

# ARTICLE ALERT

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## INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

### [1] THE OTHER PLUMBERS UNIT: THE DISSENT CHANNEL OF THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT

**Gurman, Hannah**

**Diplomatic History, vol. 35, no. 2, April 2011, pp. 203-231**

The author describes the ways in which U.S. policymakers have worked to minimize dissent within the State Department, despite the misinformed narratives of U.S. foreign policy that make it appear that policy is made within a small circle of important players, including the President and Secretary of State. The author notes that the Dissent Channel, created by the State Department in 1971, provides a means for any Foreign Service officer to write directly to the Secretary of State to register disagreement about decisions made in Washington. All such dissents are marked Top Secret, which minimizes the risk that they will be leaked to the press and embarrass the administration. The author notes that, while the Dissent Channel was created as a result of the deeply unpopular Vietnam war, subsequent administrations have used the Dissent Channel as a means to suppress internal dissent, as recently as the George W. Bush administration, which had to deal with diplomats who opposed the Iraq War.

### [2] THE ULTIMATE ALLY

**Oren, Michael**

**Foreign Policy, no. 186, May/June 2011, pp. 44-51**

Currently available online at [http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/04/25/the\\_ultimate\\_ally](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/04/25/the_ultimate_ally)

The author, Israel's ambassador to the United States, argues that, with the current upheaval in the Middle East, the U.S. needs Israel more than ever. He notes that Israel has sided with the U.S. through multiple conflicts over the past 60 years, and shares its global vision. Oren writes that American interest in a Jewish homeland is not recent; since colonial times, American statesmen have written and spoken about it. In a region where most countries are ruled by autocratic regimes and by leaders who consider themselves above the law, Israel alone has maintained a democratic tradition. The alliance with Israel has enabled the U.S. to minimize its commitment of military resources in the region; Israel is also one of our major economic partners. U.S. diplomats involved in Middle East affairs have never considered that the presence of the so-called "Israel lobby" has influenced their decision-making. As to the allegation that the U.S.-Israel alliance has stoked anger in the Arab world and made the U.S. more vulnerable to terrorism, Oren writes that Arab public opinion is more

concerned with domestic issues, such as economic and democratic reform than enmity toward Israel; the Wikileaks cables have shown that many Arab regimes are more worried about Iran than they are about Israel.

### **[3] THE WIKILEAKS ILLUSION**

**Roberts, Alasdair**

**Wilson Quarterly, vol. 35, no. 3, Summer 2011, pp. 16-21**

The author, Professor of Law and Public Policy at Suffolk University Law School, notes that a consortium of major news media organizations, including The New York Times, The Guardian, Der Spiegel, Le Monde, and El Pais, began publishing excerpts from a quarter-million U.S. State Department cables obtained by WikiLeaks. In July 2010, The Guardian described the release of the Afghan war documents as "one of the biggest leaks in U.S. military history." Roberts questions whether the outing of the State Department cables by Wikileaks really marks the end of "old-fashioned secrecy." Technological change has caused an explosion in the rate of information production within government agencies, as everywhere else. For example, the leaked State Department cables might have added up to about two gigabytes of data -- one-quarter of an eight-gigabyte memory card. By comparison, it has been estimated that the outgoing Bush White House transferred 77 terabytes of data to the National Archives in 2009; the holdings of other agencies are even larger.

### **[4] LEARNING CURVE: AMERICAN CULTURE AND THE MUSLIM WORLD**

**Skerry, Peter**

**World Affairs, July/August 2011, pp.85-94**

As Americans struggle to confront economic and fiscal dilemmas at home, we are also reexamining our role as the lone global superpower. As we do so, one of our most elusive challenges is coming to terms with the cultural dimension of our engagement with the Muslim world. This is in part because cultural forces are downplayed or ignored by our intellectual and foreign policy elites. This neglect is regrettable, for while there are aspects of American culture that Muslims find problematic, or even repellant, there are others that they find—or might find, if made aware—appealing, even admirable.

