



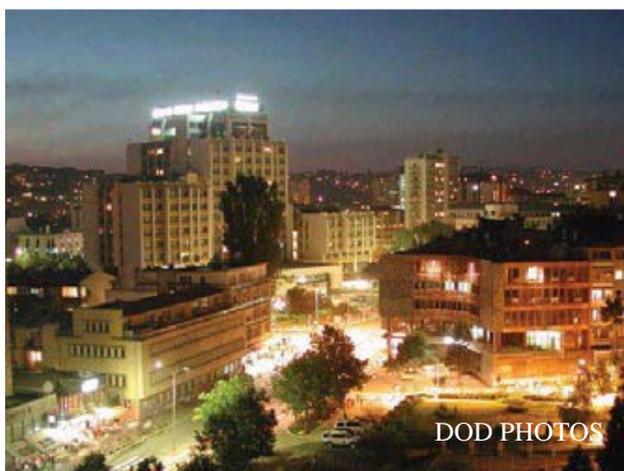
Defense Issues, NATO Response to Terrorism

February 2008

Kosovo's Final Status: *A Key to Stability and Prosperity in the Balkans*

"I want to be very clear that we see a future in which Kosovo and Serbia are both strong and free and in which both are fully integrated into the Euro-Atlantic horizon and Euro-Atlantic structures..."

– Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice



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A CALL TO ACTION: THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSFORMATIONAL DIPLOMACY. The Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Transformational Diplomacy. Final Report. February 2008



"The world is in a state of rapid and accelerating change. To keep pace with this change and to continue to play its leadership role into the 21st century, the United States must transform its diplomatic presence and capabilities. While the Secretary of State's Transformational Diplomacy agenda has begun to move the Department of State in new and important directions, additional effort is needed.

This Call to Action sets out the views of this Committee on the growing demands faced by U.S. diplomacy and the Department of State. It summarizes our unanimous recommendations on the urgent actions needed to position the Department to best promote America's interests in an ever more complex world. This includes increasing the available financial and human resources, streamlining the organizational structure, embracing new technology, and shifting the organization's emphasis from one of process to one of results.

Our hope is that these recommendations will form a basis for bipartisan action by the Department of State and the Executive and Legislative Branches to modernize U.S. diplomacy and enable our nation to maintain its leadership role well into the future."

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/99903.pdf>

Related documents:

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/diplomacy/>

TRANSFORMING THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVES INTO A 21ST-CENTURY OPERATIONAL FORCE. Executive Summary. Commission on the National Guard and Reserves. January 31, 2008



This report is the first step in a comprehensive reevaluation of the reserve components of the U.S. military in which the legislature and general public soon should join. In reviewing the past several decades of heavy use of the reserve components, most notably as an integral part of recent operations in Iraq, in Afghanistan, and in the homeland, the Commission has found indisputable and overwhelming evidence of the need for change. Policymakers and the military must break with outdated policies and processes and implement fundamental, thorough reforms. Many of today's profound challenges to the National Guard and Reserves will persist, notwithstanding force reductions in Iraq and

Afghanistan. The need for major reforms is urgent regardless of the outcome of current conflicts or the political turmoil surrounding them. The Commission believes the nation must look past the immediate and compelling challenges raised by these conflicts and focus on the long-term future of the National Guard and Reserves and on the United States' enduring national security interests.

<http://www.cngr.gov/Final%20Report/CNGRFinalReportExecutiveSummary.pdf>

WHAT WE NEED NEXT IN IRAQ. By Condoleezza Rice and Robert Gates. Published in *The Washington Post*. February 13, 2008.

"There is little doubt that 2008 will be a year of critical transition in Iraq as our force levels continue to come down, as our mission changes and as Iraqis continue to assert their sovereignty. But to continue the success we have seen in recent months, the Iraqi people and government will continue to need our help. Iraqis have requested a normalized relationship with us, and such a relationship will be part of a foundation of success in Iraq -- a foundation upon which future U.S. administrations can build."

<http://www.uspolicy.be/Article.asp?ID=953C6BB1-282B-45E0-AE40-241B25F0000F>

AFGHANISTAN AND NATO: WHY THEY BOTH MATTER. Kurt Volker, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs. Remarks to the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung February 4, 2008

Afghanistan is a place that has been confronted with massive problems for a very long time. All of the world's troubles have been visited on it. It was as if the four horsemen of the apocalypse -- war, famine, strife and death -- decided to practice first in Afghanistan.

An overabundance of security, governance and economic problems still besets this country.

Topping the list is an aggressive insurgency, focused especially on Southern and Eastern Afghanistan. The Taliban and their ilk seek a twisted victory, by instigating fear among the Afghan people via road-side and suicide bombs. And their campaign of intimidation goes further than the Afghan people -- they want to sow doubt among Afghanistan's Western friends by making success appear out of reach.

<http://www.state.gov/p/eur/rls/rm/100026.htm>

IRAN SANCTIONS: IMPACT IN FURTHERING U.S. OBJECTIVES IS UNCLEAR AND SHOULD BE REVIEWED. GAO-08-58, U.S. General Accountability Office (GAO). Web posted January 16, 2008. 08AD419

U.S. officials report that U.S. sanctions have slowed foreign investment in Iran's petroleum sector, denied parties involved in Iran's proliferation and terrorism activities access to the U.S. financial system, and provided a clear statement of U.S. concerns to the rest of the world. However, other evidence raises questions about the extent of reported impacts.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d0858.pdf> [pdf format, 66 pages]



NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION: DOE’S PROGRAM TO ASSIST WEAPONS SCIENTISTS IN RUSSIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES NEEDS TO BE REASSESSED. GAO-08-189, U.S. General Accountability Office (GAO). Web posted January 11, 2008. 08AD424

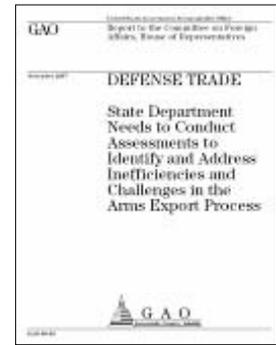
This report evaluates the impact and effectiveness of the Initiatives for Proliferation Prevention directed by the Department of Energy. GAO criticizes the DOE, claiming that it has “overstated accomplishments for 2 critical measures it uses to assess the IPP program’s progress and performance.”

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08189.pdf> [pdf format, 84 pages]

DEFENSE TRADE: STATE DEPARTMENT NEEDS TO CONDUCT ASSESSMENTS TO IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS INEFFICIENCIES AND CHALLENGES IN THE ARMS EXPORT PROCESS. U.S. General Accountability Office (GAO). Web posted January 3, 2007. 08AD347

The Department of State’s Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC) reviews and authorizes arms exporting licenses. GAO found three key trends that this Office is “under stress”: (1) between 2003 and 2006, the number of arms export cases processed increased by 20 percent; (2) during the same time period, processing times almost doubled; and (3) the number of open arms export cases increased by 50 percent. GAO recommends that State conduct a systematic analysis to help increase efficiency in processing arms export cases. State concurs with this recommendation.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d0889.pdf> [pdf format, 34 pages]



FEDERAL BUILDING AND FIRE SAFETY INVESTIGATION OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTER DISASTER: ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS—SUPPLEMENT (DECEMBER 14, 2007). National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). December 14, 2007. 08AD350

The release of the Final Report on the Collapse of the World Trade Center Towers in October 2005 generated many questions about NIST’s findings and the technical basis for them. The complexity and length of the report made understanding it a challenge. Consequently, NIST prepared this report with simplified answers to the most frequently asked questions.

http://wtc.nist.gov/pubs/factsheets/faqs_12_2007.htm [html format, various pagings]

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THE GULF SECURITY DIALOGUE AND RELATED ARMS SALE PROPOSALS. C Christopher M. Blanchard, et. al., Congressional Research Service (CRS), Library of Congress. January 14, 2008. 08AD416

This report describes the structure and objectives of the Gulf Security Dialogue; briefly assesses its regional implications; summarizes proposed arms sales and evaluates the Congressional notification and review procedures. http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34322_20080114.pdf [pdf format, 16 pages]



LATIN AMERICA: TERRORISM ISSUES. Mark P. Sullivan. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Updated January 9, 2008. 08AD421

U.S. attention to terrorism in Latin America intensified in the aftermath of the September 2001 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, with an increase in bilateral and regional cooperation. In its April 2007 Country Reports on Terrorism, the State Department highlighted threats in Colombia, Peru, and the tri-border area of Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay ... In May 2007, for the second year in a row, the Department of State, pursuant to Arms Export Control Act, included Venezuela on the annual list of countries not cooperating on antiterrorism efforts.

<http://opencrs.com/document/RS21049> [pdf format, 6 pages]

NATIONAL AVIATION SECURITY POLICY, STRATEGY, AND MODE-SPECIFIC PLANS: BACKGROUND AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR CONGRESS. Bart Elias. Congressional Research Service (CRS), Library of Congress. January 2, 2007. 08AD377

Prior to 9/11, the U.S. lacked a comprehensive national policy and strategy for aviation security. After the attack, Congress passed the Aviation and Transportation Security Act (ATSA, P.L. 107-71) that called for sweeping changes to passenger airline security operations. In 2006, President Bush directed the Department of Homeland Security to establish and implement a new security strategy and supporting plans.

However, Congress has concerns whether these plans are comprehensive, adaptable, sustainable, and within budget and resource allocation. Another concern is whether the 9/11 Commission recommendations were considered when developing the plans.

This report provides an outline of the strategy, the plans, and Congressional concerns. It will not be updated.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34302_20080102.pdf [pdf format, 27 pages]

DEMOCRACY PROMOTION: CORNERSTONE OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. Susan B. Epstein, Nina M. Serafino, and Francis T. Miko. Congressional Research Service (CRS), Library of Congress. December 26, 2007. 08AD366

Both the executive and legislative branches of the U.S. government support democracy promotion in other countries, and they have implemented bilateral and multilateral programs to promote it. Congress appropriates funds and authorizes programs. Congress also has oversight responsibility and attempts to determine when, where, and how these programs operate, and if the desired results are achieved. The 110th Congress may scrutinize these democracy promotion activities in Iraq more closely, which could affect democracy promotion elsewhere.

