### ACTUALITÉ DU RENSEIGNEMENT

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#### Enabling Security for the 21st Century: Intelligence & Strategic Foresight and Warning
Helène Lavoix – RSIS Working Paper No. 207

The first section of the article will set the general stage, going back to the basics of what security is, starting with its most straightforward definition and then showing consequences in terms of political organization. The second section will emphasize the unbreakable relationship between security and intelligence, and revisit from this perspective existing definitions and characteristics of intelligence. Finally, building upon the two previous sections, the last part will focus on the integration of strategic foresight and warning within an intelligence function seen as the understanding capability of political authorities that needs to be implemented or reinforced to face the challenges of the present and future.

#### More is Better: The Analytic Case for a Robust Suspicious Activity Reports Program
James E. Steiner – Homeland Security Affairs VI, no. 3 (September 2010)

A subsequent CRS study, in November 2009, endorsed Nojeim’s suggestion questioning the need for a data-intensive program and made a similar recommendation: “Congress may be interested in how a future SAR Program Management Office intends to address this problem – specifically, which agency or agencies will be responsible for quality control of SARs [sic] to prevent system overload from irrelevant or redundant ones.” This article acknowledges the progress made in protecting civil rights – an area of legitimate concern – but rejects categorically the call to reduce or limit the size of the SAR program. Two analytic requirements for the collection of more rather than less information through the SAR process are presented, to increase the probability of identifying pre-operational terrorist activity and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of critical infrastructure protection regimes. In statistical analysis, more is better.

#### Foreign report: Israel has one of world’s largest ‘eavesdropping’ intel bases

The base, near Kibbutz Urim, is central to the activities of the main Israel Defense Forces signals intelligence unit, 8200, according to report in Le Monde Diplomatique.

#### Desert base listens to the world talking – Israel’s omniscient ears

Israel’s Urim base in the Negev desert is among the most important and powerful intelligence gathering sites in the world. Yet, until now, its eavesdropping has gone entirely unmentioned.

#### MI6 - Keith Jeffery

Le livre de 800 pages publié cette semaine par l’historien Keith Jeffery, professeur à la Queen’s University de Belfast, brise donc le mur du silence et fait de nombreuses révélations sur les succès et les échecs des renseignements britanniques pendant ses quarante premières années, de 1909 à 1949. La limite de 1949 est pratique pour le MI6, car elle empêche l’historien de travailler sur le pire point noir de l’histoire des services britanniques: la découverte de la trahison de Kim Philby et des quatre autres agents du groupe des «cinq de Cambridge», qui ont transmis de précieux renseignements à Moscou des années 1930 jusqu’aux années 1950.


The Defense Department is attempting to buy the entire first printing - 10,000 copies - of a memoir by a controversial former Defense Intelligence Agency officer so that the book can be destroyed, according to military and other sources. «Operation Dark Heart,» which was scheduled to be published this month by St. Martin’s Press, recounts the adventures and frustrations of an Army reservist, Lt. Col. Anthony Shaffer, who served in Afghanistan in 2003, a moment when the attention of Washington and the military had shifted to Iraq.
The Impact of Training on Promoting Satisfaction and Retention of Australian Intelligence Officers

International Police Training Journal, Interpol – Issue 1 – July 2010

This paper focuses on the Australian intelligence practitioner labour market and examines the relative importance of training on promoting job satisfaction and work place retention of Australian intelligence officers. The premise for this paper lies within the concept of hedonic wage theory, which fundamentally explores alternate ways to attract individuals to certain careers, with particular focus on the tradeoff between what the workers get paid and their job characteristics.