### **[5] IMPLEMENTING 9/11 COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS: PROGRESS REPORT 2011**

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 2011, 69 pages**

Currently available online at <http://www.dhs.gov/files/publications/implementing-9-11-commission-recommendations.shtm>

In recognition of the 9/11 Commission Report and the tenth anniversary of 9/11, this report describes how DHS has addressed specific 9/11 Commission recommendations over the past ten years, making America stronger and more resilient. While challenges remain, the Department continues to focus on minimizing risks while maximizing the ability to respond and recover from attacks and disasters of all kinds. This is a challenge that the men and women of DHS commit themselves to everyday.

**[6] 10 YEARS AFTER: THE 9/11 ESSAYS****Homeland Security Affairs: The Journal of the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense & Security**

Currently available online at <http://www.hsaj.org/>

*Homeland Security Affairs* (HSA) is pleased to present this special collection of essays in remembrance of the ten-year anniversary of September 11, 2001. We chose to honor those who lost their lives that tragic day, as well as those whose lives were forever impacted, by reflecting on the homeland security lessons and achievements since 9/11 and the challenges that lie ahead. In assembling these essays, HSA invited the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's three Secretaries – current Secretary Janet Napolitano and former Secretaries Tom Ridge and Michael Chertoff – to reflect on homeland security's past and future. HSA also asked Department of Defense Assistant Secretary Paul Stockton (the founding Director of the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security) to pen an essay from the homeland defense point of view. We are grateful that all four accepted our offer. HSA also invited faculty from the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security (publisher of HSA) to reflect on areas related to their research and teaching. The ten essays presented here provide insight to a broad array of domestic, international, technological, economic, academic, and social topics that influence how we live and govern. More importantly, the faculty essays help us better understand opportunities for increased security over the next decade. Homeland security is still a work in progress and we as a nation are still working through many important issues that touch on who we are as a nation. One of the true benefits of homeland security is that America gains strength through the process of debating answers, solutions and options. The essays in this special issue provide perspective on the ongoing national homeland security dialogue.

**[7] GLOBAL FORECAST 2011: INTERNATIONAL SECURITY IN A TIME OF UNCERTAINTY**

**Center for International and Strategic Studies, June 2011, 96 pages**

Currently available online at

[http://csis.org/files/publication/110610\\_Cohen\\_GlobalForecast2011.pdf](http://csis.org/files/publication/110610_Cohen_GlobalForecast2011.pdf)

This paper “is an effort to capture CSIS's collective wisdom of the changing international security picture at this moment of great fluctuation. Authors were asked to write short essays on topics of their choosing that could speak to the newly emerging security landscape from a national, economic, regional, and global perspective. We have witnessed a number of significant challenges to international security in recent years. Some crises have arisen so quickly and with so little warning that national security professionals have had difficulty responding in ways that maintain strategic balance. Other challenges have emerged so slowly and over such a vast scale that near-term options appear limited. How to determine in real time what is a tectonic shift and what is merely a low-magnitude tremor. How to anticipate events and set clear policy goals at a time of such dynamism?” The document is divided in four parts: (I) National Security in an Era of Contested Primacy; (II) Economic Security Three Years after the Financial Crisis; (III) Regional Security after the Arab Spring; (IV) Global Security after the Japanese Disaster”.

**ENVIROMENT AND ENERGY****[8] WHICH NATIONS ARE MOST AT RISK FROM CLIMATE CHANGE?****Friedman, Lisa****Scientific American online, posted February 24, 2011**Currently available online at <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=which-nations-most-risk-climate-change>

Global institutions charged with protecting the most vulnerable nations from the effects of climate change are facing a major dilemma of prioritization. Because there is no international consensus for ranking the possibilities and the funds to help cope with climate change are limited, notes the author, countries are already sparring over who will be considered the most vulnerable. The decision-making process will be fraught with conflict, writes Friedman, pointing out that many scientists consider China, susceptible to desertification, typhoons and sea level rise to be the world's most threatened nation, yet with a USD 5 trillion economy, it may be more able to cope with extreme events than poverty-stricken Bangladesh or low-lying Seychelles. Two recent studies have attempted to quantify the vulnerabilities of 233 nations, in order to be allocate scarce climate-change funding. However, the author notes, the multibillion-dollar Green Climate Fund established in Cancun, but the funding pledge is still unfulfilled; she warns that the world doesn't have much time to make choices.

