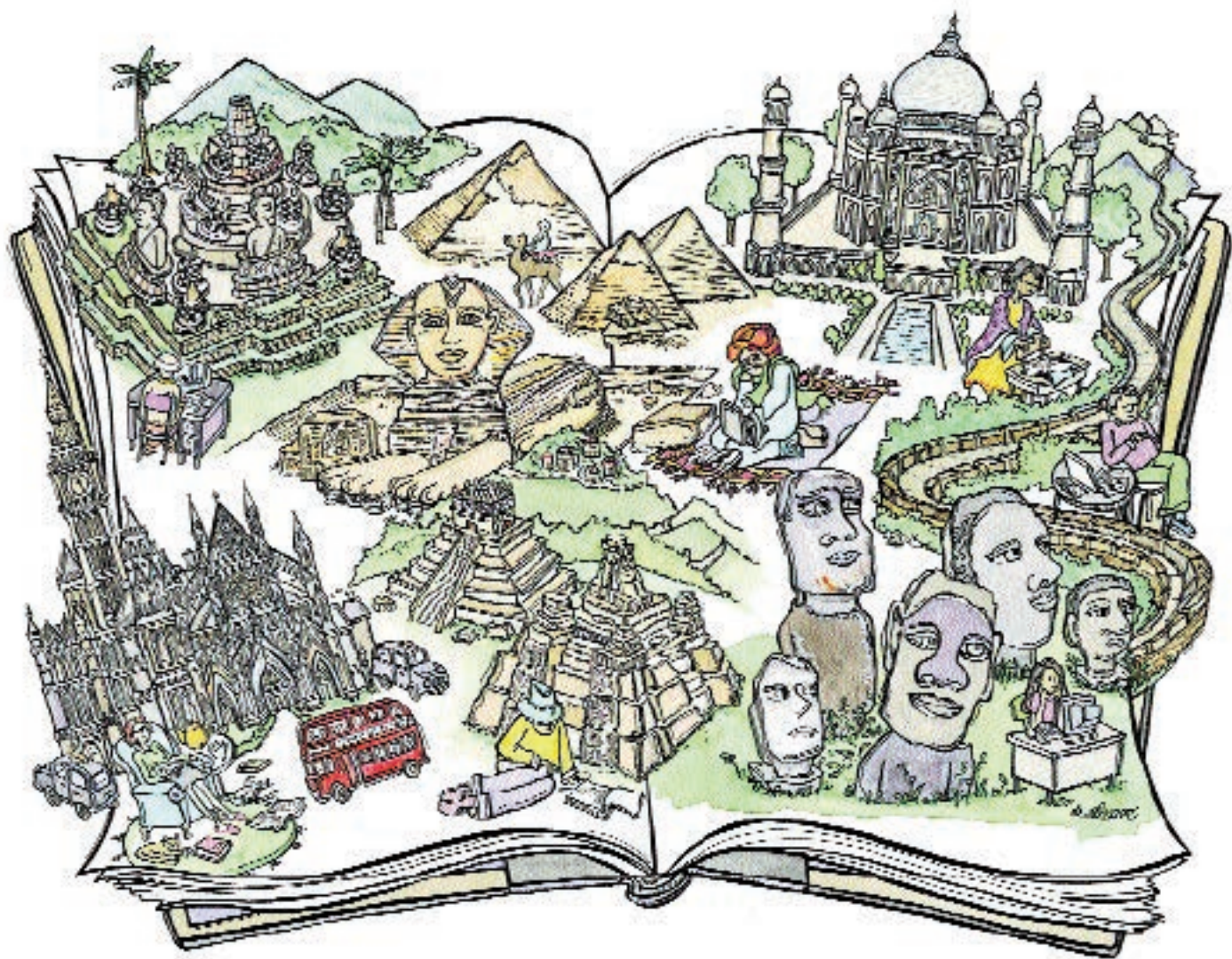


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PRESIDENT'S VIEWS

A Proud Profession

BY JOHN LIMBERT

It seems appropriate to devote my first column as your new AFSA president to a few words of introduction. First, I would like to thank my predecessor John Naland and State VP Louise Crane, who led AFSA so ably between John's departure and my arrival. I started work at AFSA headquarters on Sept. 8, 2003, after spending three years as chief of mission at a maximum-hardship SEP post (Nouakchott, Mauritania), including a two-month side trip to Kuwait and Baghdad to work on General Jay Garner's Iraq reconstruction team.



I have been an FSO for 30 years, with service mostly in the Middle East (Algiers, Jeddah, Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Tehran) and Africa (Djibouti, Conakry and Nouakchott). In Washington, I've served on three State promotion boards, worked in the department's Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism (S/CT) and been the chief of new-employee orientation at FSI.

What have I seen in my recent postings? Above all, I am more convinced than ever that ours is a proud profession. In Baghdad, for example, our Foreign Service team from many agencies — including both active-duty and retired employees — has been performing magnificently in a setting that resembles the bar in "Star Wars."

John Limbert is the president of the American Foreign Service Association.

Iraq was hot, dangerous, anarchic, tangled, and absolutely unpredictable. Our working and living conditions, especially in the earliest days, were from the "hunter-gatherer" phase. Working alongside a talented group of Civil Service and military colleagues, we never knew from one day to the next what we would face as we sought to understand and come to terms with Kurds, Shi'ites, Ba'athists masquerading as born-again democrats, and local militias (which, with all their faults, did provide a measure of security in a setting of chaos). We can all take pride in what our colleagues have done, and are doing, there.

The same was true during my three years in Nouakchott. I could not have been prouder of how our people were performing under very adverse and austere conditions. No sooner had I returned there from Baghdad than a group of disgruntled military officers from the Mauritanian armored brigade turned their tank cannons against the president and the government. Everyone in the U.S. mission family — communications personnel, our security officer, spouses and children, and our wonderful FSN community — responded with professionalism and courage in the best traditions of our Service. I would make special mention of our newly-hired specialists and generalists (who made up a large proportion of our staff). Whatever the Board of Examiners and FSI are doing to recruit and train the folks coming into the Service via the Diplomatic Readiness Initiative, they are doing it

very well: our new colleagues are outstanding.

Special kudos should also go to our retired colleagues, whose knowledge and willingness to help in the most unpromising settings are keeping our posts secure, healthy and functioning through some very difficult times. At various times in Mauritania, for example, our RSO, our management officer, our information specialist, our office manager, and even our desk officer back in the department, were retirees working as WAEs.

No one needs to give the Foreign Service lessons in courage and patriotism. We should never give any ground to those who would, for example, take cheap shots at our consular employees — the same consular employees who ensured the well-being of hundreds of American citizens during times of civil strife in Liberia, Mauritania and the Ivory Coast. Most of the places we work are dangerous and difficult, and the recent efforts of terrorists have left employees and their families with fewer and fewer safe havens.

Far from making any apologies for doing what we do, we have every right to feel proud of how well we use our experience, our skills in foreign languages, and our knowledge of personal relations and foreign cultures to defend U.S. interests around the globe and look after individual Americans living abroad. The Foreign Service — all of it — is serving the American people very well indeed. I will ensure that AFSA serves the members of the Foreign Service. ■



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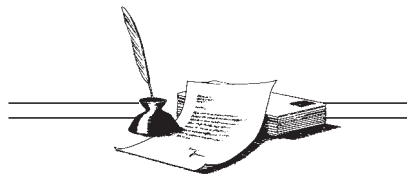


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A Poached Byline

I would like to correct the byline on the article “Assisting Anti-Poaching Efforts in Chad” contained in your September issue. When asked for my input on what specialists do in the Foreign Service, I incorrectly assumed that it would be published as a few short paragraphs accompanied by some photographs. Although I am very proud of the project and the part I played, the article was based on the after-action report written by Les McBride, longtime employee of Embassy N’Djamena, and should have had his byline on it, not mine.

Les McBride has been finding innovative ways to fund and implement valuable projects in Chad for many years. I am a great admirer of his substantive accomplishments in this, among the poorest of countries, and like the many people in Chad who have expressed their gratitude, I want to make sure he gets the credit he is due for his wonderful work.

Les, keep fighting the good fight!

Joe Cole

Information Program Officer
Embassy Istanbul

Fewer Class Distinctions, Please

I received my copy of the latest *Foreign Service Journal* (September) yesterday and read pretty much everything in the issue regarding specialists. There were some very interesting comments from my colleagues. Good issue.

I am pleased to know that after 32 years in this organization, I am not the only person who feels that specialists

have been slighted and treated as second-class citizens. The comments about FSOs not knowing what specialists do or that there are differences in treatment or benefits between FSOs and specialists are absolutely right on. It happens day in and day out, and it even happens in the *Journal*. As I have stated previously in letters I have written, I don’t expect print media journalists to know or understand the differences, but within our organization, they certainly should be known.

Former Director General Davis’ comment that, “We are all interdependent. We are all members of the Secretary’s ‘One Team; One Mission’” was particularly entertaining. I know that she honestly believes what she says, but the reality is different. Perhaps she was referring to one team, but the first string, the second string, etc. In that regard, I agree wholeheartedly with what Nanette Krieger, whom I know personally, said in response.

Years ago, I was invited by a junior officer group to speak to them about the differences between FSOs and specialists from my perspective. Some of them were somewhat shocked to learn that they, as JOs in their first assignment, were entitled to more privileges than I, a specialist with more than 16 years of service.

I understand why some specialists feel slighted because they are not asked to attend country team meetings or invited to representational events. However, the slight soon fades when you are *obligated* to do these things. Most of what is dis-

cussed at country team meetings could easily be handled through e-mails to all employees. As for representational events, without language training, they become a real bore. So, dear specialists, consider yourselves lucky.

One thing that really struck me was that most of the comments came from specialists who are in categories that are distinct, such as DS, IM, OMS, etc. What was not addressed were the positions that can be filled by both specialists and FSOs — e.g., GSO, FMO and HRO. This dual competition for positions is, I believe, slanted toward FSOs. I would be very interested in knowing how many GSO positions at the largest and most popular posts (London, Paris, Rome, etc.) are filled by GSO specialists.

It has been argued in the past that perhaps all FS-2 and FS-1 jobs in GSO, FMO and HRO should be reserved for the specialists in those job categories, but that never went anywhere for obvious reasons. I even spoke to a former DG about this and the DG’s comment was that GSOs (HROs and FMOs were not mentioned in the comment), once they reach the FS-2 level, should be converted to FSOs and be allowed to serve in any management position. I’m not sure I agree with that, but it at least provided recognition that GSO specialists who reach the FS-2 level have, generally speaking, more management experience behind them than FSO management officers of the same grade.

I also agree with Mark Butchart, who stated he dropped out of AFSA



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because he felt it did not represent his interests as a specialist, but not completely. Some representation is better than none and AFSA has done well by the Foreign Service in general. But in those cases where AFSA has advocated the interests of specialists, it has done so primarily for DS and OMS specialists, seldom for the rest and certainly not those of us in the GSO, HRO and FMO categories — the eligibility for USAA insurance being an exception.

My question is, why must the Foreign Service have two classes of employees? Why not just hire employees to do jobs? Get rid of the exam process, and stick with interviews and oral assessments. The CIA operates that way as I understand it (to the extent that any of us know anything about that organization), which seems to work well.

There will always be distinctions in the Foreign Service between those considered “substantive” (POL and ECON) and those who do real things (CONS and ADMIN). But if we were all one general category of employees — Foreign Service — perhaps moving between functions would be easier, promotions would be fairer, the FS would profit because it could easily take advantage of the skills and experience of its employees, and there would be fewer “class distinctions.”

*Kenneth R. Yeager
Executive/Contracting
Officer
Regional Procurement
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American Consulate
General Frankfurt*

Singing AFSA's Praises

I just wanted to take this opportunity to sing AFSA's praises for the September *FSJ*, dedicated to Foreign Service specialists. I was very pleased to see this much-needed and

LETTERS



deserved attention given to the contributions Foreign Service specialists make to foreign diplomacy. I can tell you that all of my fellow Career Development Officers (at least on the specialist side) were impressed and glad to see this recognition, as I am sure specialists worldwide will be.

Thanks for keeping your ear to the ground and your eyes open.

C.W. Mathis

*Foreign Service Information
Management Specialist
Washington, D.C.*

Second-Class Is Okay!

Your series of articles about and from specialists in the September issue of the *Foreign Service Journal* is timely. They lead to an important discussion about the structure of the Foreign Service and what the Service is trying to accomplish with the resources at its disposal.

I entered the Service in 1966 as a Foreign Service staff officer. After training, the United States Information Agency sent me to Cali, Colombia as a student affairs officer and assistant director of the Centro Colombo-Americano del Valle.

Foreign Service staff officers were second-class citizens, so to speak. We did not take the Foreign Service exam. We did not have titles like secretary, counselor, consul or attaché. The Foreign Service saw us as an adjunct, yet valued what we did, the extra-governmental resources we controlled and our involvement in the local community. Our presence was good for both the U.S. and the host country.

The old Foreign Service system was much more effective than the new one. USIA specialists then knew they were second-class and could stay in one place long enough to accomplish something and build strong relations in the local community. And our low salaries meant we were a real bargain for the U.S. government.

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During my posting to Cali, I took and passed the Foreign Service exam. After I passed, USIA sent me back to the same job in Cali at the same salary, but as an FSO with a new career track.

Once in the “real” USIA Foreign Service, we learned the career-enhancing importance of looking up instead of down, from whence we came. But we still needed that second-class group, the Foreign Service staff officers, on the front lines running the binational centers, cultural centers, libraries and institutes, who promoted English and influenced hearts and minds. Since then, USIA and now the Department of State seem to have forgotten the utility of those instruments and institutions and dissolved our formerly organic relationship with them.

Once we became FSOs, we learned that a second-class job did not lead to a first-class future in the Foreign Service. USIA did away with a cheap specialist corps, many of those former specialists gaining access to the regular Service. Then we changed the Foreign Service itself. We made the rank system homogenous with the Civil Service and military service. This incredible series of well-intentioned blunders led to the demise of what had been an effective, highly trained and experienced specialist corps. Now we have no USIA. We have separated ourselves from the most effective long-range foreign policy projection devices we had.

The Foreign Service specialist corps today is different from the former Foreign Service staff officer corps. Yet upon reflection, it may not be such a bad thing to be second-class, if one knows one’s job and understands that one’s work is necessary and appreciated. A supportive role is just as important as a leadership one, as long as both understand and recognize the value and contribution of the other. Most important of

all is for members of our officer corps to look down as well as up.

*Sheldon Avenius
USIA FSO, retired
Arlington, Va.*

A Shortage of Conservatives

Stephen Dujack laments the fact that conservative Republicans have tended to take a dim view of the State Department. (“For Professor Gingrich, A Little History Lesson,” September *FSJ*). One reason may be the glaring shortage of conservatives or Republicans at State, particularly among FSOs. Apart from political appointees, conservative Republicans at State are as numerous as butchers at a PETA convention. I’d estimate that 80 percent of the FSO corps are Democrats (with a much lower percentage among FS specialists and civil servants), compared to around a third of the U.S. electorate. Even if we just take the results of the last election (50/50), it’s fairly obvious that ideological diversity at the State Department is woefully out of whack.

The question, of course, is whether this tilt colors how FSOs implement the policies of a given administration. That is debatable. I do know that almost any reference by many FSOs to the *Washington Times*, *Weekly Standard*, *Wall Street Journal*, or virtually any elected Republican lawmaker is accompanied by such a display of eye-rolling and knowing snickers that I wonder whether to call for medical help.

Let’s face it. As long as State is perceived as a place that is overwhelmingly dominated by Democrats, FSOs should profess no surprise when the institution they serve comes under attack by a branch of government that may have a better claim to looking like America.

*Richard G. Miles
FSO
Washington, D.C.*

No Polemics, Please

The approach recommended by James Olsen in “Capitalism and the Mexican Poor” (July-August *FSJ*) constitutes one useful tool in the development toolbox — but not a panacea. Yes, the ideas of economist Hernando de Soto have a place within the complex process known as “development,” as former USAID Administrator Brian Atwood recognized. But Olsen’s preaching to Mexico on what it needs to do, rather than analyzing what has actually happened when de Soto’s ideas have been applied over the past 17 years in the developing world, constitutes a polemic. An objective account of how de Soto’s ideas have played out in practice and evolved since the mid-1980s would have added more to our knowledge.

Instead, Olsen’s final paragraph, contending that international agencies and bilateral donors (e.g., USAID) don’t know their partners, is an unfounded assertion and nowhere proven.

And speaking of USAID, “Telling Their Own Stories” (in the same issue) seems to suggest that the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training’s oral history program covers the State Department exclusively. In fact, ADST’s compilation includes an extensive collection of oral histories contributed by retired USAID officers, prepared under the leadership of W. Haven North through a multi-year grant from USAID. I would like to see a similar article in the *Journal* highlighting the experiences of USAID Foreign Service staff.

*Michael S. Zak
USAID FSO, retired
Annandale, Va.*

The Ombudsman Office

Ambassador Cohen’s article in the June issue about AFSA’s role as a professional organization and a labor

LETTERS

union states that the Office of the Ombudsman was created around 1972. This is not quite accurate. Ambassador William Macomber conceived the idea for such an office in late 1969 when he was under secretary for management. Amb. Macomber asked my husband, Bob Gordon, to accept this new position, which he did in January 1970, remaining until February 1972. Amb. Cohen was generous in his recognition that Bob viewed his work as "problem solving." Indeed, he did, though I doubt that he ever thought of himself as a gadfly.

*Nancy S. Gordon
Florence, Italy*

Author's Request

I am researching the history of a U.S. intelligence collection organization that operated under the leadership of John V. Grombach from 1942 to 1955. I would like to hear from Foreign Service officers who served in this organization or who have direct knowledge of it.

The organization, known informally as "The Pond," started as part of the War Department in 1942. In 1947, it established a headquarters in New York City and went into the private sector, operating until 1951 on contract for the State Department. The CIA took over the contract in 1951 and terminated it in 1955. The Pond used Foreign Service officers to conduct clandestine human intelligence operations overseas. Its primary liaison in the State Department was the "Division of Foreign Activity Correlation."

If any FSO would care to share knowledge of The Pond, please contact me at mpstout@starpower.net or at 3719 N. Pershing Drive, Arlington, VA 22203.

Thank you very much.

*Mark Stout
Arlington, Va. ■*

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Debating America's Role in the World

A public education effort to stimulate a national dialogue about the future of U.S. foreign policy is under way. "The People Speak: America Debates Its Role in the World" features more than 1,000 debates and discussions in communities across the U.S. during October, and a series of signature debates organized in partnership with the World Affairs Councils in major cities through early 2004. The signature debates will feature leading members of the foreign policy communities. The program was initiated by the Open Society Institute's Cooperative Global Engagement Project in collaboration with the United Nations Foundation and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (<http://www.opensocietypolicycenter.org/html/debate.html>). Sixteen organizations, representing the entire political spectrum, launched the debate series at a press conference at the National Press Club on Sept. 30.

A Web site, *The People Speak* (<http://www.jointhedebate.org/index.htm>), provides all the materials needed to organize a debate, including downloadable debate "kits," planned activities happening around the country, and information on the mini-grant program that has been created to support local citizens' efforts. Additional resources include links to the Bush administration's national security strategy document, "The National Security Strategy of the United States of America," and a variety of independent analyses of national security issues.

In June the Open Society Institute, United Nations Foundation

I want you to understand that I'm not saying "white" because the Americans say "black."

— President Jacques Chirac of France, in an interview prior to his speech at the U.N. General Assembly, Sept. 22, www.nytimes.com.

and Rockefeller Brothers Fund financed a Council on Foreign Relations study that examines the current National Security Strategy as well as alternative ways to address the threats facing the United States. "A New National Security Strategy in an Age of Terrorists, Tyrants, and Weapons of Mass Destruction" offers three different approaches to national security policy in the form of presidential speeches (http://www.osidc.org/National_Security_CPI.pdf). The study was used as the basis for debates over the summer in Chicago, San Francisco and Houston. OSI and its collaborators are also working to adapt this material for use by college students in holding their own debates on national security policy.

The China Factor

One of the most significant developments at the periphery during the past two years has been the slow and steady rise of China as a world power. While China's critical role in Korean diplomacy — 50 years after fighting on the other side on the Korean peninsula, it was China that brought

the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the negotiating table in August — is well known, its assistance to Washington in intelligence and diplomatic matters as part of the war on terrorism has attracted less attention.

On Sept. 11 the Senate Foreign Relations Committee took note of China's emergence in hearings on "U.S. Relations with China" — in the words of Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs James A. Kelly, "one of the most important bilateral relationships of the 21st century." The testimony by Kelly and several experts is a good place to start to get up to speed on China (<http://foreign.senate.gov/hearings/2003/hr030911a.html>). The May report of an independent task force sponsored by the Council on Foreign Relations on "Chinese Military Power" fills in a critical dimension (<http://www.cfr.org/publication.php?id=5985>). You can keep up with day-to-day news on China at http://news.yahoo.com/fc?tmpl=fc&cid=34&in=world&cat=china_us_relations.

For background, the State Department's "The United States and China" overseas Web page is a gold mine (<http://usinfo.state.gov/regional/ea/uschina>). Here, regularly updated, are official texts, key documents, reports and fact sheets, congressional testimony and statements bearing on the U.S. relationship with China. China's energy situation is documented at the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration Web site (<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/china.html>). The Library



CYBERNOTES

of Congress' country study of China covers geographic information as well as the different periods of Chinese history (<http://lweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cntoc.html>).