Able Danger And Intelligence Information Sharing

Hearing Before The Committee On The Judiciary United States Senate

There has been extensive publicity in the media about this program known as Able Danger, with representations made that the Department of Defense had information about an Al Qaeda cell, including the identification of Mohammed Atta, substantially prior to 9/11, and that arrangements which had been made preliminarily to turn over the information to the FBI were not carried out because of concern by the Department of Defense that there might be a violation of the Posse Comitatus Act. That is a statute which was enacted shortly after the Civil War which prevents the United States military from being engaged in law enforcement activities. [...] Much of this data was obtained before 9/11 from information that was gathered from the 1993 attack, the individuals involved in that attack, the attack on the U.S.S. Cole, the attack at the African embassies, and what they did, they identified five key cells of Al Qaeda worldwide, one of which was the Brooklyn cell, and so they were gathering this information and basically assembling it in the data mining process in 1999 and 2000. In the months that followed, we were able to collect an immense amount of data for analysis that allowed us to map Al Qaeda as a worldwide threat with a surprisingly significant presence within the United States.

Spheres of Military Autonomy under Democratic Rule: Implications and Prospects for Security Sector Transformation (SST) in the Philippines

Global Consortium on Security Transformation

This paper is interested in explaining the persistence and steady expansion of the sphere of military autonomy in spite of democratization and how it aects security sector transformation (SST). It argues that SST processes will be constrained, limited, and even undermined so long as the military enjoys significant degrees of political autonomy in three ways. First, a relatively autonomous military will likely denote and dominate the framework of SST in a given country. This implies that programs that will reform the military will likely not produce the intended results of democratic civilian control. Second, any gains or positive outcomes generated by transforming the security sector will likely be jeopardized by the military since they have the power to stifle or undermine these reforms. Finally, military autonomy in certain areas such as human rights and security policy hinders the participation of other actors, notably civil society in being able to influence and contribute to SST initiatives. Using the case of the Philippines, this study seeks to examine these three causal mechanisms that link military autonomy with the space or opportunities for governments to implement programs and policies that could transform the security sector.

Blackwater's Black Ops – Jeremy Scahill

Over the past several years, entities closely linked to the private security firm Blackwater have provided intelligence, training and security services to US and foreign governments as well as several multinational corporations, including Monsanto, Chevron, the Walt Disney Company, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and banking giants Deutsche Bank and Barclays, according to documents obtained by The Nation. Blackwater's work for corporations and government agencies was contracted using two companies owned by Blackwater's owner and founder, Erik Prince: Total Intelligence Solutions and the Terrorism Research Center (TRC). Prince is listed as the chairman of both companies in internal company documents, which show how the web of companies functions as a highly coordinated operation. Officials from Total Intelligence, TRC and Blackwater (which now calls itself Xe Services) did not respond to numerous requests for comment for this article.

U.S. covert paramilitary presence in Afghanistan much larger than thought – The Washington Post

The CIA has relied on Lilley, part of a constellation of agency bases across Afghanistan, as a hub to train and deploy a well-armed 3,000-member Afghan paramilitary force collectively known as Counterterrorism Pursuit Teams. In addition to being used for surveillance, raids and combat operations in Afghanistan, the teams are crucial to the United States' secret war in Pakistan, according to current and former U.S. officials.
Mission assassination in Afghanistan – Pratap Chatterjee

“Find, fix, finish, and follow-up” is the way the Pentagon describes the mission of secret military teams in Afghanistan that have been given a mandate to pursue alleged members of the Taliban or al-Qaeda wherever they may be found. Some call these “manhunting” operations and the units assigned to them “capture/kill” teams.

Whatever terminology you choose, the details of dozens of their specific operations - and how they regularly went badly wrong - have been revealed for the first time in the mass of secret United States military and intelligence documents published by the website Wikileaks in July to a storm of news coverage and official protest. Representing a form of US covert warfare now on the rise, these teams regularly make more enemies than friends and undermine any goodwill created by US reconstruction projects.

GUERRE DE L'INFORMATION

Psywar

Un documentaire rétrospectif sur la propagande et la gestion des perceptions made in USA. Produit par Metanoia Films, dont la philosophie est “to make timeless films that have a positive difference in the world by promoting stories that inspire and change people's lives”.