**ECONOMICS AND TRADE ISSUES****[9] THE BUSTS KEEP GETTING BIGGER: WHY?****Krugman, Paul; Wells, Robin****New York Review of Books, July 14, 2011**

In this review of Jeff Madrick's book AGE OF GREED: THE TRIUMPH OF FINANCE AND THE DECLINE OF AMERICA, 1970 TO THE PRESENT, Nobel Laureate Krugman and writer Wells discuss the cycle of financial overreach by big banks such as Citibank, and chronicle how this was enabled by Reagan-era deregulation that undermined oversight and created circumstances that allowed Wall Street to continue reckless lending which has precipitated successive financial crises. A creed of "greedism" espoused by Reagan and Milton Freidman -- that the common good is served by unchecked self-interest -- encouraged banks to engage in risky practices. Madrick traces the history of these increasingly serious crises, demonstrates that the triumph of Wall Street has diminished America's productivity and warns that if the lessons of the 2008-2009 crisis are not learned, financial institutions may continue on their rapacious path and precipitate yet another crisis.

**[10] INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUPER-CHARGING RWANDA'S ECONOMY****Tafirenyika, Masimba****Africa Renewal, April 2011, pp. 18-20**Currently available online at <http://www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/vol25no1/rwanda-information-technology.html>

Tiny landlocked Rwanda, one of the world's poorest countries, was nearly brought to its knees by a genocide in 1994 that killed about 800,000 people. Today it aspires to be a regional high-tech hub, with such innovations as the smart-card ticketing system (twende) introduced in the capital, Kigali, in early 2011 by Kigali Bus Services, that has caused rapid changes in the economy and has transformed the country into an important center for business communications and information technology. In turn, these innovations are altering the way Rwandans communicate, pay for goods and services, and go about their daily lives.

**[11] FINANCIAL REBALANCING ACT: STOP WORRYING ABOUT GLOBAL FLOW OF CAPITAL**

**Taylor, Alan M.**

**Foreign Affairs, July/August 2011**

According to Alan Taylor, a senior adviser at Morgan Stanley, the capital flow imbalance between developed and emerging economies is already adjusting. After the financial crises of the 1990s, emerging economies adopted policies for saving enormous official reserves as a way to cushion the next crisis. The odd result was that capital flowed from developing countries to wealthier developed countries, a historic reversal. The lower interest rates from the "savings glut" encouraged excessive financial risk taking in the developed countries, contributing to the 2007-2008 crisis and subsequent Great Recession. Having protected their economies through the crisis, the emerging economies are now building reserves more slowly as they spend more money on internal investment, consumption, and social safety nets. Developed countries, meanwhile, are also saving less while spending more on aging populations. As the global savings glut subsides, global interest rates are rising, and the flow of capital is moving more in the direction of the rapidly expanding emerging economies.

**[12] THE IMPACT OF GLOBALIZATION ON INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT**

**Spence, Michael**

**Foreign Affairs, July/August 2011, 14 pages**

The article discusses the impact of globalization on the distribution of jobs and wealth. As they have become more affluent, developing countries have manufactured products of increasingly greater value. This structural change in the global economy has undermined the long-held notion in the U.S. that higher economic growth produces more jobs domestically. As job opportunities have moved away from fast-growing sectors to slower-growing ones, a gap has emerged in which well-educated U.S. workers have fared well economically while those with less education have seen their employment prospects dim and earnings decline.

