



Newsletter

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A Year Taking on Unprecedented Challenges Abroad

President Obama inherited unprecedented challenges at home and abroad. Facing a global economic crisis, two wars, and diminished American standing in the world, the President immediately went to work refocusing our efforts against al Qaeda, restoring our alliances, renewing our moral leadership, and reinvigorating our efforts to address challenges like nuclear proliferation and climate change.

President Barack Obama confers with, from left, NSC Advisor Gen. James Jones, Admiral Michael Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Defense Secretary Robert Gates, and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, aboard Marine One en route to Andrews Air Force Base, December 1, 2009. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)



A year later, America is stronger because of the President's leadership. The global economy has been pulled back from the brink of catastrophe. We are responsibly winding down

the war in Iraq, and increasing our focus on Afghanistan and Pakistan. We have increased the pressure on al Qaeda and struck blows against its leaders and affiliates. The world is more united in addressing the threat from nuclear proliferation, including Iran and North Korea. Important progress has been made in enlisting nations to address the threat of climate change. And the President has strengthened our armed forces, our enduring alliances and our standing in the world.

The White House Blog, Posted by Ben Rhodes on January 12, 2010 at 11:59 AM EST

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2010/01/12/a-year-taking-unprecedented-challenges-abroad>

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UNITED STATES SEEKS DEEPER TIES WITH ASIA-PACIFIC; Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton answers questions after speaking on the future of U.S. relations in the Asia-Pacific region. By Merle David Kellerhals Jr. Department of State Staff Writer. 12 January 2010

Washington — The United States will continue to deepen its strong economic and strategic partnership with the Asia-Pacific region, while Asia has a strong interest in the United States remaining a dynamic partner and stabilizing influence, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton says.

“The Asia-Pacific region is a fulcrum of global politics and economics. It is central to solving many challenges we face,” Clinton said in a speech January 12 at the East-West Center in Honolulu. “Asian nations are helping to prevent nuclear proliferation in Iran, build schools and clinics in Afghanistan, keep peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and combat piracy off the Horn of Africa.”

<http://www.america.gov/st/peacesec-english/2010/January/20100112212627dmslahrellek0.4727899.html?CP.rss=true>
 Speech: <http://www.america.gov/st/texttrans-english/2010/January/20100113082409bpuh0.0404169.html>

INCREASED EFFORTS FOR MIDEAST PEACE IN 2010, CLINTON SAYS; Secretary says there is “a hunger for a resolution of this matter”. By Stephen Kaufman, Department of State Staff Writer. 08 January 2010

Washington — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton calls for “good faith negotiations” to be relaunched between Israel and the Palestinians to end their decades-long conflict based on the 1967 borders and mutually agreed land swaps, and says 2010 will be a “year of renewed commitment and increased effort” to reach that goal. In remarks following a meeting with Jordan’s minister of foreign affairs, Nasser Judeh, Clinton said the Obama administration is “absolutely committed” to working with all partners for a two-state solution.

<http://www.america.gov/st/mena-english/2010/January/20100108145938esnamfuak0.9510614.html?CP.rss=true>
 Remarks: <http://www.america.gov/st/texttrans-english/2010/January/20100108153704xjsnommis0.8267568.html>

NEW MEASURES FOR AVIATION SECURITY AND INFORMATION SHARING. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Friday, January 8, 2010

Recommendations that DHS has made to the President for improving the technology and procedures used to protect air travel from acts of terrorism.

<http://www.dhs.gov/journal/leadership/2010/01/new-measures-for-aviation-security-and.html>

SECURING AMERICA’S BORDERS: CBP FISCAL YEAR 2009 IN REVIEW FACT SHEET. U.S. Department of Homeland Security. November 24, 2009.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection announces that it had seized more than 4.47 million pounds of narcotics, more than \$57.9 million in outbound currency, a 74 percent increase in cash seizures over last year, encountered more than 224,000 inadmissible aliens at ports of entry, apprehended more than 556,000 individuals between the land ports of entry, and

facilitated nearly \$2 trillion in legitimate trade in fiscal year 2009.

http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news_releases/11242009_5.xml

COMBATING NUCLEAR SMUGGLING. U.S. Government Accountability Office. Gene Aloise. November 17, 2009.

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) is responsible for addressing the threat of nuclear smuggling. Radiation detection portal monitors are key elements in the nation's defenses against such threats. DHS has sponsored testing to develop new monitors, known as advanced spectroscopic portal (ASP) monitors, to replace radiation detection equipment being used at ports of entry.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10252t.pdf> [PDF format, 13 pages].

CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS



INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND TRANSNATIONAL CRIME: SECURITY THREATS, U.S. POLICY, AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. John Rollins et al. January 5, 2010.

The report provides a primer on the confluence of transnational terrorist and criminal groups and related activities abroad. It evaluates possible motivations and disincentives for cooperation between terrorist and criminal organizations, variations in the scope of crime-terrorism links, and the types of criminal activities, fundraising, material and logistics support, and exploitation of corruption and gaps in the rule of law, used by terrorist organizations to sustain operations.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R41004_20100105.pdf [PDF format, 56 pages].

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONTRACTORS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN: BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Moshe Schwartz. December 14, 2009.

The Department of Defense (DOD) increasingly relies upon contractors to support operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, which has resulted in a DOD workforce in those countries comprising approximately a comparable number of contractors (218,000) as uniformed personnel (195,000). Lack of sufficient contract management can delay or even prevent troops from receiving needed support and can also result in wasteful spending. Some analysts believe that poor contract management has also played a role in abuses and crimes committed by certain contractors against local nationals, which may have undermined U.S. counterinsurgency efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40764_20091214.pdf [PDF format, 29 pages].

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT ON STRENGTHENING INTELLIGENCE AND AVIATION SECURITY. The White House, Office of the Press Secretary, January 07, 2010

'In sum, the U.S. government had the information -- scattered throughout the system -- to potentially uncover this plot and disrupt the attack. Rather than a failure to collect or share intelligence, this was a failure to connect and understand the intelligence that we already had.'

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

THINK TANK PUBLICATIONS

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE



THE ENDURING IRAN-SYRIA-HEZBOLLAH AXIS. By Michael Rubin. AEI Outlook, December 2009

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

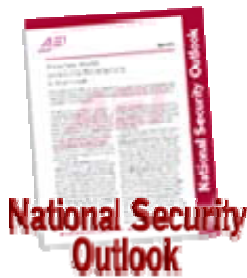
Key points in this Outlook:

--The Lebanese and Israeli border is calmer today than during the 2006 war, but the potential for regional conflict is great.

--Both the Syrian and Iranian governments have used Hezbollah to conduct proxy warfare against Israel.

--The Obama administration has tried to move Syria from a rejectionist state into the more moderate Arab camp, but there is no evidence that the engagement policy has worked.

<http://www.aei.org/outlook/100098>



A ROAD MAP FOR ASIAN-PACIFIC SECURITY. By Gary J. Schmitt. AEI Outlook, December 2009

This is the second of two Outlooks on the Obama administration's foreign policy approach to Asia. Neither the Clinton nor Bush administrations took full advantage of the growing impetus among the states of the Asia-Pacific region to work through multilateral forums. The Obama administration appears to be following the same pattern. Today a hodgepodge of institutions and forums exists in Asia, but none of them addresses the strategic needs of the region. The United States needs to find ways to maximize its influence through new regionwide forums and institutional arrangements. A two-tiered multilateral approach could benefit the nations in the region and the United States.

<http://www.aei.org/outlook/100926>

ARMS CONTROL ASSOCIATION



ARMS CONTROL TODAY, December 2009

Features

-Iran's Growing Weapons Capability and Its Impact on Negotiations, By David Albright and Jacqueline Shire

-Iran and the Problem of Tactical Myopia, By Jim Walsh, Thomas Pickering, and William Luers

-Using Stronger Sanctions to Increase Negotiating Leverage with Iran, By Orde F. Kittrie

-Winning on Ballistic Missiles but Losing on Cruise: The Missile Proliferation Battle, By Dennis M. Gormley

<http://www.armscontrol.org/epublish/1/v39n10>

THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES (ACUS)

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER: FORGING A STRATEGIC U.S.-EU PARTNERSHIP. Atlantic Council. Daniel S. Hamilton and Frances G. Burwell. December 1, 2009.

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

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



A NEW TRANSATLANTIC COMPACT. Atlantic Council. Kurt Volker. December 14, 2009.