“Psywar - The battlefield is your mind” nous invite à une rétrospective vertigineuse sur l’évolution des campagnes de propagande et de perception management/relations publiques au travers de l’histoire américaine.

Contre-insurrection et action psychologique: tradition et modernité - François Géré, IFRI

Focus stratégique, n°25, septembre 2010

Les opérations psychologiques ont partie liées à la fois au contre-terrorisme, à la contre-insurrection et aux opérations de maintien de la paix. Elles relèvent d’une longue tradition qui fait apparaître des constantes. Il convient néanmoins de se garder d’ériger ces quelques invariants en modèles, de les figer en doctrines. Nous entendons ici faire valoir l’extrême plasticité des opérations psychologiques au regard de la diversité des situations originales.

The Power of Unreason - conspiracy theories, extremism and counter-terrorism

Jamie Bartlett, Carl Miller - Demos

Conspiracy theories have become a mainstream cultural phenomenon. This paper considers the role they play in extremist groups and counterterrorism work. It presents the first ever analysis of conspiracy theories in the ideology and propaganda of fifty extremist groups: religious, far-right and left, eco, anarchic and cult-based. It is, however, difficult for government to tackle conspiracies. The paper calls for government institutions to be more open, investment to enable young people to think critically and recognise propaganda, and for civil society to play a proactive role.

CYBERMENACES

National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace


The Nation faces sophisticated threats against the sensitive and confidential data of our citizens, industries and government. The Nation’s dependence on online transactions significantly increases the potential losses (financial and non-financial) associated with identity theft, fraud, intellectual property leakage, and privacy breach. Securing identities in transactions and creating a trusted online environment has become a critical national priority, and the President’s Cyberspace Policy Review called for development of a strategy to address this issue.

This draft strategy, referred to as the National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace, focuses on the protection of the identity of each party to an online transaction and the identity of the underlying infrastructure that supports it. This Strategy seeks to improve cyberspace for everyone – individuals, private sector, and governments – who conduct business online.

Defending Computer Networks against Attack – Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

ASSAULTS on stand-alone and networked computers, called cyber attacks, are escalating in frequency and severity as the world relies increasingly on World Wide Web applications for commerce, defense, research, education, and health care. In particular, government operations have come to depend on the Internet and are, therefore, vulnerable to a variety of attacks. As a result, cyber security has become a top national priority requiring the best computer experts in government, academia, and business. Some of these experts are working on a Lawrence Livermore project whose goal is to develop a fundamentally new approach for cyber defense.

Cyber Command chief proposes secure network for government, key industries – The Washington Post

The commander of the new Pentagon unit charged with protecting the military’s computer networks wants to create a “secure” network for government computer systems and those of critical industries, such as power and water.

TERRORISME

Jonathan Evans’ terrorism speech

Below is the text of a speech delivered by Jonathan Evans, head of MI5 to the Worshipful Company of Security Professionals.
The Quixotic Quest For Invulnerability:
Assessing The Costs, Benefits, And Probabilities Of Protecting The Homeland
John Mueller, Department of Political Science, Ohio State University
This paper attempts to set out some general parameters for coming to grips with a central homeland security concern: the effort to make potential targets invulnerable, or at least notably less vulnerable, to terrorist attack. It argues that protection makes sense only when protection is feasible for an entire class of potential targets and when the destruction of something in that target set would have quite large physical, economic, psychological, and/or political consequences. There are a very large number of potential targets where protection is essentially a waste of resources and a much more limited one where it may be effective.