**[13] CHINA'S CURRENCY: AN ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMIC ISSUES**

**Morrison, Wayne M.; Labonte, Marc**

**CRS Report for Congress, August 3, 2011, 43 pages**

This report provides an overview of the economic issues surrounding the current debate over China's currency policy. It identifies the economic costs and benefits of China's currency policy for both China and the United States, and possible implications if China were to allow its currency to significantly appreciate or to float freely. It also examines proposed legislation in the 112th Congress that seek to address China's currency policy.

**POLITICS AND SOCIAL PROCESSES****[14] MR. PRECEDENT****Mencimer, Stephanie****Mother Jones, vol. 36, no. 3, May/June 2011, pp 54-66**Currently available under a different title online at <http://motherjones.com/politics/2011/03/james-bopp-citizens-united>

Liberal reporter Stephanie Mencimer profiles conservative Indiana attorney James Bopp's efforts to change campaign finance laws. Bopp has been successful in his claims that campaign contributions are a form of free speech protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution. The Supreme Court extended the same free speech protections to corporations in the Citizens United v. FEC ruling. Bopp has many cases in the lower courts challenging money limits to campaign contributions. His law firm also has cases in 16 states challenging financial disclosure laws for campaign contributors.

**[15] INTERVIEW WITH THE DEPT. OF STATE'S DARREN KRAPE: TWITTER, IT DOES MATTER****Breyer, Stephen****WashingtonExec , August 17 2011**

Currently available under a different title online at

<http://www.washingtonexec.com/2011/08/interview-with-the-dept-of-states-darren-krape-twitter-it-does-matter/>

“Social media is important and oftentimes like the frontlines,” so says Darren Krape, Senior New Media Specialist at the Department of State and personal blogger. In his interview with WashingtonExec, Krape provided some pretty amazing stories of how social media prevented a potential crisis in Madagascar, its critical role in the Arab Uprisings as well as its unique role in other developing countries.

**EDUCATION AND INFORMATION****[16] AMERICANS AND THEIR CELL PHONES****Smith, Aaron****Pew Internet & American Life Project, August 15, 2011, 19 pages**

Currently available under a different title online at

<http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/Cell%20Phones%202011.pdf>

Mobile phones have become a near-ubiquitous tool for information-seeking and communicating: 83% of American adults own some kind of cell phone. These devices have an impact on many aspects of their owners' daily lives. In a telephone survey conducted from April 26 to May 22, 2011 among a nationally-representative sample of Americans, the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project found that cell phones are useful for quick information retrieval and more.

**[17] HOW GOOGLE DOMINATES US****Gleick, James****New York Review of Books, August 18, 2011**

Currently available under a different title online at

<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2011/aug/18/how-google-dominates-us/?pagination=false>

Google is where we go for answers. People used to go elsewhere or, more likely, stagger along not knowing. Nowadays you can't have a long dinner-table argument about who won the Oscar for that Neil Simon movie where she plays an actress who doesn't win an Oscar; at any moment someone will pull out a pocket device and Google it. If you need the art-history meaning of "picturesque," you could find it in *The Book of Answers*, compiled two decades ago by the New York Public Library's reference desk, but you won't. Part of Google's mission is to make the books of answers redundant (and the reference librarians, too). "A hamadryad is a wood-nymph, also a poisonous snake in India, and an Abyssinian baboon," says the narrator of John Banville's 2009 novel, *The Infinities*. "It takes a god to know a thing like that." Not anymore.

**[18] FUTURE OF LIBRARIES****Mantel, Barbara****CQ Researcher, July 29, 2011, Vol. 21 Issue 27, 40 pgs**

As economic pressures wrought by the recession continue to squeeze millions of Americans, they are turning increasingly to the nation's libraries for help. Many are taking advantage of computer workstations to hunt for jobs and polish their résumés. Those who can no longer afford to buy DVDs or books are now borrowing them from the library. Yet state and local governments are slashing library budgets, and many public library systems have been forced to reduce hours and staff and close branches. Academic and school libraries also are struggling with budget cuts. Meanwhile, the role of reference librarians is evolving to meet emerging demands spurred by digital publishing. The myriad challenges facing libraries raise questions about their future: Should the physical library shrink as books, journals and other materials increasingly become available in digital form? What role will libraries play if e-books come to dominate the reading experience? And should public libraries be privatized in an effort to save money?