Kurt Volker, Atlantic Council senior advisor and member of the Strategic Advisors Group (SAG), describes the challenges facing NATO and calls for unity to the divergent goals and ambitions of member states:

Twenty years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, NATO stands at a crossroads. Will it reinvent itself yet again, to serve as the foundation for the security and defense of Europe and North America in a world of diverse, non-conventional threats, many of which come from outside of Europe? Will it

return to a passive, geographically defined approach of protecting the territory of European Allies against armed attack? Will it merge these visions into a new hybrid? Will it retain the political will and resource commitments of its members, whether in Europe or North America? In short, as Brent Scowcroft, Chairman of the Atlantic Council's International Advisory Board, put it: "What is NATO for?" These are the core questions Allies must answer in drafting the 2010 NATO Strategic Concept. [PDF format, 4 pages].

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/65/SAGIssueBrief-TransatlanticCompact.pdf

BAKER INSTITUTE

POLITICAL CORRECTNESS AND INCONVENIENT TRUTH. James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy, Rice University. Joan Neuhaus Schaan. December 7, 2009.

Joan Neuhaus Schaan discusses how political correctness may have led to the Fort Hood shootings. [PDF format, 4 pages].

<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/publications/SEC-WWT-PCandInconvenTruth-120709.pdf>

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

VISION FOR VICTORY IN AFGHANISTAN – PART I & II. Brookings Institution. Michael E. O'Hanlon. November 18, 2009.

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

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

Part I [HTML format, various paging].

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

Part II [HTML format, various paging].

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE
OBAMA'S YEAR ONE. Robert Kagan. AEI. Published in the *World Affairs*, January/February 2010

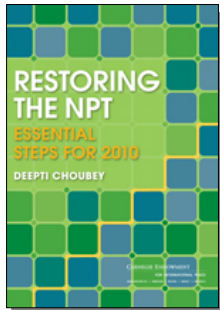
If Obama's policies were to produce a geopolitical doubleheader—defeat in Afghanistan and a nuclear-armed Iran—his historical legacy could wind up being a good deal worse than that of his predecessor. If he manages to make progress in Afghanistan and finds some way to stop Iran from acquiring nuclear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

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


FIXING A FAILED STRATEGY IN AFGHANISTAN. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Gilles Dorransoro. November 2009.

As the debate on future U.S. strategy draws to a close, the war in Afghanistan is spreading to the North, an area that had previously been relatively quiet, the balance of power in Afghanistan has shifted in the Taliban's favor, and the Afghan government continues to lose legitimacy in the eyes of the population and international community. In order to correct a failing strategy, the United States and its allies need to protect cities and reallocate more resources to the North, according to the report.

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


RESTORING THE NPT: ESSENTIAL STEPS FOR 2010. Deepti Choubey. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Carnegie Report, November 2009

With growing fears about Iran and North Korea's nuclear programs, conventional wisdom holds that the nonproliferation regime is on the verge of collapse. The upcoming 2010 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference is an opportunity to strengthen the regime, but it is in danger of being overloaded by expectations.

Deepti Choubey identifies achievable goals for the Review Conference and outlines steps that nuclear-weapon states—including recommendations tailored for the United States—and non-nuclear-weapon states should take to avert failure.

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=24177>

AL-QAEDA IN THE ISLAMIC MAGHREB: ALGERIAN CHALLENGE OR GLOBAL THREAT? Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Jean-Pierre Filiu. November 30, 2009.

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

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

IRAN, THE UNITED STATES, AND THE GULF: THE ELUSIVE REGIONAL POLICY.
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Marina Ottaway. November 12, 2009.

Any effective U.S. diplomatic approach to Iran must involve other countries in the Gulf, but Washington will not succeed if it continues to strive for an anti-Iranian alliance, according to the study. While an overall security arrangement including all Gulf countries is not possible at this stage, a normalization of relations between Iran and its neighbors is an important and attainable step for reintegrating Iran into the international community, the author concludes. http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/iran_us_gulf1.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

CATO



U.S. CONDUCT CREATES PERVERSE INCENTIVES FOR PROLIFERATION. By Ted Galen Carpenter. **The CATO Institute's Nuclear Proliferation Update, December 2009**

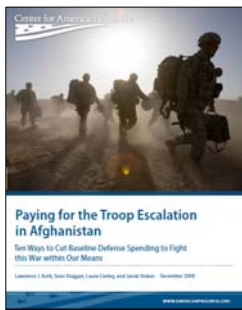
There are important reasons why most nations choose not to acquire a nuclear weapons capability. For one thing, it is very expensive. The opportunity cost is usually regarded as prohibitive. Occasionally, even a poor country such as North Korea will be willing to make a nuclear weapons program the highest priority, but most governments will not make the sacrifice. A decision to go nuclear also has important adverse diplomatic repercussions. Trying to build a nuclear arsenal is not the way to win friends in the international community. The majority of governments become extremely agitated when a country seeks to break out of the nonproliferation system and become a nuclear weapons state, and any would-be nuclear power has to take that hostility into consideration. Finally, by trying to acquire a nuclear arsenal, a country may trigger or exacerbate a regional arms race, and at the end of the process be no more secure than it was at the beginning. In fact, it might be even less secure. http://www.cato.org/pubs/npu/npu_december2009.pdf

NUCLEAR WEAPONS SPENDING DESERVES GREATER SCRUTINY. By Christopher A. Preble. **The CATO Institute's Nuclear Proliferation Update, November 2009**

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

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

CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS



PAYING FOR THE TROOP ESCALATION IN AFGHANISTAN. Center for American Progress. Lawrence J. Korb et al. **December 2009.**

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

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

 CENTER FOR A NEW AMERICAN SECURITY

FIXING INTEL: A BLUEPRINT FOR MAKING INTELLIGENCE RELEVANT IN AFGHANISTAN. Major General Michael T. Flynn et al. CNAS, December 04, 2010

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

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


SMART DEFENSE ACQUISITION: LEARNING FROM FRENCH PROCUREMENT REFORM. Center for a New American Security. Ethan B. Kapstein. December 9, 2009.

The demands of rapidly evolving conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan coupled with intense fiscal pressure at home underscore the need to reform U.S. defense acquisition. The brief examines the French defense reform process and draws recommendations for how to apply their best practices to our own, including streamlining the contracting process and increasing the government's technical expertise by recruiting the nation's top science and engineering experts. [PDF format, 5 pages].

http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS%20Policy%20Brief%20-%20defense%20acquisition_1.pdf

ON THE KNIFE'S EDGE: YEMEN'S INSTABILITY AND THE THREAT TO AMERICAN INTERESTS. Andrew Exum and Senior Fellow Richard Fontaine. CNAS, November 20, 2009

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

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


TAIWAN'S GAMBLE: THE CROSS-STRAIT RAPPROCHEMENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY. Center for a New American Security. Abraham M. Denmark and Richard Fontaine. December 2009.

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

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

CENTER FOR ARMS CONTROL AND NON-PROLIFERATION

PRUNING THE NUCLEAR TRIAD? PROS AND CONS OF BOMBERS, MISSILES, AND SUBMARINES. By Kingston Reif, Travis Sharp, and Kirk Bansak. CNAS, December 3, 2009

As the United States and Russia negotiate bilateral reductions in nuclear warheads and delivery vehicles, attention must be paid to the composition of each country's strategic arsenal of nuclear-armed bombers, land-based missiles, and submarine-based missiles. To understand the stability that arms control helps foster and that makes the United States safer, one must consider the arguments traditionally made about the strengths and weaknesses of each leg of the nuclear triad.

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

COMMITMENT TO NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION: NEW DIRECTIONS UNDER THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION. John Isaacs. Prepared remarks delivered to the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs on December 1, 2009

"I would like to talk about one of science's greatest, and most deadly, inventions – the nuclear bomb. While interest in nuclear weapons issues has faded since the end of the Cold War and the demise of the Soviet Union, the problem remains. Not just one problem, but 23,000 problems, the estimated total of these highly destructive weapons that exist on this planet. 23,000 weapons, most of which are substantially larger than those that destroyed two Japanese cities at the end of World War II. It is important to remember that while the world is concerned over the impact of global warming, starvation in too many countries, worldwide pandemics and the threats of terrorism or biological weapons attacks, only nuclear weapons have the capacity to obliterate entire cities with one bomb and entire countries in massive nuclear exchanges and perhaps destroy most life on this earth.

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

CENTER FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

BASES, BULLETS, AND BALLOTS: THE EFFECT OF U.S. MILITARY AID ON POLITICAL CONFLICT IN COLOMBIA. Center for Global Development. Oeindrila Dube and Suresh Naidu. January 4, 2010.