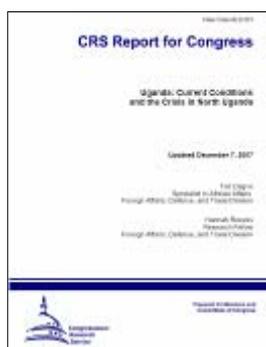
http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34296_20071226.pdf [pdf format, 36 pages]

U.S. ARMS SALES: AGREEMENTS WITH AND DELIVERIES TO MAJOR CLIENTS, 1999-2006. Richard F. Grimmitt. Congressional Research Service (CRS), Library of Congress. December 20, 2007. 08AD361

“This report provides background data on United States arms sales agreements with and deliveries to its major purchasers during calendar years 1999-2006.” It lists the total dollar values of government-to-government arms sales agreements with its top five purchasers in five specific regions, and the total dollar values of U.S. arms deliveries to its top five purchasers. Additionally, the report contains “tables listing the total dollar values of U.S. government-to-government arms agreements with and deliveries to its top 10 purchasers worldwide for the periods 1999-2002, 2003-2006, and for 2006 alone.”

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34291_20071220.pdf [pdf format, 10 pages]

UGANDA: CURRENT CONDITIONS AND THE CRISIS IN NORTH UGANDA. Ted Dagne and Hannah Reeves. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Updated December 17, 2007. 08AD408



In February 2006, Uganda held its first multi-party election in almost 26 years. President Yoweri Museveni and his party, the National Revolutionary Movement, won a decisive victory, but support for this administration has declined.

In October 2007, President Museveni met with President Bush, administrative officials, and members of Congress to discuss a wide range of issues; such as, U.S.-Uganda relations, the crisis in Somalia and Darfur, trade, and HIV/AIDS. This report summarizes these discussions.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL33701_20071207.pdf [pdf format, 15 pages]

THE U.S.-AUSTRALIA TREATY ON DEFENSE TRADE COOPERATION. Bruce Vaughn. Congressional Research Service (CRS), Library of Congress. December 12, 2007. 08AD362

In September 2007, the U.S. and Australia signed a treaty on Defense Trade Cooperation. This treaty will facilitate defense trade and cooperation and will strengthen ties between two close allies who have fought together most recently in Iraq and Afghanistan. Australia has also worked closely with the U.S. in its efforts to contain militant, anti-Western Islamists. This treaty must be ratified by the U. S. Senate to come into force.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RS22772_20071212.pdf [pdf format, 6 pages]

OPEN SOURCE INTELLIGENCE (OSINT): ISSUES FOR CONGRESS. Richard A. Best, Jr. and Alfred Cumming. Congressional Research Service (CRS), Library of Congress. December 5, 2007. 08AD328

“Open source information (OSINT) is derived from newspapers, journals, radio and television, and the Internet.” Intelligence analysts have used this type of information to supplement classified data, but it is not considered a priority of the U.S. Intelligence Community (IC). However, responding to legislative direction, the IC established the position of Assistant Director of National Intelligence for Open Source and created the National Open Source Center. This report provides background information and some recent developments on the use of OSINT.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/intel/RL34270.pdf> [pdf format, 27 pages]



THE WHITE HOUSE

THE HOUSE MUST ACT QUICKLY TO PASS BIPARTISAN SENATE FISA MODERNIZATION BILL. FACT SHEET. The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. February 13, 2008

The House of Representatives must act now to pass a bipartisan Senate bill that will ensure our intelligence professionals continue to have the critical tools they need to protect the Nation. On Tuesday, the Senate cast a strong bipartisan vote in support of this legislation, which will ensure our intelligence professionals have the tools they need to make us safer and will also provide fair and just liability protection for companies that did the right thing and assisted in defending America after the 9/11 attacks.

Congress has had more than six months to act – there is no reason to stall this important legislation. Failure by the House to pass this bill by the end of the week, when the Protect America Act (PAA) expires, will weaken our ability to obtain vital foreign intelligence information, including the location, intentions, and capabilities of terrorists and other foreign intelligence targets abroad.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2008/02/20080213-2.html>

THE U.S. AND NATO

U.S. AMBASSADOR TO NATO VICTORIA NULAND'S SPEECH IN PARIS: AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES STRENGTHENING GLOBAL SECURITY FOR EUROPE. Ambassador Victoria Nuland, United States Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Speech to Presse Club and AmCham. Paris, France. February 22, 2008

"Today the challenges we face run the gamut from terror, and violent extremism and weapons of mass destruction to the need to decrease our dependence on carbon fuels and address the poverty, disease and hunger that still afflict too much of the world's population. Together, we must manage a Kremlin that has tightened its grip on state power, suspended the conventional forces in Europe treaty and threatened to target missiles at its neighbors, even as we work together with Russia on Iran, North Korea and other vital shared interests. We must maintain the right mix of diplomacy and offers of political and economic engagement and pressure on Iran to come back into compliance with the UNSC, abandon terror and give its people the future they deserve. And we must encourage China to use its growing power for stability and peace, in its neighborhood and globally. In short, we are living in a complex and dangerous world -- one that requires those of us who are blessed to live in free societies to join forces to protect what we have at home and to secure and enlarge the democratic community.

As we in the United States look across the globe for partners in meeting these challenges we of course look to our Asian Allies and other strong democracies to our South and to our East. But our first stop is often at the European Union. Of course to the 27 member states but increasingly to the institution itself."

<http://nato.usmission.gov/Article.asp?ID=21A35613-E9D6-431D-9FD5-36FDD1389EB0>

STATEMENT BY THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL AFTER KOSOVO'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE. February 18, 2008

Following Kosovo's declaration of independence yesterday, NATO reaffirms that KFOR shall remain in Kosovo on the basis of UNSCR 1244, as agreed by Foreign Ministers in December 2007, unless the UN Security Council decides otherwise.

NATO's responsibility and capability to ensure a safe and secure environment in Kosovo remain unchanged. KFOR will continue to execute this mandate in an impartial manner in accordance with its Operational Plan. NATO will respond resolutely to any attempts to disrupt the safety and security of the population of Kosovo.

NATO continues to attach great importance to the implementation of standards in Kosovo, especially regarding the rule of law, the protection of ethnic minorities and communities, as well as the protection of historical and religious sites.

NATO's objective is to continue helping in the development of a stable, democratic, multi-ethnic and peaceful Kosovo. As Foreign Ministers also agreed in December 2007, NATO will continue to cooperate closely with the population of Kosovo, the United Nations, the European Union and other international actors wherever appropriate.

<http://www.nato.int/docu/pr/2008/p08-025e.html>

THE NATO EMERGING IN AFGHANISTAN. By Victoria Nuland, U.S. ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Published in *The Washington Post*. February 1, 2008.

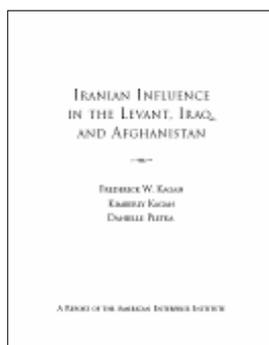
The next three to five years will be crucial for the people of Afghanistan, for the NATO alliance and for the community of democracies. The Afghanistan mission is an investment in our collective security; it is also the catalyst for the 21st-century transformation of our democratic alliance. If we can get it right in the Hindu Kush, we will also be stronger the next time we are called to defend our security and values so far from home.

<http://nato.usmission.gov/Article.asp?ID=FA944BB7-EBE7-44D8-9AB6-D0F6630271CE>

THINK TANK PUBLICATIONS

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

IRANIAN INFLUENCE IN THE LEVANT, IRAQ, AND AFGHANISTAN. By Frederick W. Kagan, Danielle Pletka, Kimberly Kagan. PAPERS AND STUDIES. AEI Online February 19, 2008

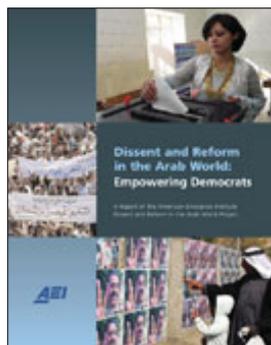


The conflict between Iran and the United States began in 1979 with the Iranian Revolution and the seizure of the American Embassy in Tehran. Born partly of ideological differences and partly of real and perceived differing national interests, it has continued, alternately hot and cold, for almost three decades and seems unlikely to end soon. Like most previous conflicts, its conclusion cannot be foreseen. Many such struggles, like the Anglo-German tensions between 1871 and 1945 and the centuries-long tensions between Britain and France, lead to full-scale war. Others, like the Anglo-Russian or Russian-Ottoman tensions throughout the nineteenth century, lead to more limited

conflict. And some, like the U.S.-Soviet Cold War, are resolved without direct armed confrontation. One key to resolving any such conflict is understanding both the nature of the enemy and the scope of the conflict--insights that have eluded most Americans and, indeed, many Iranians. This report addresses this lack of understanding and argues that while neither Americans nor Iranians desire full-scale military confrontation, Iranian activism and American passivity are contributing to a drift toward war.

http://www.aei.org/publications/pubID.27526,filter.all/pub_detail.asp

DISSENT AND REFORM IN THE ARAB WORLD: EMPOWERING DEMOCRATS.



Edited by Michael Rubin, Danielle Pletka, Jeffrey Azarva. A Report of the American Enterprise Institute Dissent and Reform in the Arab World Project. AEI Press (Washington). February 13, 2008

The Arab world suffers from a debilitating democracy deficit. The region's ruling governments' antipathy for pluralism, political dissent, and free speech have helped to incubate extremism by denying outlets for peaceful expression to all but a privileged few.

In U.S. policy circles, even after the collapse of the Soviet Union, conventional wisdom remained that partnerships with illiberal Arab governments, no matter how unsavory, would best serve U.S. national security. Following September 11, 2001, however, most U.S. policymakers concluded that promoting democracy was not only the best antidote for the region's woes, but also Washington's best safeguard against future attacks.

No sooner had this tectonic shift in U.S. foreign policy occurred, however, than questions about its viability and wisdom arose. Do democrats exist in the Arab world? Are Arab societies fit for democratic self-government? Will Islamist extremism wrongly benefit from popular participation?

To try the efficacy of pro-democracy policies in the Arab world, the American Enterprise Institute initiated the "Dissent and Reform in the Arab World" project. Directed by Danielle Pletka, vice president of foreign and defense policy studies, and Michael Rubin, resident scholar, the project commissioned essays from Arab reformers and activists who championed the causes of liberal democracy long before such calls ever reverberated in Western capitals. Together, these authentic voices dispel the fiction that the Arab world is infertile ground for democracy.