Among think tanks, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace has an active China program directed by Minxin Pei and Michael Swaine, including partnerships with the Chinese policy community (<http://www.ceip.org/files/programs/china-home.ASP>). The Center for Strategic and International Studies

also has a dynamic program conducted by its Freeman Chair in Chinese Studies, presently held by Bates Gill (<http://csis.org/china/index.htm>). CSIS released a study in August titled "China's New Journey to the West: China's Emergence in Central Asia and Implications for U.S. Interests." The Woodrow Wilson Center's large Asia program encompasses study of developments in China, such as the 2003 report "China After Jiang," which analyzes trends and transitions in Chinese politics ([http://wwics.si](http://wwics.si.edu/index.cfm?fuseaction=topics.home&topic_id=1462)

[edu/index.cfm?fuseaction=topics.home&topic_id=1462](http://www.nixoncenter.org/chinaprogramindex.htm)). The Nixon Center's China program is directed by David Lampton, a professor of Chinese studies at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. Its latest report is "U.S.-China Relations in a Post-September 11th World" issued in 2002 (<http://www.nixoncenter.org/chinaprogramindex.htm>).

A number of nonprofit organizations maintain useful Web sites on different facets of the U.S.-China relationship. The National Committee on United States-China Relations is an educational organization established by scholars and civic, religious and business leaders in 1966 that encourages U.S.-China citizen contacts (<http://www.ncuscr.org>). The U.S.-China Business Council was founded in 1973 to expand U.S.-China business and economic ties (<http://www.uschina.org/public/wto>). The United States of America-China Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1993 by a Chinese businessman and an American businessman (<http://www.usccc.org>).

– Benjamin Bodnar,
Editorial Intern

Do You Look Like Your Dog?

Do you look like your dog? Do you know others who do? Have you ever wondered why some people look like their dogs? Well, stay tuned. An international contest for owners with look-alike dogs is set to become a new TV game and reality show, promoters announced recently (www.doyoulooklikeyourdog.com). On the show,

Site of the Month: www.PeaceCorpsWriters.org

Almost everyone who lives and works in a foreign country has the impulse at one time or another to write about it. Peace Corps authors have seized on the Internet revolution to nurture the writing habit among fellow volunteers; it is an initiative that Foreign Service writers may find of particular interest.

The *Peace Corps Writers* Web site was launched in 1999, to fulfill the Peace Corps mission to "bring the world back home." However, making the listings of returned Peace Corps Volunteers' books and writings, along with reviews, available online is not only an educational opportunity for Americans to learn about the world; it is also meant to be an inspiration to other RPCV writers. A bimonthly e-zine features new books by Peace Corps writers, an interview with a writer, book reviews and letters. The site also contains a bibliography of more than 1,100 books by over 325 RCPV writers, and resources for both readers and writers. Among them are a list of friendly agents and publishers, information on self-publishing and publishing-on-demand, and other very useful links such as "How to Write A Novel in 100 Days" and "Opportunities for Writers."

The site is edited by John Coyne, a secondary-school English teacher in Addis Ababa from 1962 to 1964, who is manager of communications for the College of New Rochelle. Site designer and webmaster Marian Haley Beil taught high school math in Ethiopia from 1962 to 1964, and worked with Coyne on publishing *RPCV Writers & Readers*, the Web site's predecessor, from 1989 to 1998. Declining subscriptions for the printed newsletter brought about its demise in 1998, but numerous communications of praise for the publication led to its relaunch online.



50 Years Ago...

The voices of advocacy are constant, repetitious and insistent; they speak in different tongues. But above “the sounding brass or tinkling cymbal” of discordance and tension, one can hear the steady beat of the motif of stubborn faith in the [United Nations] Charter vision of a better world.



— William Sanders, in “Assignment to the United Nations,” *FSJ*, November 1953.

owners and their dogs will compete in a series of obedience, agility and humor trials, such as owners and dogs with the best matching costumes, the funniest trick, and the most athletic pair. “Think Fear Factor meets American Idol meets Best in Show,” state backers of the venture, to be produced by Indigo Films.

A book, *Do You Look Like Your Dog?*, which features 100 of the owners who most looked like their dogs as

of the book’s June 1 contest deadline, is due for publication in January 2004 by Broadway Books, a division of Random House. Contest entrants are divided into eight main groups: working, herding, sporting, non-sporting, terriers, hounds, toys, and just plain mutts.

The *Do You Look Like Your Dog?* contest Web site also features links to research on why people look like and share key personality traits with their

dogs, including a research study comparing Pomeranian and Siberian Husky owners and a workshop called “What Kind of Dog Are You?” for people to better understand themselves and others based on the dogs they choose. Other research projects have begun on cops and canines and an exploration of how people who are drawn to different breeds differ in their personality, interests, activities, and lifestyles. (Perhaps a future edition will feature diplomatic dogs.)

The contest, Web site, book and reality show are all the brainchildren of Gini Graham Scott, a sociologist interested in psychological profiling, who became fascinated with the way people look like their dogs after attending the Golden Gate Kennel dog show in San Francisco in 1992 (<http://www.worldofdogs.org/who.htm>). ■

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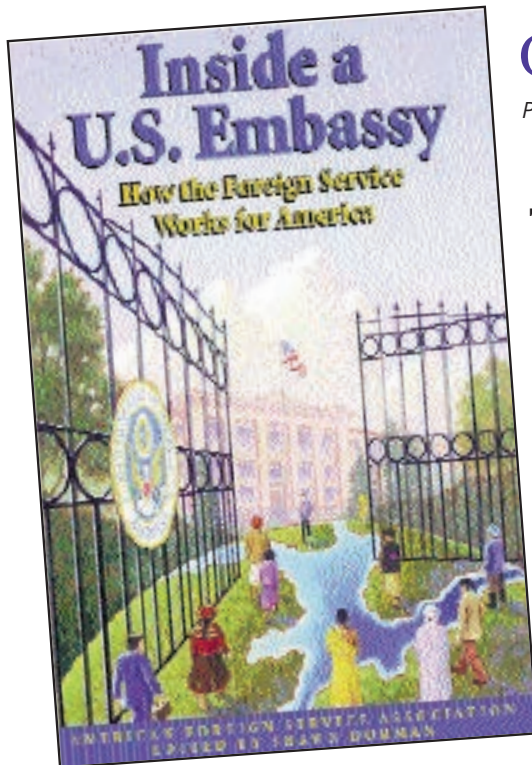
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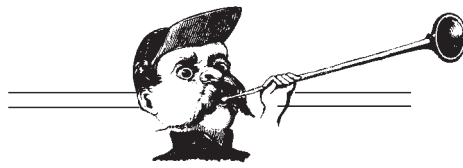
— Senator Richard Lugar,
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SPEAKING OUT

The Middle East Road Map: Going Nowhere Fast

BY RONALD SPIERS

In 1967, I was political counselor at Embassy London. Shortly after the Arab-Israeli Six-Day War and the subsequent adoption of U.N. Resolution 242, requiring withdrawal of Israel from territories occupied in the war in exchange for peace and recognition from Arab governments, I was asked to speak at the British Royal Defense College on what could be done to resolve the underlying conflict.

My view then was — and remains today — that the conflict could not, and would not, be resolved if it were left to the two parties to work out. Leaving the parties to proceed on their own in working out details was tantamount to handing a veto to the extremists on either side: the Israelis who wanted to “transfer” the Palestinians and absorb territory conquered in the war, and the Palestinians who would never be reconciled to the existence of an Israeli state. It is a formula that guarantees the peace process remains only that: a process, with peace remaining an ever-receding goal. Over the years I have spoken and corresponded with many Israelis and Palestinians who have reached the same conclusion.

I proposed then that the U.S. and Britain move quickly to convene a group that would include France and the Soviet Union, preferably with the United Nations’ blessing, to spell out the full elements of an equitable resolution and present it to the two sides on a take-it-or-leave-

*The so-called
“Road Map” is too
much just the
“same old, same
old” to lead to a
solution.*

it basis. Those who accepted it could count on the support and assistance of the U.N. and the sponsoring powers; those who rejected it would forgo further economic, political or security support.

The recent convening of the Quartet (the U.S., the European Union, the U.N. and Russia) was a constructive step in that it widened participation in the process and thus the sources of encouragement and pressure on both sides. But the so-called “Road Map” is too much just the “same old, same old” to lead to a solution. It is too vague in its details and too general as to its end result, leaving too much to the two parties to fight out between themselves, even with help and encouragement from Quartet members.

Accordingly, the Quartet should stop pussyfooting around and present the sides with a clearly defined outcome. Such an outcome could, in my judgment, be acceptable to the mainstream in both Israel and

Palestine if firmly presented in the name of the international community. A clear picture of what is expected to lie at the end of the tunnel would help the parties avoid bogging down in the intricacies of who does what, when, and in what order. Of course, the extremist Israelis of the far right and the settlers’ lobby would scream bloody murder, as would Palestinians of the Hamas persuasion.

However, it is also clear that these groups are a minority on both sides, although each has demonstrated enough political heft to impede development of a settlement between the parties themselves. Furthermore, the imbalance of power between the parties is too great to make negotiations other than a conversation between drastically unequal players: F-16s, tanks, bulldozers and helicopters vs. rocks, rifles, suicide bombers and a ruined infrastructure.

The situation has become more difficult since 1967 due largely to the Israeli settlement policy of “creating facts on the ground.” (When Henry Kissinger once complained to Golda Meir about settlements and the obstacles they present to peacemaking, she reportedly answered, “Henry, why do you think we put them there?”) A similar obstacle is the claim that the Occupied Territories are not “occupied” but only “disputed,” which flies in the face of U.N. Resolution 242’s reference to territories “occupied in the recent conflict.” It also violates the



provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which makes deliberately changing the demographics of an occupied area by an occupying power illegal under international law — a view clearly confirmed by the State Department's legal authorities in 1978.

The Way Ahead

I believe the path I advocated in my address to the Royal Defence College in 1967 continues to be valid, and that the intervening history of the conflict during the past decade, from the Oslo Accords to the Road Map, supports the contention that a more definitive outside intervention is indispensable to a settlement. As I said then, such a settlement should consist of the following six elements:

1. Israel must withdraw fully from the West Bank and Gaza to the 1967 Green Line. Any border rectifications must be mutually agreed and any territory retained by Israel should be balanced by territory of equal area and value transferred to the Palestinians.

2. Palestine would be a demilitarized state, and a major international economic reconstruction program that will give Palestinians a stake in a reordered Middle East would be initiated. The Israeli contribution could be considered partial compensation for its confiscation of property of Palestinians who were expelled or fled the conflict in 1948 and thereafter.

3. Jerusalem must be a shared capital. Israel's unilateral and unrecognized 1967 annexation and expansion of the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem would be annulled. Water resources should be equitably shared, and Palestine would control its own aquifers.

***Leaving Israel and
Palestine to proceed on
their own guarantees the
peace process remains
only that: a process, with
peace remaining an
ever-receding goal.***

4. The Palestinian "right of return" should be limited to no more than a reasonably small number (e.g., 50,000) based on family reunification considerations.

5. An international peacekeeping force should be installed as a buffer at the border until both sides agree its presence is no longer necessary or desirable.

6. The settlement and the security of each party would be "guaranteed" by the U.N. and the sponsoring powers, which should include the United States and major Arab neighbors.

To these, a seventh point must be added today: Israeli settlers electing to remain in Palestine should do so as Palestinian citizens, just as Arabs who remained in Israel after 1948 have become Israeli citizens. On both sides these minorities should enjoy full rights of citizenship.

I believe anything less than this will not fly; neither will anything more.

There is no doubt that these provisions would be equally unpalatable to extremists on either side, but I

also believe they would be greeted with relief and support by the mainstream majorities of both countries. Since, unfortunately, extremists either control the government, or are disproportionately influential, on both sides, the suggestion that such a proposition should be put to popular referenda may have merit. But until the international community puts forward a clear view of an equitable final settlement, the political dynamics of the Middle East will just lead the Road Map to the fate of all its predecessor efforts.

Active leadership is urgent. We cannot continue to hide behind ambiguity, letting each side proceed with almost diametrically opposed interpretations and understandings of the vague end-point provisions of the Road Map. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon implies returning no more than 40 percent of the Occupied Territories, with such circumscribed authority as to make Palestine a collection of Bantustans. (Interestingly, the most eloquent critics of this vision are themselves Israelis.) What the Likud leadership thinks of as a Palestinian "state" is far removed from what Palestinians seek, yet we continue to obscure the differences in a fog of language. We must confront the differences, and the Quartet must declare its position firmly. This is politically difficult, but leadership consists of facing up to the "tough decisions" politicians so love to talk about making.

In the meantime, neither side is willing or able to take the first small steps while so much confusion is left about what they are leading to. Paradoxically, even the very process of "negotiation" is increasing mutual distrust and producing crisis after crisis. We have seen this repeatedly in recent weeks, with the resignation of Palestine Prime Minister Abu Mazen, the intensified Israeli campaign against Arafat, the continuation of

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SPEAKING OUT



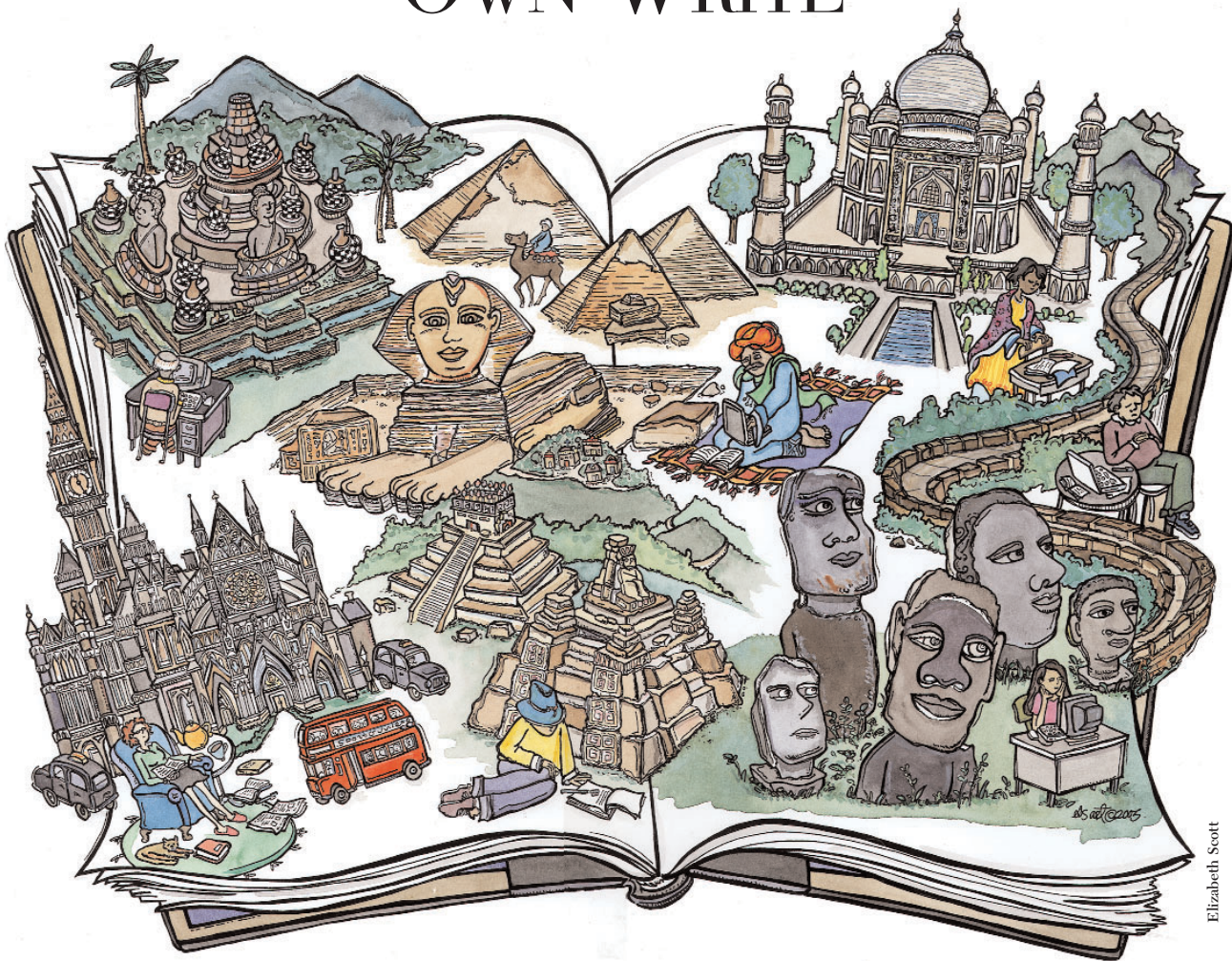
A clear picture of what is expected would help the parties avoid bogging down in the intricacies of who does what, when, and in what order.

settlement expansion and wall-building and the resumption of suicide bombings. Since this issue is so crucial to other problems like the war on terrorism and resolution of the situation in Iraq, we cannot be indifferent to its continuing implications for American security. Having served as ambassador to two Muslim countries, I have seen first-hand how deeply the festering Palestinian-Israeli problem burns into the Muslim psyche and colors its view of the United States.

We have already wasted 35 years while thousands have been killed and despair has clouded the future of both communities. ■

Ambassador Ronald Spiers was a Foreign Service officer from 1955 to 1989, serving as minister in London, ambassador to the Bahamas, Turkey and Pakistan, assistant secretary for political-military affairs and for intelligence and research, and under secretary for management. Following retirement from the Service, he served as U.N. under secretary-general for political affairs from 1989 to 1992. He writes and lectures on foreign affairs and is a fellow of the American Academy of Diplomacy.

IN THEIR OWN WRITE



Elizabeth Scott

The *Foreign Service Journal* is pleased to present our annual Foreign Service authors roundup as a cover story again, this year in November to allow plenty of time for holiday orders. Here is an annotated list of some of the volumes written or edited by Foreign Service personnel and family members, past and present, in 2002 and 2003.

This year's selection contains a lively history and biography section, thoughtful studies of policies and issues, and as many as 10 diverse memoirs of Foreign Service life — as well as several helpful “how tos” for adapting to the nomadic lifestyle, four novels, and new culinary and children's books sections. As last year, a significant portion of our titles are self-published.

Our primary purpose in compiling this list is to celebrate the wealth of literary talent within the Foreign Service community, and to give our readers the opportunity to support colleagues by sampling their wares. Each entry contains

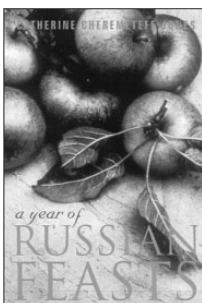
full publication data along with a short commentary.

While many of these books are available from bookstores and other sources, we encourage our readers to use the link to Amazon.com from the AFSA Web site to order your selections. We have created a new Bookstore in the AFSA Marketplace (see p. 36 for instructions). For books that cannot be ordered through Amazon.com, we have provided the necessary contact information.

But enough crass commercialism. On to the books!

— Susan Maitra, Associate Editor

CULINARY AFFAIRS



A Year of Russian Feasts

Catherine Cheremeteff Jones, Jellyroll Press, 2002, \$16.95, paperback, 192 pages.

This is a culinary journey into the heart and hearth of Russia undertaken during the exciting and turbulent years from 1991 to 1994. “Communism was on the verge of collapse and Yeltsin was trying desperately to convince his fellow citizens that democracy was the path of the future,” the author explains in her introduction. “Gorbachev’s ideas of glasnost and perestroika, loosely defined as openness and restructuring, did in fact create a more accessible Russia, one that allowed me to make Russian friends, enter Russian homes, and explore Russian traditions and culture — all things that would have been difficult, if not impossible, under Communism.”

The result is an enjoyable and informative read featuring 40 of the best recipes from the author’s Russian collection, thoughtfully adapted for American kitchens. The recipes were gleaned from the yellowing pages of notebooks of her Russian friends, from cooks whose memory is their only guide, and from the kitchens of her grandmother and mother (a descendant of the Sheremetev clan of the Romanov dynasty) — and each one comes with a good story.

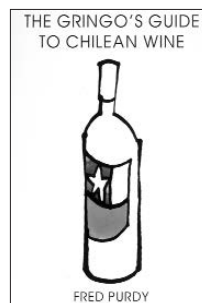
Catherine Cheremeteff Jones was born in India and traveled the world with her father, retired Ambassador Brandon Grove Jr. Today she travels the world with her FSO husband Paul Jones, whom she met in Moscow, and their two children.

Eating for Pregnancy: An Essential Guide to Nutrition with Recipes for the Whole Family

Catherine Jones, with Rose Ann Hudson, R.D., L.D., Marlowe & Company, 2003, \$16.95, paperback, 332 pages.

“Delicately balancing optimum and unnecessary weight gain ... simple yet flavorful dishes ... an overwhelming amount of information,” is what *Publishers Weekly* had to say about this book. An excellent culinary guide, it is chock-full of reliable and up-to-date information on the special nutrition needs and issues of pregnancy. And it contains more than 120 easy-to-prepare recipes for breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as tasty and healthy snacks and treats for the whole family — picky young children included. A chapter on vegetarian delights is an added bonus. Each recipe is accompanied by clear information on its nutritional value, preparation and storage tips, and menu suggestions. An appendix contains weight-gain charts, lists of food sources for all the essential nutrients, and food cleaning, handling and safety tips.