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

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1423498>



CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL POLICY



AFTER PLAN COLOMBIA: EVALUATING "INTEGRATED ACTION," THE NEXT PHASE OF U.S. ASSISTANCE. Center for International Policy. Adam Isacson and Abigail Poe. December 2009.

This report independently evaluates "Integrated Action," a new approach to state-building and counterinsurgency that the U.S. government is supporting in Colombia. Ten years and \$6.8 billion after the 2000 launch of "Plan Colombia," officials from both governments are billing Integrated Action as the future direction of U.S. assistance to Colombia.

http://justf.org/files/pubs/091203_col.pdf [PDF format, 44 pages].

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (CSIS)
ANALYSIS OF SECRETARY OF STATE CLINTON'S ASIA ARCHITECTURE SPEECH. By CSIS Asia Team, Jan 13, 2010

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton delivered an important speech at the East-West Center in Hawaii on Tuesday explaining the United States' enduring interests in the Asia-Pacific region and the intention of the Obama administration to play a leading role in constructing an open and inclusive regional architecture for the future. It deserves credit for being one of the more comprehensive statements on architecture given so early in a new U.S. administration. Clinton emphasized the centrality of U.S. alliances, U.S. support for multilateral dialogue and cooperation, the key role for a strong and unified Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and expanded engagement with a rising China. This pragmatic approach and continuity is exactly what Asian governments want to hear.

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


AFGHAN METRICS: HOW TO LOSE A WAR - AND POSSIBLY HOW TO WIN ONE. By Anthony H. Cordesman. CSIS, Jan 12, 2010

Nine months after President Obama announced a new strategy in Afghanistan, the US still seems undecided as to how to actually shape and implement that strategy and how to measure its success.

President Obama may have made his decisions, but it is far from clear that his Administration has agreed on how to act upon them, or has

the right mix of civil-military capabilities to do so.

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


THE GLOBAL FORUM ON BIORISKS: TOWARD EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE OF BIOLOGICAL RISKS. By David Heyman, Gerald L. Epstein, Michael Moodie. CSIS, Dec 31, 2009

For more than 15 years, policymakers and security analysts have been concerned that governments, terrorists, or even a crazed individual would misuse the rapid advances in the life sciences to cause widespread death and disruption. Traditional proliferation concerns fostered by discoveries of illicit governmental biological weapons programs, together with novel worries provoked by emerging terrorist interest in such capabilities,

elevated the issue of biological security on the policy agenda. In the autumn of 2001, following the tragedy of the 9/11 attacks, it seemed that people's worst fears were to be realized as anthrax-filled letters resulted in five deaths and, more broadly, sparked extensive anxiety that disrupted the daily lives of countless individuals. As a result, the United States has spent, according to some estimates, more than \$50 billion to protect itself from biological attacks.

<http://csis.org/publication/global-forum-biorisks>

IRAN AS A NUCLEAR WEAPONS POWER. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Anthony H. Cordesman and Arleigh A. Burke. December 16, 2009.

The latest discoveries regarding Iran's nuclear program are simply the next development in a process that has been going on since the Iran-Iraq War, and Khomeini's decision to resume nuclear research once Iran came under chemical weapons attack from Iraq. The authors point out the importance of understanding the "neutron initiator" document in this context, and several key aspects of Iran's efforts. [PDF format, 45 pages].

http://csis.org/files/publication/091216_IrannuclearRpt.pdf

CENTURY FOUNDATION (TCF)

EXCEPTIONAL MEETS UNIVERSAL: MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON AT THE UNITED NATIONS. Edward C. Luck, The Century Foundation, 1/4/2010

When times are good, the United Nations provides a global stage to showcase cooperative efforts between Moscow and Washington to advance common interests. When times are bad, difficult bilateral relations take on an even more malignant cast as they are projected on the UN's global screen and as each side seeks to caricature the other and to curry favor from the 190 other member states. Today, as Moscow and Washington struggle to adjust to changing times and to transitions in global geopolitics not of their making and not necessarily in the narrow interests of either capital, it is the complexity of their relationship that stands out. After years of frustrated relations, 2009 emerged as one of change, as the United States and the Russian Federation, each with new leadership and each in its own way, have sought to push the "restart button" on their bilateral relationship. As in earlier years of promise, the realization of change will no doubt come more gradually and grudgingly than the encouraging rhetoric. And as before, some of the more interesting developments will be played out at the United Nations and in other multilateral fora. These days, for two unavoidable and related reasons, the multilateral agenda has to be seen as unusually compelling, even to those cynics (or "realists") in both capitals who have long regarded international law and institutions as little more than distractions from the core bilateral relationship.

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

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR RUSSIA-U.S. NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL. Century Foundation. Anatoli Diakov and Frank von Hippel. November 2009.

Containment of a costly and risky nuclear arms race was a central theme of the U.S.-Soviet relationship for a third of a century, and even two decades after the end of the cold war, the vast arsenals, weapons complexes, and military budgets spawned by the conflict linger. The report aims to answer some of the questions posed by the situation.

<http://www.tcf.org/publications/internationalaffairs/Diakov.pdf> [PDF format, 40 pages].

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

MORE EFFECTIVE SECURITY, NOT MORE DRACONIAN SECURITY. Council on Foreign Relations. Edward Alden. January 4, 2010.

Edward Alden says U.S. response to recent air-security failures should be to improve existing measures that identify genuine threats instead of imposing "knee-jerk initiatives that look tough" but may be less effective. [HTML format, various paging].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21105/more_effective_security_not_more_draconian_security.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fregion_issue_brief

HOW TO AVOID CIVIL WAR IN GUINEA. Council on Foreign Relations. John Campbell. December 9, 2009.

The worsening political crisis in Guinea will require stronger U.N. involvement and greater efforts on the part of African leaders to avoid what could become a civil war and a massive humanitarian crisis, says the author. [HTML format, various paging].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/20944/how_to_avoid_civil_war_in_guinea.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fregion_issue_brief

BALANCING A BULLISH TURKEY. Council on Foreign Relations. Steven A. Cook. December 4, 2009.

Despite improved bilateral ties between the U.S. and Turkey, there are still significant differences that need to be managed when Prime Minister Erdogan visits the White House, writes Steven Cook. [HTML format, various paging].

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

AVOIDING ELECTIONS AT ANY COST IN IRAQ. Council on Foreign Relations. Rachel Schneller. December 3, 2009.

The author says that Iraqi political factions should be given time to sort out their power-sharing rules rather than be rushed into elections in January 2010, a date pegged to U.S. troop withdrawals. [HTML format, various paging].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/20879/avoiding_elections_at_any_cost_in_iraq.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fregion_issue_brief

THE U.S.-INDIA NUCLEAR DEAL. Council on Foreign Relations. Jaysree Bajoria. November 20, 2009.

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

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

GERMAN MARSHALL FUND OF THE UNITED STATES

PUTIN IS MEDVEDEV'S BIGGEST SPOILER. David J. Kramer. Published in *The Moscow Times*, 1/13/2010

Comments by Prime Minister Vladimir Putin in late December must have come as an unwelcome surprise to Presidents Barack Obama and Dmitry Medvedev as they try to conclude a new U.S.-Russian arms control agreement to replace the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, or START that expired on Dec. 5. But this was not the first time that Putin has thrown cold water on Medvedev's efforts. In June, Putin stunned Medvedev and leaders in the West by announcing a change in Russia's approach to pursuing membership in the World Trade Organization just when everyone thought that Russia was about to cross the WTO finish line. In both cases, Putin reminded Medvedev and the international community that if you want to get things done, it isn't good enough to just have the Russian president on board. The prime minister has virtual veto power.

http://www.gmfus.org/publications/article.cfm?id=783&parent_type=P

HERITAGE FOUNDATION

CHRISTMAS DAY TERROR PLOT HIGHLIGHTS NEED TO SHARPEN INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM. Lisa Curtis et al. *The Heritage Foundation WebMemo #2751*, January 8, 2010

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

law enforcement agencies remain on a war footing in order to prevent future terrorist catastrophes.

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



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: HOW AND WHY TO SALVAGE THE PENTAGON'S QUADRENNIAL DEFENSE REVIEW. By the Honorable James Talent and Mackenzie Eaglen. The Heritage Foundation Backgrounder #2351. 4 January 2010

The Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) process is broken. Instead of establishing a road map for defense programs for the next 20 years, previous QDRs have been too budget-driven, purposefully shortsighted, and politically motivated. Congress can salvage the QDR process through thoughtful revisions and by reinforcing the guiding principles and intent of the original legislation. Congress should take particular care to protect the QDR process from arbitrary budget pressures and to provide for a truly independent judgment of the final QDR report by an outside panel.