*To order a free copy of this report, email your mailing address to laura.harbold@aei.org.
http://www.aei.org/books/filter.all,bookID.923/book_detail.asp*

THE PROPOSED U.S. SECURITY COMMITMENT TO IRAQ: WHAT WILL BE IN IT AND SHOULD IT BE A TREATY? By Michael Rubin. TESTIMONY. House Foreign Affairs Committee (Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight and Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia) January 23, 2008

"On November 26, 2007, President George W. Bush and Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki released a "Declaration of Principles for a Long-Term Relationship of Cooperation and Friendship between the Republic of Iraq and the United States of America." Among the principles they outlined were:

- Provision of "security assurances and commitments to the Republic of Iraq to deter foreign aggression against Iraq that violates its sovereignty and integrity of its territories, waters, or airspace."
- Support for "the Republic of Iraq in its efforts to combat all terrorist groups...consistent with mechanisms and arrangements to be established in the bilateral cooperation agreements..." and
- Support for "the Republic of Iraq in training, equipping, and arming the Iraqi Security Forces to enable them to protect Iraq and all its peoples, and completing the building of its administrative systems, in accordance with the request of the Iraqi government."

(...) Throughout this year, the U.S. and Iraqi government will negotiate the details of a security agreement to replace the UN's Chapter VII mandate. The details are crucial to the question at hand, but remain unclear. The proposed agreement could take many forms and, indeed, could be a package of multiple agreements, ranging from a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) to economic development packages to basing agreements, to a formal defense treaty."

http://www.aei.org/publications/pubID.27399,filter.all/pub_detail.asp

MANAGING A CROSS-STRAIT CRISIS: The Limitations of Crisis Management Theory. By Gary J. Schmitt, Tim Sullivan. NATIONAL SECURITY OUTLOOK. AEI Online. January 2008

Nowhere in the world is the danger of a major war more serious in its potential consequences than in the Taiwan Strait. Policymakers both here and in the region are interested in finding ways to avoid a military confrontation between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the People's Republic of China (PRC). But should one begin, they will need to have available the tools to avoid a full-fledged conflagration. Naturally enough, security specialists have turned to the crisis management literature to devise strategies for addressing this latter problem. Are the literature and the strategies it has generated a good fit for the case of China and Taiwan--and, if not, what should be done to prepare for managing such a crisis?

http://www.aei.org/publications/pubID.27339/pub_detail.asp



ARMS CONTROL ASSOCIATION

ARMS CONTROL TODAY. January/February 2008. Volume 38 Number 1

- CLUSTER MUNITIONS: BAN THEM. Stephen D. Goose
- QUESTIONABLE REWARD: ARMS SALES AND THE WAR ON TERRORISM. Rachel Stohl
- IF YOU LEAD, THEY WILL FOLLOW: PUBLIC OPINION AND REPAIRING THE U.S.-RUSSIAN STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIP. John Steinbruner and Nancy Gallagher

http://www.armscontrol.org/act/2008_01-02/



BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

SIX YEARS LATER: INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO DEFEATING AL QAEDA. Daniel L. Byman, Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy, Saban Center for Middle East Policy. Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. February 14, 2008

It is a truism widely repeated that the United States must think differently to confront the challenge of terrorism in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. Yet, despite spending billions of dollars and the passage of over six years, much remains to be done before the United States is ready to meet its new adversary.

(The) testimony focuses on ways to improve the following aspects of U.S. counterterrorism: 1. use of force; 2. collection and employment of intelligence; 3. homeland security strategy; 4. information campaigns; and 5. diplomatic alliances. I conclude with a call for a more informed public debate—such as this hearing—to review the most controversial counterterrorism measures and develop a broad consensus on the appropriate measures.

http://www.brookings.edu/testimony/2008/0214_al_qaeda_byman.aspx?p=1

TIME FOR KURDISH REALISM. Michael E. O'Hanlon, Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy; Omer Taspinar, Nonresident Fellow, Foreign Policy. The Brookings Institution. Commentary published in *The Washington Post*. February 09, 2008

The Kurds are making a major mistake. They should rethink their approach both out of fairness to the United States, which has given them a chance to help build a post-Hussein Iraq, and in the interests of the Kurds and their neighbors. Baghdad needs a role in developing future oil fields and sharing revenue; Kirkuk needs to remain where it is in Iraq's political system, or perhaps attain a special status. It should not be muscled away into Kurdistan.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2008/0209_kurds_ohanlon.aspx?p=1

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR STABILIZATION & RECONSTRUCTION. By Carlos Pascual, Vice President and Director, Foreign Policy, Brookings Institution. House Armed Services Subcommittee on Oversight & Investigations. January 29, 2008

"Let me just underscore a couple of key findings from the work that we've learned -- done and things that we've learned from stabilization and reconstruction.

First is that it takes at least five to 10 years until it's possible to get local partners to really take the lead in stabilization and reconstruction effort. To imagine that you can build capacity and help them build capacity any faster is a fantasy and it just simply hasn't been done. Look at small states like Bosnia and Kosovo.

(...)

The other thing that we have to understand is that we need multilateral engagement to succeed in order to have the depth and the range and the time commitment that is necessary to undertake these missions. Afghanistan is a good example, where we have the U.N. and NATO and the United States and 30 nations. And here, we are still struggling to succeed. To imagine that we can do this alone is just simply a fantasy. If we even look at tiny Kosovo and the effort that it's taken multilaterally, we have to remember that the capacity that we build as the United States to be successful has to be leveraged with multilateral engagement.

And finally, I would underscore that security is a prerequisite."

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/testimonies/2008/0129_stabilization_pascual/0129_stabilization_pascual.pdf

APPLYING THE LESSONS OF BOSNIA IN IRAQ: WHATEVER THE SOLUTION, PROPERTY RIGHTS SHOULD BE SECURED. Rhodri C. Williams. Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement, Brookings Institution. January 8, 2008. 08AD411

Recent proposals have been made for "soft partition" of Iraq through a process of decentralization rather than the creation of separate national entities. The U.S. Senate passed a non-binding resolution to this effect in September, 2007. This document looks at the proposals and compares them to the similar effort made in Bosnia in the early 1990's.

[Note: Contains copyrighted material.]

http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2008/0108_iraq_williams.aspx [html format, various pagings]

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

ASSESSING SECRETARY OF STATE RICE'S REFORM OF U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE. By Gerald Hyman. Carnegie Endowment. Carnegie Paper, February 2008

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's ambitious reorganization of the U.S. foreign assistance efforts last year is deeply, perhaps irredeemably flawed, but did produce some positive results, says a new paper from the Carnegie Endowment.

Reforms aimed at making foreign assistance an instrument of the administration's "transformational diplomacy," and ensuring greater transparency and oversight instead created an overly centralized and complex system that was rushed into practice.

In *Assessing Secretary of State Rice's Reform of U.S. Foreign Assistance*, former senior USAID official Gerald Hyman analyzes the objectives, implementation, and impact of the Secretary's effort to create a cohesive foreign assistance program fully integrated with U.S. national security policy.

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/CP90_hyman_foreign_assistance_final.pdf

THE ROAD OUT OF GAZA. By Nathan Brown. Carnegie Endowment. Policy Outlook No. 39, February 2008

The Middle East peace process will fail unless Palestinian political institutions are rebuilt, argues a new paper from the Carnegie Endowment. The rebuilding of viable political structures to represent and serve the Palestinians is the only way to move beyond the current political stalemate and the failed effort to build a Palestinian state. In *The Road out of Gaza*, Palestinian expert Nathan J. Brown discusses the economic and political disarray not only in Gaza and the West Bank but within Hamas and Fatah as well, and argues that the international efforts to rebuild Palestine are in reality counterproductive. Brown suggests a long-term international strategy

based on restoring Palestinian institutions, encouraging a Fatah–Hamas agreement, and emphasizing regional diplomacy.

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/brown_gaza_final.pdf

PAKISTAN'S POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT, THE FEBRUARY ELECTIONS, RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, GREATER REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS, AND THE CAMPAIGN IN AFGHANISTAN. Remarks By Carnegie Endowment Senior Associates Ashley J. Tellis And Frederic Grare. Carnegie Europe And The Royal United Services Institute. Friday, January 25, 2008

On January 25 at the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) in London, Carnegie Senior Associate Ashley J. Tellis presented the findings of his Carnegie report, *Pakistan and the War on Terror: Conflicted Goals, Compromised Performance*. In the immediate follow-up to

President Pervez Musharraf's keynote speech at RUSI, Tellis and Carnegie Visiting Scholar Frederic Grare provided first-hand commentary on Pakistan's political environment, the February elections, relations with the United States, and greater regional implications, including the campaign in Afghanistan. Alexander Neill, Head of Asia Security Programme (RUSI), chaired the event.

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/0125_transcript_tellisgrare_pakistan_rusi21.pdf

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (CSIS)

THE SITUATION IN IRAQ: A BRIEFING FROM THE BATTLEFIELD. Anthony Cordesman, Burke Chair in Strategy. February 13, 2008



No one can spend some 10 days visiting the battlefields in Iraq without seeing major progress in every area. A combination of the surge, improved win and hold tactics, the tribal uprising in Anbar and other provinces, the Sadr ceasefire, and major advances in the use of IS&R have transformed the battle against Al Qaida in Iraq. If the US provides sustained support to the Iraqi government -- in security, governance, and development --

there is now a very real chance that Iraq will emerge as a secure and stable state.

The attached briefing provides detailed graphs and maps taken from material provided to me during my visit to Iraq. The briefing is an update on the situation throughout Iraq, and shows the trends over the past year. These graphs and maps measure major acts of violence, ethno-sectarian violence, and trends in IED and other forms of attack. These same trends emerge from a detailed examination of what is happening in Baghdad, Anbar, and Central Iraq. They show the war is far from over, but the violence has been sharply reduced, and perhaps to the minimum levels possible until Iraq improves its governance and development and moves much further towards political accommodation

http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080213_situationiniraq.pdf

THE CNGR FINAL REPORT: THE BEST SHOT FOR A STRONGER, SUSTAINABLE RESERVE COMPONENT. Christine E. Wormuth. CSIS. February 1, 2008

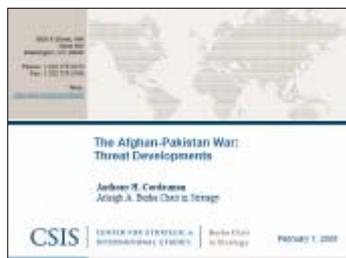
The Commission on the National Guard and Reserves released its final report on January 31, 2008. Making almost 100 recommendations to adapt and transform the National Guard and Reserves to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow, the commission report is a sobering description of the health of America's citizen soldiers, and a clear road map, that if implemented, points the way to a strong and viable Guard and Reserves in the future.