Organizational Innovations in Counterterrorism:
Lessons for Cyber-security, Human Trafficking, and Other Complex National Missions
Daniel R. Langbong – Homeland Security Affairs VI, no. 3 (September 2010)
All too often our national security and foreign policy institutions are slow to learn lessons from their own successes and failures. Lessons are identified and applied to an even lesser extent across different institutions and missions. But when problems and solutions are systemic – due to systems designed for a much different era – the experiences of one discrete organization or community can offer valuable insights to an entirely different set of actors. One issue that demands particular attention in the contemporary security environment is how best to apply whole-of-government approaches to complex national missions, ranging from combating terrorism and trafficking in persons to securing cyberspace. These and many other twenty-first-century security challenges require an agile and integrated government approaches to complex national missions, ranging from combating terrorism and trafficking in persons to securing cyberspace. These and many other twenty-first-century security challenges require an agile and integrated response; however, our national security system is organized along functional lines (diplomatic, military, intelligence, law enforcement, etc.) with weak coordinating mechanisms across these functions. Today, there is no definitive model for integrating capabilities and funding for inherently interagency missions.

Hate on the State: How British libraries encourage Islamic extremism
Douglas Murray and James Brandon - 2007 – The Centre for Social Cohesion
The first report published by the Centre for Social Cohesion examines how public libraries may be fuelling Islamic radicalism. The study finds that the libraries of Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest and Birmingham in particular have stocked a disproportionate number of pro-jihadist texts at the expense of more moderate authors.

Hizb ut-Tahrir: Ideology and Strategy
‘Hizb ut-Tahrir: Ideology and Strategy’ is the most comprehensive study of the party’s activities in the United Kingdom to date. The report looks into Hizb ut-Tahrir’s ideology and the subversive tactics used to embed itself into communities and downplay its intolerant beliefs. The report concludes with a detailed analysis of the policies the government could adopt to limit the influence of Hizb ut-Tahrir in the UK.

Islamist Terrorism: The British Connections
Robin Simcox | Hannah Stuart | Houriya Ahmed The Centre for Social Cohesion
Al-Qaeda inspired terrorism is the greatest national security threat facing the UK. Islamist Terrorism: The British Connections presents the most comprehensive ever overview of the UK’s connections to violent Islamism worldwide. The report has been described as «indispensable» by Marc Sageman, author of ‘Leaderless Jihad’, and «invaluable» by Michael Burleigh, author of ‘Blood & Rage’.

Control Orders: Strengthening National Security
Control Orders: Strengthening National Security presents the most thorough ever review of suspected al-Qaeda and al-Qaeda-inspired terrorists placed under control orders. The report highlights the seriousness of the threat they are assessed to pose, and makes the case that politicians should be strengthening the state’s ability to reduce the terrorist threat. Control orders perform an important function imperfectly. The new government should seriously consider retaining the system while robustly addressing its deficiencies.

Use of Motor-Bikes for Terrorism
The use of motor-bikes for committing acts of terrorism, including suicide terrorism, is a modus-operandi that was first seen in Pakistan in the 1980s. This MO involves two terrorists sitting on a motor-bike approaching their target and the one in the pillion seat either firing at the target with a gun or throwing a hand-grenade and then getting away through small lanes where police patrol cars may not be able to enter. Targeted firing from a moving motor-bike is not easy. It requires some training and practice.

A review of the FBI's investigations of certain domestic advocacy groups
The FBI in recent years opened investigations into some U.S. activists with little basis, unjustifiably extended the duration of the probes, improperly retained information about activist groups in its files, and classified its investigations of “nonviolent civil disobedience” as investigations into “acts of terrorism,” according to a report released today by the Justice Department’s Inspector General.

The FBI activities reviewed by the Justice Department took place from 2001 to 2006, and involved groups including the Thomas Merton Center (a Pittsburgh social justice center), People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), Greenpeace, The Catholic Worker (communities of religious pacifists) and a Quaker peace activist.
**Countering Left Wing Extremism: Intelligent Intelligence is the Key** – Dr. N Manoharan

Real time and actionable intelligence is essential for any successful counter-insurgency operation. It is all the more crucial if the enemy is invisible as in the case of Left Wing Extremism in India. Without reliable strategic and tactical intelligence inputs, any counter-insurgency force, however trained and sophisticated it may be, is severely handicapped.