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

WINNING THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN. The Heritage Foundation. John S. McCain. December 17, 2009.

America has a narrow window of opportunity in which to show clear signs of progress to a skeptical and war-weary public. In the next 18 months, with a properly resourced counterinsurgency strategy, McCain says that the momentum of the insurgency can be reversed. [PDF format, 4 pages].

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2009/pdf/hl1139.pdf



THE LISBON TREATY: IMPLICATIONS FOR FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE UNITED STATES. Congressional Testimony, The Heritage Foundation. Sally McNamara. December 15, 2009.

According to McNamara, after eight years of popular rejection, political cajoling, and endless hand-wringing, the E.U. has finally ratified the Lisbon Treaty without a shred of democratic legitimacy or public support. It is a treaty that underscores the EU's ambition to become a global power and challenge American leadership on the world stage. [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/Europe/tst12152009a.cfm?renderforprint=1>

PUBLIC DIPLOMACY 2.0: WHERE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MEETS "NEW MEDIA." The Heritage Foundation. Helle C. Dale. December 8, 2009.

Can Facebook and Twitter change the world? Can all the nifty new social-networking sites promote democracy and a better understanding of American values around the world? The potential is certainly there, as was seen in the invaluable Twitter updates during the post-election protests in Iran. The U.S. government is embracing Web 2.0 for an ambitious strategy of reaching previously untapped populations around the world, call it Public Diplomacy 2.0. While the potential progress is undeniable, so is the potential danger. Public diplomacy expert Helle Dale explains the recent developments, strategies, benefits, and risks of cyber diplomacy.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2009/pdf/bg2346.pdf [PDF format, 11 pages].

HUDSON INSTITUTE

HUDSON INSTITUTE NEWS & REVIEW Fall/Winter 2009

Featuring:

Examining the Russian Military

http://www.hudson.org/files/documents/Fall_Winter09online.pdf

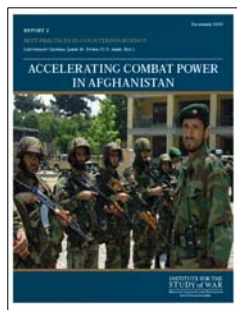
INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF WAR



THE QUETTA SHURA TALIBAN IN SOUTHERN AFGHANISTAN. Jeffrey Dressler, Carl Forsberg. Institute for the Study of War Background, January 4, 2010

Much of the recent debate regarding the war in Afghanistan has focused on al Qaeda, specifically, the extent of their operations in Afghanistan and the Pakistan border region. Often overlooked in the strategic calculus are other enemy groups operating in the region and their ability to challenge the Afghan government and coalition forces for control in the war-torn country. It is precisely these groups that have provided al Qaeda a sanctuary to train, plan, and launch some of the most catastrophic terrorist attacks in recent history. Indeed, their relationships with key al Qaeda leaders have been forged over the past quarter-century of resistance.

http://www.understandingwar.org/files/QuettaShuraTaliban_1.pdf



ACCELERATING COMBAT POWER IN AFGHANISTAN. --Best Practices in Counterinsurgency, Report #2. By LTG James M. Dubik (U.S. Army, Ret.). Institute for the Study of War, December 23, 2009

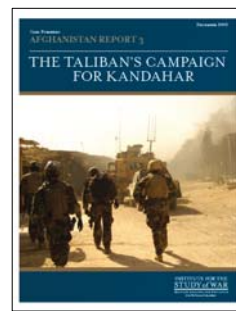
Building foreign security forces is a challenge at any time due to political and cultural barriers, but it is even more so during active combat. Under the author's command, Multi-National Security and Transition Team – Iraq (MNSTC-I) accelerated the growth of the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF)—military and police—by over 125,000 personnel. This rate of growth far exceeded any growth rate from previous years and, as the number of men in uniform grew dramatically, so did their capability and confidence.

Although Afghanistan is not Iraq, some practical lessons for growing security forces during a conflict can be adapted to the unique circumstances in Afghanistan. Building indigenous military and paramilitary police forces while fighting is not just about numbers of individuals and units trained, equipped, and released onto the battlefield. Rather, building indigenous security forces while fighting requires one to focus on creating combat power that can be used effectively in battle and in providing security to the population.

<http://www.understandingwar.org/report/accelerating-combat-power-in-afghanistan>

THE TALIBAN'S CAMPAIGN FOR KANDAHAR. Carl Forsberg. Afghanistan Report #3. Institute for the Study of War, December 1, 2009

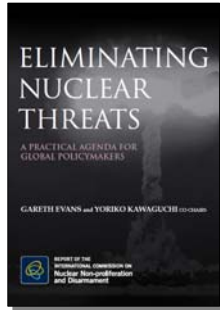
This paper describes the Taliban's multi-year campaign to exert control over Kandahar City. Kandahar is the center of gravity of the Quetta Shura



Taliban's efforts in Afghanistan. The paper demonstrates why Coalition forces have hitherto inadequately responded to the Taliban in Kandahar, and explains why ISAF will most likely allocate additional forces to the districts around Kandahar City in 2010.

http://www.understandingwar.org/files/The_Talibans_Campaign_For_Kandahar.pdf

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT



ELIMINATING NUCLEAR THREATS: A Practical Agenda for Global Policymakers. Gareth Evans and Yoriko Kawaguchi Co-Chairs. Report of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, December 2009.

Eliminating nuclear threats is a matter of necessity, not choice. The world's 23,000 nuclear weapons – many still deployed on high alert – can destroy life on this planet many times over. That the horror of Hiroshima and Nagasaki has not so far been repeated owes far more to luck than to good policy management. Even with the U.S. and Russia showing welcome new leadership, the policy challenges are immense. Every state with nuclear weapons has to be persuaded to give them up. States without nuclear weapons have to neither want nor be able to acquire them. Terrorists must be stopped from getting anywhere near them. And rapidly expanding peaceful nuclear energy use must be security risk-free. This report, the work of an independent commission of global experts sponsored by Australia and Japan, seeks to guide global policymakers through this maze.

<http://www.icnnd.org/reference/reports/ent/index.html>

INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP (ICG)

JONGLEI'S TRIBAL CONFLICTS: COUNTERING INSECURITY IN SOUTH SUDAN. International Crisis Group. December 23, 2009.

A failure to stabilize Jonglei and other areas of concern risks seeing South Sudan become increasingly unstable ahead of next year's national elections and the 2011 self-determination referendum. The report examines the situation in South Sudan, where violent conflict claimed several thousand lives in 2009. Inter-tribal fighting, while not a new phenomenon, has taken on a new and dangerously politicized character, with the worst violence in and around the vast, often impassable state of Jonglei. [PDF format, 39 pages].

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

SUDAN: PREVENTING IMPLOSION. International Crisis Group. December 17, 2009.

According to the report, if the international community does not step in to ensure full implementation of Sudan's North-South peace deal and shore up other failing centre-periphery agreements, the country risks a return to all-out civil war. The report examines the situation in the run-up to national elections due next year and the early 2011 referendum on self-determination in the South. It concludes that key elements of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), which ended the two-decades-long civil war between North and South Sudan, have not been implemented. [PDF format, 24 pages].

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/africa/horn_of_africa/b68_sudan___preventing_implosion.pdf

HANDING BACK RESPONSIBILITY TO TIMOR-LESTE'S POLICE. International Crisis Group. December 3, 2009.

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

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/asia/south_east_asia/180_handing_back_responsibility_to_timor_lestes_police.pdf [PDF format, 37 pages].

BOSNIA'S DUAL CRISIS. International Crisis Group. November 12, 2009.

The report recommends that the international community should take a firm decision to reinforce and transform its engagement in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) at the 18-19 November meeting of the Peace Implementation Council (PIC) or risk growing instability. Since the end of the war in 1995, Bosnia's leaders, supervised by the Office of the High Representative (OHR), have made slow progress towards creation of a functional common state. The conflict between Serb leaders and the OHR now risks creating a real crisis and undermining the functioning of the Bosnian state. [PDF format, 20 pages].