While many of the problems the commission report describes and the recommendations it makes are not new, the commission breaks new ground in several areas and brings the full range of recommendations, old and new, into a single authoritative report that truly is "the most comprehensive, independent review of National Guard and Reserve forces in the past 60 years." The commission's recommendations on what more the Defense Department needs to do to prepare for a catastrophic attack on the homeland are particularly important and should not be ignored.

http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080201_wormuth_cngr.pdf

THE AFGHAN-PAKISTAN WAR: THREAT DEVELOPMENTS. By Anthony Cordesman, Burke Chair in Strategy. Report. CSIS. January 31, 2008

Despite continued violence, the threat in Afghanistan has not increased to the point where it can challenge NATO/ISAF forces in open combat, the US has made major gains in striking at the leadership of the various mix of hostile Islamist movements in the south, and similar gains have been scored against the more traditional Taliban leadership in the south.



The attached briefing, however, provides a broader view of the rising level of violence in the country based on a visit to Afghanistan in late January 2008, and unclassified data from the UN, NATO/ISAF, and US sources in Afghanistan. It provides an

analytic overview of threat developments that map and chart a growing overall threat in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

It shows that the more traditional Taliban structure under the Mullah Omar in the south remains a major problem, and that the mix of Taliban and other Islamist elements in the East has become far more sophisticated and cooperative during the course of 2007. Al Qa'ida influence over the Afghan groups has increased, and the combined role of Al Qa'ida and the emerging Pakistani Taliban has sharply increased in influence and in the territory over which it has de facto control.

http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080201_afghanthreat.pdf

U.S. AIR FORCE BOMBER MODERNIZATION PLANS: AN INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT. Clark A. Murdock. Center for Strategic & International Studies. January 25, 2008

As a separate, standalone input to its ongoing work, IRIS Independent Research asked Clark Murdock, a senior adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), to provide a quick-turn, independent assessment from an “external perspective” of Air Force bomber modernization options.

CSIS recruited a diverse group of subject-matter experts, including former senior Department of Defense officials, defense strategy and policy generalists, air power experts and former Air Force officers, and hosted two workshop luncheons. The workshop discussion was governed by Chatham House rules — all participants would be identified; direct quotes (both from oral and written statements) would be used in reporting workshop results; but no quote or viewpoint would be attributed to a particular participant. IRIS Independent Research produced a briefing that provided the basis for the workshop discussion.

http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080125_bomber_assessment.pdf



INTEGRATING 21ST CENTURY DEVELOPMENT AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE. Robert Andrews and Mark Kirk (cochairs); J. Stephen Morrison and Kathleen Hicks (project directors) CSIS. January 18, 2008



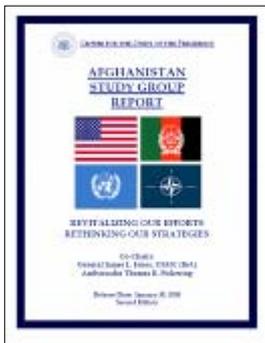
In early 2007, CSIS launched an expert task force to examine the growing involvement of the Department of Defense as a direct provider of “non-traditional” security assistance, concentrated in counterterrorism, capacity building, stabilization and reconstruction, and humanitarian relief. The task force set out to shed light on what drives this trend, including the new global threat environment; assess what was happening at the same time in the diplomatic and developmental realms; evaluate DOD performance in conducting its expanded missions; and consider the impact of the Pentagon’s enlarged role on broader U.S. national security, foreign policy and development

interests. From the outset, the task force sought to generate concrete, practical recommendations to Congress and the White House on reforms and legislation that will create a better and more sustainable balance between military and civilian tools.

<http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080118-andrews-integrating21stcentury.pdf>

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE PRESIDENCY

REVITALIZING OUR EFFORTS, RETHINKING OUR STRATEGIES. Co-Chairs: General James L. Jones, USMC (Ret.), Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering. Center for the Study of The Presidency. Afghanistan Study Group Report. Second Edition. Release Date: January 30, 2008



It is clear that one of the key challenges that the mission in Afghanistan now faces is the lack of a common strategic vision that will reinvigorate our efforts under unified attainable goals. This process has to be done comprehensively – involving both military and civilian aspects of the mission as equals – and in a cooperative fashion among the U.S., NATO, the UN, the EU, and the Afghan government. The Afghanistan Compact should be the basis for any common strategic vision, and discussion should focus on developing strategies to achieve that vision.

The goal of the Afghanistan Study Group is to provide policy makers with key recommendations that will lead to a re-vitalization and re-doubling of the United States and international community’s commitment and effort in Afghanistan. The study group’s findings and proposals will be shared with U.S. government officials, Members of Congress, key officials in NATO and at the United Nations, and representatives of the governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan, as well as other interested governments and parties.

http://www.thepresidency.org/pubs/Afghan_Study_Group_final.pdf

CENTURY FOUNDATION (TCF)

RISING POWERS AND GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS. G. John Ikenberry, Thomas Wright, The Century Foundation, 2/6/2008



The economic surge of large Asian countries is propelling a fundamental shift in global power relationships. But while power transitions in the past have been marked by often violent struggles between rising and declining powers, the post-1945 international order is substantially different—more open, institutionalized, consensual, and rule-based—allowing a twenty-first-century power transition to be accomplished peacefully and incrementally. As countries such as China, India, Russia, and Brazil seek a greater voice in the international order, however, the institutions underpinning the international order will have to adapt to accommodate the new realities. In this report, G. John Ikenberry and Thomas Wright consider how the United States might most strategically move to adapt such institutions as the United Nations Security Council, the Bretton Woods institutions, the nuclear nonproliferation regime, and the global trading order, as well as explore informal multilateral groupings, to engage the new powers.

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

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

PROFILE: IMAD MUGNIYAH. By Elisabeth Smick. Council on Foreign Relations. February 13, 2008

Examining the life and tactics of Imad Fayez Mugniyah, the Hezbollah military mastermind killed in Damascus on February 13, 2008. Before 9/11, Mugniyah was said to be responsible for the deaths of more Americans than any other terrorist.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/11317/profile.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder

THE RISE OF CHINA AND THE FUTURE OF THE WEST. Ikenberry, G. John. Foreign Affairs Vol. 87, No. 1, January-February 2008 AA08032

Summary: China appears poised to overtake the United States as a world power, but the transition need not be a bloody one, according to Ikenberry, professor of politics and international affairs at Princeton University. China will face not a single power but the entire Western order of democratic capitalist states. That order, built around rules and market openness, creates the conditions for China and other rising powers to gain status and play a role in global governance. "The road to global power, in effect, runs through the Western order and its multilateral economic institutions," Ikenberry says. The coming power shift can occur peacefully and on terms favorable to the United States, but only by the United States reinforcing the Western order's system of global governance, first by reestablishing itself as its foremost supporter. Currently available online at

<http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20080101faessay87102/g-john-ikenberry/the-rise-of-china-and-the-future-of-the-west.html>

LEADING AFRICA. Stephanie Hanson, News Editor. Council on Foreign Relations. February 8, 2008

South Africa, Nigeria, and Kenya are considered sub-Saharan Africa's anchor states. Each country is the financial and infrastructure hub of its subregion, and each has played a robust role in regional peace and security. The United States has supported these states with the expectation that each would foster stability among its neighbors. Yet with all three embroiled in pressing domestic issues, questions about the utility of this strategy abound. Some experts say the anchor states will continue to play an active role in pan-African issues. Others see a worrying leadership vacuum. While states like Ghana and Tanzania show promise, such mid-sized countries have a hard time projecting influence beyond their immediate neighborhood. Experts agree the current situation bodes poorly for regional security issues and long-term economic growth, but are sharply divided on what kind of policy the United States should pursue on the continent.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/15432/leading_africa.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder

HERITAGE FOUNDATION

THE EU REFORM TREATY: A THREAT TO THE TRANSATLANTIC ALLIANCE. By Sally McNamara. Backgrounder #2109. The Heritage Foundation. February 20, 2008

After French President Nicolas Sarkozy's and German Chancellor Angela Merkel's successful visits to Washington, D.C., U.S. policymakers might be forgiven for thinking that U.S. strategic interests are now in safe hands in continental Europe. However, this optimism discounts the enormous threat posed by the Reform Treaty, which was signed in Lisbon on December 13 and is little more than the European Constitution with a cosmetic makeover.

http://www.heritage.org/Research/Europe/upload/bg_2109.pdf



PROVIDING FOR THE COMMON DEFENSE: WHAT 10 YEARS OF PROGRESS WOULD LOOK LIKE. By James Jay Carafano, Ph.D., Baker Spring and Mackenzie Eaglen. Backgrounder #2108. The Heritage Foundation. February 19, 2008

If the President and Congress make the right decisions over the next 10 years, America will have the optimal military to keep the nation safe, free, and prosperous while responding to the emerging national security challenges of the 21st century. Achieving the ideal composition and capabilities of U.S. military forces will require:

Building a robust complement of capabilities for the spectrum of missions the armed forces will face,

- Ensuring adequate funding for ongoing operations,
- Maintaining a trained and ready all-volunteer force,
- Preparing for the future, and
- Fundamentally reforming manpower and procurement policies.



To realize these goals, both the President and Congress must commit to a program that addresses the most pressing priorities: preparing, fielding, and sustaining the force.

http://www.heritage.org/Research/NationalSecurity/upload/bg_2108.pdf

THE WEST MUST BACK FULL INDEPENDENCE FOR KOSOVO. By Nile Gardiner, Ph.D. and Sally McNamara. WebMemo #1818. The Heritage Foundation. February 15, 2008

In 1998 and 1999, Serbia waged a barbaric campaign of ethnic cleansing against ethnic Albanians that left more than 10,000 people dead. It was only the U.S.-British-led NATO intervention that prevented thousands more from being slaughtered by Slobodan Milosevic's dictatorship, and 16,000 Allied troops remain in the province today.

