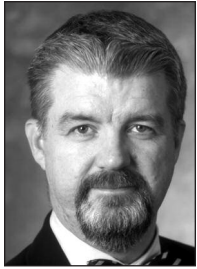


"Human history more and more becomes a race between education and catastrophe"—H.G. Wells

OUR UPCOMING MEETING



William D. O'Grady is Vice President and Chief Global Investment Strategist for A.G. Edwards, a division of Wachovia Securities, LLC.

Known for his geopolitical commentary along with his energy and currency background, O'Grady also directs the firm's futures research in the energy, currency and commodities markets and manages the equity strategy effort. Prior to assuming his current role in March 2007, O'Grady served as the Assistant Director of Market Analysis and analyzed short-term trends in the equities market. Previously he directed futures research for the firm. He was promoted to Associate Vice President in 1993 and Vice President in 1999.

U.S. ELECTIONS AND THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

WILLIAM D. O'GRADY,
Vice President & Director of Global Investment Strategy, A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.

TIME/PLACE: Tuesday, February 19, 2008,
7:30 PM, Mount Vernon Country Club

In addition to his work in global investment strategy, O'Grady also serves as a member of the A.G. Edwards Investment Strategy Committee—a

group composed of representatives from a number of the firm's research departments that evaluate the outlook for the economy and financial markets.

O'Grady has more than 20 years of experience following the foreign exchange markets. Prior to joining A.G. Edwards, he spent nearly three years as the international economic and administrative officer of Mercantile Bank in St. Louis, developing country risk analyses for international lending activities. He also served for a year as a foreign exchange analyst for Clayton Brokerage Co. of St. Louis.

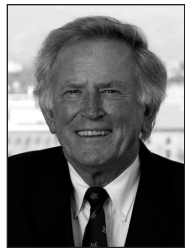
O'Grady is frequently quoted by such national media outlets as *The Wall Street Journal*, Bloomberg News, CNBC, CBS News, Dow Jones News Service and *Investor's Business Daily*, and writes the acclaimed weekly news article, "Weekly Geopolitical Report."

JANUARY MEETING REVIEW

By Roland Haas, Junior at Golden High School and FIF Guest Editor



The January meeting of the Colorado Foothills World Affairs Council offered a unique opportunity for the audience to hear both the Honorable



Gary Hart and Lt. General Robert Gard share their views on the history of U.S. foreign policy with Iran and nuclear proliferation. The presentations began with General Gard giving a well-prepared analysis of our nation's relations with Iran following the Second World War. After laying out the political history of Iran and giving some present day statistics, General Gard then handed the proceedings over to Senator Hart who

suggested a possible remedy for our unsuccessful and sometimes antagonistic diplomacy with foreign countries, especially those in the Middle East.

General Gard's thesis cited specific examples in which the United States has interfered in the internal affairs of Iran, or demonized the Iranian attempts to present a pre-American version of the nature of events. He brought to light how the Iranian President's statement regarding the future collapse of the present Israeli government was misinterpreted so far as to say that Iran desired to destroy Israel. General Gard also gave an argument for why destroying Israel is not on the Iranian strategy board. Iran is not a foolish country and views every national decision on a profit-loss basis. If Iran attempted to destroy Israel, it would in turn be destroyed and that is not a sacrifice its political leaders are likely to make. Also noted by General Gard was Iran's uranium enrichment program. Last month the United States Intelligence Community released a report concluding that Iran had suspended

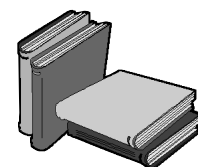
uranium enrichment for 18 months in an effort to demonstrate willingness by the Iranians to negotiate in good faith. The restraints on nuclear technology need to be altered to make the use of nuclear energy easier and the ability to build nuclear weapons more difficult. As the General pointed out, the knowledge to build weapons is easily available, and that a thesis by a college student named John Aristotle Phillips points out exactly how to build one. However, a nation's ability to provide energy resources for its constituents is an issue of sovereignty.

The former Senator Gary Hart reiterated the ease with which the United States has repeatedly demonized countries when it has suited our immediate interests. Throughout the twentieth century, America's involvement in assassination attempts and regime changes world-wide has been well documented. He suggests the United States should avoid interference with the internal affairs other countries unless directly threatened and focus on fixing our own domestic problems. Having served on the U.S. Commission on National Security for the 21st Century, Senator Hart was also quick to move to the topic of education. Of the fifty recommendations made by the Commission in January 2001, declining scores in math and science as well as the decline in educational funding were cited as the second greatest risk to our national survival.

Overall, I found this event to be very informative and am glad that I was able to be present. It's obvious that there needs to be some serious change in Washington that needs to occur before we dig our hole deep enough that we cannot get out. If our government castigates Swiss diplomats

About the author: As junior at Golden High School, Roland Haas is enrolled in both Advanced Placement United States History and Advanced Placement English Composition. Roland is also a member of Golden High School's Cross-Country Track Team and he works part-time at Chile's restaurant. While living in Golden all of his life, Roland has had the opportunity to travel extensively throughout Europe, Egypt and Turkey.

for relaying the Iranian diplomatic initiatives, we ought to question our government's ability to correctly represent its citizens and who is really making policy. My only concern with the presentation was the quality of a few of the questions from the audience. I felt that some were irrelevant or off topic and were matters that should be included in a letter to a congressman. However, I was for the most part pleasantly surprised by the quality of the evening.