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

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE**TRANSATLANTIC INFORMATION SHARING: AT A CROSSROADS. Migration Policy Institute. Hiroyuki Tanaka et al. January 7, 2010.**

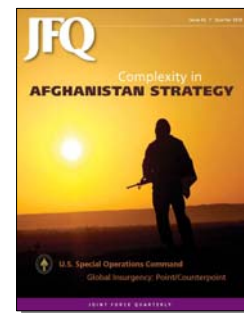
The attempted Christmas Day attack on a U.S. airliner has refocused interest on the data collected by governments on international travelers, and how information sharing can be used to prevent terrorism and secure travel if properly shared and analyzed. In the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the United States and European Union worked out agreements to expand the sharing of personal information about international travelers as a means to prevent acts of terrorism and fight international crime. However, according to the study, negotiations on a binding international agreement that will govern the sharing of personal information for law enforcement purposes between the U.S. and the European Union face significant challenges. [PDF format, 60 pages].

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

NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY (NDU)**JFQ 56, 1st Quarter 2010. NDU, January 2010.**

In Focus: Complexity in Afghanistan Strategy

http://www.ndu.edu/press/jfq_pages/i56.htm





MARINE CORPS GENERALSHIP. Edgar F. Puryear, Jr. *National Defense University Press, 2009.*

The United States remains a maritime nation. It is on those highways we call oceans that most of the goods and materials of commerce are moved for us and the rest of the free world as we know it. Marines are and will continue to be naval in character. Our expeditionary forces and our amphibious expertise will continue to play a vital role in maritime strategy execution. As the Nation's experts on coming from the sea, we must have a good grasp of naval operations to include air, surface, subsurface, and mine warfare, and naval special warfare capabilities.

<https://digitalndulibrary.ndu.edu/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/ndupress&CISOPTR=40021&REC=1>



AVOIDING A CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE IN THE U.S. NUCLEAR DETERRENT. By John P. Caves, Jr. *Strategic Forum No. 252. Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University, January 2010*

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

nuclear weapons. Modernization is fundamental to avoiding a future crisis of confidence in the U.S. nuclear deterrent.

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



U.S.-CAMBODIA DEFENSE RELATIONS: DEFINING NEW POSSIBILITIES. Lewis M. Sterntug. *Strategic Forum No. 251. Institute for National Strategic Studies. National Defense University, December 2009.*

Cambodia's lax border controls, widespread corruption, extremely active arms trade, and surfeit of small arms remaining from the Third Indochina War have made Phnom Penh an attractive platform for transient interests, as well as a staging ground for numerous activities that challenge the safety and well-being of the region. China has actively pursued security ties with Cambodia through modest assistance programs whose significance has

been magnified by the lack of similar U.S. efforts, which were severely curtailed as a result of congressionally imposed restrictions in the aftermath of the 1997 coup. U.S. interests in Southeast Asia would be well served by a stepped-up program of cooperation with Cambodia in areas such as counterterrorism, peacekeeping, counternarcotics, disaster response, and stability operations. U.S. early investment in Cambodia's future, beginning with support for the regional peace process, would provide a useful foundation for cooperation between the two countries that would have beneficial impact for Southeast Asia as a whole.

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



STAR-TIDES AND STARFISH NETWORKS: SUPPORTING STRESSED POPULATIONS WITH DISTRIBUTED TALENT. Linton Wells II et al. *Defense Horizons* No.70. NDU, December 2009

The Department of Defense increasingly is involved in postwar stabilization and reconstruction, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions, capacity-building of partner nations at home and abroad, and other such complex operations. To provide sustainable support to stressed populations in these environments, an international, networked, knowledge-sharing research project called Sustainable Technologies, Accelerated Research-

Transformative Innovation for Development and Emergency Support (STAR-TIDES)1 encourages innovative approaches to public-private collaboration, whole-of-government solutions, and transnational engagement.

<http://www.ndu.edu/press/dh/DH70.pdf>

OXFAM INTERNATIONAL

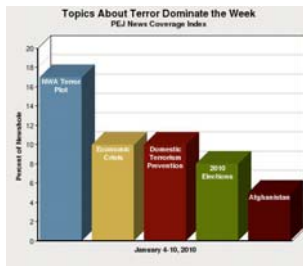


RESCUING THE PEACE IN SOUTHERN SUDAN. Oxfam International. January 7, 2010.

With landmark elections and a referendum on the horizon, the peace deal is fragile and the violence likely to escalate even further unless there is urgent international engagement. According to the report, the people of southern Sudan have shown extraordinary resilience to emerge from decades of war. If they are to have hope for the future, they urgently need development and protection from violence. Sudan faces many interlocking challenges, but if the international community acts now, they are surmountable.

<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/rescuing-peace-southern-sudan.pdf>

PEW



FROM DETROIT TO YEMEN, TERROR TOPS THE NEWS. Mark Jurkowitz, Associate Director, Project for Excellence in Journalism. January 12, 2010

More than eight years after 9/11, the ability of a terror attack -- even a failed one -- to transform and dominate the news landscape was evident last week. With the fallout from the Christmas Day airline bombing plot as the No. 1 story, topics intertwined with terrorism accounted for more than one-third (36%) of the newshole from Jan.

4-10, according to the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. That represents the biggest week of terror-related coverage since PEJ's News Coverage Index began in January 2007. At the same time, the two top domestic policy issues, the economy and health care, combined to account for 15% of last week's overall coverage.

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1460/terrorism-related-news-tops-coverage>

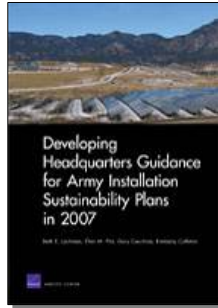
LITTLE SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM AMONG MUSLIM AMERICANS. Richard Wike, Pew Global Attitudes Project, Greg Smith, Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, December 17, 2009

Recent events such as the Fort Hood shootings and the arrest of five Muslim American students in Pakistan have raised questions about the threat of homegrown terrorism in the United States. However, the Pew Research Center's comprehensive portrait of the Muslim

American population suggests it is less likely to be a fertile breeding ground for terrorism than Muslim minority communities in other countries. Violent jihad is discordant with the values, outlook and attitudes of the vast majority of Muslim Americans, most of whom reject extremism.

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

RAND



DEVELOPING HEADQUARTERS GUIDANCE FOR ARMY INSTALLATION SUSTAINABILITY PLANS IN 2007. Beth E. Lachman et al. RAND, January 12, 2010.

Given the experiences of industry and communities, many Army installations have started to develop and implement installation sustainability plans (ISPs). An ISP documents long-range plans addressing mission, community, and environmental issues developed through a strategic planning process. RAND Arroyo Center examined the experiences of Army installations with sustainability planning in 2007, and made recommendations to Headquarters, Department of the Army to help foster the effective development and implementation of installation sustainability plans throughout the Army. The authors provide background information on sustainability, describe the installation sustainability planning process and progress in ISP implementation at the time, and recommend approaches to improve the ISP process throughout the Army.

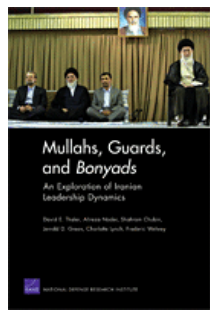
<http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/MG837/>



SECURITY, AT WHAT COST? QUANTIFYING PEOPLE'S TRADE-OFFS ACROSS LIBERTY, PRIVACY AND SECURITY. Neil Robinson et al. RAND, January 2010.

The heightened security environment in the United Kingdom today is resplendent with examples of government policy that must strike a delicate balance between strengthening security without jeopardizing public liberties and personal privacy. The introduction of national identity cards and biometric passports, the expansion of the DNA database, and cross-departmental sharing of information raise a number of privacy issues. Civil liberties may be suspended by the exercise of stop and search powers by the police or detention of suspects prior to a trial. Much of the current privacy vs. security debate occurs at an emotional level with little evidence informing the argument. This report outlines the results of a stated preference discrete choice modeling study that sought to objectively understand the real privacy, liberty and security trade-offs of individuals so that policy makers can be better informed about individuals true preferences in this domain.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR664/

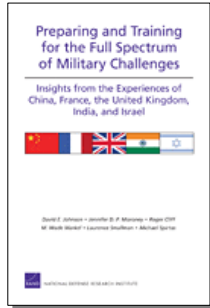


MULLAHS, GUARDS, AND BONYADS: AN EXPLORATION OF IRANIAN LEADERSHIP DYNAMICS. RAND Corporation. David E. Thaler et al. January 5, 2010.

According to the authors, the Islamic Republic of Iran poses serious challenges to U.S. interests in the Middle East, and its nuclear program continues to worry the international community. The presidential election of June 2009 that returned Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to power and led to broad protests and a government crackdown presents yet another cause for U.S. concern. Yet the U.S. ability to "read" the Iranian regime and formulate

appropriate policies has been handicapped by both a lack of access to the country and the opacity of decisionmaking in Tehran. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. [PDF format, 170 pages].