**Haqqani Network In Parachinar** – International Terrorism Monitor--Paper No. 678 – By B.Raman

According to the Ahlul Bayt News Agency of Iran, 25 Shias have been killed and 80 others injured in the Parachinar area in the Kurram Agency of the Federally-Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan during the last two weeks following attacks by members of the Haqqani network of the Afghan Taliban on the Khoyvas village in the Shaluzan Mountains. It claimed that the Shias put up a fierce resistance to the attack and managed to kill 10 members of the Taliban, including two commanders of the Haqqani network. The news agency has alleged that the Pakistani Army, instead of helping the Shias beat back the Taliban attack, bombed the Shia positions from the air in order to help the Taliban. All shops in the area remained closed on September 18, 2010, to protest against the Pakistan Government’s failure to protect the Shias of the Kurram Agency from repeated attacks by the Taliban. The news agency said: « The Kurram Agency has been virtually cut off from the rest of Pakistan for the past two years due to intense clashes between Shiite and Talibani rebels.»

**A New Composite Global Terrorism Threat to Western Societies from Pakistan?**

**Making Sense of the January 2008 Suicide Bomb Plot in Barcelona**

Real Instituto Elcano – Fernando Reinares

On 19 January 2008, between the hours of 00:40 and 05:00, 14 individuals were arrested in Barcelona, Spain’s second-largest city, as a result of a counterterrorism operation initiated two days before and intended to thwart what was evaluated by the state security agencies to be a suicide bombing plot against the local subway transportation system. Among those arrested were 12 persons of Pakistani origin—all but one foreigners in Spain, the other being a naturalized Spaniard—and two Indian nationals. But what exactly happened in Barcelona on January 2008 or was being prepared to happen, and how can we assess both the characteristics and scope of the foiled terrorist plot? Who are the individuals actually convicted in this case and how did they come to constitute a terrorist cell in the city? What kind of connections did these individuals or the cell as a whole have with terrorist actors abroad, as stated in the court sentence, more concretely in Pakistan? A proper answer to these three questions, elucidating also issues of leadership and strategy behind the Barcelona thwarted suicide attacks, based on information and data contained in the official judicial documents of this case at the National Court in Spain, should provide us with enough substantive knowledge on an important incident related to jihadist terrorism. But also with sound evidence upon which to reflect on the dynamics of the global terrorism threat in Western Europe, as it was evolving more than six years after the September 11 attacks in New York and Washington, nearly four years after the 2004 Madrid commuter-train blasts and two and a half years after the July 2005 series of suicide bombings in London.

**Somalia’s al-Shabaab steps up attacks** – IISS

Recent attacks carried out by the Somali group Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujahideen (al-Shabaab) have demonstrated its ability to strike outside its usual territory, and have stoked fears that the group could be becoming more transnational. But they have also indicated that the group’s primary focus is on unseating the Western-supported Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in Somalia itself.

**Assessing the Terrorist Threat** – Peter Bergen and Dr. Bruce Hoffman

This report by members of the BPC’s National Security Preparedness Group details how the terrorist threat has evolved since the attacks in 2001, including the development of homegrown networks and the increasingly diverse and decentralized nature of terrorism.

**Australia’s national security institutions: Reform and renewal**

Carl Ungerer – Australian Strategic Policy Institute

Despite several years of reform since 2008, the institutional design for national security policy-making as a whole remains dominated by centralisation and limited coordination.

The paper identifies three broad recommendations for building a more integrated policy framework: (1) making networks the main institutional design feature, not departments; (2) placing the functions of the National Security Advisor on a statutory basis; and (3) appointing a special minister of state for national security.
**Insight into a Deadly Disease (Tularemia)**

Compared with plague and anthrax, tularemia is less well known to the general public, but recent outbreaks and its potential as a bioterrorism agent have brought the disease into the limelight. Sometimes called rabbit fever, tularemia primarily infects small- to medium-size mammals such as hares, prairie dogs, and rodents. However, the disease can be spread to humans through contact with infected animals, bites from ticks and deerflies, or inhalation of the airborne bacteria. Early symptoms of the disease are similar to the flu but can develop into serious, acute conditions of the glands, intestines, and respiratory system, including life-threatening pneumonia. To make matters worse, although antibiotics can be used to effectively treat the disease, the amount of time available for therapeutic intervention can be fairly short, typically three to five days if bacteria are inhaled.