NEWS & SUGGESTED READINGS

By Fred Nyland, News Editor

Valerie Plame Wilson, *Fair Game: My Life as a Spy, My Betrayal*, Simon & Schuster, 2007. Plame's story is part of the history of the Iraq War. As an undercover CIA employee, she suggested that her husband, former Iraq Ambassador and Africa expert Joseph Wilson (at the urging of the Vice President's office) be sent to Niger to investigate whether Saddam Hussein tried to obtain yellowcake uranium. After he wrote an op-ed article in the New York Times, Plame was "outed" as a CIA operative by columnist Robert Novak. She was "fair game" according to Karl Rove, Bush's chief political strategist. In a drawn out melodrama, special prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald rounded up the usual beltway suspects and brought them before a grand jury. Eventually, Lewis I. Libby, Vice President Cheney's Chief of Staff was the only one sentenced in the case for perjury and obstruction of justice. His sentence was commuted by Bush. In addition to the well known cast of villains, one more appears in the book. He is Senator Pat Roberts, Republican of Kansas, then Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee. Working closely with Cheney, Roberts is alleged to have done a lot of the White House's political bidding and made life particularly uneasy for the Wilsons by

(Continued on page 2)

NEWS & SUGGESTED READINGS

(Continued from page 1)

a careful distortion of the facts before the 2004 presidential election. Other villains in the book include many well known members of the press. At one point, she stated, "I suddenly understood what it must have felt like to live in the Soviet Union and have only the state propaganda entity, Pravda, as the source of news about the world." She battered the press at the time of the Libby trial. "This trial did not show American journalism at its finest hour." According to Publishers Weekly, the problem with this book is that it has been heavily redacted by the CIA. In order to understand Plame, it helps to read journalist Laura Rozen's afterword first.

Elisabeth Bumiller, *Condoleezza Rice: An American Life*, Random House Publishing Group, 2007. Condoleezza Rice has seemed to be a mystery behind an elegant, cool veneer. In this biography, the author presents a portrait of the first black female Secretary of State. The book tells of the personal voyage of a young black woman out of the segregated American South. The author also tells the story of a tumultuous half-century in the nation's history. While we are hearing of "change" in the current political campaign, Secretary Rice's life has been filled with many changes. In the author's words, "Although her friends marvel at how much she has remained the same over fifty-four years, Rice's story is one of continued reinvention: Democrat turned Republican, concert pianist turned political scientist, foreign policy realist turned idealist turned realist again. Her biggest transformation has been the most recent, from the weak national security adviser she was in the first term [of the Bush administration] to the more forceful and self-confident Secretary of State she has been in the second. But shedding

so many skins raises the question of what she really stands for." This biography traces the life of Condoleezza Rice from her childhood in Alabama under Bull Connor in a central battleground of the civil rights movement; her education in foreign policy under Madeleine Albright's father, to becoming the only other female Secretary of State. Robert Dallek of the New York Times has commented, "What distinguishes Ms. Bumiller's book from other initial studies of the Bush administration and its principal actors is its absence of finger pointing or polemics. Ms. Bumiller's biography is scrupulously fair and most notable for its above-the-battle tone. In Ms. Bumiller's rendering, Ms. Rice is neither hero nor villain, but an ambitious woman whose achievements and shortcomings speak for themselves." The author is a reporter for the New York Times, covered the White House from 2001 to 2006, and wrote this book while serving as a public policy scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center and as a fellow with the German Marshall Fund of the United States. (Sources: Publisher's notes and the book.)

John J. Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, W. W. Norton Company, 2002. A decade after the end of the Cold War, both policy makers and academics foresee a new era of peace and prosperity. The author's work may change the reader's view from this idyllic vision to a more realistic view. The central tenet of the political theory called 'offensive realism' is that each state seeks to ensure its survival by maximizing its share of world power. The author sets out to explain, defend and validate offensive realism as the only theory to account for how states actually behave. He proceeds by laying out the theory and its assumptions, and then extensively tests the theory against the historical record since the Age of Napoleon. He

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presents evidence of what the theory predicts that states seek regional dominance through military strength. Further, whenever a condition of "unbalanced multipolarity" exists, the likelihood of war rises dramatically. Far from seeing the end of the cold war as ushering in an age of peace and cooperation, the author believes the next twenty years have a high potential for war. This book may appeal to all devotees of political science and especially to partisans of the "tough-minded" approach to history. The author is a professor of political science at the University of Chicago. (Sources: Publisher's Weekly, Cahners Business Information, Barnes and Noble) ■

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SEND YOUR IDEAS and articles for the newsletter to the Forum Editorial Committee: Beatrice Szadokierski, Editor in Chief, 1923 Parfet Estates Drive, Golden, CO 80401, email: szadokierski@comcast.net or call 303-279-2638.

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The Foothills International Forum is a non-profit organization which meets to provide a forum for those in our community wishing to keep abreast of developments in international relations and to discuss them on a regular basis with those having similar interests.

For more information, call Larry Hendrix 303-463-4690. ALL FOOTHILLS INTERNATIONAL FORUM MEETINGS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. RESERVATIONS ARE NOT REQUIRED.

DIRECTIONS to Mount Vernon Country Club: Exit I-70 at Genesee Park (Exit #254). Go North on Mount Vernon Country Club Road, Staying on the paved road and curving to the right. The Club entrance will be on your left, 1.1 miles from the I-70 exit.

DINNER AT 6:00 PM in the main dining room at Mount Vernon Country Club is optional. Reservations have to be made no later than the Sunday before the event. Call Mt. Vernon Country Club at 303-526-0616 and ask for seating with the Foothills International Forum. Cost of dinner will be collected by the Club.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS, AND MEMBERSHIP DUES: Information can be sent to: Bruce Glenn, P.O. Box 1602, Evergreen, CO 80437-1602.