Essential for the pregnant woman, this book is a valuable addition to anyone’s kitchen. Catherine Jones, also the author of *A Year of Russian Feasts*, is a graduate of La Varenne Culinary School in France, and worked for the late Jean-Louis Palladin. Rose Ann Hudson is a perinatal nutritionist who served on the staff of the Columbia Hospital for Women in Washington, D.C., for 12 years.



The Gringo’s Guide to Chilean Wine

Fred Purdy, Impresos Offset Bellavista Ltda., 2003, 5th edition, \$8, paperback, 205 pages.

This new, fifth and final edition of “a brief, irreverent and opinionated tour of the wines of Chile” has the distinction of offering detailed sketches of more individual Chilean wineries and winemakers than any other source — including the glossy and expensive *Guia de Vinos de Chile*, top competitor to the *Gringo’s Guide*. The *Guide* also pioneered with the inclusion of a section on where to find wines, and in spreading understanding and appreciation of the once esoteric but now world-famous wines of Chile in, as author Fred Purdy puts it, “the language of

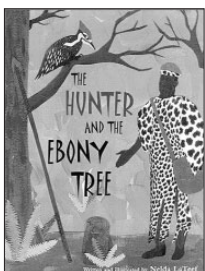
F O C U S

Shakespeare and the Beatles.”

When Purdy, a career FSO who retired in 1987, began studying Chilean wine seriously in 1970, there was no easy way to learn about the subject other than by word-of-mouth. Purdy's self-education in Chilean wine was an avocation and labor of love. Twenty-five years later he decided he would have to write the book he was still looking for, and the first edition of the *Gringo's Guide* was born. The book is an engaging and very practical introduction to the world of wine, its history, geography, making and appreciation. “Trying and Buying Chilean Wine — and Where to Find It” is a key chapter that is complemented by a chapter on exports and the availability of Chilean wine in the U.S.

What the *Gringo's Guide* lacks in polish, it more than makes up for in personality and basic information about wine in general and Chilean wine in particular. To purchase the book, contact the author by e-mail: fredpurdychile@yahoo.com, or write to 211 Briarcliff Road, Harrisburg PA 17104.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN



The Hunter and the Ebony Tree
Nelda LaTeef, Moon Mountain
Publishing, 2002, \$15.95,
hardcover, 30 pages.

In this authentic African folk tale geared to 5-to-9-year-olds, a hunter must overcome a daunting challenge before he can marry the girl he loves. It will take more than mere strength — the girl has made sure of that! The hunter will need brains, a good plan, loyal friends and excellent archery skills. Given its slightly advanced vocabulary, this strikingly illustrated book is ideal for parents to read aloud to their children.

Author and illustrator Nelda LaTeef, the daughter of a Foreign Service officer, was born in Tunis and spent the first 18 years of her life overseas. The seed for this, her first children's book, was planted under an acacia tree in Niger where Ms. LaTeef encountered the village griot, or storyteller, during a stint of fieldwork for an anthropology course at Harvard University. The book received the Storytelling World Honors Award in 2003, and has also been published in Italian. A Korean-language edition is planned.

Ms. LaTeef is the author of *Working Women for the 21st Century: Fifty Women Reveal Their Pathways to Success*, a book selected by the New York Public Library as recommended reading for young adults. She is planning three more books based on African folk tales, and another eight books for children.

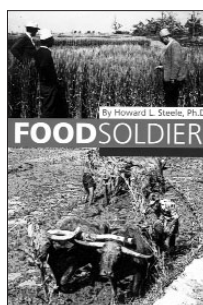


Zoe
Calvin Watlington,
Ebonylaw Publishing,
2002, \$9.95, paperback,
28 pages.

Tolerance is good but embracing differences is even better! That is the message of this happy book for children between the ages of 4 and 7, which introduces the concept of diversity to children in terms that they can understand. Zoe is a little girl with a “chocolate” dad and a “vanilla” mom who moves to a new location to begin kindergarten. In the process, she meets many new people and addresses the differences in skin colors among her classmates and in her own family.

Author Calvin Watlington, a member of the Foreign Service since 1998, is a former teacher and an attorney with a strong interest in children's rights issues. His motivation in writing *Zoe* was the desire to humanize the statistics on biracial and multicultural families, and, in particular, to give the children of these families a friend to identify with. Mr. Watlington is currently posted in Tegucigalpa with his partner Danielle Roziewski, an education consultant, and two young children. He worked with two Nicaraguan artists to illustrate *Zoe*, his first children's book.

MEMOIRS OF FOREIGN SERVICE LIFE



Food Soldier
Howard L. Steele, Ph.D., Ravens-
Yard Publishing, Ltd., 2002,
\$17.95, paperback, 277 pages.

A native of Pennsylvania with an interest in subsistence agriculture and agriculturalists since childhood, Howard Steele was a professor of agricultural economics before joining the Foreign Agricultural Service in 1971. Over a 34-year career he served in 43 countries on six

F O C U S

continents, and survived gun-toting Bolivian revolutionaries, Viet Cong mortar and rifle fire, deadly anarchy in Sri Lanka, a shakedown by Tanzanian police, rodent-sized cockroaches in Taiwan and sheep's-eye stew in Arabia.

Steele shows us poverty and prosperity, fear and fun, mistakes, corruption, incompetence, language and cultural glitches ... and some developmental successes. As Steele advanced from mid-level technician to senior-rank FSO, he found his own government and its bureaucracy at times as challenging to navigate as the dozens of overseas regimes and their national cultures. Throughout, the writing is lucid and light-hearted, but rich in on-the-scene detail and full of information and penetrating observations.

This memoir is a great read for travel buffs, but at the same time provides insight and perspective for students of international development as well as for public or private sector employees heading for an overseas tour.



Family Travels in India

Alice Trembour, Monsoon House, 2002, \$12.95, paperback, 169 pages.

This is a gem of a book. The daughter of a retired USIA officer, Alice Trembour spent a memorable two years, from age 8 to 10, in Calcutta; 35 years later, she returned to India with her family, to the Indian Institute of Ahmedabad, where her husband was a visiting professor for one year. This is the story of that year, from the point when all three children (ages 12, 9 and 7) refuse to consider the move, to their visit to Mahatma Gandhi's ashram just before returning to the U.S. Based on Trembour's letters home, the book chronicles the day-to-day experiences and challenges the family faced and the way each family member was affected.

The unassuming title does not convey the richness



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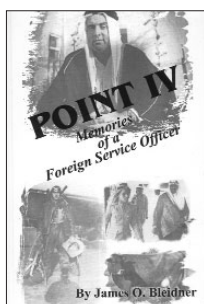
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of this book. It is an excellent guide for Western families heading for South Asia, whether for a stay of several weeks or for a longer-term visit. The rich opportunities for travel with children are well illustrated, and the questions and concerns of parents taking their families to distant cultural venues are sensitively addressed. The preparations, both material and otherwise, that wise parents make to ensure their children's experience is the best possible are also revealed.

Last, but by no means least, the author's keen insight and exceptional prose make *Family Travels in India* a delight to read.



Point IV: Memories of a Foreign Service Officer

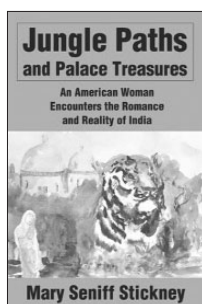
James O. Bleidner, Power of One Publishing, 2002, \$24.95, paperback, 204 pages.

James Bleidner joined the Foreign Service in 1956, after duty with an Air Force fighter squadron during World War II and several years managing a modern dairy farm for ARAMCO in Saudi Arabia. Bleidner, an agricultural scientist, recounts his experiences working to bring to fruition the "Point Four" vision of making the benefits of American science and industrial progress available to underdeveloped countries.

His narrative takes us from an assignment with the then-International Cooperation Administration developing a livestock-raising and meat producing complex in the Bolivian highlands, to a tour as acting chief of the Agriculture and Rural Development Division of USAID in Colombia, and on to Chile, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Sudan, and finally retirement in Florida. Insights into South American politics, traditions and problems of development are interspersed with family anecdotes and post-retirement adventures.

The other half of this story can be found in *Alligators On My Roof* (Vintage Books, 2002), a memoir by Mr. Bleidner's late wife Marjory that was featured in these pages last year.

To purchase this book, contact the author by e-mail: bleijob@aol.com, or at 708 Leah Jean Lane, Winter Haven FL 33884-3198.

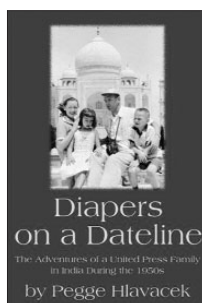


Jungle Paths and Palace Treasures: An American Woman Encounters the Romance and Reality of India

Mary Seniff Stickney, Writer's Showcase, 2001, \$18.95, paperback, 347 pages.

When Mary Stickney's agronomist husband was offered a Foreign Service position, they and their four children headed to India, at the beginning of that country's "Green Revolution," with great anticipation. They found the adventure of a lifetime, told here in lively, highly readable detail. There were moments of despair, moments of joy and moments of terror. They traveled thousands of miles throughout the heart of India, sometimes on tracks so impassable they had to park the jeep and walk through the jungle. As they encountered this often-baffling land, they learned from their experiences and from the many individuals they came to know and love.

This book will appeal to a wide audience, both young and old, travel-buff and armchair globetrotter. But it is a special treat for India hands, as agricultural engineer Donald James Minehart notes in his foreword: "Mary Stickney has taken the time to explore India in a manner that many of us old India hands can only admire. ... You may not understand India when you've read the book, but you will understand why she was transfixed by the country and its people."



Diapers on a Dateline: The Adventures of a United Press Family in India During the 1950s

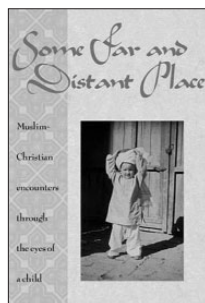
Pegge Hlavacek, Writers Club Press, 2002, \$23.95, paperback, 400 pages.

In 1951, Pegge McKiernan was a young widow working as a vice consul in Lahore. Pegge's first husband, a CIA agent, had been killed by Tibetan border guards three years earlier as he fled from the Chinese communist advance in Sinkiang, and her twin toddlers were back home with grandparents. That was when she met and, a year later, married John Hlavacek, United Press Bureau Chief for India and Pakistan. There her story begins.

This book is not a story of India, so much as the

account of a family's experience there, Pegge Hlavacek is careful to state in her introduction. Still, while this unusual family's experience in Bombay and New Delhi in the 1950s is enjoyable as a personal story, it also contains much rich detail on India and things Indian during that country's first two decades as an independent nation. The author traveled widely in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka (then Ceylon), and met luminaries such as Prime Minister Nehru and his daughter Indira. The Hlavaceks also had a unique relationship with Tenzing Norgay, the conqueror of Mount Everest, and his family that is recorded in the book.

The narrative is written in a breezy, chatty, very personable style, which carries the reader along happily. An adventurous newspaper reporter before she became a vice consul, the author wrote the book in 1960; four decades later her husband discovered the unpublished manuscript in a box in the attic of their home in Omaha, Neb.



Some Far and Distant Place

Jonathan S. Addleton, University of Georgia Press, 2002, \$19.95, paperback, 232 pages.

Released for the first time in paperback, this memoir by USAID Mission to Mongolia Director Jonathan Addleton offers a unique perspective on the Muslim-Christian interaction that has come to center stage in today's world.

Born in Muree, a small hill station in Pakistan overlooking Kashmir, of Baptist missionary parents from rural Georgia, the author grew up at the intersection of different religions, races, classes and cultures. His vivid portrayal of his experiences coming of age in the 1960s in a faraway land provide many insights into the wonder of a child's world, into both Christianity and Islam, and into the broader cultural ethos of Pakistan as well. "Splendid reminiscences. ... His memories project a deeply moving warmth and kindness," says *Library Journal*.

A Foreign Service officer for nearly two decades, Addleton has served in Pakistan, Yemen, Jordan, South Africa and Kazakhstan. His "Reflections on the Church Attack in Islamabad" appeared in the *Foreign Service Journal* last November.



Tales of an American Culture Culture

Bill McGuire, iUniverse, Inc., 2003, \$16.95, paperback, 240 pages.

Much has been written about relations between the governments of the United States and the former Soviet Union. But what about people-to-people contact between the two countries during the Cold War? How were young, Russian-speaking Americans treated in the Soviet Union? Why did Soviet citizens stand for hours in the cold, rain and snow to visit American cultural exhibitions? What happened when a Soviet delegation met with the John Birch Society in Iowa? What caused the Voice of America to stop hiring Russian-speaking Americans and replace them with recent Soviet emigrés? Author Bill McGuire's narrative is based on his experiences in the USSR and in the U.S.

McGuire, a native of Pennsylvania, studied Russian at Georgetown University. He worked on three USIA-sponsored exhibits in the Soviet Union and toured both the U.S. and USSR with high-level American and Soviet delegations. He spent 17 years as a writer, announcer and producer in the Russian Service of the Voice of America, and for the next 10 years was a program development officer at USIA's Office of Teleconferencing.

Creative Recollection of a Foreign Service Life

Mary Cameron Kilgour, 2003, \$10.00, paperback, 62 pages.

This volume is a compilation of previously published short stories and reflections by retired USAID officer Mary Cameron Kilgour. The nine finely wrought pieces convey the humor, irony, injustice and fortitude in characters and situations the author encountered in the Philippines, Pakistan, Latin America and Bangladesh during a long career in USAID and, before that, as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Regular readers of the *FSJ* will recognize several of the pieces, as five were first published here. One appeared in AFSA's recent *Inside a U.S. Embassy*, and the remaining three were published in literary journals.

Kilgour retired from USAID after serving 19 years in six developing countries and 10 years in Washington. She taught part-time at Georgetown University and the University of Florida, consulted and then took up cre-

F O C U S

ative writing. She lives in Gainesville, Fla.

Order the book directly from the author at 4442 SW 85th Way, Gainesville FL 32608.

Serving America Abroad: Real-Life Adventures of American Diplomatic Families Overseas

Edited by Irwin Rubenstein, Xlibris Books, 2003, \$20.00, paperback, 335 pages.

This is a collection of more than 100 stories written by members of the Foreign Service Retirees Association of Florida. They worked as secretaries, attachés, technicians, consuls, ministers, ambassadors and more, with their spouses and families in embassies and consulates in more than 150 countries. These are true stories of their varied and always interesting lives.

From disparate groups of retirees and their spouses who gathered informally for food and camaraderie in various parts of Florida in the 1960s, the FSRA was established as an organization in 1982. Now it is a cohesive, 800-member institution that works to educate Americans on foreign policy matters.

Living Abroad with Uncle Sam

Helen Weinland, 1st Books, 2003, \$13.95, paperback, 288 pages.

This is a memoir of Helen Weinland's 20 years' service as a "grunt" in the foreign policy trenches. As a mid-level officer alternating between European and African posts, Weinland was fortunate to be on the scene at interesting times. She was in Prague, for instance, at the time Czech authorities relaxed slightly on contacts between dissidents and foreign diplomats, allowing her to host Charter 77 leaders like Vaclav Havel at her video evenings.

But this is not merely a book about public figures and events. It is about the texture of life for a particular American Foreign Service officer who was female and single. She talks about constant household moves, medical care and security, and has definite opinions about visitors to post and the way the State Department treats its employees.

A graduate of Mount Holyoke College, Weinland was a history professor before joining the Foreign

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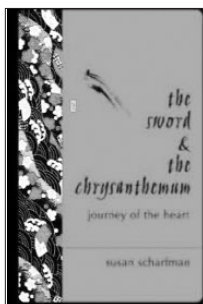
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Service in 1974. She served in Zurich, Lagos, Prague, Kigali, Berlin, Kaduna and Washington. The book can be ordered from <http://www.1stbooks.com>.

NOVELS

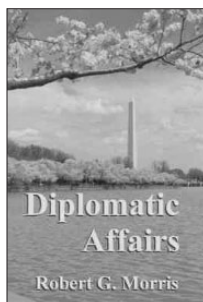


The Sword and the Chrysanthemum: Journey of the Heart

Susan Scharfman, 1st Books Library, 2003, \$12.50/paperback, \$4.95/e-book, 298 pages.

In 17th-century Japan, a Eurasian poet-fisherman of mixed-blood parentage, Arashi, and a wily shogun's unconventional daughter, Michiko, are two unlikely lovers in a world defined by class, blood and steel. Their tightly interwoven destinies span two continents and a life-altering inner journey in an epic story told with passion and rich detail. In the end, Michiko must choose between the two men she adores — her father Masakado, at whose side she learned court politics and foreign affairs, and her lover. And Arashi must confront a martial tradition the shogun cannot dishonor.

This is retired Foreign Service officer Susan Scharfman's first work of fiction. She worked for CBS Television News before joining the State Department, where she was assigned to The Hague, Brussels and Tokyo, and to USAID missions in Nairobi, Addis Ababa, Saigon and Rabat. Currently living in New Jersey, Scharfman is a free-lance writer.

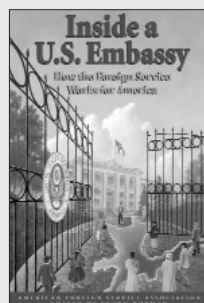


Diplomatic Affairs

Robert G. Morris, Denlinger's Publishers, Ltd., 2002, \$6.95/e-book, \$9.50/PC disk, \$19.50/paperback, 275 pages.

In retired FSO Robert Morris' third novel, diplomats posted in the fictional South American nation of Colonia — the U.S. ambassador, the DCM and the science attaché, a "Johnny-come-lately" to the Service — are called to Washington to promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy through the new Institute for Hemispheric Cooperation.

The story proceeds through all the nitty-gritty, often



Inside a U.S. Embassy: How the Foreign Service Works for America

Edited by Shawn Dorman, American Foreign Service Association, 2003, \$12.95, paperback, 135 pages.

This is a unique and timely book. It is the most informative account of the practice of American diplomacy, the only one to combine detailed job descriptions of the work done at embassies around the world by diplomats and specialists of the Foreign Service with a personal look into their lives.

The book contains profiles of 23 positions in a typical embassy and the individuals who hold them in embassies around the world, "day-in-the-life" journals from embassy staff around the world, and "Tales from the Field." Photos and maps accompany the text.

Editor Shawn Dorman drew on her own Foreign Service experience to make this a real-life, no-nonsense, true "insider" book. A Foreign Service political officer from 1993 until 2000, when she resigned and joined the staff of the *Foreign Service Journal*, Dorman served in Bishkek, Jakarta and the State Department Operations Center in Washington, D.C. Before joining the Foreign Service, she worked for the State Department in Moscow and St. Petersburg, and also taught English in Northeastern China. She has a B.A. from Cornell and an M.A. from Georgetown.

spicy and sometimes down and dirty twists and turns of their efforts. In the end, they are successful with Mexico, Cuba and the Soviet Union, but fail to get their own country to sign on to a treaty of cooperation. Though it has all the intrigue of a spy thriller, the story is about ordinary Foreign Service folk — appointees, officers and specialists — and gives a straightforward look into their world.

Morris has a Ph.D. degree in physics and joined the Foreign Service after working as a scientist. He has served in Washington, France, Germany, Argentina and Spain, and is the author of a recent monograph *Science and Technology in United States Foreign*

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Affairs. For more information and to order the book go to <http://www.thebookden.com>.

Hard Sleeper: A Novel of Old and New China

Jennifer Scheel Bushman and Jean Artley Szymanski, Lost Coast Press, 2003, \$24.95, hardcover, 253 pages.

"A spellbinding tale weaving the power of an indomitable woman through some of the most tumultuous times in 20th century China ... it is one of those rare books that you simply hate to finish." That is what former U.S. Ambassador to China J. Stapleton Roy says about this novel that tells the story of Jane McPherson, the daughter of an American missionary couple whose parents are brutally murdered in 1936. Jane and her brother are sent to live with lifelong family friends in Shanghai, where Jane confronts long-buried family secrets, unfulfilled romance and, finally, expulsion from her beloved country. Now elderly, Jane has returned to China to reunite with the daughter she hasn't seen in more than 60 years, and during a cross-country train ride

to Beijing unravels the mystery of her parents' murder.

The story of its writing is as compelling as the book itself. FSO Jean Szymanski was serving as first secretary in the political section at Embassy Beijing in 1994 when she was diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer. Szymanski and her daughter Jennifer Scheel Bushman, who both nurtured a passion for travel, reading and writing, decided to share their last months together writing. *Hard Sleeper* is the first of the two manuscripts they completed.

Jean Szymanski died in 1998, and Jennifer, with the help of her stepfather former FSO Christopher Szymanski, pushed the book through to publication as a tribute to her mother's courageous fight for life.

The Trap: An International Thriller

Fritz Galt, Sigma Books, 2003, \$10.95, paperback, 212 pages.

A fast-paced thriller that hops from Central Asia to the Middle East to Europe and the U.S., this new novel by

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FS family member Fritz Galt has a direct tie-in to our national war on terrorism. American agents must track down nuclear terrorists and defuse their bomb. But is our national security apparatus up to the task? One man, Army commando George Ferrar, is hot on the conspirators' trail, but the Pentagon, CIA, FBI and the woman he loves all believe that *he* is a terrorist! The author takes advantage of his unique perspective — seeing life from within the government, observing the impact of American policies abroad and knowing the international locations in detail and first-hand — to craft an adventure story that is both timely and terrifying.