**Imaging Cargo’s Inner Secrets**

Each year, millions of cargo containers from around the world are shipped to U.S. ports, holding in their metal “bellies” a variety of essential goods such as food and textiles. While this method of importing freight is necessary for the nation’s livelihood, monitoring the contents in such a vast volume of containers poses a challenge to homeland security experts. The events of September 11, 2001, brought transportation security issues into the spotlight, including the need to ensure that cargo containers coming into U.S. ports are not carrying clandestine fissile materials. One of the difficulties scientists face in developing detection technologies for homeland security is how to accurately and efficiently identify hidden nuclear materials without significantly slowing commerce or, worse, bringing it to a halt. With funding from a grant through the University of California (UC) Office of the President, Livermore physicist Marie-Anne Descalle and UC Berkeley collaborators are studying the effectiveness of a radiographic imaging technique for use as a primary screening tool to rapidly scan cargo shipments.

**Russia in Review**

Media Feature, The U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University

An update from U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism for the week of September 17-24, 2010.

**Biotechnology Research in an Age of Terrorism**

Committee on Research Standards and Practices to Prevent the Destructive Application of Biotechnology, National Research Council

In recent years much has happened to justify an examination of biological research in light of national security concerns. The destructive application of biotechnology research includes activities such as spreading common pathogens or transforming them into even more lethal forms. Policymakers and the scientific community at large must put forth a vigorous and immediate response to this challenge. This new book by the National Research Council recommends that the government expand existing regulations and rely on self-governance by scientists rather than adopt intrusive new policies. One key recommendation of the report is that the government should not attempt to regulate scientific publishing but should trust scientists and journals to screen their papers for security risks, a task some journals have already taken up. With biological information and tools widely distributed, regulating only U.S. researchers would have little effect. A new International Forum on Biosecurity should encourage the adoption of similar measures around the world. Seven types of risky studies would require approval by the Institutional Biosafety Committees that already oversee recombinant DNA research at some 400 U.S. institutions. These experiments of concern include making an infectious agent more lethal and rendering vaccines powerless.

**Anthrax War—the Malaysian Connection**

Fears about bioterrorism have prompted new efforts by corporations and governments worldwide to build defenses against germ attacks. But some of these arrangements themselves raise security issues. On a Web page describing architectural plans for the Malaysian venture is a sentence that has raised some eyebrows. It says the companies plan to build a “biocontainment R&D facility that includes BSL … 3 and 4 laboratories.”

**Planned Malaysian Biolab Raises Security Concerns**

Plans to construct a high-security biological research laboratory in Malaysia have caused some worry over possible proliferation of highly lethal disease materials, ProPublica reported yesterday (see GSN, Sept. 22, 2009).

**U.S. Firearms Trafficking to Mexico: New Data and Insights Illuminate Key Trends and Challenges**

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars // Mexico Institute // University of San Diego // Trans-border Institute

Recent news reports that 72 people were summarily executed by an organized crime group in northern Mexico highlight again the horrific violence that has gripped much of the country. The victims (mostly migrants) are the latest reminder that large amounts of sophisticated firearms and ammunition in the hands of violent criminals have made their enterprise more deadly and have complicated law enforcement efforts to bring them under control. In is not surprising, then, that the government of Mexico has made curbing firearms trafficking a top priority in its efforts to dismantle organized crime. Additionally, Mexico has made disrupting arms trafficking networks from the United States a priority issue in the U.S.-Mexico security cooperation agenda. Today, the Mexico Institute and Trans-Border Institute are pleased to present the latest in our Working Paper Series on U.S.-Mexico Security Cooperation. Entitled “U.S. Firearms Trafficking to Mexico: New Data and Insights Illuminate Key Trends and Challenges,” this report provides answers to some of the critical questions about U.S. firearms trafficking to Mexico.