More than 90 percent of Kosovo's 2.1 million residents are ethnic Albanians; Serbs make up a tiny minority. There is no realistic alternative to independence for the province, a political reality that both Serbia and Russia must accept. As former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher warned in a speech in 1999, "[I]t would be both cruel and stupid to expect the Albanian Kosovans now to return to live under any form of Serbian rule."

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/Europe/wml1818.cfm?renderforprint=1>

VISA POLICY AND TRANSPORTATION SECURITY: ENSURING THE RIGHT BALANCE. By Sally McNamara. WebMemo #1813. The Heritage Foundation. February 13, 2008



Visa policy is a strategic public policy that America must get right. It is a critical tool for promoting American public diplomacy, economic growth, and international alliance-building.

The exclusion of many of America's closest Central and Eastern European allies from the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) has undoubtedly been an obstacle to building enduring bilateral alliances with European nations. In late 2007, Congress passed legislation allowing for expansion of the VWP, and its implementation must now make progress.

Policymakers must implement these visa reforms along with wider reforms of transportation security policy. The devastation of 9/11 looms large, and it is incumbent on nations on both sides of the Atlantic to ensure that travel is safe as well as open. However, it is equally incumbent on nations to ensure that new policies genuinely contribute to increased security and are formulated in the spirit of transatlantic cooperation, without European Union obstructionism.

http://www.heritage.org/Research/Europe/upload/wm_1813.pdf

DEATH OF A TERRORIST: IMAD MUGNIYAH. By James Phillips. WebMemo #1815 The Heritage Foundation. February 13, 2008



Yesterday's reported death of the terrorist mastermind Imad Mugniyah, if true, is a major blow to the Hezbollah organization, its backers in Iran and Syria, and other terrorist groups who have cooperated with Hezbollah or Iran, often working through Mugniyah. He was involved in many of the most lethal and high-profile terrorist attacks in the Middle East and elsewhere over the past 25 years. His death, which may have been the outcome of an Israeli counter-terrorist operation, is an important victory in the global struggle against terrorism.

http://www.heritage.org/Research/MiddleEast/upload/wm_1815.pdf

U.S. PUBLIC DIPLOMACY: THE SEARCH FOR A NATIONAL STRATEGY. By Helle C. Dale. Executive Memorandum #1029 The Heritage Foundation. February 11, 2008



If there is one thing on which numerous recent studies on U.S. public diplomacy and strategic communications agree, it is the profound need for an overarching, strategic, government-wide public diplomacy plan. Studies dating back to a July 2002 report from the Council on Foreign Relations ("Public Diplomacy: A Strategy for Reform") have asserted that the various U.S. government agencies engaged in public diplomacy are hampered by a lack of leadership, poor inter-agency coordination, and a lack of resources to engage foreign audiences. In today's rapidly expanding information universe, efforts to reach foreign audiences need to be more targeted, deliberate, and coordinated

than ever before.

What should this public diplomacy strategy look like? Toward whom should it be directed? What would be its core mission and priorities? And does the U.S. have the right tools to do the job? These are some of the critical questions that need to be answered. Official Washington and the private sector should use the time before the next President's inauguration to reflect and do some serious strategic thinking.

http://www.heritage.org/Research/NationalSecurity/upload/em_1029.pdf

COMBATING ENEMIES ONLINE: STATE-SPONSORED AND TERRORIST USE OF THE INTERNET. By James Jay Carafano, Ph.D. and Richard Weitz, Ph.D. Backgrounder #2105 The Heritage Foundation. February 8, 2008



Even before the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, security experts were becoming increasingly concerned about the vulnerability of U.S. computer systems and associated infrastructure. The 9/11 attacks amplified these concerns.

Less attention, however, has been paid to state sponsors of illicit computer activity, which are increasingly using the Internet to conduct espionage, deny services to domestic and foreign audiences, and

influence global opinion. In addition, insufficient focus has been given to how terrorists exploit the Internet as a tool for recruiting, fund raising, propa-ganda, and intelligence collection and use it to plan, coordinate, and control terrorist operations. Combating these malicious activities on the Internet will require the cooperation of federal entities, as well as friendly and allied countries and the private sector.

http://www.heritage.org/Research/NationalSecurity/upload/bg_2105.pdf

DEFENSE TRADE COOPERATION TREATIES WITH AUSTRALIA AND THE U.K. WILL IMPROVE SECURITY. By Baker Spring. Backgrounder #2107 The Heritage Foundation. February 8, 2008

The United States and the United Kingdom signed a defense trade cooperation treaty on June 21 and 26, 2007. The United States and Australia signed a similar treaty on September 5. The purpose of these two treaties is to permit the United States to trade most defense articles with these two close allies without an export license or other written authorization.

Both treaties require the Senate's consent prior to ratification and entry into force. President George W. Bush transferred the treaty with the United Kingdom to the Senate on September 20, 2007, and the treaty with Australia on December 3, 2007. Before voting on these treaties, the Senate needs to understand how they would benefit U.S. security interests.

http://www.heritage.org/Research/NationalSecurity/upload/bg_2107.pdf

INTERNATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE: WASHINGTON AND WARSAW'S POSTIVE STEP TOWARD FINAL AGREEMENT. By Sally McNamara and Peter Brookes. WebMemo #1803 The Heritage Foundation. February 8, 2008



News that Washington and Warsaw have come to an agreement in principle on fielding 10 interceptors in Poland as part of America's missile defense system in Europe marks a positive development for transatlantic relations and international security.

A comprehensive missile defense system offers protection to America, its forward deployed troops, and its allies. The placement of interceptors in Poland and radar in the Czech Republic would bolster transatlantic security, protecting both the United States and Europe from the growing threat of long-range ballistic missiles and the unconventional payloads

they may carry.

In order to begin construction, the Administration must now seek final agreements with Warsaw and Prague and expedite fulfillment of the conditions imposed in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008. Congress should also fully fund President Bush's fiscal year (FY) 2009 funding request of \$720 million for the system's actual construction.

http://www.heritage.org/Research/Europe/upload/wm_1803.pdf

INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP (ICG)

POLITICAL MURDER IN CENTRAL ASIA: NO TIME TO END UZBEKISTAN'S ISOLATION. Asia Briefing N°76.ICG, 14 February 2008

There are strong indications that Uzbek security forces murdered one of Kyrgyzstan's most prominent journalists, Alisher Saipov, in October 2007 during the build-up to Uzbekistan's end of year presidential elections, most likely because of his involvement in Erk (Freedom), a leading exile opposition party. If this is the case, it would appear that the security organs, which are the key to keeping President Islam Karimov in power, are increasingly willing to move against any perceived danger, even if it involves pre-emptive strikes in foreign territory. This may be a sign not only of the ruthlessness of the regime but also of its increasing fragility. At the least it underlines the need for the U.S. and the European Union (EU) to resist the temptation to respond to Karimov's dubious December 2007 re-election with efforts at re-engagement, in the apparent hope of regaining or retaining military bases for Afghanistan operations or of outflanking Russia.

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/asia/central_asia/b76_political_murder_in_ca_no_time_to_end_uzbekistan_isolation.pdf



IRAQ'S CIVIL WAR, THE SADRISTS AND THE SURGE. Middle East Report N°72. ICG. 7 February 2008



The dramatic decline in bloodshed in Iraq – at least until last week's terrible market bombings in Baghdad – is largely due to Muqtada al-Sadr's August 2007 unilateral ceasefire. Made under heavy U.S. and Iraqi pressure and as a result of growing discontent from his own Shiite base, Muqtada's decision to curb his unruly movement was a positive step. But the situation remains highly fragile and potentially reversible. If the U.S. and others seek to press their advantage and deal the Sadrists a mortal blow, these gains are likely to be squandered, with Iraq experiencing yet another explosion of violence. The need is instead to work at converting Muqtada's unilateral measure into a more

comprehensive multilateral ceasefire that can create conditions for the movement to evolve into a fully legitimate political actor.

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/middle_east__north_africa/iraq_iran_gulf/72_iraq_s_civil_war_the_sadrists_and_the_surge.pdf

AFGHANISTAN: THE NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL RESOLVE. Asia Report N°145. ICG. 6 February 2008

Afghanistan is not lost but the signs are not good. Its growing insurgency reflects a collective failure to tackle the root causes of violence. Six years after the Taliban's ouster, the international community lacks a common diagnosis of what is needed to stabilise the country as well as a common set of objectives. Long-term improvement of institutions is vital for both state building and counter-insurgency, but without a more strategic approach, the increased attention and resources now directed at quelling the conflict could even prove counterproductive by furthering a tendency to seek quick fixes. Growing tensions over

burden sharing risk undermining the very foundations of multilateralism, including NATO's future. The U.S., which is demanding more commitment by allies, must realise that its unilateral actions weaken the will of others. At the same time, those sniping from the sidelines need to recognise that the Afghan intervention is ultimately about global security and do more.

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/getfile.cfm?id=3304&tid=5285&type=pdf&l=1>

CRISISWATCH N°54. ICG. 1 FEBRUARY 2008

Seven actual or potential conflict situations around the world deteriorated in January 2008, according to the new issue of CrisisWatch, released today.

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/getfile.cfm?id=3295&tid=5276&type=pdf&l=1>

MEMORIAL INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM (MIPT)

TERRORISM: WHAT'S COMING. The Mutating Threat. Introduction by Brian Michael Jenkins. Edited by James O Ellis III. Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism (MIPT), 2007



Terrorists do not periodically descend upon the planet as extraterrestrials. Terrorism has its own natural history, shaped by circumstances and events. New generations draw from and build upon the ideologies and tactics of previous generations. Contemporary international terrorism as we define it today emerged in the late 1960s from a confluence of political circumstances and technological developments. Its practitioners shared no common cause beyond frustration borne of failure.

<http://www.terrorisminfo.mipt.org/pdf/Terrorism-Whats-Coming-The-Mutating-Threat.pdf>

NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY (NDU)

AFTER THE SURGE: NEXT STEPS IN IRAQ? By Judith S. Yaphe. Strategic Forum #230. NDU. February 2008



To build on the achievements of the military surge, the United States must have four priorities. First, Washington must continue to support the elected government in Baghdad, helping it to establish its authority through the consensual exercise of power. Second, the United States must encourage provincial elections as a vehicle for political reform and for loosening the hold of sectarian loyalty upon the political process. Third, efforts to build a truly national Iraqi military force recruited from all sectors of the population must be reinforced. Fourth, tangible cooperation between Iraq and its neighbors on border security must be achieved in order to reduce the flow of money and foreign fighters that

stokes the insurgencies. In taking these steps, the United States must weigh its tactical choices carefully, not only avoiding stances on specific issues that tilt too far to any one side but also pressing for an end to factional control of government ministries.