Galt, who began writing novels at age 15, has lived much of his life abroad. As the spouse of a career FSO, he has accompanied his wife and their two children to postings in Yugoslavia, Taiwan, India and China.

He writes humorous pieces for *The Sun*, a worldwide newsletter for and about Foreign Service spouses, and co-publishes *Tales from a Small Planet*, a webzine for people living abroad. This is his fifth spy novel.

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

Securing American Independence: John Jay and the French Alliance

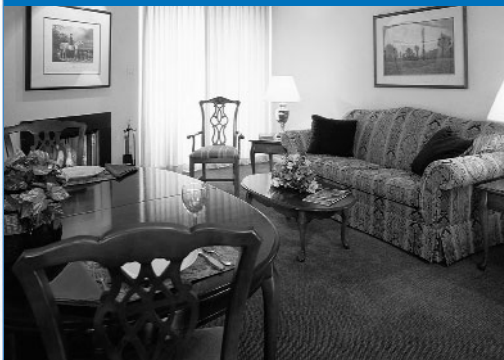
Frank W. Brecher, Praeger Publishers, 2003, \$69.95, hardcover, 327 pages.

Retired FSO Frank Brecher explores the controversial diplomacy by which the United States separately brought to a de facto close its War of Independence against the British, leaving its main ally, France, in the lurch. He focuses on the two principal, ostensibly allied peace negotiators, the young New York attorney John Jay and the middle-aged French diplomat Count de Vergennes. The lessons they learned as a result of the crucible through which they had to pass before their very personal — and historic — encounter in France affected the negotiating strategies they adopted and the way the war ended.

This is the second volume in the author's trilogy on early Franco-American relations; the first, *Losing A*

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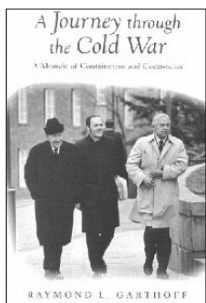
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Continent: France's North American Policy, 1753-1763, was published in 1998. Mr. Brecher is completing the final volume, *Negotiating the Louisiana Purchase: Robert Livingston's Mission to Paris, 1801-1804*.



**A Journey through the Cold War:
A Memoir of Containment and
Coexistence**

Raymond L. Garthoff, *Brookings Institution Press, 2001, \$25.00, paperback, 416 pages.*

In this weighty memoir, Raymond Garthoff chronicles the events of the Cold War as he saw them from the inside of policy-making circles. He has already published several notable books on aspects of the Cold War, including *The Great Transition: American-Soviet Relations and the end of the Cold War* (Brookings, 1994), *Détente and Confrontation:*

American-Soviet Relations from Nixon to Reagan (Brookings, 1985, revised 1994), and *Reflections on the Cuban Missile Crisis* (Brookings, 1987, revised 1989). Garthoff penned this memoir to, as he writes in the preface, “provide the basis for a fuller explication ... interesting new sidelights on history, and perhaps also insights into broader issues.” Scrupulous reporting and rigorous analysis make this a fascinating and valuable resource on the history of the Cold War.

Garthoff’s intellectually formative years coincided with the earliest days of the Cold War, and during his 40-year career, he participated in some of the most important policy-making of the 20th century. Following pioneering research on Soviet military affairs at the Rand Corporation in the late 1950s, and a four-year stint at the CIA, he joined the State Department. There he worked on the Cuban missile crisis and the SALT talks. He also served as ambassador to Bulgaria from 1977 to 1979. After retiring from the Foreign Service, he joined the Brookings Institution.

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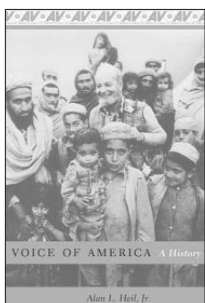
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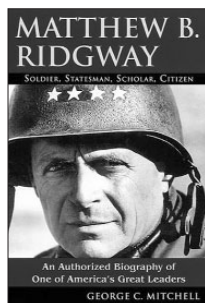
Voice of America: A History

Alan L. Heil Jr., *Columbia University Press*, 2003, \$37.50, hardcover, 540 pages.

The first comprehensive history of the Voice of America since the mid-1980s, this book tells the inside story of an organization that is known to millions around the world but is familiar to only a handful of Americans. An institution that stands, as former VOA director John Chancellor once said, “at the crossroads of journalism and diplomacy,” VOA is the nation’s largest publicly funded broadcasting network. It reaches more than 90 million people in over 50 languages through radio, the Internet and some 1,500 affiliated radio and television stations around the globe.

This account of VOA’s history opens with a glimpse of how VOA covered the dramatic developments in China during the spring of 1989, and then steps back for a chronological look from the agency’s beginning. With transcripts of radio broadcasts and personal anecdotes, the author shows readers many of the greatest events of the past 60 years. The book is fascinating and highly readable.

Alan L. Heil Jr. worked for VOA from 1962 until he retired in 1998, holding various positions including foreign correspondent, chief of news and current affairs and deputy director of programs.



Matthew B. Ridgway: Soldier, Statesman, Scholar, Citizen

George C. Mitchell, *Stackpole Books*, 2002, \$15.95, paperback, 231 pages.

“Never one to trumpet his own accomplishments, and often working in the shadow of great generals such as Patton, MacArthur, Eisenhower, and Marshall, Ridgway was content to make a difference and let his deeds do the talking. As a result little has been written about this man and his achievements,” states George Mitchell in the foreword to his biography of one of America’s great leaders.

Mitchell’s carefully written account sets forth Ridgway’s accomplishments, setbacks and contributions to his family, the U.S., and the world at large. The

book is divided into four parts — soldier, statesman, scholar, and citizen — to focus on the complex parts that came together to make up this extraordinary man. Ridgway commanded the 82nd Airborne Division in the invasion in Europe, succeeded MacArthur in Korea, was the U.S. delegate to the U.N., served as supreme commander of the Far East, and succeeded Eisenhower as supreme commander in Europe, and was counselor to four presidents.

Presently an international consultant and mediator and adjunct professor at Point Park College in Pittsburgh, Pa., career FSO George Mitchell had the opportunity to work with General Ridgway while directing the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh and serving as president of the National Council of World Affairs Organizations. Their friendship grew, and with it Ridgway’s trust in Mitchell to write his biography, a privilege he had denied several others.



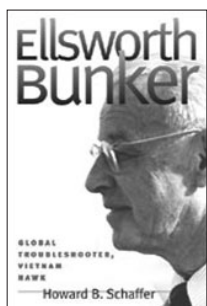
Pen of Fire: John Moncure Daniel

Peter Bridges, *Kent State University Press*, 2002, \$28.00, hardcover, 284 pages.

During his short and stormy life, John Moncure Daniel served as a U.S. diplomat, journalist and Confederate officer. Strongly pro-slavery, fiercely loyal to the Confederacy, and an outspoken opponent of Jefferson Davis, Daniel made many enemies and fought at least nine duels. This is the first full-length biography of the outspoken editor of the *Richmond Examiner*, who died in Richmond in March 1865, at age 39, days before Union troops took the city.

Author Peter Bridges entered the Foreign Service in 1957 and served in Panama, Moscow, Prague, Rome, Mogadishu and Washington. He was ambassador to Somalia from 1984 to 1986. Since retirement he has served as executive director of the Una Chapman Cox Foundation, manager for international affairs of Shell Oil Company and the resident representative of the European Bank for Reconstruction & Development in Prague. He has published numerous articles, including several in the *FSJ*, and one previous book, *Safirka: An American Envoy* (2000).

Pen of Fire has been nominated for the American Academy of Diplomacy’s 2003 Book Award.

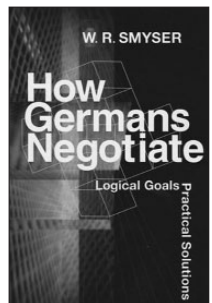


Ellsworth Bunker: Global Troubleshooter, Vietnam Hawk
Howard B. Schaffer, University of North Carolina Press, 2003, \$34.95, hardcover, 365 pages.

This is the first biography of Ellsworth Bunker (1894-1984), one of America's foremost post-World War II diplomats, and an important addition to recent American history. A successful business executive and lobbyist before his career in international affairs, Ellsworth Bunker served seven U.S. presidents as ambassador to Argentina, Italy, India, Nepal and Vietnam, and on special negotiating missions. A well-known "hawk" on Vietnam, he helped shape U.S. policy there, and subsequently helped reshape U.S. policy on the Panama Canal.

Howard B. Schaffer is director of studies at the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy at Georgetown University. The book is part of the ADST-DACOR Diplomats and Diplomacy Series. (See article on p. 37 for excerpts from the book.)

POLICY STUDIES AND ISSUES



How Germans Negotiate: Logical Goals, Practical Solutions
W. R. Smyser, United States Institute of Peace Press, 2003, \$17.50, paperback, 246 pages.

Drawing on interviews with European and American negotiators and his own considerable experience, W.R. Smyser offers diplomats and businesspeople an incisive portrait of their German counterparts that is especially relevant in this period of rocky transatlantic relations. *How Germans Negotiate* begins with an exploration of the roots of contemporary German negotiating behavior and goes on to identify the stages through which negotiations typically pass, using examples from the past 50 years.

A separate chapter focuses on business and economic negotiations, which can be quite different from diplomatic encounters. In reviewing a number of recent cases, including discussions on global monetary policy and the Daimler-Chrysler talks, Smyser discerns

a tension between a traditional "old" style and a more predatory "new" style. The book's conclusion lays out basic strategies and tactical pointers, and explains how to avoid mistakes.

A retired FSO, Smyser writes and lectures on German and European politics, diplomacy and economics. He teaches at Georgetown University and is a consultant to American and European business firms and foundations. Smyser was involved in laying the groundwork for the opening to China in 1971, and became assistant secretary of State for refugee programs in 1980. He then joined the U.N. as assistant secretary-general and as deputy U.N. high commissioner for refugees. He is the author of *From Yalta to Berlin: The Cold War Struggle over Germany* (2000) and *The German Economy: Colossus at the Crossroads* (1993).

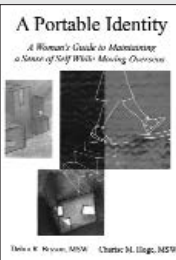


Cultural Exchange and the Cold War: Raising the Iron Curtain
Yale Richmond, Penn State University Press, 2003, \$35.00, hardcover, 249 pages.

Here is proof positive that engagement, not isolation, is the best policy to pursue when we disagree with countries. This new book on U.S.-Soviet relations during the Cold War examines the impact of the exchange programs that brought some 50,000 Soviets to America and an even larger number of Americans to the Soviet Union between 1958 and 1988. Based on interviews with Russian and American participants and the personal experiences of the author and other program administrators, the book shows how these programs raised the Iron Curtain and fostered changes that prepared the way for Gorbachev's glasnost, perestroika and the end of the Cold War.

Yale Richmond, now retired, spent more than 40 years in government service and foundation work, including 30 years as a Foreign Service officer in Germany, Laos, Poland, Austria, the Soviet Union and Washington, D.C. His previous books include *From Nyet to Da: Understanding the Russians* (Penn State Press, 3rd edition, 2002) and *From Da to Yes: Understanding the East Europeans* (Penn State Press, 1995).

“How Tos” for the FS Lifestyle



A Portable Identity: A Woman's Guide to Maintaining a Sense of Self While Moving Overseas
Debra R. Bryson, MSW, and Charise M. Hoge, MSW, A Park Publication, 2003, \$24.95, paperback, 250 pages.

This book by two professional social workers, who met as expatriate wives working as counselors at the Community Services of Bangkok in 1991, is a useful contribution to the growing literature on cross-cultural adaptation. Written to help women manage the changes in identity that occur during a move overseas, the book includes exercises and personal stories in a workbook-type format. The authors developed “the Wheel,” a model a woman can use to take charge of change.

The authors both moved overseas in support of their husbands' careers — Bryson's husband Brad is a former State Department employee, and Hoge's husband Charles is a research physician for the U.S. Army.



A Moveable Marriage: Relocate Your Relationship without Breaking It
Robin Pascoe, Expatriate Press Limited, 2003, \$16.95, paperback, 206 pages.

“This is the first book I've read that really gets to the nitty-gritty of the marital challenges associated with supporting a husband's moveable career,” writes one relocated wife about *A Moveable Marriage*. “Not only does Robin tackle issues most couples and girlfriends wouldn't dare discuss — like sex, money, resentment, career, children, indifference, resignation and even depression — she talks about them with alarming clarity and common sense.” An insightful foreword by a wise couples therapist and a list of helpful books and Web sites are added bonuses.

Pascoe, who accompanied her Foreign Service husband to posts in Asia is now based in Canada. Her popular Web site, *ExpatExpert.com*, provides information, opinion, and humor for families on the move.

Also of Interest:

Parenting Abroad

Ngaire Jehle-Caitcheon, Aletheia Publications, Inc., 2003, \$19.95, paperback, 258 pages.

Raising children is a daunting yet exhilarating challenge anywhere. This book by a veteran expatriate mother is a practical guide to the unique issues that may arise when families embark on a mobile lifestyle, and, in the words of Foreign Service Youth Foundation reviewer Kay Branaman Eakin, is “a welcome contribution to the existing literature, focusing on the concept of a ‘mobile family experience’ and the universality of such a concept.”

Originally from New Zealand, Jehle-Caitcheon has lived abroad for 26 years.

Daughters of Britannia: The Life and Times of Diplomatic Wives

Katie Hickman, Perennial, 2002, \$14.95, paperback, 368 pages.

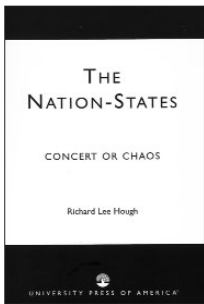
This is a “delightful book,” according to Publishers Weekly. Its Anglocentric subject should not prevent it from reaching its full audience, for it is an entertaining social history of the female side of diplomatic life in the British Foreign Service from the 17th through the 20th centuries. The author, herself the daughter of a diplomat, closely observed her mother's 28 years on the road and also draws on published memoirs, letters, diaries, interviews and personal reminiscences.

Pocket Partner

Compiled by Dennis H. Evers, Mary E. Miller, and Thomas J. Glover, Sequoia Publishing, Inc., 3rd edition 2003, \$9.95, paperback, 672 pages.

This handbook has been brought out in a new edition to meet the needs of diplomats and others who may be targets of terrorist activity. A chapter titled “Terrorism and Countermeasures” is one of the many new features. Despite its U.S. orientation — time zones, for example, are given only for North America — this little book contains a wealth of vital information.

The book can be ordered online at www.thepocketpartner.com.



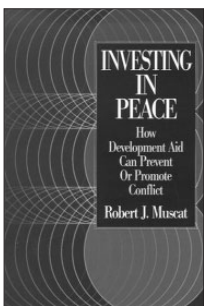
The Nation-States: Concert or Chaos

Richard Lee Hough, University Press of America, 2003, \$25.00, paperback, 154 pages.

This book is a thoughtful and well-argued response to the increasingly insistent predictions of the demise of the nation-state

as the fundamental way political power is organized in our world. The author examines what he terms “the messy, conflictive realities impinging on the nation-state system,” and concludes that the nation-state is not in as bad shape as commentators have portrayed and should be seen as a firm but adaptive nexus in the face of changes that challenge world order.

Richard Hough is a retired USAID officer. He was also on the staff of the American Institute for Free Labor Development, where he concentrated on laud reform programs in Central America, and has taught at Redlands University, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, the National War College and Georgetown University. He has written widely on international affairs and public policy. This book grew out of a course the author taught at Georgetown University.



Investing In Peace: How Development Aid Can Prevent or Promote Conflict

Robert J. Muscat, M. E. Sharpe, Inc., 2002, \$23.95, paperback, 256 pages.

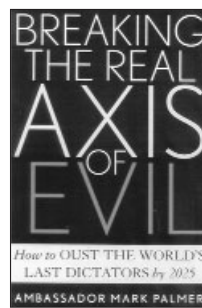
The problem of failed states and internal conflict in developing nations was pushed to the fore-

front by the horror of Rwanda and the breakup of Yugoslavia in the past decade, and is now before us as a challenge to nationbuilding efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Is there anything international actors can do to prevent or ameliorate internal conflict and failed states? Are conflict-prevention measures already being attempted, and in some cases succeeding so well that we are unaware of them? If so, what can we learn from them?

This book by retired USAID officer Robert J. Muscat attempts to answer these questions by offering a timely and eye-opening study of the role develop-

ment agencies play in conflict-prone situations. The first part of the book, an investigation of the problem of conflict, its different forms and the different approaches to it, centers on nine case studies — four where conflicts were fought and five where conflicts were avoided — and the role of development aid in each. The second part considers the practicalities of an agenda for conflict prevention.

Muscat worked for USAID in Thailand, Brazil and Kenya. As the agency’s chief economist, he was economic adviser to the Thai development planning agency and the Malaysian Ministry of Finance, and was planning director for the U.N. Development Program. He has consulted for U.N. agencies and the World Bank, and was a visiting scholar at Columbia’s East Asian Institute and at the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University.



Breaking the Real Axis of Evil: How to Oust the World's Last Dictators by 2025

Ambassador Mark Palmer, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2003, \$27.95, hardcover, 348 pages.

Ambassador Mark Palmer applauded President George W. Bush’s identification of the “axis of evil” in 2002, but believed it “fell woefully short of describing fully what is in fact a vast arc of tyranny, where a few dozen men hold a third of the planet’s population under their thumbs.” Now Saddam Hussein is gone, but there are 44 dictators left. This book, which the author describes as “the first attempt by an experienced diplomat to put democracy at the center of foreign policy,” is a rallying cry and something of a road map to oust them all and establish a world of democracies, “mostly without the use of violence,” by 2025.

During a 26-year career in the Foreign Service, Palmer was posted to the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, served as ambassador to Hungary, and held policy positions during the Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan and first Bush administrations. Upon retirement from the Service in 1990, he was one of the first American investors in eastern Europe following the fall of communism. He is vice chairman of Freedom House.

Of Related Interest

The Great North Korea Famine: Famine, Politics and Foreign Policy

Andrew S. Natsios, U.S. Institute of Peace, 2002, \$19.95, paperback, 320 pages.

A government-created famine killed approximately three million North Koreans between 1994 and 1999. Andrew Natsios, USAID's administrator since 2001, was vice president of World Vision U.S. at the time, and worked to organize an international response to the crisis in the face of Pyongyang's largely successful efforts to cover up the full extent of the crisis. Natsios has drawn on a wide range of sources, including interviews with North Korean refugees, to write this gripping account of the politics of humanitarian aid.

Of Paradise and Power: America and Europe in the New World Order

Robert Kagan, Alfred A. Knopf, 2003, \$18.00, hardcover, 103 pages.

This is a book-length elaboration of an essay Robert Kagan — who served in the State Department from 1984 to 1988, and is now senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace — originally wrote in 2002 for *Policy Review*. Reviewing it in the July-August 2003 *FSJ*, Paulo Almeida noted that Kagan views the U.S. as being from Mars, responding to threats with military force, while Europe is from Venus, responding “through engagement and seduction, through commercial and political ties, through forbearance and patience.” Despite Kagan's tendency to be simplistic in his analysis, Almeida calls *Of Paradise and Power* a thoughtful, sometimes witty, description of why Europeans react the way they do to their American allies.

Coalitions – Building and Maintenance: The Gulf War, Kosovo, Afghanistan, War on Terrorism

Andrew J. Pierre, Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, 2002, \$10.00, paperback, 112 pages.

Praising this book on the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy's Web site (<http://www.guisd.org>, where you can also order it), Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering says: “This excellent overview of an apt, complex and controversial subject will tell you what worked and what didn't in

past efforts to build coalitions to deal with crises and conflict. The clear secret is that strategic thinking, good planning, and careful preparation spell the difference between success and failure in this increasingly important field of international affairs.”

Defiant Diplomacy: Henrik Kauffmann, Denmark, and the United States in World War II and the Cold War, 1939-1958

Bo Lidegaard (translated by W. Glyn Jones), Peter Lang USA (New York) and Peter Lang AG (Bern), Modern European History Series and ADST-DACOR Diplomats and Diplomacy Series, 2003, \$78.95 (library edition), \$68.00 (ADST and DACOR members' price), hardcover, 392 pages.

This book, the 18th volume in the ADST-DACOR Diplomats and Diplomacy Series, depicts the extraordinary life of diplomat Henrik de Kauffmann (1888-1963), a major figure in Danish-American relations during World War II and the first decades of the Cold War as Denmark's envoy to Washington. Kauffmann experienced Mussolini's 1922 march on Rome, Chiang Kai-shek's seizure of power in China in the late 1920s, Norway's preparation for war in the 1930s, and, from Washington, Denmark's occupation by Germany in 1940, its liberation in 1945, and its reluctant engagement in the Cold War. The Danish original appeared in 1996, garnering rave reviews and a sold-out first printing on the day of publication, with four new printings issued within one month. It headed the Danish best-seller list for 18 weeks and later appeared in paperback.

La guerre d'Algerie vue par Francis De Tarr, diplomate americain [The War in Algeria as seen by Francis de Tarr, an American diplomat] (1960, 1961-1962)

David Raphael Zivie, L'Harmattan, 2003, 24 euros, paperback, 294 pages.