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**Criminalité et Mafias**

U.S. Firearms Trafficking to Mexico: New Data and Insights Illuminate Key Trends and Challenges
Karachi: Violences et globalisation dans une ville-monde – Laurent Gayer, 2004

Depuis, Karachi est une ville de migrants, à tel point qu’on a pu la surnommer « la Mère des immigrés ». Par son extraversion économique et par sa démographie, Karachi est bien une « ville-monde », qui présente une spécificité dans le contexte sud-asiatique : ses conflits violents, d’une grande diversité et d’une intensité inconnue dans le reste du pays comme dans sa région. Ces violences ont privé la cité du destin de « ville globale » en détournant les investisseurs étrangers, mais elles n’en ont pas moins contribué à sa mondialisation, en insérant la ville à des marchés mondiaux illicites et en en faisant la tête de pont des réseaux mondialisés de l’islam radical implantés au Pakistan. La violence est donc consubstantielle au processus de mondialisation de Karachi, et l’on ne peut que s’étonner du silence des chercheurs, tant au Pakistan qu’en France, sur cette question.

A State Under Siege: Elites, Criminal Networks and Institutional Reform in Guatemala
Clingendael // Netherlands Institute of International Relations // Conflict Research Unit

The scale and severity of the challenges facing the Guatemala state have been underlined by events over the past year. Humanitarian crises and a continuing wave of violent crime, exacerbated by the penetration in Guatemalan territory of Mexican cartels, have multiplied the demands on public authorities. The government of President Alvaro Colom, a self-declared social democrat, has vowed to fight poverty and clean up the security and judicial systems. To a significant extent, the country is still locked into the terms of the informal political and economic settlement that lay beneath the formal peace process ending the country’s civil war in 1996. Whereas the peace accords promised rural development, a stronger and wealthier public sector, and a dismantling of the structures of counter-insurgency, the post-conflict reality fell under a different paradigm. Criminal groups, involving former military officers, acting state officials, criminal entrepreneurs and gang members, extended their influence. This paper, which forms part of the broader Clingendael research programme into post-conflict and fragile states, aims to unpick these constraints on governance in Guatemala, and also points to the emerging trends that are now altering the country’s internal balance of power. In particular, the election of Colom in 2007 and the creation in the same year of the UN Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) are landmark events that appear to have undermined the post-conflict settlement. However, recent setbacks, including the paralysis of key policy initiatives - such as tax reform - and repeated acts of corruption in the security forces and the judicial system have raised questions over whether reform of the state is possible, and how it is to be carried out.

Shan Drug Watch: Burma - October 2010

Pro-junta militias operating in Shan State are now the main players in the drug trade, according to new findings by local Shan analysts. The latest Shan Drug Watch newsletter, issued today, details how the Burmese regime’s War on Drugs has fallen way behind schedule, with 46 of Shan State’s 55 townships still growing opium. This is attributed to the Burma Army’s reliance on taxation of opium, and its policy to allow numerous proxy local militia to deal in drugs, including methamphetamines, in exchange for policing against resistance activity. The favored status of the militia has enabled them to overtake ethnic ceasefire groups as the main drug producers in Shan State. Most ceasefire groups, including the United Wa State Army, have faced increased military pressure and restrictions after refusing to come under the regime’s control as Border Guard Forces. “The junta’s militias are stepping into the vacuum left by the Wa and setting up new drug refineries along the Thai-Burma border,” explained Khunsai Jaiyen of Shan Drug Watch. “They are being rewarded for their political allegiance to the regime. ” Maps of militia areas, refineries and details of militia leaders’ close relations with Burma Army personnel throw light on the growing influence of these previously ignored drug operators. There are estimated to be about 400 different militia groups in northern Shan State alone. Despite increased acreage of opium in Shan State during the past 2009-2010 season, overall output was reportedly down due to adverse weather conditions, particularly the unusually dry winter.