<http://www.ndu.edu/inss/Strforum/SF230/SF230.pdf>

SO MANY ZEBRAS, SO LITTLE TIME: ECOLOGICAL MODELS AND COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS. By Mark D. Drapeau, Peyton C. Hurley, and Robert E. Armstrong. NDU. *Defense Horizons* Number 62, February 2008



While not a perfect metaphor, it is striking that these quantitative ecology models greatly resemble behavioral interactions during counterinsurgency operations. While a predator-prey model alone may be too simplistic to fully describe counterinsurgency, there are more detailed ecological models of competition that better capture the essence of the problem.

The purpose of this paper is not to provide definitive solutions, but to suggest a framework for other researchers to adapt and expand upon.

Indeed, many of the models discussed are common to both ecologists and economists. The goals of both types of modeling are similar: maximizing profits in terms of food or money at the least risk—death or bankruptcy.

From our preliminary work on the possible applications of ecology to counterinsurgency, we hope that others more adept at the use of these quantitative models will make significant contributions to the area of predictive ability in combating

http://www.ndu.edu/ctnsp/defense_horizons/DH%2062.pdf

CYBER INFLUENCE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY. By Franklin D. Kramer and Larry Wentz. NDU. *Defense Horizons* Number 61, January 2008

Cyber influence is an ongoing source of power in the international security arena. Although the United States has an enormous cyber information capacity, its cyber influence is not proportional to that capacity. Impediments to American cyber influence include the vastness and complexity of the international information environment, multiplicity of cultures and differing audiences to which communications must be addressed, extensiveness and significance of contending or alternative messages, and complexity and importance of using appropriate influential messengers and message mechanisms.



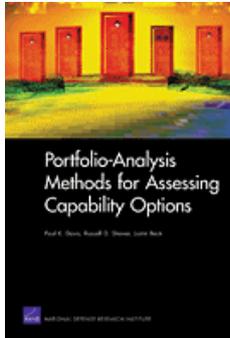
Enhancing the influence of the United States in cyberspace will require a multifaceted strategy that differentiates the circumstances of the messages, key places of delivery, and sophistication with which messages are created and delivered, with particular focus on channels and messengers.

http://www.ndu.edu/ctnsp/defense_horizons/DH%2061.pdf

RAND

PORTFOLIO-ANALYSIS METHODS FOR ASSESSING CAPABILITY OPTIONS.

Paul K. Davis, Russell D. Shaver, Justin Beck. Prepared for the Office of the Secretary of Defense. RAND. February 2008

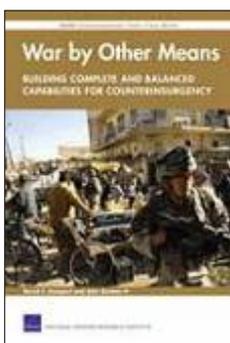


This monograph presents and illustrates in some detail an analytical framework and methodology for defensewide capability-area reviews and describes new enabling tools to support capabilities analysis and related tradeoff work within the Department of Defense and the military Services. The Building Blocks to Composite Options Tool (BCOT) is used to generate and screen preliminary options, and the Portfolio-Analysis Tool (PAT) enables users to evaluate in a portfolio-analysis structure those options that pass screening. Variants of the methods can be applied for analysis across capability areas or for strategic-level defense planning, i.e., force planning to establish the overall mix and balance of capabilities.

The concepts are illustrated with applications to the capability areas of Global Strike and Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD). Further research is recommended in four areas that promise to have a high payoff for defense planning: analysis cutting across capability areas; strategic-level portfolio analysis; advancing the science of exploratory analysis; and refinement of BCOT and PAT to make them easier to use, understand, modify, and maintain and also to enrich their utility for exploratory analysis and to incorporate new techniques for portfolio analysis developed in the fields of economics and business planning.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2008/RAND_MG662.pdf

WAR BY OTHER MEANS -- BUILDING COMPLETE AND BALANCED CAPABILITIES FOR COUNTERINSURGENCY. By: David C. Gompert, John Gordon, IV, Adam Grissom, David R. Frelinger, Seth G. Jones, Martin C. Libicki, Edward O'Connell, Brooke K. Stearns, Robert E. Hunter. RAND Counterinsurgency Study -- Final Report. February 2008



The difficulties encountered by the United States in securing Iraq and Afghanistan despite years of effort and staggering costs raises the central question of the RAND Counterinsurgency Study: How should the United States improve its capabilities to counter insurgencies, particularly those that are heavily influenced by transnational terrorist movements and thus linked into a global jihadist network? This capstone volume to the study draws on other reports in the series as well as an examination of 89 insurgencies since World War II, an analysis of the new challenges posed by what is becoming known as global insurgency, and many of the lessons learned in Iraq and Afghanistan. The report's recommendations

are based on the premise that counterinsurgency (COIN) is a contest for the allegiance of a nation's population; victory over jihadist insurgency consists not of merely winning a war against terrorists but of persuading Islamic populations to choose legitimate government and reject violent religious tyranny. The authors evaluate three types of COIN capabilities: civil capabilities to help weak states improve their political and economic performance; informational and cognitive capabilities to enable better governance and improve COIN decisionmaking; and security capabilities to protect people and infrastructure and to weaken insurgent forces. Gompert and Gordon warn that U.S. capabilities are deficient in several

critical areas but also emphasize that U.S. allies and international organizations can provide capabilities that the United States currently cannot. The authors conclude by outlining the investments, organizational changes within the federal government and the military, and international arrangements that the United States should pursue to improve its COIN capabilities.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2008/RAND_MG595.2.pdf

UNGOVERNED TERRITORIES. By: Angel Rabasa. RAND. February 2008

Testimony presented before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs on February 14, 2008.

Ungoverned territories have always been a troublesome feature of the international landscape. They generate all manner of security problems, such as civil conflict and humanitarian crises, arms and drug smuggling, piracy, and refugee flows. They threaten regional stability and security and generate demands on scarce military resources. Many of the crises that have required intervention by U.S. or international forces since the end of the Cold War were produced by the collapse or absence of state authority. Nevertheless, with the exception of humanitarian crises, ungoverned territories were of relatively little interest to the U.S. national security community, unless, like the coca-growing areas of South America during the 1990s “war on drugs,” they generated problems for the United States that required some degree of involvement.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/testimonies/2008/RAND_CT299.pdf

IMPROVING STRATEGIC PLANNING AT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. By: Paul K. Davis, Russell D. Shaver, Justin Beck. RAND. February 2008

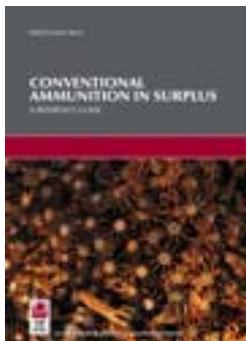
The Department of Defense (DoD) works continuously to improve its strategic planning for future forces, their capabilities, and their readiness. An important objective of this planning is confronting and managing diverse risks. Considerable RAND research has been devoted to these topics, including in-depth work on what has come to be called capabilities-based planning. In our view, good capabilities-based planning encourages a “FAR strategy,” i.e., a strategy assuring capabilities that are flexible (suitable for different strategic or military purposes), adaptive (modifiable for different circumstances), and robust (resistant or resilient to negative events).

Capabilities-based planning is facilitated by portfolio analysis, the goal of which is to invest in a mix (a portfolio) of capabilities that, while perhaps not the best for any single objective, is effective for as broad a range of possibilities as is feasible under the budget. Such a portfolio is consistent with a FAR strategy

http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB9284/index1.html

SMALL ARMS SURVEY

CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION IN SURPLUS: A REFERENCE GUIDE. Edited by James Bevan. Small Arms Survey. January 2008.



Unstable and ineffectively secured accumulations of surplus conventional ammunition pose a risk to public safety, a security threat to societies, and, ultimately, a challenge to the state's monopoly on the use of force. Surplus is a problem in its own right, but one that must be understood as part of a wider set of safety and security risks that are inherent to national stockpiling of conventional ammunition.

Unlike weapons, many of the components in ammunition are designed to detonate or combust. Propellants, primers, and explosives are inherently unstable and require comprehensive physical and chemical surveillance.

Managing them requires thorough planning and attention to their safe storage, handling, transportation, and disposal. A failure to institute these necessary management practices can have severe consequences. Ammunition that is allowed to become unstable or is mishandled may ignite, explode, or contaminate the environment. Because stockpiles of conventional ammunition often run into thousands of tonnes, any one of these occurrences can lead to large-scale loss of life, drastic impacts on local economies, and the destruction of high-value military assets. Stockpiles of large calibre conventional ammunition and hazardous toxic components, such as liquid rocket fuel, represent serious threats in this regard. Conventional ammunition is also in high demand on the illicit market. It is a commodity that has many applications, ranging from misuse in illegal firearms to unlawful mining and fishing.

http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/files/sas/publications/b_series_pdf/CAiS/CAiS%20book.pdf

STANLEY FOUNDATION

US POLICY OPTIONS TOWARD PAKISTAN: A PRINCIPLED AND REALISTIC APPROACH. Owen Bennett-Jones. Policy Analysis Brief. Stanley Foundation. February 2008

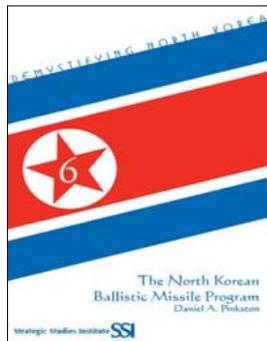
The United States is providing massive quantities of aid to Pakistan—as much as \$20 billion since 9/11. This has enabled Pakistan to go through a period of lavish military spending, but there have nonetheless been serious reverses both in the military battle against the radical Islamists and in the transition to democracy. It is tempting for US policymakers to react to these developments by switching support from the army to civilian politicians. The United States, however, should not forget that whatever form of government exists in Pakistan, the army, for good or ill, will continue to be a major force in Pakistani society for many years to come. Given the widespread agreement that the war on terror is going to last at least 20 years, the United States should think about longer-term policies. With that perspective in mind, the goal of persuading Pakistanis to turn their backs on radical Islam, alongside democracy promotion, can best be achieved by spending the bulk of the US aid on education and promotion of the rule of law.