While the fact that this book is entirely in French undoubtedly limits its audience, it may appeal to readers interested in issues such as Franco-American relations, decolonization, guerrilla warfare and, most of all, France's painful disengagement from Algeria.



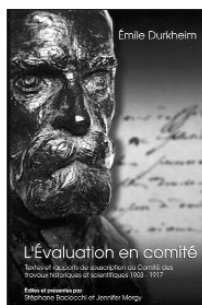
Europe Unites: The E.U.'s Eastern Enlargement

Peter A. Poole, Praeger Publishers, 2003, \$24.95, paperback, 232 pages.

The European Union's eastern enlargement has coincided with a decade of rapid progress toward closer European integration. This book examines previous E.U. expansions as well as the current process of incorporating the Eastern European countries against the backdrop of efforts to reform agricultural and regional policy and establish the euro. It also assesses the impact of enlargement on immigration, justice and home affairs and Europe's security and defense policy.

Peter A. Poole is a former FSO who served in Brussels in the 1990s. He was founding director of the master's degree program in international studies at Old Dominion University, and is currently an instructor at

George Mason University's Learning in Retirement Institute. He is the author of *Profiles in American Foreign Policy* (1981) and *Eight Presidents and Indochina* (1988).



Emile Durkheim: L'Évaluation en comité. Textes et rapports de souscription au Comité des travaux historiques et scientifiques, 1903-1917

Edited and presented by Jennifer Mergy and Stéphane Baciocchi, Durkheim Press, 2003, \$26.95, paperback, 207 pages.

This French-language work is a collection of previously unpublished manuscripts by one of France's foremost sociologists, Emile Durkheim. The texts were discovered in France's national archives buried in 55 boxes of mixed, uninventoried, book reports spanning decades and covering a vast array of subjects in the

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social sciences, from the notion of miracles to vagabondism. Durkheim wrote the reviews between 1903 and 1917 while he was assisting the Ministry of Education's Committee for Historical and Scientific Works (*Comité des travaux historiques et scientifiques*) in reviewing publications for their possible integration into the national educational system.

A lengthy introduction by Jennifer Mergy and Stéphane Baciocchi, who also translated the texts and all handwritten changes and notations and provided explanatory notes, explains the intellectual and historical context of the texts and their academic value for scholars of French sociology. The book's significance is in expanding the collection of works by Emile Durkheim and revealing many arguments and positions unheard of in his previous works.

The book stems from Jennifer Mergy's doctoral dissertation research; after receiving her Ph.D. degree in Paris, she joined the Foreign Service in 2002, and is now on her first tour as GSO in Djibouti. ■

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ELLSWORTH BUNKER: GLOBAL TROUBLESHOOTER, VIETNAM HAWK

MOST OFTEN REMEMBERED AS HAVING BEEN A “HAWK” IN WARTIME SAIGON,
AMBASSADOR ELLSWORTH BUNKER MADE MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO
AMERICAN DIPLOMACY FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS.

By HOWARD B. SCHAFFER

When Ellsworth Bunker accepted the invitation of his old Yale rowing coach and friend Secretary of State Dean Acheson to leave a successful career in the sugar business and take on the difficult assignment of ambassador to Juan Perón's Argentina in 1951, neither man anticipated that the appointment would lead to Bunker's becoming one of the outstanding American diplomats of the Cold War decades.

Already in his late fifties, Bunker initially viewed the Buenos Aires embassy as a brief stop on the way to a quiet, retired life, not as the start of a full-fledged, highly distinguished second career in public service. But before he finally left the diplomatic front lines in 1979 at the age of 85, he went on to become ambassador to Argentina, Italy, India, Nepal and, most famously, South Vietnam. As special diplomatic negotiator and troubleshooter, he helped resolve major challenges to U.S. interests in such far-flung places as Indonesia, Yemen, Panama and the Dominican Republic. When no diplomatic appointments were available, he served as the first full-time, salaried president of the American Red Cross. His years in diplomacy and public life climaxed with the complex negotiations and arduous domestic political effort that resulted in the signing and ratification of controversial treaties governing the operation and security of the Panama Canal.

Following his retirement, he became board chairman of Georgetown University's Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, where he passed on his experiences and insights to younger generations.

Acheson rightly called Bunker a “rara avis,” a natural professional in diplomacy, while Dean Rusk said that he considered himself blessed to have Bunker's services. Both of these Secretaries of State joined many others in the foreign policy world — not least seven presidents, from Harry Truman to Jimmy Carter — in prizing him as an accomplished diplomatic craftsman, perhaps the most skillful of his time. He won similar respect from foreign leaders as different from one another as Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India and President Sukarno of Indonesia. Foreign policy practitioners and observers alike hailed him as an icon of American diplomacy.

The prominence of Bunker's role as a “hawk” in wartime Saigon and the controversies that still surround it should not obscure the major contributions he made to the successful practice of American diplomacy. Many of his accomplishments in promoting U.S. interests in areas of continuing significance to our national security remain relevant now, almost a quarter-century after he retired from public life.

In his assignments as ambassador and special negotiator, Bunker dealt with problems on four continents. Some of them seemed far removed from America's confrontation with the major communist powers, the focus

*Secretaries of State Acheson
and Rusk are among many
in the foreign policy world
who have praised Bunker
as an accomplished
diplomatic craftsman.*

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of much of postwar U.S. foreign policy. But virtually all of these problems could have seriously jeopardized American interests in regions important to the United States had they not been resolved or effectively managed. His assignments as ambassador to Vietnam and chief negotiator on the Panama Canal treaties involved controversial issues at the heart of both America's relations with the world and its domestic politics.

Bunker played three broadly defined roles during his 25 years as a diplomat. First, in his troubleshooting role he acted as a third-party mediator between hostile governments or civil war factions and as a negotiator representing the United States in bilateral disputes. Second, he headed three U.S. embassies that carried out essentially conventional diplomatic operations. His responsibilities in Vietnam fell into a third category. For six critical years there,

he led a huge mission whose activities went well beyond those of other U.S. overseas posts and were arguably unprecedented in scope and magnitude in American diplomatic history.

Bunker brought to his assignments the classic skills and qualities that are vital to diplomatic success – integrity, creativity, realism, precision, and an ability to step into the shoes of his negotiating partners and understand their priorities. He had seemingly infinite patience, an innate courtesy, and a talent for convincing foreign leaders and officials that he was genuinely interested in helping them reach settlements that would satisfy their needs as well as his own. His impressive physical appearance and his gentlemanly, seemingly aristocratic manner contributed to his effectiveness.

The Troubleshooter

Bunker's most important contributions to U.S. diplomacy came in

Ambassador Howard Schaffer is a retired Foreign Service officer who spent much of his 36-year career dealing with U.S. relations with South Asia. In addition to postings to Seoul and Kuala Lumpur, he served as political counselor in Pakistan (1974-1977) and India (1977-1979), as well as ambassador to Bangladesh (1984-1987). In Washington, his assignments included a tour as director of the Office of Indian, Nepalese, and Sri Lankan Affairs, and two stints as deputy assistant secretary of State for South Asian affairs.

After retiring from the Foreign Service in 1991, Amb. Schaffer resided in Colombo with his wife, the U.S. ambassador to Sri Lanka, until 1995, when they returned to Washington. Shortly thereafter, he became Director of Studies at Georgetown University's Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, a position he still holds. He has also taught classes in South Asian studies at Georgetown, as well as courses dealing with diplomatic practice and key global issues.

This article is excerpted from his new book, Ellsworth Bunker: Global Troubleshooter, Vietnam Hawk (\$34.95, hardcover, 416 pages), copyright © 2003 by the University of North Carolina Press. Used by permission of the publisher, www.uncpress.unc.edu. This book is part of the ADST-DACOR Diplomats and Diplomacy Series, co-sponsored by the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training in Arlington, Va., and Diplomatic & Consular Officers, Retired, Inc., of Washington, D.C. Contact uncpress@unc.edu for more information.

Amb. Schaffer is also the author of Chester Bowles: New Dealer in the Cold War, published in 1993 by the Harvard University Press as an Institute for the Study of Diplomacy book. (It was issued in an Indian edition by Prentice-Hall the following year.)

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his troubleshooter/special negotiator roles. He achieved his greatest success in resolving the 1965-66 crisis in the Dominican Republic after other envoys of the United States and the Organization of American States had failed. The settlement he worked out rescued the Johnson administration from a major foreign policy embarrassment that was damaging U.S. interests throughout the hemisphere. It also produced changes in the Caribbean republic that proved of lasting benefit to the Dominican people. Few American statesmen other than Bunker had the originality and sensitivity required to fashion the terms of a settlement that the contentious Dominican rivals would accept. And almost none enjoyed a standing at the White House sufficient to tackle the problem largely free of the outside interference that could otherwise have impaired the negotiating process.

Bunker lucidly spelled out and, in the Dominican Republic and elsewhere, personally practiced the

principles a good negotiator should follow. These largely conformed to the maxims set out by classic commentators on Western diplomatic practice as updated to take account of 20th-century political changes.

Although Bunker held that every negotiation is different, several common techniques stand out in his third-party and bilateral efforts. The most distinctive hallmark of a Bunker-led negotiation was his tactic of creating an informal atmosphere in which the contending parties could develop easier personal relations, preferably in a pleasant and secluded setting. Another was his practice of putting forward early in the negotiating process a set of draft proposals that became the terms of reference for the bargaining that followed. The teams he set up to assist him were somewhat unusual in American diplomacy. They were almost always small so that they could move swiftly and decisively to develop fresh approaches before others could second-guess them.

Despite the importance top officials in Washington attached to the issues Bunker dealt with, he enjoyed a remarkable degree of independence in developing tactics and strategy in his negotiations. The confidence of the White House was a great boon to him, helping to restrain the bureaucracy from its normal penchant to micro-manage negotiations. Only in the Panama Canal negotiations did he become more involved in bureaucratic infighting. But given the stakes, the large number of powerful actors involved, and the sharp differences of view on this highly emotional national issue, that was inevitable. He proved himself adept both in dealing with the bureaucracy and then, in a new role in his diplomatic experience, in selling the treaties he had negotiated to Congress and the American people.

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A Modern Ambassador

In Argentina, Italy and India, Bunker played the role of a modern American ambassador far more in the manner of a seasoned career professional than a talented amateur. He saw his job, correctly, as an exercise in state-to-state relations, not as an opportunity to promote his own ideas or a popularity contest. This meant interpreting for Washington the motives and concerns of his host government, especially as these policies affected U.S. interests. Equally important, it meant promoting and explaining U.S. global, regional, and bilateral policies in ways that made them acceptable or at least plausible to his hosts. He carried out both these functions effectively, drawing on his skill in developing strong professional relations with the local leadership.

In his sober, elegant way, Bunker made friends for America. He traveled a good deal outside national capitals and got to know something of his host countries. But his was a rather detached and impersonal style. He did not see himself as a "cultural bridge," as some other successful ambassadors have, and developed only a limited interest in his host countries' culture, traditions, and history.

Bunker brought his business experience to the management of his embassies and also used it to demonize modern capitalism among those who considered multinational business organizations immoral and dangerous. He followed a relaxed management style, giving his deputies responsibility for the day-to-day operation of his missions and interfering relatively little in the work of individual embassy offices. He recognized that public affairs and economic assistance had come to stay as important mission functions.

Although his public style was rather formal, he tried with consid-

Bunker brought to his assignments integrity, creativity, realism, precision, and an ability to step into the shoes of his negotiating partners and understand their priorities.

erable success to reach out to different sections of society. He had no interest in "going native." His character and his deep roots in American life helped make him an excellent spokesman for the United States.

Bunker's relationship with the Washington bureaucracy was strong and mutually supportive. He had little interest in the gamesmanship familiar in the corridors of the State Department and elsewhere in Washington. His effectiveness on Capitol Hill dated back to his years as a spokesman for the sugar industry and he was always well regarded there.

Bunker largely accepted the objectives and strategy of U.S. policy toward the countries in which he served. His recommendations to Washington were mainly designed to advance those policies, not to challenge them, and he had few original proposals to offer on broader issues. In Italy and India, countries with which the United States enjoyed friendly relations, his policy recommendations often included calls for greater economic assistance and, in India as its rift with China deepened, for provision of military hardware. This reflected the "clientitis" that

afflicted many ambassadors in those Cold War days, and still does. But Bunker kept such special pleading within limits, and it did not undermine his credibility in Washington.

He displayed no special concern about domestic political issues in the countries in which he served except as they demonstrably affected U.S. interests, especially in the economic development sphere. In Italy and India, he shared Washington's satisfaction with the existing political dispensation and made only marginal efforts to tinker with it. But this diffidence did not rule out clandestine efforts to thwart local communist parties. He unapologetically supported such moves as other American diplomats did in the Cold War.

A Hawk in Vietnam

Bunker's role in Saigon differed sharply from the ones he played in Buenos Aires, Rome and New Delhi. It had to. U.S. involvement in Vietnam was so momentous and comprehensive that the conventional diplomatic business American embassies elsewhere perform was inadequate for U.S. purposes. Bunker would have shunned the title of American proconsul or viceroy. But, in effect, that was what he was in Saigon.

His policy preferences and recommendations on Vietnam policy made Bunker one of the most outspoken hawks on the war in the top ranks of the U.S. government. His advice to Washington often reflected his view that the war should be waged more vigorously, especially through actions designed to choke off the movement of troops and supplies through privileged sanctuaries in Laos and Cambodia.

Bunker's major influence on Vietnam policy was most evident in his first year in Saigon. President Johnson carefully read his special weekly messages. As good ambas-

sadors recognize, carefully crafted messages supported by convincing evidence play a powerful role in establishing the policy environment in which decisions are made. By significantly shaping the way top Washington policy-makers assessed Vietnam, Bunker's cables and other sanguine reports sent from Embassy Saigon during his tenure probably had a greater impact in shaping policy than any specific recommendations on strategy or tactics that he made. The excessive optimism of this reporting eventually damaged Bunker's credibility, especially among those who had misgivings about U.S. policy.

Bunker always remained a hawk on Vietnam and never regretted having taken that position. But he quickly recognized that the American people would not indefinitely support a conflict of the scale the war had reached in the year

he came to Saigon. This helped make him a strong supporter of Vietnamization, which he believed could successfully transfer the defense of South Vietnam from American to local forces. He enthusiastically welcomed President Nixon's making the concept central to his administration's withdrawal strategy.

As the massive U.S. stake in Vietnam required, Bunker and his mission involved themselves in all facets of South Vietnamese political and economic life in ways that went far beyond the more limited approach he had adopted in his previous ambassadorial assignments. In his dealings with President Nguyen Van Thieu and other Vietnamese leaders, his guiding principle was to persuade the Vietnamese to recognize the advantages to themselves of policies the United States recommended,

not to impose those policies on them. He repeatedly tried, with limited success, to convince Washington to be more forthcoming with Saigon in disclosing what it was trying to accomplish in the negotiations with the North. Thieu and others in his government seemed to recognize and welcome Bunker's approach, and gave him much respect. But even Bunker's careful ministrations were insufficient to bring Thieu around at crucial points. Some Americans and Vietnamese argue that had Bunker taken a tougher, less accommodating line with the evasive and indecisive Vietnamese president, things might have been different. But this must remain tantalizingly speculative.

A Diplomatic Craftsman

To the end of his foreign affairs career, Bunker remained a diplomatic craftsman, not a "big thinker" or

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foreign policy intellectual. His focus was always on resolving or managing immediate issues to meet current U.S. foreign policy objectives. He never sought senior positions in Washington that would have placed him in a position to frame broad policy, and turned down President Kennedy's offer of one. He accepted the conventional Cold War wisdom of his times. If he had any philosophical approach to American foreign policy, it was a generally Wilsonian view that included a strong emphasis on the right of self-determination and the improvement of the lot of ordinary people.

In his later years, Bunker came to typify the old-fashioned American who was ready to shoulder arduous, difficult, sometimes dangerous tasks in the country's service. He never questioned America's greatness or the values that he thought had made it great, and came across to foreign-

***As ambassador,
Bunker saw his job
as an exercise in state-
to-state relations, not
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ideas or a popularity
contest.***

ers and compatriots alike as an authentic American in the best sense of that term. Beneath the cool exterior of an adopted New Englander, Bunker was a passionate patriot who

was proud to be an American and never reluctant to say so.

Ellsworth Bunker died in 1984 at the age of 90. At the end of his days, Bunker was serenely pleased in his quiet way that he had been able to serve the United States when it could use his talents to carry out its new global responsibilities. Although he was troubled by the erosion in a changing America of old-time values he cherished, and upset by the debacle that had undone his accomplishments in Vietnam, he remained the contented and self-confident man he had been for so long. He had dedicated his skills to the diplomat's trade, often in trying circumstances, in keeping with the country's best patriotic tradition.

From its beginning, America's survival has depended on the few who, like Ellsworth Bunker, were prepared to set aside their private concerns to serve the nation. ■

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THE LOST CHILDREN OF GULU

THE U.S. AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL DONORS ARE ASSISTING THE YOUNG UGANDAN VICTIMS OF THE LORD'S RESISTANCE ARMY. BUT MUCH MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE.

BY JEFFREY ASHLEY

In April of this year I and three colleagues completed a two-day visit to the Gulu region of northern Uganda as part of a short-term assignment to assess HIV/AIDS programs and the impact of the country's long-running civil war. Some of the children I saw in Gulu town, a city of approximately 120,000 inhabitants, wore tattered clothing speckled with what appeared to be blood. Others wore clothes stained and fouled by memories of unspeakable violence, torture, war and trauma. Many of them displayed countenances of profound loss, the grisly end of what was once innocence. Yet some managed to smile, their faces illuminated by hope, relief and sheer joy at finding sanctuary from one of Africa's most fanatical movements: the Lord's Resistance Army, headed by Ugandan "spiritual leader" Joseph Kony.

Kony and his followers have been waging a war to overthrow the Ugandan government since 1986. But although the LRA says it only wants the country to be governed according to the tenets of the Ten Commandments, its tactics are anything but spiritual. Over 60 percent of the "soldiers" of Kony's forces are under the age of 16 and, as one would expect, few if any of them enlisted

Dr. Jeffrey Ashley is director of regional HIV/AIDS programs in East and Central Africa for USAID's Regional Economic Development Services Office in Nairobi. A public health scientist specializing in international health and epidemiology, he has been a USAID Foreign Service officer since 1995, serving in Tanzania, Cambodia and Angola. He has spent the majority of his professional career in wartorn areas of the world and seen too many children around the world like the ones he describes here. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of USAID.

voluntarily. Even conservative estimates indicate that over the past 17 years, Kony's troops have abducted over 20,000 children between the ages of 8 and 18.

While over 75 percent of Kony's child-soldiers are boys, girls are also abducted for use either as domestic servants for commanders or as sexual slaves. Many become pregnant and give birth in the bush where antiseptic, hygienic deliveries are not practiced, while some acquire sexually transmitted diseases during their enslavement, including HIV/AIDS (as do some boys). According to the March 2003 Human Rights Report for Uganda, over half the children rescued from the LRA and sent to one of two rehabilitation centers for former child soldiers located in the Gulu district of northern Uganda suffer from one or more STDs. More disquieting, reports of HIV infection rates in the two centers, although not systematically researched or documented, suggest that approximately 16 to 18 percent of those screened, including some as young as 13, tested positive for the virus. At least one of those children has since died of AIDS.

As part of their "training," the recruits are brutalized by soldiers little older than they, who force them to witness or carry out acts of barbarism. These include the rape, torture and murder of other children, villagers, parents and family members and the pillaging and burning of whole villages. Even the youngest children are required to march long distances carrying heavy loads on their small backs and heads. If they attempt to escape or do not perform their duties satisfactorily, they are subject to bloody beatings, torture and execution.

Not surprisingly, almost all children in the northern region of Uganda, where the LRA mainly operates, fear for their safety. Many of them seek refuge from abduction in the bus terminal or the Catholic mission hospital in the town of Gulu. As a matter of fact, the night before our

visit to that town, the hospital provided safe haven to over 4,500 people seeking protection in its compound. Numbers in the past have peaked at an estimated 15,000 in the same compound when security in the region has been unstable.

How the U.S. Is Helping

USAID has provided assistance to these children in the amount of \$253,000 over a five-year period through the Gulu Support the Children Organization. This assistance is part of a larger grant of \$15.4 million to the Community Resilience and Dialogue program sponsored by USAID/Uganda to assist victims of conflict and torture. It does this through psychosocial support, enhanced participatory dialogue, and HIV/AIDS services, as well as through capacity-building of local NGOs and community service organizations.

In addition to GUSCO, there are many other institutions providing support to former child soldiers. For example, the Kitgum Concerned Women's Association established a reception and reintegration center in the town of Kitgum in Gulu province to build the capacity of its members to best respond to the needs of formerly abducted children and families. Caritas, a Roman Catholic charity, manages a reception center which receives adults formerly abducted as children. Caritas provides direct assistance to adult returnees and maintains a network of trained community-based counselors throughout the region to guide returnees, families and communities through the reintegration process.

The work of the two rehabilitation centers in Gulu — one run by World Vision, the other by GUSCO — is truly heroic. Both facilities provide physical rehabilitation, vocational training and psychological support services to help ease these children's physical and emotional pain. The goal

of these services is to help the children to successfully move beyond their incomprehensible experiences and reintegrate into their families and community structures after one month. Predictably, those who have been most severely emotionally and physically traumatized and injured will stay longer in the centers for additional, concentrated support.