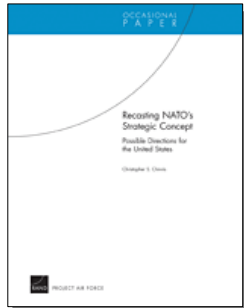
http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG878.pdf



PREPARING AND TRAINING FOR THE FULL SPECTRUM OF MILITARY CHALLENGES: INSIGHTS FROM THE EXPERIENCES OF CHINA, FRANCE, THE UNITED KINGDOM, INDIA, AND ISRAEL. Office of the Secretary of Defense and RAND Corporation. David E. Johnson et al. December 29, 2009.

The authors examine the militaries of China, France, the UK, India, and Israel to identify different approaches to readiness, adaptability, and operational issues in the context of full-spectrum operations and deployments. [PDF format, 315 pages].

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG836.pdf



RECASTING NATO'S STRATEGIC CONCEPT: POSSIBLE DIRECTIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES. RAND Corporation. Christopher S. Chivvis. December 21, 2009.

To address its security challenges, the United States needs the active support of its allies. This means, in particular, ensuring that the states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) remain able and willing to make a contribution to resolving their common security problems wherever possible. According to the paper, the revision of NATO's strategic concept offers an excellent opportunity to further this aim. It is a chance to build

consensus about the future and thereby steer the alliance in a direction that will help keep it relevant. The paper examines five possible directions: refocus on Europe, new focus on the greater Middle East, focus on fragile states, focus on non-state threats, and a global alliance of liberal democracies, the alliance might adopt, assessing them against certain key political and military criteria. [PDF format, 54 pages].

http://www.rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/2009/RAND_OP280.pdf

IRAN SANCTIONS: OPTIONS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND CONSEQUENCES. Testimony, RAND Corporation. James Dobbins. December 15, 2009.

This is the testimony presented before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs on December 15, 2009. [PDF format, 8 pages]

http://www.rand.org/pubs/testimonies/2009/RAND_CT337.pdf

UNDERSTANDING TERRORIST MOTIVATIONS. Testimony, RAND Corporation. Kim Cragin. December 15, 2009.

Testimony presented before the House Homeland Security Committee, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment on December 15, 2009.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/testimonies/2009/RAND_CT338.pdf [PDF format, 9 pages].

UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF DETERRENCE IN COUNTERTERRORISM SECURITY. RAND Corporation. Andrew R. Morral and Brian A. Jackson. December 7, 2009.

Deterrence, a central feature of counterterrorism security systems and a major factor in the cost-effectiveness of many security programs — is not well understood or measured. To develop a simple analytic framework for evaluating the relative value of deterrent measures, the authors build on a growing literature that examines terrorist decision making by examining the role of deterrence in counterterrorism strategy. [PDF format, 44 pages].

http://rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/2009/RAND_OP281.pdf

GOING JIHAD: THE FORT HOOD SLAYINGS AND HOME –GROWN TERRORISM. Testimony, RAND Corporation. Brian Michael Jenkins. November 19, 2009.

The testimony was presented before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/testimonies/2009/RAND_CT336.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

EXAMINING THE U.S. COUNTERTERRORISM PRIORITIES AND STRATEGY ACROSS AFRICA'S SAHEL REGION. RAND Corporation. Lianne Kennedy Boudali. November 17, 2009.

This is the testimony presented before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Subcommittee on African Affairs on November 17, 2009. [PDF format, 11 pages].

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

SMALL ARMS SURVEY

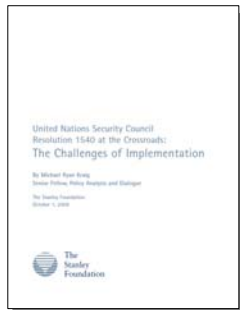


SUPPLY AND DEMAND: ARMS FLOWS AND HOLDINGS IN SUDAN. Small Arms Survey Issue Brief, December 2009.

A clearer understanding of arms flows and holdings is important for understanding current security dynamics and future possible scenarios. This *Issue Brief* reviews small arms supply and demand among the spectrum of armed actors in Sudan, highlighting recent trends and developments. It also describes the primary supply chains and mechanisms by which these arms transfers take place.

http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/files/portal/spotlight/sudan/Sudan_pdf/SIB-15-arms-flows-and-holdings-in-Sudan.pdf

STANLEY FOUNDATION



UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1540 AT THE CROSSROADS: THE CHALLENGES OF IMPLEMENTATION. Stanley Foundation Conference Report, December 2009

On October 1, 2009, The Stanley Foundation convened a major panel conference, "Resolution 1540: At a Crossroads" at UN Headquarters in New York City, involving US and international experts and former officials to discuss the future implementation of Resolution 1540 at the global, regional, national, and civil society levels. More details on the event here.

Overall, the conference made clear that nongovernmental groups need, and have the potential, to be more involved in national, regional, and global efforts to implement Resolution 1540. <http://www.stanleyfdn.org/resources.cfm?id=407>

STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SIPRI)

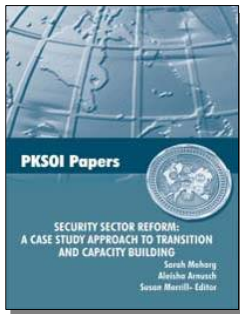


ARMS TRANSFERS TO EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Pieter D. Wezeman. December 2009.

United Nation member states are currently discussing the feasibility of an arms trade treaty (ATT) which would seek to create better controls on international arms transfers. Arms flows to East and Southern Africa, which originate from a wide diversity of countries, are relatively small. However even small volumes of arms can play a major role in armed violence and can be an economic burden.

<http://books.sipri.org/files/misc/SIPRI BP0912.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

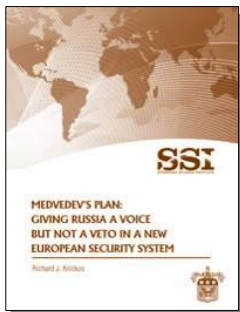
STRATEGIC STUDIES INSTITUTE. U.S. ARMY WAR COLLEGE



SECURITY SECTOR REFORM: A CASE STUDY APPROACH TO TRANSITION AND CAPACITY BUILDING. Dr. Sarah Meharg, Ms. Aleisha Arnusch. Strategic Studies Institute, January 5, 2010

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

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=960>



MEDEVEDEV'S PLAN: GIVING RUSSIA A VOICE BUT NOT A VETO IN A NEW EUROPEAN SECURITY SYSTEM. Strategic Studies Institute. Richard J. Krickus. December 24, 2009.

The author addresses the question of how to give Russia a voice but not a veto in a new European security system and provides some provocative recommendations. Most specifically, he proposes that the time has come to provide Russia with a NATO Membership Action Plan (MAP) and agrees that those who argue against it remain mired in a Cold War mindset that is out of sync with today's strategic realities. Ultimately, a campaign to include Russia in NATO may fail but at the very least, the endeavor deserves serious consideration. He also provides compelling reasons why U.S. defense analysts must consider several future outcomes for Russia.

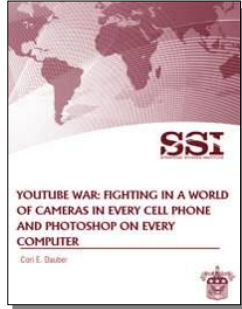
<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdf/PUB958.pdf>

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND THE RULE OF LAW: LESSONS FROM COLOMBIA. Dr. Gabriel Marcella. Strategic Studies Institute, November 27, 2009.

The 2009 Failed States Index identifies many nations as being in danger of becoming failed states—in fact, two-thirds of the world's states are critical, borderline, or in danger of becoming just that. Failed states do not possess the necessary conditions to have truly

sovereign governments that meet the needs of their populations. Colombia garnered a rating of 89 on the 2009 Failed States Index, just below that of Kyrgyzstan. It has experienced conflict for decades and as the author observed, was a “paradigm for a failing state” in that it was replete with terrorism, kidnapping, murder, corruption, and general lawlessness. But today it is much safer through the imposition of the Rule of Law. The author addresses the rule of law and its impact on Colombia.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=955>



YOUTUBE WAR: FIGHTING IN A WORLD OF CAMERAS IN EVERY CELL PHONE AND PHOTOSHOP ON EVERY COMPUTER. Dr. Cori E. Dauber. Strategic Studies Institute, November 16, 2009.