RISQUES INTERNATIONAUX


A military manual said to have been smuggled out of North Korea, reveals Pyongyang’s concern about electronic warfare technology used by the United States and South Korea. The document also indicates North Korea’s military uses radar-absorbing paint and other stealth tactics to conceal its weapons.

The BNP and the Online Fascist Network – Edmund Standing – The Centre for Social Cohesion

On the day before two leading British National Party (BNP) members take their seats in the European Parliament, a new Centre for Social Cohesion report reveals that members and supporters of the BNP and its online activists display significant ideological affinity with key tenets of the neo-Nazi ideology. This included: support for violence; antisemitism and an admiration of the Third Reich; extreme racist views; and Holocaust denial.

American Exceptionalism And A New World Order

Lieutenant Colonel Carla J. Campbell – US Army

This AY-10 USAWC resident student paper author believes that the United States has a long tradition of placing American values at the center of foreign policy and argues that any attempt at establishing a new world order must be based on three cornerstones: a shift to soft power as the core competency of foreign policy, U.S. leadership in developing key innovations and developing a global economic strategy, and at the same time the U.S. maintaining military might unequalled in the world.
Sun Tzu: Theorist For The Twenty-First Century?
Colonel Gregory Wilcoxon – US Army National Guard

In an environment in which the United States is the dominant conventional military power, many theorists argue that future wars will be unbalanced or asymmetrical. This USAWC AY-10 resident student author argues that in that circumstance, Sun Tzu’s indirect or battle avoidance theory is relevant to United States war strategy in the twenty-first century. Colonel Wilcoxon elaborates on Sun Tzu’s theories and explains why they are so viable and applicable in contemporary strategic environment. He concludes that to counter current national security threats, twenty-first century United States’ strategists should rely on Sun Tzu as their primary theorist because his writings are as pertinent today as they were thousands of years ago.

China: Checkmating India in Afghanistan - B. Raman

China has shown interest in the construction of two railway lines—one in Pakistan via the Gilgit-Baltistan region and the other in Afghanistan. While the railway line through Gilgit-Baltistan, ultimately extending up to Gwadar on the Mekran coast, will meet the external trade requirements of Chinese-controlled Xinjiang and other regions of Western China, the proposed line in Afghanistan will meet the requirements of a copper mine which China is developing in the Aynak area in Afghanistan. A pre-feasibility study by a Chinese company has already been done in respect of the railway line through Gilgit-Baltistan and an agreement was reached during the visit of President Asif Ali Zardari to China in July to undertake a joint feasibility study by the railways of the two countries. In Afghanistan a joint feasibility study is to be undertaken by the Metallurgical Corporation of China (MCC), which is developing the copper mine, and the Ministry of Mines of the Government of Afghanistan.

India in Afghanistan and Beyond: Opportunities and Constraints
C. Christine Fair, The Century Foundation

The international community has been ambivalent about India’s role in Afghanistan. While the Afghan government and its international partners welcome India’s constructive role, many also worry about the negative externalities associated with India’s footprint in the country, particularly with respect to Pakistan, which has long feared Indian encirclement and complains sharply about India’s expanding presence in Afghanistan. In this report, Christine Fair outlines India’s current interests in Afghanistan, how it has sought to achieve its aims, and the consequences of its actions for India, Pakistan, and the international efforts to stabilize Pakistan and Afghanistan. She argues that India’s interests in Afghanistan are not only Pakistan-specific but also tied to India’s desire to be seen as an extra-regional power moving toward great power status. This papers details: * India’s role in Afghanistan. * The India-Pakistan-U.S. triangular relationship. * The way forward for the U.S.