The personal work that these young people must undertake to facilitate the healing process is far from easy. But children by nature are resilient and, with great support and nurturing, they can at least learn to cope with the nightmares they have lived through, sometimes for years on end.

The Lost Children of the World

Right after a rainstorm, I spent a lot of time strolling around the muddied compounds of both centers, during which I was able to watch the children as they clustered together, talked and played. Some were laughing, while some were sitting by themselves. But all clearly manifested wounds of war.

I hung out mostly with the teenaged boys as the girls seemed skittish around me. (Who could blame them for being reticent to be around men?) The boys joked and laughed with me as we talked mostly about "guy" things, and I hoped that our interaction was a helpful respite for their traumatized bodies and souls. Yet even as we kidded around, it was impossible not to focus on their physical scars, inflicted by numerous beatings, gunshot wounds and panga (machete) injuries. I saw their wizened, saddened eyes. One teenager I talked with had been shot through the lower jaw. The entire portion of his face below his mouth had been mangled and then nailed and stitched back together. His scars are ghastly, his face forever marred. He will never look

the same again or speak clearly or chew easily. He will undoubtedly suffer pain for the rest of his life. Yet in spite of his injuries, his face radiated beauty as he laughed and smiled with me. And eerily, his behavior seemed somehow unscathed by war — almost normal, whatever "normal" is for any of these children anymore.

I also spent some time with another bunch of young guys who were hanging around the outdoor kitchen at one of the centers, cracking jokes with them in my passable Swahili (many of the children do not speak English and only some are capable of speaking Swahili in addition to their local language). One tall, strongly built 16-year-old boy laughed with me, before telling me about how he had been shot and beaten several times during his time with the LRA. He showed me the scars from three gunshot wounds he sustained in his abdomen and stood proudly and grinned as I looked at his stomach and back where the bullets had entered and exited. He showed me the scars from the panga and gunshot wounds he suffered to his legs, a mosaic of ravaged and hardened scar tissue engraved into his lower extremities. In some ways the scars these boys carry are their tattoos, their indelible, lifelong reminders of the horrendous experiences they all experienced during their ordeal with the LRA.

If any one victim of the LRA can be said to stand for them all, it might be "Benjamin" (name changed to protect his privacy), who is 17 years old. When I met him, he was dressed in shabby shorts and a stained T-shirt. His legs were noticeably scarred and he had a slight limp as he walked, yet he is still a fit, handsome young man. He agreed to sit with me in a corner of one of the buildings in the compound to talk privately with me about his personal experiences with the LRA.

When Benjamin spoke, his voice

was sad, quiet and halting. His emotional affect was flat and he hardly smiled, until I asked him to try. The LRA had abducted him from his home in the middle of the night about six months before, and forced him to perform back-breaking labor. After suffering many days of brutality, he resolved to escape, which required careful, surreptitious planning. His chance finally came one night while the other soldiers were sleeping. He sneaked out of the camp and ran for his life. He ran all night long with shrapnel in his feet and lower legs, stumbling, tripping, but continuing toward what he hoped might be safety. The next morning he met someone along the path who directed him to a military outpost and holding center. There he rested until he was well enough to be transported to one of the rehabilitation centers in Gulu.

Incredibly, despite his ordeal, Benjamin still hopes to be a teacher

someday and to lead a normal, happy life.

After Benjamin finished telling me his story, I thanked him for his courage and told him how proud I was of him. I told him that I believed he would be a wonderful role model for children once he became a teacher and that he is an inspiration and example of brave survival. I put my arm around his shoulders and we sat quietly in that corner for several minutes. Afterwards I looked at him, smiled and winked and called him my hero. Then Benjamin mustered a weak smile and my heart was flooded with joy.

I left the rehabilitation center deep in thought. How many more children will be abducted and forced to suffer at the hands of the LRA? How many more children, like Benjamin and the thousands of others, will forever suffer the physical and emotional scars inflicted by Joseph Kony? How many will be reabducted into his twisted movement?

The LRA *must* be disbanded and all children held captive by it returned to the security and well-being of their homes to grow and thrive in an atmosphere of safety, comfort and adult protection. These children should never be subjected to additional violence and robbery of childhood, nor should they live in fear of forever being stigmatized because of their history. Anything else would be even more tragic.

It is incumbent on international donors, human rights groups and activists, and all concerned civilians to protest violations of this kind, so that Benjamin and the tens of thousands of boys and girls like him in northern Uganda and around the world have a chance to experience a real and normal childhood, to grow, to learn, thrive and be. This is the very least that all children worldwide deserve. And that is precisely what I wish for Benjamin and the thousands like him around the world. Let it be so. ■

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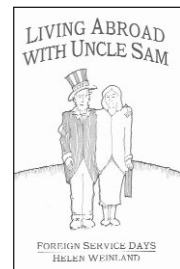
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THE VIEW FROM THE ROND-POINT HARRY TRUMAN

IT WAS JUST ONE OF MANY MURDERS ON AN ORDINARY DAY, BUT THE KILLING OF
JEAN-JACQUES DURAND ENCAPSULATES WHAT HAITIANS HAVE LOST.

By DANIEL F. WHITMAN

On March 18, 2003, a dispute broke out somewhere between a car wash and a businessman's residence in the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince — just 90 minutes away from Miami by air.

This sort of thing happens a dozen times a day in Haiti, where nerves are frayed from hunger, joblessness, an imploded local currency, and arbitrary killings to make clear where the lines of authority lie. On this particular occasion, Jean-Jacques Durand took a single bullet in the aorta.

The attending physician said the shooting was “the work of a specialist.” In a city small enough for everyone to know everyone else, the killer, familiar with his quarry, dumped the body at the front gate of the deceased's house up the hill toward formerly upscale Petionville. Not a major event in the grand scheme of things in unfortunate Haiti, but a shattering moment in the life of the 40-something widow, Marie-Jeanne Durand, and her five children.

Marie-Jeanne works at an office overlooking the Rond-Pont Harry Truman, where since 1983 she has viewed the broiling inner city in its feverish mercantile activities and moments of anguish. From their privileged windows on the third floor of the building, she and her colleagues have seen naked thieves pursued by maddened crowds, cornered like hunted beasts and kicked to death for stealing a single mango or sliver of bread. The rage of the crowds is understandable: the Haitian police not only fail

to protect the desperately tiny five-mangos-a-day small merchants; they even compound the problem themselves by lifting a mango or two with impunity from time to time, with no higher authority to rein them in. Vigilante justice has become the only justice available.

Marie-Jeanne has served as Virgil to a succession of Dantes (her bosses), explaining the actions of paid activist crowds marching against foreign interests in the streets below, from over the Rond-Point Harry Truman: “Celui-là, on va le tuer,” she would say with stoic detachment, “You see, they are going to kill the one in the white T-shirt.”

Transfixed by such scenes financed by the ruling party, her Haitian colleagues would say, “This is too upsetting, I can't bear to watch.” Their eyes meanwhile stayed fixed on the scene as they gathered by the windows which gave the best vantage point for observation.

In the spring of 2000, they viewed together a homicidal attack by 800 activists who stoned the headquarters of a tiny opposition party, catty-corner from her office over the Rond-Point, the day after the flawed parliamentary elections of May 21. A video, anonymously deposited at the office door, showed victim Jean-Michel Holofen of the RCP (Rassemblement des Citoyens Patriotes) Party, seated and dazed, covered with his own blood, feeling for the back of his head to see if it was still there. The video did not fit into the plans or editorial schemes of U.S. television networks; perhaps the scene was too grisly even for reality TV.

A Lucky Guess

Each of the employees of Marie-Jeanne's office has a nickname. Marie-Jeanne's is “La Clairvoyante,” because she usually sees through the hazy events of the day and understands the ramifications and implications of events large and small. She seems able to address with sang-froid every zany situation that arises, as politicians in flight, journalists threatened with extinction, self-styled prophets, street

Dan Whitman is an FSO at the Board of Examiners in the Human Resources Bureau. He joined USIA in 1985, serving in Copenhagen, Madrid and Pretoria. He was public affairs officer in Port-au-Prince from 1999 to 2001.

Author's Note: This is a true story. Only the Durands' names are fictional.

people make their way to the area.

She was shaken only once, the day two of her daughters (8 and 10 years old) were held hostage by a street gang at their private school on Lalue, towards the road up the hill to Delmas. She had to guess that afternoon if it seemed a better risk to try to fetch the girls immediately, or maybe wait the couple of hours it usually took for the street gangs to disperse. She was lucky that day; waiting the couple of hours turned out to be the right answer.

So Antoinette and Zazie survived that day, but on March 18, 2003, their father Jean-Jacques did not. The assassin, perhaps driven to his ultimately self-mutilating act by hunger, or cocaine, or anxiety, will certainly go to hell if there is a hell.

Haiti will proceed — or not — to its ultimate ruin. For Marie-Jeanne Durand, however, the die is cast. It was not easy to reach her after she went into hiding after the calamity that devastated her life on March 18: most phone lines in Port-au-Prince do not work anyway, and electricity is inadequate to charge up computers to dip into cyberspace.

Well-wishers finally reached the proud Marie-Jeanne three weeks after her husband's murder; to urge her to accept some form of help in dealing with the challenge of raising and educating five children in a lawless country. Her response came in an April 8 e-mail: "Thanks anyway, but that which we need is lost, and cannot be restored." ■

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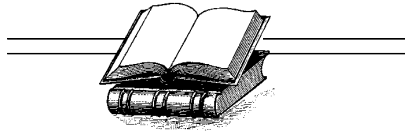
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BOOKS FOR OVERSEAS AMERICANS AND RETURNEES



BOOKS

The Neocon Prescription

The War Over Iraq: Saddam's Tyranny and America's Mission
Lawrence F. Kaplan and William Kristol, Encounter Books, 2003, \$25.95, hardcover, 153 pages.

REVIEWED BY RICHARD THOMPSON

Although the central purpose of this book, written shortly before the war with Iraq, was to encourage and justify that intervention, its authors, both prominent neoconservatives, contend that their policy prescriptions apply widely to U.S. foreign affairs. (Lawrence F. Kaplan is a senior editor at *The New Republic*, while William Kristol is the editor of *The Weekly Standard* and a political analyst for the Fox News Channel.) And for that reason, *The War Over Iraq: Saddam's Tyranny and America's Mission* is must reading for everyone seeking to understand the ideological underpinnings of Bush administration foreign policy.

After describing Saddam Hussein's tyranny at home, aggression abroad and development of weapons of mass destruction, Kaplan and Kristol outline why efforts to deal with him by the first President Bush ("narrow realism") and Clinton ("wishful liberalism") failed. They then describe their preferred policy toward Iraq as "a distinctly American internationalism," explicitly based on "American exceptionalism." This is the belief that the "uniqueness and virtue of the American political system" offer a

The book's consistent emphasis is on the use of military power to encourage a world order beneficial to U.S. interests.



model for the world and that American power and ideals should be vigorously applied in foreign affairs. Specifically, they advocate pre-emption when necessary to forestall hostile attacks, promotion of regime change for undemocratic nations, and maintenance of U.S. military strength to remain the sole superpower.

The necessity for the U.S. to overthrow Saddam Hussein and establish a democratic government in Baghdad is argued at length, with one estimate cited that 75,000 troops would be required to police the war's aftermath, at a cost of \$16 billion per year. One can only hope that Kaplan and Kristol are on firmer ground in assuring their readers that the establishment of the first Arab democracy in Iraq will have a powerful effect in the Arab world, in Iran and on the Israel-Palestinian conflict. They urge further that repressive regimes, especially Saudi

Arabia, are financing extremist Islam and terrorism, and their conversion to democracy is a vital U.S. interest. Indeed, they argue that Washington should actively promote democratization worldwide, in accordance with both our ideals and our self-interest.

The emphasis throughout the book is on the use of military power to encourage a world order beneficial to U.S. interests and the spread of democracy in the world; toward that end, the authors advocate spending an additional \$100 billion a year to maintain U.S. military supremacy. Conversely, they place little emphasis on the importance of diplomacy to attract followers. Although they seem to consider existing American alliances a valuable asset, they disparage the United Nations as an organization which coddles tyrannies. In fairness, however, the predominant focus on Iraq probably distorts somewhat the authors' views on multilateralism; they would generally like to have international and U.N. support for U.S. policies, but argue strongly that we should act in the case of Iraq without such support if it cannot be obtained.

The authors hold that U.S. policy toward Iraq will be key to defining the U.S. role in the world in the 21st century. If this is true, the long-term results of our efforts to establish a democratic Iraq, including regional repercussions, will be an important test for the validity of the neoconservative prescriptions.

A footnote: I had not realized until reading this book just how strongly the neoconservatives disagree with positions taken by Secretary of State



Colin Powell, especially at the time of the first Gulf War. This realization threw into penetrating relief Newt Gingrich's recent blasts at the State Department: How better to position yourself as a potential candidate to lead an agency than by proposing thorough-going reform — along with a larger budget?

Richard Thompson is a retired FSO.

A Provocative Primer

Iraq: Its History, People, and Politics

Shams C. Inati, editor, Humanity Books, 2003, \$26.00, hardcover, 322 pages.

REVIEWED BY RICHARD MCKEE

An American government official or military officer catching a flight for Baghdad to report for duty with the U.S. occupation authorities might do well to pass up the latest John Grisham or Danielle Steele tome in favor of this book of essays. Compiled in late 2002 by Professor Shams C. Inati of Villanova University “to give a complete picture of Iraq,” and published in January 2003, their failure to do so is striking. Nevertheless, reading them would be worthwhile, for the strident, even defensive Iraqi nationalism that animates most of the authors is shared by many members of the Iraqi elite with whom American administrators are now dealing.

In most of these essays, the people of Iraq seemingly bear no responsibility whatsoever for the repressive regimes that have ruled their country since its creation by the British after World War I. Saddam Hussein, whose image was ubiquitous and

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Despite the book's many flaws and prevalent bias, several essays provide valuable insights into Iraqi culture and politics.

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whose secret police were intimidating, is scarcely mentioned. The United States, however, is indicted repeatedly for causing hundreds of thousands of deaths and immense damage to Iraq's infrastructure, cultural heritage, and society by pressing for the sanctions and for what is portrayed as indiscriminate bombing. Washington's concern about Saddam's violations of Iraqis' human rights is dismissed as hypocritical. The true goal of “the U.S.'s undeclared war on Iraq” — the title of Professor Naseer Aruri's contribution — is simply to gain control of Iraq's oil.

The two most egregious essays address “the question of the ‘artificiality’ of Iraq” and “the assault on Iraq's environment.” Hala Fattah cites selected Iraqis' memoirs and Iraqi exiles' views ventilated in an Amman forum to support her conclusion that, “However true the idea of Iraq's fragility may have been once, it no longer held for the vast majority of Iraqis.” How does she know? There are no public opinion polls. Saddam's monopolization of power makes it difficult to say whether the Kurds and Shia' rebelled in 1991 to overthrow his regime or to secede from Iraq. Rania Masri

denounces the alleged dangers of depleted uranium ammunition used by U.S. forces in 1991 — but is silent on Saddam's draining of the southern swamps later that year to flush out rebellious “Marsh Arabs,” virtually destroying their unique ecological habitat and their ancient culture.

Several essays do provide insights and avoid excessive polemics. Professor McGuire Gibson, the dean of archeologists who have dug in Iraq, covers “Ancient Mesopotamia” ably. Essays on art, literature and music highlight elements of urban culture that might not survive if a strict Islamic regime comes to power. Retired Iraqi diplomat Meer Basri's eulogy for the departed Jews, American University Professor Edmund Ghareeb's untangling of the Kurds' knotted ties with each other, Baghdad and neighboring states, and Professor Joyce Wiley's essay on the Shia' Arab majority and its suppression by Saddam repay close reading. (Inexplicably, there is no essay on the once-dominant Sunni Arab minority, nor on how Saddam and the Ba'ath Party gained and consolidated power.) The contribution by economist Atif Kubursi, whimsically titled “Water and Oil Never Mix Except in the Middle East,” usefully elucidates the interplay between the scarcity of the first resource and the abundance of the second.

Despite its many flaws and prevalent bias, *Iraq: Its History, People, and Politics* is worth perusing. If nothing else, it will give readers a sense of just how big a challenge American administrators face. ■

A former FSO, Richard McKee is executive director of Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Retired (DACOR) Inc., and of the DACOR Bacon House Foundation. He last visited Iraq in 1995 and 1996.



APPRECIATION

A SOLDIER IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE

Sergio Vieira de Mello
1948 – 2003

BY TATIANA C. GFOELLER

Flags flew at half-staff at all 250 U.S. embassies and consulates in 180 countries around the world to honor United Nations diplomat Sergio Vieira de Mello, who was assassinated by a truck bomb along with 22 other U.N. staffers on Aug. 19 in Baghdad. It is rare for the U.S. to lower its flag for foreign officials, but Secretary of State Colin Powell ordered this as a tribute to the man he called “a soldier in the cause of peace.”

While the U.S. government’s was the most spectacular, there were countless other moving tributes to the 55-year-old Brazilian. At his funeral, a family friend described him as “one of those rare people who shine, not to dazzle but to bring light to the darkness.” Of his murderers, one of his two sons said: “No God can encourage and accept such acts, but by killing our father for what he stood for, they simply made him live on.” Concluded the officiating priest: “Sergio is in front of us, not behind us. He urges us to continue fighting through on the road to peace.”

Sergio, as practically everyone called him, was no ordinary U.N. bureaucrat. As he himself described his 34-year career: “My entire life has been a field of land mines.” It included the hottest of the world’s hot spots: Bangladesh right after its war of independence from Pakistan, Sudan, Mozambique, Cyprus divided after its civil war, Peru, Lebanon, Cambodia,

Bosnia, Rwanda, the Congo, Kosovo, and others. Everywhere he strove to bring humanitarian relief, as well as lay the building blocks for the end to civilian strife.

His most extraordinary achievement among so many was his most recent: East Timor, the wartorn land that he took control of for the U.N. and successfully guided in less than three years to full independence as the 21st century’s first new nation.

After so much turmoil, he was delighted to be appointed High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva, where he was looking forward to settling down and where the State Department office I directed worked closely with him. But when the U.N. and U.S. went looking for someone acceptable to both to lead the postwar U.N. mission in Iraq, only one name came to everyone’s lips. And so, reluctantly, but always true to his sense of duty and unable to turn down a dangerous challenge, Sergio took a four-month leave of absence and moved to Baghdad.

There was a “too good to be true” quality about Sergio. At first blush, some thought him superficial, even frivolous. It is true that he was something of a paradox. His entire adult life was devoted to caring for the most vulnerable human beings on this planet, to facing the most hopeless, violent, and hate-filled situations imaginable. But he ended up far from being a pes-

simist, or even a dour “do-gooder.”

Sergio loved life and grabbed it with both hands. He loved good food, good wine, good tailoring, and good company. A friend and U.N. colleague even went so far as to tell me that he was “not boring enough” for the HCRC job; that lifelong human rights activists wouldn’t take him seriously because of his dashing manner and dazzling smile. But any lengthy interaction with Sergio soon convinced them otherwise. One need only have seen with what equal respect he treated everyone, from the lowest-positioned to the highest, because it came naturally to him. He possessed that inner grace of being able to absolutely disagree with people without cutting them down personally. He was that rarest of people who succeeded in bringing chivalry and gentleness into modern international diplomacy, in being gallant without being ridiculous.

Gallant to the End

And gallant he was to the very end. Buried alive under the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad for nearly four hours and in excruciating pain, he calmly helped direct the rescue efforts over his cell phone, pointing out where his colleagues would be, never focusing on himself. His charisma never left him. One of the rescuers later said that he had no idea who Sergio was, but he spoke with such authority that people naturally

APPRECIATION

took him to be the man in charge and did what he told them to do — another of Sergio's hallmarks. The soldier who kept watch over him where he lay crushed confided later that he could not figure out why Sergio kept asking him about everyone else instead of worrying about himself like a "normal person." One of the last to be extracted, he died shortly before a crane finally lifted the wall of concrete that had pinned his body down.

A few days before the tragedy, Sergio had been visiting my husband Michael Gfoeller in Babylon, where he is headquartered as governor of the south-central sector of Iraq. Michael briefed Sergio and his 15-member delegation extensively regarding the situation in his sector. (Every one of the men and women in that delegation was killed Aug. 19.)

He was that rarest of people who succeeded in bringing chivalry and gentleness into modern international diplomacy.

The working portion of his trip over, Michael took Sergio on a visit of the archeological sights in the vicinity, including an ancient synagogue Michael had rediscovered. Believed to be built on the tomb of the Prophet Ezekiel, it is still revered by Moslem, Christian, and Jewish Iraqis alike.

Michael told me later that Sergio had been uncommonly moved by that site. "It's so peaceful here," Sergio had said. "Could you imagine the rest of Iraq like this one day? As for now, I don't want to leave."

But an hour later he was back on the road to Baghdad. ■

Tatiana C. Gfoeller is studying Arabic at FSI to prepare for her next assignment, as principal officer in Jeddah. An FSO since 1984, she has served with her FSO husband Michael in Warsaw, Riyadh, Manama, Moscow (twice), Brussels, Ashgabat, St. Petersburg and Washington. Most recently she served as director of multilateral affairs in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. Ms. Gfoeller is a member of the Foreign Service Journal Editorial Board.