<http://www.stanleyfdn.org/publications/pab/JonesPAB208.pdf>



STRATEGIC STUDIES INSTITUTE. U.S. ARMY WAR COLLEGE

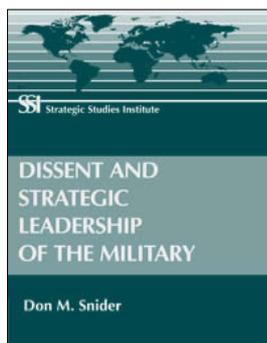
THE NORTH KOREAN BALLISTIC MISSILE PROGRAM. By Dr. Daniel A. Pinkston. Monograph, Strategic Studies Institute. U.S. Army War College. February 25, 2008



Alert me when similar studies are published North Korea's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs have drawn international attention for years. In the early 1960s, Pyongyang began to pursue the capability to produce advanced weapons systems, including rockets and missiles. However, foreign assistance and technology, particularly from China and the Soviet Union, were instrumental in the acquisition of these capabilities. The ballistic missile inventory now totals about 800 road-mobile missiles, including about 200 Nodong missiles that could strike Japan. In April 2007, North Korea for the first time displayed two new missiles: a short-range tactical missile that poses a threat to Seoul and U.S. Forces in South Korea, and an intermediate-range missile that could potentially strike Guam. Although North Korea has not demonstrated the ability to produce a nuclear warhead package for its missiles, its missiles are believed to be capable of delivering chemical and possibly biological munitions. North Korean media and government officials claim the country needs a nuclear deterrent to cope with the "hostile policy of the United States," but Pyongyang has never officially abandoned its objective of "completing the revolution in the south." Little is known about North Korean military doctrine and the role of its ballistic missiles, but National Defense Commission Chairman Kim Ch?ng-il has ultimate authority over their disposition.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdf/files/PUB842.pdf>

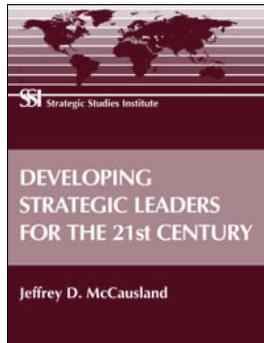
DISSENT AND STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP OF THE MILITARY PROFESSIONS. By Dr. Don M. Snider. Monograph. Strategic Studies Institute. U.S. Army War College. February 19, 2008



One of the central difficulties to a right understanding of American civil-military relations is the nature of the U.S. military. Are our armed forces just obedient bureaucracies like most of the Executive branch, or are they vocational professions granted significant autonomy and a unique role in these relationships because of their expert knowledge and their expertise to apply it in the defense of America? To large measure, the answer to this question should determine the behavior of the strategic leaders of these professions, including the uncommon behavior of public dissent. Using the "Revolt of the Generals" in 2006 as stimulus, the author develops from the study of military professions the critical trust relationships that should have informed their individual decisions to dissent. After doing so, he makes recommendations for the restoration of the professions' ethic in this critical area of behavior by the senior officers who are the professions' strategic leaders.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdf/files/PUB849.pdf>

DEVELOPING STRATEGIC LEADERS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY. By Dr. Jeffrey D. McCausland. Strategic Studies Institute. U.S. Army War College. February 08, 2008



Emerging analysis of the American interagency and intergovernmental processes has underscored the nation's inability to respond effectively and coherently to contemporary national security demands.

Modifications to various organizations and the overall interagency process have been recommended. These are clearly required, but there has not been sufficient attention focused on the nonmilitary human capital required to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Specifically, the Federal Government lacks a comprehensive process to ensure the recruitment, development, and retention of leaders capable of effectively integrating the contributions of specialized government

agencies on behalf of larger national security interests. This new security environment requires people who are not only substantively qualified and knowledgeable of policy issues, but also possess the leadership abilities to direct large complex organizations.

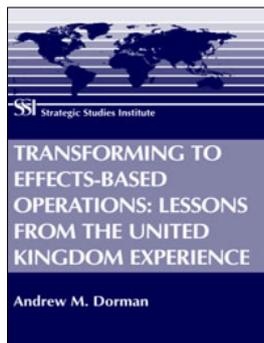
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DETERRENCE, MISSILE DEFENSE, AND COLLATERAL DAMAGE IN THE IRANIAN-ISRAELI STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIP. By Dr. W. Andrew Terrill. Op-Ed. Strategic Studies Institute. U.S. Army War College. February 05, 2008

Each month a member of the SSI faculty writes an editorial for our monthly newsletter.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdf/PUB854.pdf>

TRANSFORMING TO EFFECTS-BASED OPERATIONS: LESSONS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM EXPERIENCE. By Dr. Andrew M. Dorman. Monograph. Strategic Studies Institute. U.S. Army War College. January 30, 2008

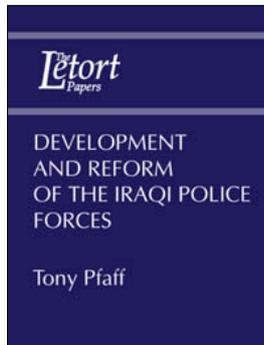


The author examines the extent to which the United Kingdom (UK) has transitioned to effects-based operations to ascertain: (1) Areas where the U.S. Army could draw lessons from UK policies; (2) Areas where the U.S. Army and the British Ministry of Defence could develop integrated or complementary approaches and doctrines towards transformation for future alliance/coalition operations; and (3) Implications for the U.S. Army for working with the UK. This monograph is subdivided into four parts. Section 1 is a review of the evolution of British defence policy since the end of the Cold War and evaluates the degree to which it has adopted an effects based approach.

Section 2 examines the British operational experience since the end of the Cold War including an analysis of the lessons learned and its experiences of working with allies. Section 3 analyses the UK's capability development through its doctrine and acquisition strategies. Section 4 evaluates the implications of these findings for the U.S. Army and makes 17 main recommendations.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=831>

DEVELOPMENT AND REFORM OF THE IRAQI POLICE FORCES. By Lieutenant Colonel Tony Pfaff. Letort Papers. Strategic Studies Institute. U.S. Army War College. January 25, 2008



Despite 4 years of millions of dollars in aid, equipment, education, and advisors, Iraqi police force development lags far behind the military. Numerous reasons are offered to account for this gap: corrupt practices left over from the previous regime, infiltration by militias, weak leadership, competition by better armed and organized criminal and militant groups, and so on. However, the military is also subject to these same influences, thus none of these explanations by themselves or in combination are satisfactory. The author argues that the poor political and security environment impacts social, political, and cultural factors in ways that are predictable, understandable, and, with external

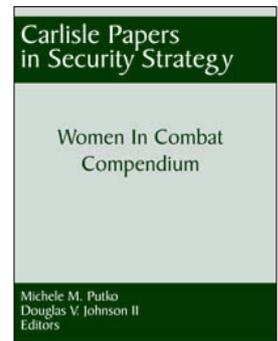
help, resolvable. The author offers valuable insights into the creation of such programs as well as a number of policies and practices advisors may adopt to best facilitate the creation of a just and effective Iraqi police force.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdf/files/PUB840.pdf>

WOMEN IN COMBAT COMPENDIUM. By Colonel Michele M. Putko, Dr. Douglas V. Johnson, II. Student (Carlisle) Papers. Strategic Studies Institute. U.S. Army War College. January 24, 2008

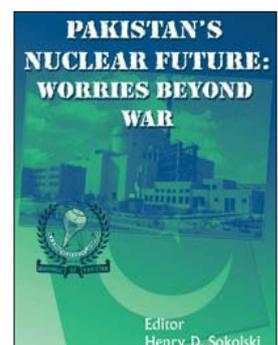
These facts involving women in combat are: Women comprise approximately 15 percent of the U.S. Army today, and as of September 2007, 70 Army women have been killed and a significantly larger number wounded; the American public is vaguely aware of this state of affairs and has raised no outcry. The nature of the current battlefield makes it impossible to apply the existing rules for excluding women from combat without serious reduction in combat capabilities, degrading the professional development and thus status of women, and producing a potentially serious reduction in overall readiness. Two major conclusions are reached: (1) the nature of combat for the U.S. Army has changed, and the existing rules governing the employment of women do not fit this new situation; and (2) there is not the slightest doubt that women can perform their assigned duties in the combat zone, including engaging in combat actions essential to their personal and unit's self-defense, with skill and valor equal to their male comrades.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=830>



PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR FUTURE: WORRIES BEYOND WAR. Edited by Henry D. Sokolski. Strategic Studies Institute. U.S. Army War College. January 16, 2008

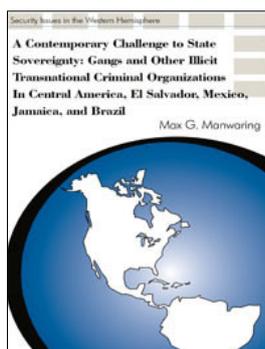
This book, completed just before Pakistani President Musharraf imposed a state of emergency in November 2007, reflects research that the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center commissioned over the last 2 years. It tries to characterize specific nuclear problems that the ruling Pakistani government faces with the aim of establishing a base line set of challenges for



remedial action. Its point of departure is to consider what nuclear challenges Pakistan will face if moderate forces remain in control of the government and no hot war breaks out against India.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdffiles/PUB832.pdf>

A CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGE TO STATE SOVEREIGNTY: GANGS AND OTHER ILLICIT TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS (TCOS) IN CENTRAL AMERICA, EL SALVADOR, MEXICO, JAMAICA, AND BRAZIL. By Dr. Max G. Manwaring. Monograph. Strategic Studies Institute. U.S. Army War College. January 15, 2008



Another kind of war within the context of a “clash of civilizations” is being waged in various parts of the Americas, Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and elsewhere around the world today. Some of the main protagonists are those who have come to be designated as first-second-, and third-generation street gangs, as well as their various possible allies such as traditional Transnational Criminal Organizations. In this new type of war, national security and sovereignty of affected countries is being impinged every day, and gangs’ illicit commercial motives are, in fact, becoming an ominous political agenda.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdffiles/PUB837.pdf>

UNITED NATIONS

PEACEKEEPING BEST PRACTICES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. Secretary-General Report, United Nations. December 18, 2007. 08AD405

This report provides an overview of best practices in peacekeeping including mission planning and efficiency. The report explains the methodology and tools used for managing best practices, and it describes improvement gains as a result of these practices. The report also offers an initial assessment of the impact of the new system, which was introduced in 2005, highlighting improvements in efficiency and effectiveness.