Terrorist attacks today are often media events in a second sense: information and communication technologies have developed to such a point that these groups can film, edit, and upload their own attacks within minutes of staging them, whether the Western media are present or not. In this radically new information environment, the enemy no longer depends on traditional media. This is the “YouTube War.” This monograph methodically lays out the nature of this new environment in terms of its implications for a war against media-savvy insurgents, and then considers possible courses of action for the Army and the U.S. military as they seek to respond to an enemy that has proven enormously adaptive to this new environment and the new type of warfare it enables.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=951>

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

ESTABLISHING LEADERSHIP ON CIVILIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN. U.S. Institute of Peace. William B. Taylor, Jr. and Alexander Thier. December 2009.

The leaders argue why leadership of civilian assistance is necessary for success in Afghanistan, and lay out the best options to move forward. [PDF format, 6 pages].

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

IRAN'S GREEN MOVEMENT. Congressional Testimony, U.S. Institute of Peace. Robin Wright. December 15, 2009.

Robin Wright testified before the House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs on the significance of the recent protests in Iran and what vulnerabilities the regime may currently face

<http://www.usip.org/resources/irans-green-movement> [HTML format, various paging].



WHAT NEXT FOR THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO? RECOMMENDATIONS FROM A TRANS-ATLANTIC DIASPORA DIALOGUE. U.S. Institute of Peace. Dorina Bekoe and Michelle Swearingen. December 2009.

The report summarizes a recent trans-Atlantic discussion with Congolese diaspora at the U.S. Institute of Peace. The authors provide background of the phases of Congolese emigration, and how this and other groups have influenced events in their home countries. Participants in the daylong event discussed how Congolese around the world can help resolve the long-running conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and offered

recommendations for how policymakers can improve conditions in their native country. [PDF format, 15 pages].

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

LEBANON'S UNSTABLE EQUILIBRIUM. U.S. Institute of Peace. Mona Yacoubian. November 2009.

In the wake of Lebanon forming a new government, U.S. Institute of Peace assesses how the country can ensure ongoing political progress and stability.

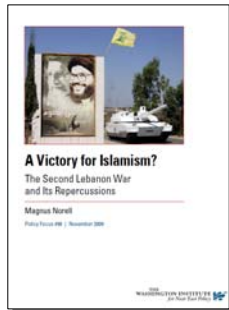
http://www.usip.org/files/resources/lebanon_equilibrium_pb.pdf

THE WASHINGTON INSTITUTE FOR NEAR-EAST POLICY

AL-QAEDA IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA, Featuring Matthew Levitt and Bruce Riedel. PolicyWatch #1619: Special Forum Report. The Washington Institute for Near-East Policy, January 13, 2010

On January 11, 2010, Matthew Levitt and Bruce Riedel addressed a special Policy Forum luncheon at The Washington Institute to discuss the emergence and potential of al-Qaeda-inspired groups in the Palestinian arena. Dr. Levitt is a senior fellow and director of the Stein Program on Counterterrorism and Intelligence at the Institute. Mr. Riedel, a former CIA officer, is a senior fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution. This is a rapporteur's summary of their remarks.

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



A VICTORY FOR ISLAMISM? THE SECOND LEBANON WAR AND ITS REPERCUSSIONS. Magnus Norell. The Washington Institute for Near-East Policy, Policy Focus #98. November 2009.

In *A Victory for Islamism? The Second Lebanon War and Its Repercussions*, a translation from the original Swedish, former Swedish intelligence analyst Magnus Norell argues that although Hizballah's strong position in Lebanese society keeps the bilateral conflict with Israel alive, the perception of strength and success in battle provides Hizballah with much broader reach and regional influence. Indeed today, the growing belief of Islamists that Israel can be defeated on the battlefield and forced to make political and territorial concessions has a devastating impact on current peace initiatives by the Obama administration and will continue to frustrate attempts at a negotiated solution.

<http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/templateC04.php?CID=319>

YALE GLOBAL

FALLOUT FROM COPENHAGEN: HAS THE EU LOST ITS GLOBAL RELEVANCE? YaleGlobal. Jean-Pierre Lehmann. January 5, 2010.

The first decade of the 21st century is still garnering many monikers. But the author believes that it may soon be considered Europe's swan song as a global power. From a storied constitution to lack of a consistent trade policy to a failure to effect global policy on climate change, the EU demonstrated throughout the decade that it cannot act in a coherent fashion and that its relevance on the global stage has eroded. But the most telling of examples are divisions over support for the war in Iraq and lack of representation at the Copenhagen Climate Summit. [HTML format, various paging].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/fallout-copenhagen-has-eu-lost-its-global-relevance>

HOW TO HALT THE SPREAD OF NUKES – PART II. YaleGlobal. Bharat Karnad. November 11, 2009.

President Obama may be worthy of the Noble Peace Prize if he can achieve a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty on nuclear weapons. But many obstacles stand in his way. New nuclear weapon states, transfer of weapon technology, and the strategic exigencies of balancing the threat of U.S. military intervention all present serious hurdles to nuclear disarmament, according to the author. [HTML format, various paging].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/how-halt-spread-nukes-part-ii>

HOW TO HALT THE SPREAD OF NUKES – PART I. YaleGlobal. Bennett Ramberg. November 9, 2009.

A key element of U.S. President Barack Obama's foreign policy is nuclear disarmament, as evidenced by his personally shepherding the Security Council's Resolution 1887, which seeks to halt the Bomb's spread. However, according to the author, this resolution does little to reduce nuclear armaments, and, most importantly, fails to tackle the issue of states that seek to get the Bomb. The author proposes an "action template" with a definite timetable and specific measures, including suspending commerce and travel. Admittedly, approving such a process would be challenging, but the current system has failed repeatedly to stop cheating, note the progress of Iran, North Korea, and even Syria in their nuclear programs.

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/how-halt-spread-nukes-part-i>
[HTML format, various paging].

ARTICLES FROM U.S. JOURNALS**INSIDE OBAMA'S WAR ON TERRORISM. Peter Baker, *The New York Times*. NYT Magazine: January 4, 2010**

In the New York Times Magazine, Peter Baker discusses the challenges that President Obama faces as the new administration fights the war on terror.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21104/nyt_magazine.html

THE TAJIK SOLUTION: A MODEL FOR FIXING AFGHANISTAN. Gavrilis, George. *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 88, no. 6, November-December 2009

Summary: According to Gavrilis, assistant professor of international relations at the University of Texas at Austin, the West should forget about making Afghanistan a model of democracy and development. Instead, it should aim for creating stability in the country just as a small UN group, plus Russia and Iran, did in 1990s' war-torn Tajikistan. "Today, Tajikistan is still corrupt and authoritarian, but it is also tolerably stable -- stable enough for the international community to forget about it, which is a striking mark of success," Gavrilis said. He argues that the West should prod Afghan President Karzai to include political opponents in key government positions, and NATO forces should move troops from the Afghan interior to its borders to thwart incoming insurgents and drug smugglers. He believes the West should also give freer rein to warlords as long as they do not attack the government or international forces, and the U.S. should engage on Afghanistan with Russia and Iran, which have insights from their Tajik experience. Currently available online at

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/65659/george-gavrilis/the-tajik-solution>

AMERICAN GRAND STRATEGY AFTER IRAQ. Kreps, Sarah. *ORBIS* vol. 53, no. 4, Fall 2009, pp. 629-645

Summary: Kreps, assistant professor at the Department of Government at Cornell University, writes that, to the extent that a strategy can be identified in the first year of the Obama Administration, its defining features are not a break from the past but continuity. She first identifies the elements of grand strategy, pointing to the international distribution of power, American bureaucracy, and public as the key sources of constraint and opportunity. Kreps then shows how shifts in these factors—comparatively less U.S. power, an overstretched military conducting counterinsurgency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and a weary American public—produced a shift in grand strategy that predated the 2008 election and that remains consistent with the current strategic setting. This article is part of a special series, Debating American Grand Strategy After Major War.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com>

AMERICAN GRAND STRATEGY FROM THE COLD WAR'S END TO 9/11. Suri, Jeremi. *ORBIS* vol. 53, no. 4, Fall 2009, pp. 611-627

Summary: Suri, professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, asserts after the end of the Cold War, American policymakers sought to create a new grand strategy for the United States, but they failed in this endeavor, because of difficult domestic and international circumstances, but also because of conceptual limitations. He pins down the efforts at strategy formulation in the administrations of George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton, and analyzes their shortcomings. The article encourages readers to think about how future strategists might improve upon this legacy with clearer and more disciplined attention to priorities, capabilities, and trade-offs. Making grand strategy in a democracy is not easy, but it is necessary. Suri believes the absence of effective grand strategy in the 1990s contributed to the crises of the early twenty-first century. This article is part of a special series, Debating American Grand Strategy After Major War. Available online at