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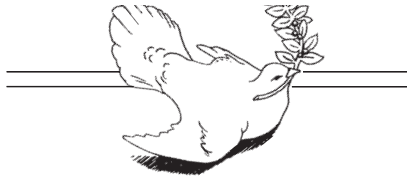
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IN MEMORY

Willis Bryant Collins Jr., 86, retired FSO, died June 29 at the Washington Hospice in Washington, D.C. Born in Troy, Ala., Mr. Collins received an LL.B. degree from Columbus University. He joined the military in May 1942, serving during World War II as a naval officer in Africa, Italy and France. Following the war, he served in the Veterans Administration for one year before joining the State Department as a staff officer in 1947. In 1955 he became a career Foreign Service officer, and served in Europe, Africa and Asia until his retirement in 1974. He was a member of the Bar of the District of Columbia.

Mr. Collins is survived by his wife Genevieve D. Collins; two daughters, Judith A. Hoy and Pamela R. Collins; two granddaughters; and four great-grandchildren. Contributions may be made in his memory to the Washington Hospice, 3720 Upton Street NW, Washington, DC 20016.



Albert D. "Scotty" Moscotti, 82, retired FSO and professor emeritus of Asian studies at the University of Hawaii, died of Parkinson's disease in Honolulu on Aug. 7.

Born in Atlantic City, N.J., and a graduate of Montclair University, Mr. Moscotti's fascination with Southeast Asia began during World War II when he served as an Air Force captain in the China/Burma/India theatre. Following the war he earned his master's degree from the University of Michigan and doctor-

ate from Yale University, writing his thesis on Burma.

Mr. Moscotti entered the Foreign Service in 1950 and served as a political officer in Bangkok, Madras, Karachi, Kuala Lumpur and Washington. He retired in 1970 and joined the staff of the East-West Center in Honolulu and, later, the University of Hawaii. Hawaii was an ideal location to continue his active involvement with the peoples of Asia through trips to the area and visits with Foreign Service and Asian friends passing through.

During that period Mr. Moscotti wrote two books, *British Policy and the Nationalist Movement in Burma, 1917-1937* (University of Hawaii Press, 1974) and *Burma's Constitution and Elections of 1974: A Source Book* (Institute of South East Asian Studies, Singapore, 1977).

An active member of The Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity, he was well known for his generosity and charitable works. He is survived by a brother, Dr. Richard W. Moscotti, and family of Philadelphia. Donations in his memory may be sent to his church or any charity.



Genevieve Oyster, 86, died Aug. 5 at the Orange Regional Medical Center in Middletown, N.Y. The daughter of Bronislaus and Elizabeth Geleziauskiuty Noraisya, Mrs. Oyster was born Dec. 18, 1916, in Brooklyn, N.Y. She began her career with the U.S. Department of State as an

administrative assistant, and was posted in Vietnam, Bangladesh and Laos, as well as Washington, D.C. Mrs. Oyster retired from the Foreign Service in 1978. In 1993 she moved from Washington, D.C., to Middletown.

Mrs. Oyster is survived by one son, Paul Spiegler of Middletown, N.Y. She was predeceased by her husband William Ross Oyster, who died in 1957, and by her sister Elsie Allen.



Ann T. Ruegsegger, 95, mother-in-law of Ambassador Donald J. McConnell, died July 17 in Asmara, Eritrea, where Mr. McConnell is serving. Mrs. Ruegsegger was well known to Foreign Service and local communities at various posts in Africa, Europe and the Middle East, where she lived with her daughter Frances and son-in-law for more than 25 years.

Famous for her Irish wit, quick repartee and love of meeting new people, she established rapport with people of all ranks — whether chatting with senators at embassy dinners or passing out Cokes to children at the side of the road in an African village when her car broke down. Also known for her love of cards, she became famous for her poker party dinners.

Having held family reunions at Atlantic City to celebrate her 80th birthday and at Monte Carlo for her 90th, Mrs. Ruegsegger was looking forward to continuing the tradition in Las Vegas at 100. She died one month shy of her 96th birthday.

IN MEMORY



Robert “Bob” Knight Strachan, 80, retired USAID officer, died of cancer on Aug. 13. Born in Worcester, Mass., the son of the late Dora Harps Strachan and Samuel Strachan, he grew up in Cambridge, Mass. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force from 1943 to 1945, and was a veteran of 36 B-17 missions. On his last mission the plane was shot down over Germany and he was held as a POW in a concentration camp from 1944 to 1945. Mr. Strachan’s decorations and citations included the EMAE Ribbon with three stars, Air Medal with four OLC, the Distinguished Flying

Cross, two O/S Service Bars and a Purple Heart.

A distinguished career with the U.S. Foreign Service began in 1951 at the Department of State in Washington, D.C., and included postings in Tabriz, Vienna, Saigon, Belgrade and Helsinki. He then transferred to USAID and served in Bamako, Kampala, Monrovia (twice), Saigon (again), Kathmandu, Amman and Washington.

Mr. Strachan retired to Sarasota, Fla., in 1978. However, as he had the Foreign Service bug of moving every few years, he moved to Arlington, Va., for a couple of years, then returned to Florida — only to return again to Arlington. In all, he moved back and

forth at least three times. His final move, in December 2002, was to Ft. Myers, Fla., to be close to his family.

Mr. Strachan is survived by his sister-in-law, Virginia Strachan of Ft. Myers; two nephews, William “Bill” Strachan and Robert H. Strachan, both of Ft. Myers; a niece, Joan V. Roberts of Cape Coral, Fla.; two grandnieces, Jennifer (Strachan) Sink of Statesville, N.C., and Karen (Strachan) Lynn of Clarksville, Tenn.; two great grandnieces and a great grandnephew. He was predeceased by his brother Richard Strachan. The family requests donations be made to Hope Hospice, 9470 Health Park Circle, Ft. Myers FL 33908. ■

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REFLECTIONS

Hit-And-Miss Giving

BY PAM ANDERSON

The other day, I went to Tamana Pharmacy here in Dhaka. Before leaving the pharmacy, I extracted four 10-taka notes from my wallet. Outside, I quickly handed the bills to the four beggars who had been waiting for me. Wails of entreaty came from two beggars I had failed to notice. Now my dilemma was whether to tell my driver to leave or to give in to the pleas for additional bak-shesh. I chose to drive off knowing that I could not possibly give to all.

Bangladesh assaults the senses, and it is impossible to remain neutral in this country of high need, so we all develop strategies to cope with the beggars who tap at our windows as we wait in the congested traffic. Forewarned of the pimps and rings of professional beggars, some choose to only give to established charities organized by NGOs, churches, and mosques. Others prefer to give to certain categories of beggars: the old, the children, the disabled, or the mothers with children. Still others do not give to beggars at all and are content with the belief that they are doing what's best. I believe that for those to whom much has been

Pam Anderson is the spouse of USAID FSO Tim Anderson, with whom she has been posted to Islamabad, Cairo, Washington, D.C. and Dhaka, where she currently teaches business-English writing skills. The stamp is courtesy of the AAFSW Bookfair "Stamp Corner."

I believe that for those to whom much has been given, much is expected in return, but how does that translate into practical action?



given, much is expected in return, but how does that translate into practical action?

I am no closer to the answer to that question than when we went to our first post in Islamabad in 1989, and I was still a novice at the art of being a memsahib. My husband and I were at the Juma Bazaar when I noticed a woman in a burka with her hands outstretched. Tim warned me not to react, but my impulse was to reach into my purse. As soon as I had given to the one woman, I was surrounded by six more shrouded women all imploring me to give them money. They were stroking my face and arms, communicating to a foreigner in the only way they knew how. I was taken aback by this sudden physical contact and was immobilized, not by any fear that they would do me harm, but by the strangeness of the encounter. Tim rescued me by shooing them away.

In Egypt, the official governmental response was to have beggars perform some sort of service, however small, which allowed them to retain their dignity. One, an old man who sat cross-legged along Road 9 and sold tissues, never said anything, but he usually gave me a small smile. The day before we left Cairo, I had a desire to see him smile in a big way. I gave him 20 pounds, and I was rewarded with a beautiful smile.

My discomfort with my personal strategy here in Bangladesh stems from a chance encounter with a foreigner whom I'll call Bob. Although he works for a contractor, his major impact on the country comes from meeting people's needs. It's as simple as that. He spends his weekends buying plastic buckets for people to wash with, shoes for the shoeless, and food for the hungry. He has paid for eye and leg operations. Everyone in need knows who Bob is and where he lives. He has managed to counter all my personal roadblocks to giving: I don't speak Bangla, but neither does Bob. I don't want people coming to my home, but Bob doesn't mind. I can't meet everyone's needs, but Bob manages to meet most of the needs of the people who come to him.

So, what are we to do? Do we really accomplish anything by giving 10 taka? Can I be like Mother Teresa or like Bob? There are no easy answers, and perhaps I shouldn't expect any in this land of complexities. But I keep looking for them. ■

AFSA NEWS

American Foreign Service Association • November 2003

AFSA SUPPORTS NEW BILL

Debate on the 2003 Terrorism Victims' Benefits Bill

BY SHAWN DORMAN

Senator Richard Lugar, R-Ind., has introduced legislation — which the administration supports — that would provide a benefit to any U.S. citizen who is “physically injured, killed or held hostage” as a result of international terrorism directed at the United States or at an individual because of his/her status as a national of the U.S. AFSA also supports this bill, with some revisions. As written, the bill — S1275, Benefits for Victims of International Terrorism Act of 2003 — pro-

vides \$262,000 in the case of death. This is the same amount paid under the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program already in place. This amount would not be reduced by any “offsets,” e.g. life insurance policies or workmen's compensation benefits, paid to victims or their survivors.

The law would apply retroactively to incidents which occurred after Nov. 1, 1979. Once a victim accepts a payment, he or she would have to agree not to pursue civil

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CALL FOR 2004 AFSA AWARDS

Is Dissent Disloyal?

BY BARBARA BERGER,
PROFESSIONAL ISSUES COORDINATOR

Let's put dissent and the AFSA dissent awards in context. Recently, much attention has been given to former House Speaker Newt Gingrich's article in the July/August 2003 issue of *Foreign Policy* magazine, which questioned the loyalty of the Foreign Service in carrying out the foreign policy of the current administration. In the September/October 2003 issue of *Foreign Policy*, a number of policy-makers and current and former Foreign Service officers responded to Gingrich. AFSA State Vice President Louise K. Crane asserted that Gingrich would prefer that State Department employees "... not speak up, but simply nod vigorously." Robert L. Gallucci, Dean of the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, commented that, "At a time when the United States is truly vulnerable, the nation cannot afford to distort the foreign policy-making process by suppressing information from the field or critical analysis at home."

Continued on page 3

AFSA Welcomes New Governing Board

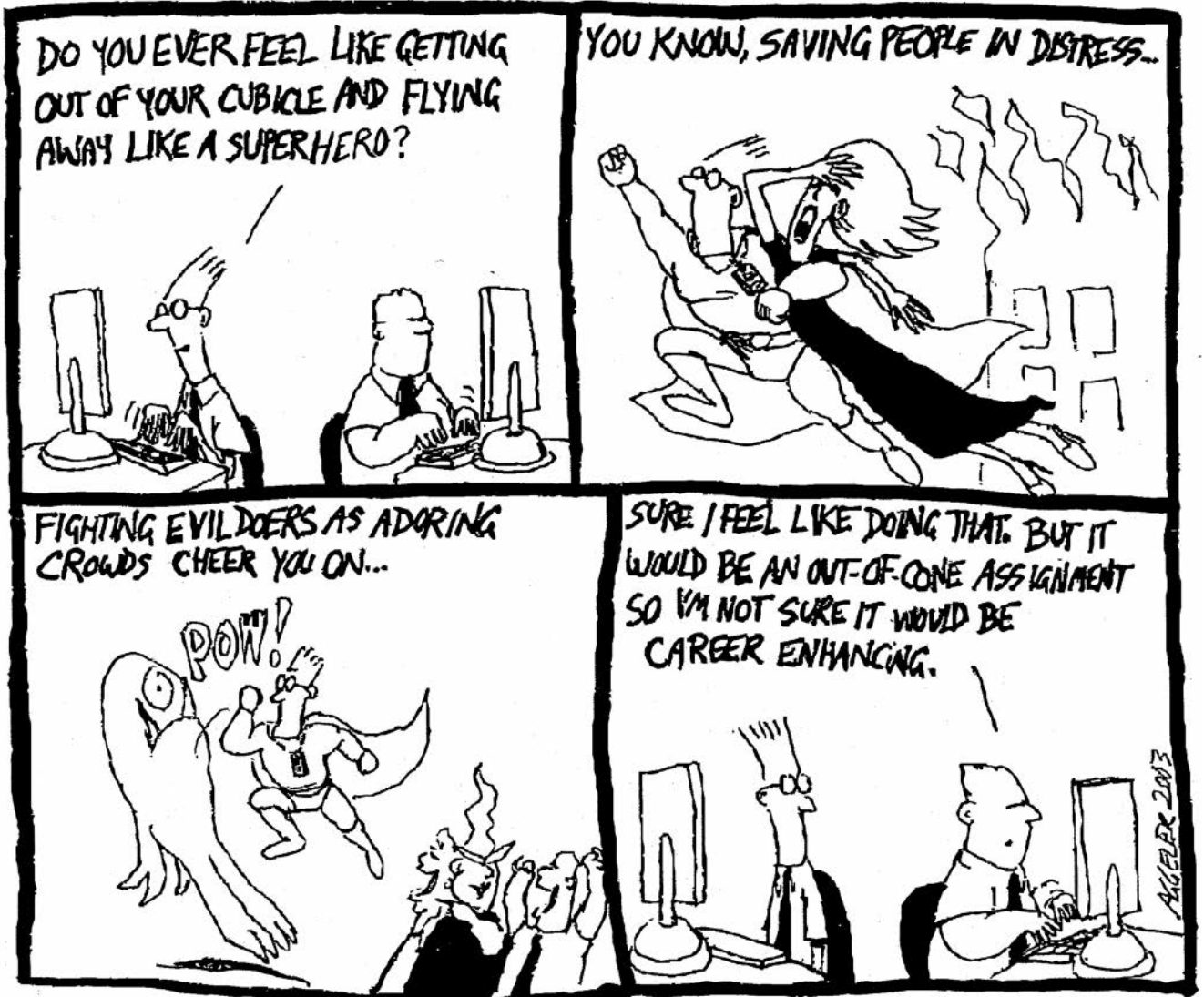


Front row, from left: Louise Crane (State VP), Bill Carter (USAID VP), John W. Limbert (President), Cynthia Efirid (State Representative), Stan Zuckerman (Retiree Representative), David E. Reuther (Retiree Representative), Alex Belida (IBB Representative), Ray Maxwell (State Representative).

Back row, from left: Gil Sheinbaum (Retiree Representative), Danny Hall (Treasurer), Tex Harris (Secretary), Charles Ford (FCS VP), Bill Crawford (FCS Representative), Ted Wilkinson (Retiree Representative), Thomas Olson (USAID Representative), Scot Folensbee (State Representative), Jim Wagner (State Representative)
Not Shown: George Jones (Retiree VP), Pamela Bates (State Representative), John Sullivan (State Representative).

Life in the Foreign Service

■ BY BRIAN AGGELER, FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER & CARTOONIST



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The Perfect Couple

Inside a U.S. Embassy is a look at the reality of Foreign Service work and *Realities of Foreign Service Life* is a look inside Foreign Service life. AFSA — representing FS employees — published *Inside*, while the Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide — representing FS family members — published *Realities*. Both books are unique in their presentation of personal “through the eyes of” views of life and work at U.S. embassies and consulates.

These two books make a great pair, giving the most complete picture of life and work in the Foreign Service available today. They are great resources for anyone considering a Foreign Service career, anyone new to the Foreign Service, and anyone simply interested in learning more about the Foreign Service. At 275 pages, *Realities* has seven sections: An

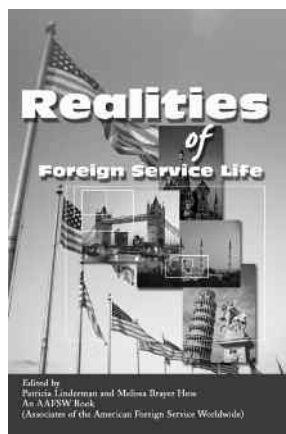
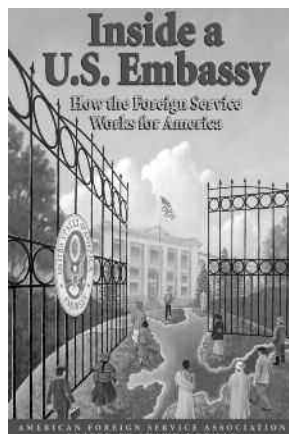
Overview of Foreign Service Life, Moving and Adjusting, Views from Abroad, Family Life, Work and Technology, Moments of Crisis, and Returning Home. Issues tackled include evacuations and crisis response, family member work options, educating children abroad, divorce in the FS, medical clearances, as well as food, pet travel and much more.

Inside is the only book that describes what Foreign Service officers and specialists actually do on the job, from Paris to

Kabul, from Bogota to Beijing, and places in between. The book includes profiles of 23 of your Foreign Service colleagues around the world, day-in-the-life entries from officers and specialists in 17 different countries and stories of the extraordinary from 26 countries.

To order *Inside a U.S. Embassy*, go to www.afsa.org/inside or call (847) 364-1222. The price is \$12.95 plus shipping and handling. You may be eligible for a complimentary copy of the book if you plan to use it for a speaking engagement or class. Contact embassybook@afsa.org for more information.

To order *Realities of Foreign Service Life*, go to amazon.com (preferably by using a link from either the AFSA or AAFSW Web site) or call (202) 362-6514. The cost is \$20.95 plus shipping and handling. Proceeds from the sale of both books go towards AFSA and AAFSW efforts to support the FS community. □



Dissent • Continued from page 1

Other distinguished officials also publicly came to the defense of the Foreign Service. Ambassador Thomas Boyatt, former president of AFSA and two-time winner of AFSA dissent awards, speaking on National Public Radio's Morning Edition, commented: “Unfortunately, Mr. Gingrich appears to view foreign policy assessment by U.S. diplomats as disloyalty to the president when those assessments differ from Mr. Gingrich’s own views.” Former Ambassador to the U.N. Richard Holbrooke wrote in the *Washington Post* that, “Where Gingrich sees State Department insubordination; I see a dedicated group of men and women serving their nation.”

For over 30 years, AFSA has sponsored a program to recognize and encourage constructive dissent and risk-taking in the Foreign Service. The AFSA dissent awards publicly recognize individuals who have demonstrated the intellectual courage to challenge the system from within, to question the status quo, to disagree with

conventional wisdom.

Several years ago, in an attempt to define the type of individual who meets the criteria for one of AFSA’s dissent awards, the *Journal* published an article entitled “What Characterizes AFSA Award Winners?” These comments are even more relevant today:

“AFSA should seek through its awards to encourage officers to use their intellectual talents, area and linguistic expertise, and pride in the concept of service to promote critical and constructive solutions to issues of foreign policy and national security. The awards should recognize those men and women of the Service who are willing to tackle tough and complex problems head on, to call the shots as they are, and to propose practical and creative solutions.” *Anthony C. E. Quinton, Rivkin Award winner, 1972, and Herter Award winner, 1984.*

Send AFSA Your Nomination

This is your opportunity to help AFSA show that dissent is not insubor-

dination, but is vital to the strength of the Foreign Service. Most of us know people who should be recognized for taking a courageous stance on some issue pertaining to their work. Please take the time to think about which of your colleagues meet the criteria. In addition to a \$2,500 cash award, winners will be publicly recognized at a ceremony in the State Department’s Benjamin Franklin Diplomatic Reception Room in late June (Secretary Powell attended in 2002 and 2003). The December issue of *AFSA News* will have more detailed information about each award and how to submit a nomination. You can also go to the AFSA Web site (www.afsa.org) and click on “Awards” to get additional information. The September 2003 issue of the *Journal* features this year’s AFSA awards winners. The 2003 recipient of the Tex Harris Award for Dissent by a Foreign Service Specialist, Chuck O’Malley, said it best: “If the boat’s not rocking, it’s not going anywhere.” Let’s show Newt Gingrich we’re not afraid to rock the boat! □

New EER Form: Putting Your Best Foot Forward ... First!



AFSA and State management have approved a new EER form. It's a pilot program, and for now, it applies only to O1s and members of the Senior Service. The new form will be evaluated at the end of the first year with a view toward scrapping it, improving it or keeping it as it is and extending it to mid-level tenured employees.

There are several significant departures from the previous form. The first — and most important — change is that the ratee's statement comes first. The ratee prepares a document describing what he/she did. This page is tied to the work requirements and the ratee must include at least three of them. It is not an assessment of how well or poorly the employee performed. Some employees have complained to AFSA that this change simply puts the "suicide box" first. Nothing could be further from the truth. The so-called suicide box is usually one of three things:

- a perfunctory statement to the effect the employee enjoyed working with the rater and reviewer and is grateful for their glowing assessment; or
- some description of additional accomplishments that didn't make it into the rating because of space constraints; or
- a rebuttal of what the ratee perceives as an incomplete, unfair or prejudicial rating. This often becomes very emotional.

This new form gives you an opportunity to talk about what you did and why it was important. You get to put your best foot forward ... first!

