_crisis.pdf

The report recommends that the international community should take a firm decision to reinforce and transform its engagement in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) at the 18-19 November meeting of the Peace Implementation Council (PIC) or risk growing instability. Since the end of the war in 1995, Bosnia's leaders, supervised by the Office of the High Representative (OHR), have made slow progress towards creation of a functional common state. The conflict between Serb leaders and the OHR now risks creating a real crisis and undermining the functioning of the Bosnian state.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS SPENDING DESERVES GREATER SCRUTINY

By Christopher A. Preble. The CATO Institute's Nuclear Proliferation Update. November 2009. 2 pages.

http://www.cato.org/pubs/npu/npu_november2009.pdf

The U.S. nuclear arsenal is enormous and costly. Few Americans understand just how costly, however, because the program is one of the least transparent features within the massive federal budget. Thus, the seemingly simple question --“How much money do we spend on nuclear weapons?”-- defies a simple answer.

Previous issues of Foreign Policy -- Defense -- Documents on the Web are available at:

<http://france.usembassy.gov/web-alert.html>