<http://www.sciencedirect.com>

GRAND STRATEGY AFTER THE VIETNAM WAR. Moyar, Mark. *ORBIS* vol. 53, no. 4, Fall 2009, pp. 591-610

Summary: Moyar, who holds the Kim T. Adamson Chair of Insurgency and Terrorism at the U.S. Marine Corps University, asserts the perceived history of the Vietnam War profoundly influenced American discussions on grand strategy during the postwar period. He argues that the two largest schools of thought, one favoring confrontation with the Soviet Union and the other favoring engagement, drew lessons from the war based upon differing historical interpretations and used those lessons in constructing grand strategy. Moyar surmises that world events during the Carter presidency caused Carter to shift positions in this debate. Findings by historians indicate that the confrontation school understood the war's history and the postwar world better than did the engagement school and consequently crafted a superior grand strategy. The author concludes post-Vietnam debate contains numerous parallels to present-day discussions of grand strategy and offers a variety of lessons to contemporary strategic formulation. This article is part of a special series, Debating American Grand Strategy After Major War. Available online at <http://www.sciencedirect.com>

THE STATE OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.-- *Foreign Service Journal* vol. 86, no. 10, October 2009, pp. 14-24, 26-36, 38-58

Summary: In this special issue, former and present PD practitioners [Joe B. Johnson, William A. Rugh, Michael McClellan, Monica O'Keefe, Elizabeth Corwin, William P. Kiehl, Robert McMahon] discuss the role of public diplomacy since the demise of the United States Information Agency (USIA) in 1999, when it was abolished by Congress, and its information and exchanges functions were transferred to the U.S. Department of State in a new Bureau of Public Diplomacy as a way to bring public diplomacy closer to policy-making. The contributors hope to start a conversation about the direction of public diplomacy in the 21st century. When the Cold War ended in 1989, USIA's former mission to fight a propaganda battle against the forces of Communist ended and public diplomacy searched for a new, post-Cold war mission. At the advent of the Obama administration, PD confronts new challenges with social networking tools, such as blogs, tweets and Facebook, to apply to the traditional programs of publications, educational and cultural exchanges, and various information programs. In 2008, the major public affairs web pages of the State Department all changed to more participatory and visual styles. For policy, new words like "engagement" and "three-D diplomacy" are replacing the old paradigm and re-cast press and cultural affairs as a truly integral part of diplomacy. Available online at <http://www.foreignservicejournal-digital.com>

WHAT'S IN A LINE: IS PARTITION A SOLUTION TO CIVIL WAR? Sambanis, Nicholas; Schulhofer-Wohl, Jonah. *International Security* vol. 34, no. 2, Fall 2009, pp. 82-119

Summary: The authors discuss if territorial partitions of countries in civil wars would help to end these wars, as well as reducing the risk of recurrence. Researchers have proposed territorial partition with or without formal recognition of sovereignty as a solution to civil wars and a way to create self-enforcing peace. Also, studies of the effect of partition on the risk of renewed civil war, suffer several shortcomings, including conflicting results in the literature and selective use of case histories. However, a new data set and empirical analysis find that, on average, partition is unlikely to reduce the risk of a return to civil war and, in some cases, may increase that risk. Currently available online at http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/international_security/summary/v034/34.2.sambanis.html

THE STATE OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY. *Foreign Service Journal*, vol. 86, no. 10, October 2009, pp. 14-24, 26-36, 38-58

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REASSESSING U.S. STRATEGY IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE KOREAN WAR. Stueck, William. *ORBIS* vol. 53, no. 4, Fall 2009, pp. 571-590

Summary: Stueck, professor of history at the University of Georgia, analyzes the reassessment of U.S. strategy that Dwight D. Eisenhower directed after succeeding Harry Truman. Stueck asserts that, despite much of the rhetoric of the early Eisenhower administration, the outcome of Eisenhower's reassessment was closer to the objective of containment than Truman's key formulations. He then explores how the orientation applied to ending the war in Korea and sustaining the U.S. position there and elsewhere after the armistice. He discusses the insights that the process of reassessment and its outcome provide for the present. This article is part of a special series, *Debating American Grand Strategy After Major War*. Available online at <http://www.sciencedirect.com>

ROOSEVELT, TRUMAN AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF POSTWAR GRAND STRATEGY. Miscamble, Wilson D. *ORBIS* vol. 53, no. 4, Fall 2009, pp. 553-570

Summary: Miscamble, professor of history at the University of Notre Dame, argues that after the U.S. victory in World War II, it was clear that the country should move beyond the disastrous policies of the 1930s, but it was less clear how. In the final analysis, a lasting postwar strategy was forged under President Truman. He writes that appreciating how Truman moved well beyond Roosevelt's guiding assumptions is essential to understanding the evolution of American grand strategy; experience in wartime planning and grand strategy formulation can prove quite inadequate for dealing with postwar challenges. He concludes the Truman administration eventually developed and adopted containment and moved far beyond FDR's approach. This article is part of a special series, *Debating American Grand Strategy After Major War*. Available online at <http://www.sciencedirect.com>

CHINA, NUCLEAR SECURITY AND TERRORISM: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES. Grogan, Steven. *ORBIS* vol. 53, no. 4, Fall 2009, pp. 685-704

Summary: Grogan, with the Defense Intelligence Agency, describes Chinese strategic nuclear forces and the Chinese approach to nuclear security. He then focuses on the domestic conditions in China which could result in vulnerabilities to its nuclear forces. Based on these threats, Grogan outlines several scenarios involving a variety of terrorist or terrorist related events. These notional scenarios include overrun or attack, diversion, cyber terrorism and sabotage. He covers what these scenarios and the possible Chinese reaction to them may mean for the security, military and diplomatic strategies of the U.S. Available online at <http://www.sciencedirect.com>

WHAT DO THEY REALLY WANT? OBAMA'S NORTH KOREA CONUNDRUM. Cha, Victor D. *Washington Quarterly* vol. 32, no. 4, October 2009, pp. 119-138

Summary: The author, inaugural holder of the Korea Chair at CSIS and deputy head of the U.S. delegation to the Six-Party Talks, describes negotiations with North Korea as "all about contradictions -- what can be important one day can become unimportant the next." President Obama's expressed interest in high-level negotiations, shown by the appointment of Stephen Bosworth as a special envoy, and his commitment to the multilateral negotiating forum mean that North Korea's provocative actions can no longer be rationalized as attempts to engage the United States. So what do the North Koreans really want? They want three things: 1) Nuclear weapons -- for keeps. If they were seeking nuclear weapons only to obtain a better deal, they have already missed two chances, in 1994 and 2005. 2) A U.S.-India-type deal, whereby the United States recognizes North Korea as a nuclear power and essentially rewrites the NPT. 3) A

special regime-security assurance from the United States, guaranteeing the continuation in power of Kim Jong-il's family. Should the Six-Party Talks resume they "will never achieve what either Washington or Pyongyang wants -- given what they desire and what we can't give -- but they serve as a way to manage the problem, contain the proliferation threat, and run out the clock on the regime." Currently available online at http://www.twq.com/09october/docs/09oct_Cha.pdf

THE KREMLIN BEGS TO DIFFER. Simes, Dimitri K.; Saunders, Paul J. *National Interest* November/December 2009

Summary: The authors, president and executive director of the Nixon Center, analyze the political situation in Russia and its effect on relations with the U.S. Russia's political system, a popularly supported semiauthoritarian state capitalism, is the source of its problems. Corruption is deeply embedded and pervasive, severely limiting the country's modernization and sustainable economic growth. It makes the political system very resistant to change and also quite fragile, and it also combines with the uninhibited power of the government to discourage foreign investment in the country. There is little discontent among the populace as long as they reap real benefits, such as the increases in real income and drop in poverty they saw during Putin's presidency. The authors note that a power struggle between Putin and Medvedev could destabilize the situation with unknown consequences, and that it is important for the U.S. not to take sides in Russia's internal politics. They write: "Russia has been a difficult interlocutor since its independence nearly two decades ago and is unlikely to become an easier one anytime soon. But for all of its faults -- and they are many -- Russia is not inherently an American foe. Russia's leaders may be ruthless, but they do not need foreign enemies. With care and determination, the United States can work with Moscow to advance important national interests." Currently available online at <http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=22344>

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