[Note: Contains copyrighted material.]

http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/62/593 [pdf format, various pagings]



UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

RELIGION IN WORLD AFFAIRS: ITS ROLE IN CONFLICT AND PEACE. David Smock. USIP Special Report No. 201. February 2008



In recent decades, religion has assumed unusual prominence in international affairs. A recent article in *The Economist* asserts that, if there ever was a global drift toward secularism, it has been halted and probably reversed. In the article, Philip Jenkins, a noted scholar from Pennsylvania State University, predicts that when historians look back at this century they will see religion as "the prime animating and destructive force in human affairs, guiding attitudes to political liberty and obligation, concepts of nationhood and, of course, conflicts and wars." The article then cites statistics from a public opinion survey in Nigeria demonstrating that Nigerians believe religion to be more central to their identity than nationality. Nigerians are thus more likely to identify themselves first and foremost as Christians or Muslims rather than as Nigerians. The horrendous events of September 11, the conflagration in Iraq, and the aggressive assertiveness of quasi-theocratic Iran only confirm in the popular mind that religion lies behind much of contemporary international conflict.

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr201.pdf>

PAKISTANI PUBLIC OPINION ON DEMOCRACY, ISLAMIST MILITANCY, AND RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. C. Christine Fair, Clay Ramsay, and Steve Kull. USIP Working Paper. February 2008

In this volatile election season in Pakistan, attention is once again turning toward Pakistani national identity, security, and foreign policy. To better assess the situation, USIP and WorldPublicOpinion.org conducted a joint public opinion survey of urban Pakistanis on a wide array of compelling policy questions.

http://www.usip.org/pubs/working_papers/wp7_pakistan.pdf



FACING THE ABYSS: LEBANON'S DEADLY POLITICAL STALEMATE. By Mona Yacoubian. USIPeace Briefing. February 2008

As the third anniversary of the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri approaches, Lebanon is witnessing its worst crisis since the 15-year civil war. Hariri's February 14th assassination—widely suspected to have been orchestrated by Syria—enraged the Lebanese who took to the streets one month later, demanding the withdrawal of Syrian troops. Dubbed the Cedar Revolution, this mass protest movement succeeded in ending nearly 30 years of Syrian military occupation. It was to have ushered in a new era of democracy. Instead, Lebanon has suffered through bombings, assassinations, war between Hezbollah and Israel, and bouts of sectarian violence.

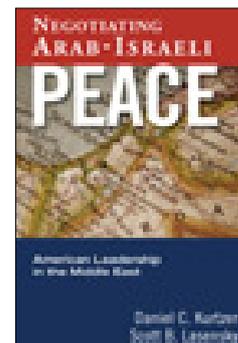
Today, Lebanon is plagued by a protracted political stalemate between a rump government led by the anti-Syrian March 14th coalition (inheritors of the Cedar Revolution) and the Hezbollah-led opposition. This dangerous deadlock has propelled Lebanon once again toward

the abyss of civil war. Despite intensive Arab and European mediation efforts, a political compromise does not appear imminent.¹ Rather, Lebanon seems poised to endure weeks, if not months, of continued paralysis and violence. This USIPeace Briefing examines some of the key issues underlying Lebanon's current political turmoil.

http://www.usip.org/pubs/usipeace_briefings/2008/0212_lebanon.html

NEGOTIATING ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE: AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE MIDDLE EAST. Scott Lasensky and Daniel Kurtzer. On-line Pres Kit. USIP. February 2008

Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace is the culmination of the work of the Study Group on Arab-Israeli Peacemaking, convened by USIP in 2006–07. Led by Kurtzer and anchored by Lasensky, William B. Quandt (University of Virginia), Steven L. Spiegel (UCLA), and Shibley Telhami (University of Maryland and the Brookings Institution), the study group conducted confidential interviews in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East with 100-plus negotiators, political figures, and civil society leaders, virtually every key participant from all sides of the conflict.

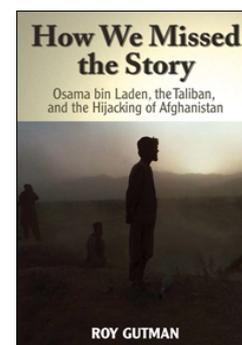


In addition to grading recent administrations' efforts to engage Israelis and Palestinians and prioritizing steps for current and future administrations, Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace includes primary source documents, maps, and a timeline of regional events since 1967.

http://www.usip.org/newsmedia/lasensky_kurtzer_press/index.html

HOW WE MISSED THE STORY: OSAMA BIN LADEN, THE TALIBAN, AND THE HIJACKING OF AFGHANISTAN. Roy Gutman. On-line Press Kit. USIP. January 2008

Focusing principally on events in Afghanistan in the 1980s and 1990s, Gutman argues that U.S. foreign policy had essentially died. According to Gutman, the U.S. government categorization of bin Laden's murderous assaults prior to 9/11 as "terrorism" was not so much an intelligence or military failure but rather a strategic failure of U.S. foreign policy—a failure that penetrated every level of the U.S. foreign affairs hierarchy. Two presidents, greater law enforcement including the CIA and the FBI, upper level political appointees, experts, and skilled civil servants relied on quick-fix, counter-terrorism tactics to end the threats from Osama bin Laden. Assuming that the public would not support a long-term, broad spectrum approach, the government opted to develop a counter-terror policy—when a more comprehensive foreign policy was needed—and inadvertently fueled the very fire it was trying to fight.



http://www.usip.org/newsmedia/gutman_press/index.html

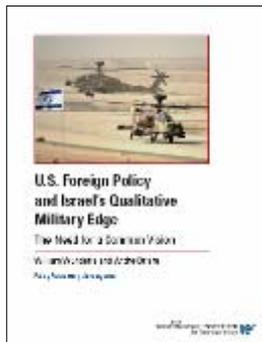
THE WASHINGTON INSTITUTE FOR NEAR-EAST POLICY

TIMELY REMINDER OF IRANIAN SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM. By Matthew Levitt and Michael Jacobson. PolicyWatch #1345. The Washington Institute for Near-East Policy. February 22, 2008

Over the past several years, Iran's nuclear activities have commanded the attention of the international community. But the recent assassination of Hizballah foreign operations chief Imad Mughniyeh is a reminder that Iran has been -- and continues to be -- a key player in global terrorism, as its explicit sponsorship of Hizballah, Hamas, and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) demonstrates. Moreover, a recent terrorism case in Bahrain suggests that Iran's assistance to al-Qaeda operatives may still be continuing today, echoing the regime's implicit support of the group in the past.

<http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/templateC05.php?CID=2721>

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY AND ISRAEL'S QUALITATIVE MILITARY EDGE: THE NEED FOR A COMMON VISION. William Wunderle and Andre Briere. Policy Focus #80. The Washington Institute for Near-East Policy. January 2008

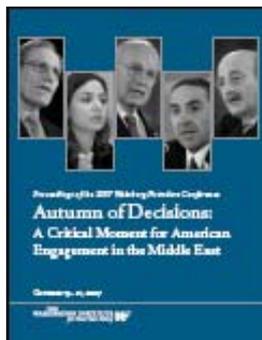


The U.S. commitment to maintain Israel's qualitative military edge (QME) -- that is, the technological, tactical, and other advantages that allow it to deter numerically superior adversaries -- is a longstanding tradition that every president since Lyndon Johnson has reiterated. Today, however, Israel's relations with Arab countries are more complicated, and some moderate Arab states have even become strategically aligned with Israel due to Iran's growing regional ambitions and nuclear activities. How does this new regional calculus affect American military aid to both Israel and Arab states? And how can Washington advance U.S. strategic needs in the Middle East while

still supporting its diverse allies?

<http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/templateC04.php?CID=288>

AUTUMN OF DECISIONS: A CRITICAL MOMENT FOR AMERICAN ENGAGEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. Conference Proceedings. The Washington Institute for Near-East Policy. 2008



The 2007 Weinberg Founders Conference explored a number of critical issues, with an eye toward the overall direction of U.S. Middle East policy as the Bush administration enters its final year in office. In keynote plenary sessions and breakout seminars, and over coffee in the hallways, a select group of American and international officials, experts, diplomats, and journalists joined members of the Institute's Board of Trustees in a weekend of discussion and debate on the "surge" in Iraq, political struggles in Lebanon, peacemaking initiatives on the Arab-Israeli front, the looming nuclear standoff with Iran, and many other issues. In addition, the conference featured two very special

events: a keynote address by Vice President Richard Cheney, and the launching of The Washington Institute Book Prize, featuring a discussion between Bob Woodward, Kanan

Makiya, and Jason Epstein. Summaries and transcripts of these and other events are now available for free download as a single PDF.

<http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/templateC04.php?CID=287>

ARTICLES FROM U.S. JOURNALS

THE NEXUS OF GLOBALIZATION AND NEXT-GENERATION NONPROLIFERATION: TAPPING THE POWER OF MARKET-BASED SOLUTIONS. Luongo, Kenneth; Williams, Isabelle. *Nonproliferation Review* vol. 14, no. 3, November 2007, pp. 459-473 AA08010

Summary: The authors examine the problem that advanced biological and nuclear technology, once the exclusive province of states, now may pass readily to non-state actors putting economic as well as civilian and military targets at risk. They urge new creative thinking to develop a stronger more flexible next-generation nonproliferation strategy and one that might combine targeted sanctions, political engagement and focused economic incentives so as to “begin the important process of moderating government behavior by empowering the private sector.” While containing the spread of technologies needed to produce fissile materials and securing fissile material stockpiles remain at the heart of the nuclear proliferation challenge, they also cite the additional challenge of biological proliferation. They note inadequate biotechnology industry oversight and the absence of standardized international rules for biosecurity, especially in Asia. They advocate finding ways to draw the commercial sector into identifying solutions, since this sector has so much at risk financially should a nuclear or biological disaster occur. After examining case studies of formal and informal nonproliferation efforts in Russia, Libya, Iran and North Korea, the authors say the international community is at a critical nonproliferation juncture and it must enlist the full range of stakeholders. A successful future strategy must integrate economic, political and technological issues drawing on key arms control treaties as well as modern ad hoc mechanisms “emphasizing cooperation, flexibility and market-based solutions.”

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