**U.S. SOCIETY AND VALUES****[19] THEY PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE****Wahl, Grant****Sports Illustrated, June 13, 2001, pp. 54-57**

Currently available online at

<http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/vault/article/magazine/MAG1187108/index.htm>

Soccer has become the world's game except in the U.S. where baseball dominates. Although youth soccer leagues have achieved much popularity in the U.S., baseball teams still predominate and, in the major leagues, foreign players have become an important part of the game. Radio and television broadcasting has further encouraged the popularity of baseball to global audiences. The author notes that this is changing, as U.S. soccer teams have embarked on a global search for dual-passport

foreign players who could make a difference for the American side. In 2011, of the sixty players in the U.S. men's soccer pool, at least 34, representing twenty countries, are first- or second-generation Americans or otherwise hold foreign passports, the best known of whom is British-born David Beckham.

**[20] THE VERY VIOLENT ROAD TO AMERICA**

**Elliot, J. H.**

**New York Review of Books, June 9, 2011**

In his review of Daniel Richter's *BEFORE THE REVOLUTION: AMERICA'S ANCIENT PASTS*, the writer highlights how early ethnic diversity, indigenous peoples, and the vastness of the continent influenced American social and political development. This is in contrast to the long-accepted Anglocentric, exceptionalist view of a United States that was solely the logical result of its struggle for independence. Modern scholarship of the colonial period has introduced a broader, more accurate view of the development of the United States. Native Americans, English, Dutch, Spanish, French and Africans all participated in an often violent history. The book reviewed underscores the fact that "the American past belongs to many peoples, and that none should be forgotten."

**ARTS AND LITERATURE**

**[21] WAY DOWN IN THE DELTA**

**Andrews, Colman**

**Country Living, vol. 34, no. 6, June 2011, pp. 104-111**

One of America's iconic forms of music, the blues, which had its origins in American black spirituals, was born in the Mississippi Delta. For years, blues fans have made pilgrimages to the Delta to hear legendary blues musicians such as Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker and Howlin' Wolf. Beginning in World War II, U.S. soldiers and other military personnel stationed in Europe and Asia introduced this form of American music to foreign audiences. Then there is the food which, in the Delta, means catfish which is raised in the region, and tamales, which fueled the blues clubs.

**[22] THE MAKING AND MEANING OF PUBLIC ART**

**Decker, Juilee**

**Choice, vol. 48, no. 10, June 2011, pp. 1827-1830, 1832-1841**

To many Americans, public art invokes images of the paintings and murals that appeared in post offices and in other government buildings during the 1930s through the auspices of the Works Progress Administration or, more recently, through various neighborhood and school projects funded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Chicago's network of public art is as vast as the city itself. In recent years, these projects have been accompanied with controversy generated by groups opposed to the expenditure of public funds on art, or who object to the subject matter of public art projects. The author, chair of the arts department at Georgetown College, writes that public art has emerged only recently as an academic field. In her essay, she tries to address all aspects of the debate, including funding, care and maintenance/conservation, public art as related to environment, ecological art, earthworks, memory, commemorative events (especially prominent after 9/11 and other national tragedies) and the inevitable controversies.

**[23] THE WAR FOR CATCH-22**

**Daugherty, Tracy**

**Vanity Fair , August 2011, Vol. 53, Iss. 8**

Currently available online at <http://www.vanityfair.com/culture/features/2011/08/heller-201108>

The tragicomic 1961 novel that sprang from Joseph Heller's experience as a W.W. II bombardier mystified and offended many of the publishing professionals who saw it first. But thanks to a fledgling agent, Candida Donadio, and a young editor, Robert Gottlieb, it would eventually be recognized as one of the greatest anti-war books ever written. In an adaptation from his Heller biography, Tracy Daugherty recalls the tortured eight-year genesis of Catch-22 and its ultimate triumph.