Here at AFSA, lots of members come by, call or e-mail us about their EERs. One common complaint we hear is that "I gave him examples of my work for my EER, but he didn't use any of them." Another is that, "I am being asked to sign that counseling took place, but it never did. Do I have any recourse? Do I have to sign?" With the new EER form, there will be examples because you have put them there. The rater will have to work from your list of accomplishments. The rater will have to comment on what you think was important.

AFSA expects there to be a lively give-and-take between the ratee and the rater. And, finally, if counseling never took place, you don't have to sign that box.

In June, AFSA asked employees to comment on the proposed new forms, and we heard from many of you. You wanted more space for the work requirements: we got it. You wanted the "special circumstances" section restored: it was. You wanted more space for the reviewer's comments: that's there. You also insisted on an obligatory independent and substantive comment from the reviewer, not just one in the event the reviewer and the rater disagreed: that's now SOP.

The new EER form is shorter than the old. The rater is now limited to only one page, not two, and the space for the reviewer's input is also smaller. Before we agreed to this, we contacted every State member of last year's selection boards and a lot of this year's too. (We did not think it appropriate to ask those who were still sitting on selection boards.) We asked them if an independent substantive comment from the reviewer was

important to their deliberations. Most of those who replied said yes. Those who did not say yes said it was essential when there was a difference between the views of the rater and the reviewer. We asked if the job of making decisions on promotions would be harder with shorter ratings; i.e., one fewer page of prose from the rater. The answer was a unanimous "No!" Many said the second page is often repetitive and does not add anything substantive.

AFSA will meet with those who sit on next year's selection panels and ask them what they think of the new form. Does it need tweaking? Or junking? Did it help you do your job? We will also ask those whose evaluations were written using the new form. And we will ask if it is appropriate for mid-level employees.

This is a pilot program and AFSA encourages comment. Sock it to me — to use a nostalgic phrase — at cranek@afsa.org. □

This new form gives you
an opportunity to talk
about what you did and
why it was important.

actions against foreign countries in U.S. courts. Anyone who filed a suit and already received compensation would not be eligible for additional compensation under this legislation and anyone who accepts compensation under the act could not then sue for compensation for the same terrorist act. Members of the Foreign Service and their family members who are U.S. citizens would, of course, be covered by this legislation.

AFSA supports fair and timely compensation for victims of terrorism. The AFSA Governing Board voted on Sept. 10 to support the passage of this bill, with important changes. AFSA has written to SFRC Chairman Lugar urging an increase in the proposed compensation figure to bring it closer to the amounts offered victims of 9/11. AFSA has also urged that the law include a provision for compensating locally-engaged staff at our overseas missions.

During a July 17 Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing, State Legal Advisor William H. Taft IV presented the administration's proposal, on which the bill was based. He reiterated the outline sent to Congress by Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage in June 2002. The four principles in the proposal were:

- the program should provide the same benefits to all, regardless of income or estimates of future economic worth;
- victims should receive benefits as quickly as possible without the need for litigation;
- the amount to be paid should be on a par with that provided to families of public safety officers killed or injured in the line of duty; and
- compensation would not come from blocked assets from other nations.

There is debate around the administration's proposal to take blocked assets from other nations off the table for use in compensation to victims of terrorism. The administration has several reasons for wanting to do this. It can take years to reach judgment in these cases. In many cases, the funds are simply not there. Perhaps most

Continued on page 7

Potholes Along the Benefits Road

Let's pretend! Pretending can be fun — it takes us back to less complicated times. Ready? Let's pretend we are embarking on that imaginary road called the "career path" and we have come to Robert Frost's decisive fork in the road. Which road to choose? The one that offers us a plan for student loan repayment, or the one that does not? The one that pays per diem and allowances when we initially come on board, or the one that does not? The one that has policies allowing business-class travel when appropriate, or the one that has the policy but does not fully implement it? The one that permits spouses to study foreign languages for the same number of weeks as a full-time employee, or the one that limits language-class participation? The one that facilitates participation in an insurance plan that provides an immediate benefit upon death, or the one that does not? The one that affords eligibility to join USAA, or the one that does not?



Actually, pretending is not necessary at all in this case. Sadly, this is the reality. Let us be blunt: USAID is not keeping pace with the other foreign affairs agencies on benefits. The problem sounds clear, yet the broader context is fraught with ambiguity and contradiction.

Let us be blunt: USAID is not keeping pace with the other foreign affairs agencies on benefits.

Alas, we have the headline hoopla on page 2 of the July/August issue of *Front Lines*, which reads: "State and AID Forge Joint Strategy." While the two organizations may be melodiously harmonizing in important programmatic areas, there is an ever-increasing gulf in others, especially in the area of what AFSA would call "investing in the employee." AFSA exhorts USAID management to examine the ever-widening personnel and benefit disparities and begin to close the gaps. AFSA has raised these matters with management and will continue to do so at every opportunity. USAID and State officers serve side by side in posts throughout the world, enduring the same dangers, hardships and career uncertainties: shouldn't they be receiving the same benefits?

Management usually gives "funding constraints" as the catchall reason why some of the benefits mentioned above will not be accommodated at USAID. Yet many of us are distressed to see far less important expenditures being made regularly while these areas of benefit equity are neglected. The budget trade-offs in the Operating Expense process seem to be black-boxed, never getting openly vetted as they were in the past. It is critical for USAID to attract, and just as important, to retain the quality and numbers of new personnel to deal with the complicated development assistance challenges that face our nation in Afghanistan, Iraq, Liberia and elsewhere. In order to do this, the agency will need to grapple with this serious benefits disparity problem — and quickly.

If the benefit potholes are not filled in soon, it is not difficult to imagine which road will become the less traveled. □

FOREIGN SERVICE HEALTH WATCH

AFSA is proud to announce the debut of a new feature, Foreign Service Health Watch, which will appear periodically in *AFSA News*. Health Watch articles will examine health issues of particular concern to members of the Foreign Service community. Special correspondent and FS family member Eurona Tilley — who has an advanced degree in microbiology/immunology — starts off the series with an article about dengue fever.

Dengue Fever

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
EURONA TILLEY

There are certain unique medical concerns associated with being posted overseas. In fact, Foreign Service employees and family members often come face to face with global ailments. The key to protection is education; consequently, we must try to understand the particular medical concerns in our host country and beyond.

Every year approximately 100 million people worldwide become ill with dengue fever and its more serious counterparts — dengue hemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome. This disease is associated with tropical climates and is most prevalent in Africa, Southeast Asia, the Middle East, South and Central America, and the Caribbean.

Dengue fever is caused by any of four closely-related viruses. The *Aedes aegypti* mosquito acquires the virus after biting an infected person. Subsequently, after a one- to two-week incubation period, this mosquito is able to pass the disease on to other healthy individuals by inserting the virus under the protective layer of their skin. *Aedes aegypti* is most active during daylight hours and prefers to reside in urban settings. Areas with inadequate water, sewer and waste-management systems provide locations for infected mosquitoes to lay their eggs. Once hatched, these mosquitoes will only travel within a few hundred feet, resulting in a localized area for the spread of the disease.

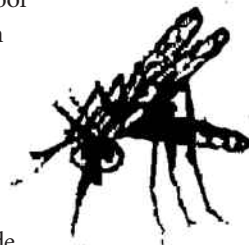
Also known as “breakbone disease,” dengue’s symptoms include a high fever

lasting two to seven days, severe headache, backache, joint pain, nausea, vomiting, eye pain, and a rash on the feet or legs beginning three to four days after the inception of fever. More serious complications are a tendency to bruise easily, skin hemorrhages and bleeding nose and gums, as well as internal bleeding. Eventually, if enough fluid is lost from the blood vessels, the circulatory system may fail, followed by the onset of shock. The case fatality rate is approximately 5 percent in most countries. Young children, the elderly, and immunocompromised persons are the most susceptible to the serious complications of this virus.

Although there is no vaccine for dengue fever, in May 2003, researchers at Children’s Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School announced a possible approach to developing one. The dengue virus uses a protein, named “E,” to enter the human cell’s outer membrane. The protein works like a fist punching its way inside where the virus can then use cell mechanisms to replicate and spread to nearby cells. Researchers have found a pocket in the protein that can be filled with



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a drug, thus preventing the formation of the fist-like structure. Until a drug is available to the general public, doctors will continue to use acetaminophen for the pain and, if necessary, fluid replacement therapy in the case of dengue hemorrhagic fever. Antibiotics are never prescribed for dengue, as they are not effective against viruses.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified dengue fever as “the most important mosquito-borne viral disease affecting humans.” In fact, individuals can become sick with each of the four forms of the dengue virus, as no cross-immunity is acquired with each infection.

The best way to protect yourself and your family is to take certain basic precautions. Empty containers of standing water including pet bowls, potted plants and receptacles of rainwater. Always use window screens and keep doors closed because mosquitoes look for shady areas to hide inside homes. Be sure to wear protective clothing such as long sleeves, pants, shoes, and socks especially during the early morning and late afternoon hours. Lastly, spray all exposed areas and clothing with a repellent containing DEET (N,N-diethylmetatoluamide). DEET can be

unsafe for small children, so read all labels carefully. It is most effective in concentrations between 20 and 40 percent. Stronger concentrations can be toxic. While residing in areas with high incidence of dengue fever may be a fact of life

for a large number of Foreign Service families, infection can be avoided with proper household maintenance and careful planning before leaving home. □

Q&A

Retiree Issues

BY BONNIE BROWN,
RETIREE ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR

Q: What will happen if State determines that my annuity benefits were not calculated accurately when I retired and that I have been paid too much?

A: The department is obligated to pay out benefits in accordance with applicable law and regulations and assure that annuity payments are correct. Upon discovering an overpayment, the department will send you a letter explaining that an error has been discovered and that a corrective reduction will be made in your gross monthly annuity payment. You will be told what your adjusted monthly payment will be and when the adjustment will go into effect.

After further review of your file, the department will send a notice, documenting the total amount of your overpayment and the reason overpayment occurred. The department will inform you of its intention to seek repayment, your right to contest the overpayment or request a waiver of recovery, and the procedures to follow in pur-

suing an appeal or waiver.

Q: How is an overpayment collected?

A: The department offers two options. The first option is full payment within 30 days of receipt of the notice to the annuitant. The second is an installment plan that extends over a period of time, not to exceed three years. Installment payments include a processing fee and interest.

Q: How can I contest the overpayment determination?

A: You have 30 days in which to file a response to the notice. Your response should provide an explanation of why you believe you have not been overpaid or why the overpayment has been calculated incorrectly.

Q: How can I request a waiver of collection of the overpayment?

A: You can request a waiver in writing. In support of this request you must submit a completed "Statement of Financial Status for Consideration Concerning Your Debt to the United States Government." Taking into consideration your ordinary and necessary expenses, the department will determine whether you have sufficient assets and income to ensure that repayment will not result in financial hardship.

Q: What are the standards for granting a waiver?

A: Section 807(d) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 provides that

recovery of an overpayment may not be made when the individual is without fault and recovery would be against equity and good conscience or administratively infeasible. The department may base a finding of fault on a number of factors, including annuitant knowledge that the payment was erroneous, failure to disclose material facts, submission of incorrect statements, or ability to have determined that the payment was erroneous.

Q: How does repayment affect my tax obligations?

A: Upon receiving repayment, the Retirement Accounts Division provides an annuitant with a letter of credit for prior years of overpayment. This letter can be submitted in an amended tax return.

Q: How can an employee or annuitant assure that his/her annuity calculations are accurate?

A: Overpayments can occur for a variety of reasons, including failures on the part of the department and/or the annuitant. It is essential for annuitants to learn about the regulations governing annuities and other benefits, to maintain and periodically review their employment records and deposits, and to assure that annuity calculations are correct. In the event there is some uncertainty, one can request a recalculation by the Retirement Office by submitting Form DS 5000. □

Terror • Continued from page 5

significantly, the ability to sue for blocked assets can hinder the administration's flexibility to use the funds as leverage in diplomatic negotiations. Yet there is recognition

that these victims deserve some level of compensation.

Stuart Eizenstat, a legal expert on compensation issues and a Clinton administration Treasury deputy secretary, testified

that the \$262,000 amount is too low, "when we compare that, for example, to the \$1.85 million average award under the 9/11 compensation fund ..." Dr. Allan Gerson, another expert, argued that the whole bill should be scrapped, because, in his opinion, the price should be paid by the perpetrators and not U.S. taxpayers. In addition, he disagreed with limiting victims' rights: "In exchange for that paltry sum, they (the victims) would be forfeiting their precious, hard-fought right to sue."

The debate on the bill is ongoing, and AFSA is engaged in the process and working with Congress to ensure that the law will adequately cover all U.S. citizens, including members of the Foreign Service community. □

How You Can Help

AFSA encourages members to donate to the fund for the children of American victims of terrorism. Checks payable to the Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund or FEEA should be sent to Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund, 8441 West Bowles Ave., Suite 200, Littleton, CO 80123. On the memo line, write Federal Diplomatic Family Assistance Fund. To tag the donation for family members of the victims of the 1998 East Africa bombings, put "FDFAF-AF" on the memo line. Direct questions to Kendall Montgomery in the Office of Casualty Assistance: (202) 736-4302.

AFSA also strongly encourages support for the FSN Emergency Relief Fund, which responds to general crises or humanitarian requests on behalf of FSN employees. Contributions should be made payable to the U.S. Department of State and sent to: Donna Bordley, Gift Funds Coordinator, FMP, Room 7427, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520. Donna Bordley can be reached at (202) 647-5031.

RETIREES IN ACTION

Experiential Learning with Eugene Schmiel

BY ERIN BARRAR, PUBLIC AFFAIRS INTERN

While the field of foreign affairs does not offer many opportunities for gaining know-how early on, retired State Department Foreign Service officer Eugene Schmiel is playing an important role in preparing young Americans to become leaders in world affairs. Through work at the Institute for Experiential Learning in Washington, Dr. Schmiel arranges for students of international relations to gain “hands-on” work experience, spurring new appreciation for the challenging and rewarding, yet often overlooked, work of America’s Foreign Service.

During Schmiel’s 23-year career as a Foreign Service officer, from 1973 to 1996, he served as *chargé* in three nations: Djibouti, Guinea-Bissau, and Iceland. He also served as consul general in Mombasa, Kenya, and as deputy office director for Central African affairs and later for Korean affairs. While working on Korean affairs, he helped facilitate the first political meetings between North and South Korea in the early 1990s.

From 1980 to 1982, Schmiel was coordinator for the A-100 training course for new Foreign Service officers. In that capacity, Schmiel helped create the “Anthuria” off-site, in which diplomats-in-training would head to Harper’s Ferry for a three-day exercise in real embassy simulation. Students would handle mock crises in the fictional nation of Anthuria. His contribution remained an enduring element of the course (though now the exercise is held at FSI), and many FSOs have mused that it was a valuable part of their preparation for overseas service. Schmiel would later take the Anthuria experience and put it to effective use in his post-Foreign Service endeavors.

Since retirement, Schmiel continues to serve the Foreign Service as the Director for Academic Programs at the Institute for Experiential Learning in Washington. IEL is an educational nonprofit organization that provides students with rigorous internship experiences that foster their education outside of the conventional classroom environment and prepare them for success in future careers. In his role

as academic programs director, Schmiel helps place students from around the world in internships with government agencies, nonprofits, law firms, businesses and media organizations. These include highly varied placements from the White House to the Discovery Channel to the Washington Capitals Hockey team.

Schmiel also runs a unique IEL program that he created in 1998, the Embassy and Diplomatic Scholars Program, for students majoring in international relations. The program offers students experience in the practical side of international studies in an effort to mold them into future “leaders in foreign affairs,” through work in foreign embassies, foreign policy agencies, think tanks, or international businesses. Some of the most interesting internship opportunities, according to Schmiel, are those in foreign embassies in Washington.

While interning in Washington D.C., students also take upper-level courses in international relations and the foreign policy process. Schmiel teaches a “mini A-100” class for his students — a crash course in the duties of a Foreign Service officer. The course introduces students to the trials and tribulations, and also the excitement, of life at an embassy. Schmiel notes that while countless students enter the IEL program unaware of the function and role of the Foreign Service, many are prompted to take the Foreign Service exam after finishing the program. Schmiel encourages his students to take the exam and finds that the knowledge gained at IEL is indispensable to aspiring junior officers. Schmiel is proud that one of his students, Barbara Cordano, reported to her first post in Bolivia this past January, and another recently passed the oral examination.

Among his other responsibilities, Schmiel hires IEL faculty members, often providing rewarding work opportunities for fellow retired Foreign Service officers. Scholars at IEL could not ask for more qualified instructors than the retirees who speak from years of experience in the work of foreign policy and international relations.

Schmiel taught history at St. Francis College for four years before joining the Foreign Service, experience that has helped make his transition to the IEL academic director

position a smooth one. When not at IEL, he can be found teaching as an adjunct professor of history and international relations at Marymount and Shenandoah Universities. He has always enjoyed working with students, and actively encourages them to gain experience through internships like those offered through IEL. Schmiel believes that careers in foreign affairs are becoming increasingly challenging, and notes that aspiring leaders must be equipped not only with a strong academic background, but also must gain exposure to culture, foreign languages and an international perspective. To learn more about the IEL program, go to www.ielnet.org. □



From Left: Gene Schmiel, Barbara Cordand (former student, now an FSO), and A-100 coordinators Kathy Davis and Charlie Peacock.



Gene Schmiel with one of his classes of “Embassy Scholars.”

AFSA NEWS BRIEFS



USAID AFSA Success: An Hour for a Promotion

An AFSA member contacted USAID in August, disconcerted over the fact that she was not promoted while two others in her class who were ranked below her did receive promotions. With a little research, AFSA learned that she lost out on the promotion because she had missed her four-year overseas requirement by one hour and 55 minutes, having arrived at post at 1:55 a.m. local time the day after the deadline.

AFSA/AID wrote a letter to the Human Resources department, pointing out that common sense had to play a role in considerations such as these, and that the overly strict application of the regulation was in no way beneficial to the agency and urging a reversal of the negative decision. HR responded extremely well and surprisingly quickly, and AFSA appreciates the response. Following the exchange with AFSA, USAID published an official revision to its promotion list that included the AFSA member who had requested assistance.

Do You Know Your Editorial Board?

The *Foreign Service Journal* Editorial Board has gained two new members over the past several months. Here is a complete list of the members of the 2003 to 2004 Editorial Board:

Judith Baroody: Active/State, Chair
Mark W. Bocchetti: Active/State
Stephen W. Buck: Retired/State
Tatiana C. Gfoeller: Active/State
Carol A. Giacomo: Journalist

William W. Jordan: Active/State
Laurie Kassman: Active/VOA
Hollis Summers: Active/State
Bill Wanlund: Active/USIA-State
Ted Wilkinson: Retired/State,
Governing Board Liaison

AFSA appreciates the dedicated and outstanding volunteer service given to the *Journal* by the Editorial Board, and looks forward to continued success improving the content and quality of the magazine.

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AFSA Scholarship Fund: Combined Federal Campaign # 2422

AFSA gives over \$150,000 per year to Foreign Service children to help meet their college expenses. Support Foreign Service families by donating to this fund.

The Fund for American Diplomacy: CFC # 2460

AFSA strives to build a constituency for the Foreign Service through the activities of the Fund for American Diplomacy. Through nationwide education programs, AFSA shows the American public how U.S. diplomacy promotes America's interests abroad.

For more information, visit the AFSA Web site or contact Lori Dec by phone: (202) 944-5504 or (800) 704-2372, ext. 504; or e-mail: dec@afsa.org.

Legislative Update

The House of Representatives passed the three bills AFSA has been following most closely: the State Department authorization bill; the Commerce, Justice, State FY04 appropriations bill, which funds the Department of State and its programs, pays the assessments for the international organizations to which we belong, and covers international non-military broadcasting; and the FY04 Foreign Operations bill, which funds USAID and other assistance programs. Further legislative progress requires action by the Senate.

The State Department authorization bill has several provisions covering personnel issues and departmental organizations issues, the Millennium Challenge Account, and several other programs. In terms of AFSA's personnel and organizational issues, all agency personnel will benefit from provisions to increase the caps on allowances and differentials for hardship and danger posts to 35 percent each — a provision with the strong backing of State management. State Department employees will also be happy to know that, thanks to enthusiastic AFSA lobbying, the Senate version reduces the mandatory 5-percent low ranking requirement to 2 percent for tenured FS

personnel. The department has weighed in supporting this with the House.

The Senate was well on its way to passing this bill and clearing the way for a conference to resolve differences with the House-passed bill until the bill was pulled from the Senate floor because of a non-germane amendment, an increase to the minimum wage. The problem now, separate from the issues in the House and Senate versions of this bill, is whether there will be sufficient time to pass the bill in the Senate, go to conference, and take the conference agreements back to both houses of Congress to pass before the first session comes to an end in October or November. If this bill cannot meet this deadline, Congress will probably not act on the authorization bill until late February or March of 2004.

The success of AFSA's efforts to amend the capital gains tax exclusion on the sale of a principal residence depends on the outcome of the House/Senate conference on the bill to provide child tax credits to the poor. AFSA is working for this provision to remain in this bill while the House moves down from its \$82 billion version and the Senate moves up from its \$10 billion version. □

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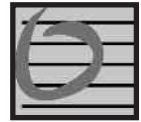
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