

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

OUR UPCOMING MEETING

Dina Temple-Raston is the FBI correspondent for NPR News. Her reporting can be heard on NPR's news magazines. Prior to NPR, she was a long-time foreign correspondent for Bloomberg News in Asia. Ms. Temple-Raston opened Bloomberg's Shanghai and Hong Kong offices. She also served as Bloomberg News' White House correspondent during the Clinton administration and covered financial markets and economics for both USA Today and CNN.



THE JIHAD NEXT DOOR DINA TEMPLE-RASTON, FBI CORRESPONDENT FOR NPR NEWS

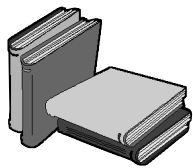
**TIME/PLACE: Tuesday, October 16, 2007,
7:30 PM, Mount Vernon Country Club**

In addition, Ms. Temple-Raston is also an award-winning author. She wrote *Justice on the Grass* in 2005 about three Rwandan journalists and

their trial for war crimes. Earlier this year, she co-authored *In Defense of Our America* about civil liberties in the age of terror. Her first book, *A Death in Texas*, on race in America, was published in 2003.

Her newest book, *The Jihad Next Door* is about the "Lackawanna Six," America's first so-called "sleeper cell." Ms. Temple-Raston joins NPR fresh from a two year sabbatical in which she completed two books and learned Arabic.

Miss Temple-Raston holds a Bachelor's degree from Northwestern University and a Master's degree from the Columbia University's School of Journalism. She was born in Belgium and French was her first language. She also speaks Mandarin Chinese. On weekends, she races sailboats on the Chesapeake Bay and runs 10Ks. ■



NEWS & SUGGESTED READINGS

By Fred Nyland, News Editor

NEWS ITEM

On September 6, 2007 Israeli aircraft attacked a target in Syria. The Israelis aren't talking about it or acknowledging anything. The Syrians are describing an episode in which they fired on Israeli aircraft, the aircraft dropped something, and fled Syrian airspace. The President of the United States won't comment on the event. By not denying it, he leaves the impression that something significant took place. Sketchy reports that have emerged (all citing anonymous sources) are that Israel took out a facility in northern Syria in which North Korea was helping Syria develop a nuclear capability. The absence of leaks coming out of Israel lends credence to the reports. Much is being made about the silence of Arab criticism of the apparent Israeli raid and what it says about Arab attitudes toward Syria. If Israel had taken credit for the raid, the Arab states probably would have felt duty bound to condemn it. Sometimes in international relations it is good to preserve mystery. Will we ever know what really happened? We wait for some future revelations. (Source, *New York Times*, September 17, 2007, *The New Republic*, *What Israel Really Gained by Bombing Syria*, by Dennis Ross. 09.24.07)

SUGGESTED READINGS

Alan Greenspan, *The Age of Turbulence: Adventures in a New World*, Penguin Group (USA), 2007. The first half of Greenspan's book is a memoir covering his birth in New York City through his years as Chairman of the Federal Reserve. He was appointed to the Federal Reserve in 1987 by President Reagan. Greenspan shares the story of his life with an eye toward doing justice to the extraordinary amount of history he has experienced. During the period immediately following September 11, 2001, he took part in a quiet collective effort to ensure that America didn't experience an economic meltdown. The most remarkable thing that

SEPTEMBER MEETING REVIEW

By Alex Martinez,
Junior Guest Editor



On Tuesday evening, September 18, 2007, Dr. Woj Wolfe presented an enlightening speech on how America's energy security and foreign policy pertain to China's industrial growth and military needs.

Dr. Wolfe stated that the United States no longer determines China's economic decisions as it did in the past when China was a smaller world trade partner. The United States is instead reacting to the economic policies of China. According to Dr. Wolfe, the U.S. decision to go to war in Iraq was in part motivated by the realization that Saddam Hussein had granted a large oil contract to China and was going to sell oil on the international market in Euros, undermining the dollar. Recently, China became the third largest importer of oil, primarily because of an astounding twelve to fifteen percent growth in its economy since 2002. Largely unchecked by the Communist Party, the oil ministry in China has been allowed to command policy decisions that pit industrial profit against national security interests.

China has required larger oil imports to sustain the needs of both civilians and the

military. Doctor Wolfe addressed the constant tension between the Chinese and their close neighbor, the Taiwanese, as well as other conflicts including those between the majority of Chinese citizens who are poor and the small Chinese upper class. China's navy is so underdeveloped that the government could not repress a rebellion if the Taiwanese were to declare independence.

Because of this, China has turned to developing countries that still have abundant oil resources and are not in a position to refuse revenue. Many of China's suppliers are nations in Africa experiencing political and social unrest, such as the Sudan, which poses a threat for the rise of terrorism. In response, the U.S. has tried to balance China as a partner and competitor. According to the speaker it is in the best interest of the U.S. to try to restrict China's oil supply without coming into direct conflict with China. The U.S. has long depended on China as a trade associate, but also must avoid one-way negotiations that would too closely associate America with the communist country. China's economic, political, and military stability have an indirect impact on the United States and this fragile balance must be maintained.

About the author: Alex Martinez is a sophomore at Golden High School where he is enrolled in Advanced Placement United States History as well as Honors English, Honors Biology, and Honors Algebra 2. Alex is also a valuable member of the Golden High School Soccer Team. ■

happened to the economy after 9/11 was nothing. This apparent lack of reaction seems to be a reflection that the present economy worldwide is more flexible, resilient, open, self-directing and fast changing. This book is Greenspan's reckoning with the nature of this new world. Several of his major points have resulted in general surprise. President Clinton was more fiscally conservative in his view. The war in Iraq was about oil. On this latter point, he has explained that Saddam Hussein was apparently

trying to control mid-East oil in a forceful manner. Accompanying this effort, he was developing a nuclear capability. These two goals were "scary" to Greenspan. After opening the book with the events of 9/11, Greenspan goes back to his earlier life history and follows it through his more than eighteen year tenure as Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board. According to his publisher, this book will stand as Alan Greenspan's personal and intellectual legacy.

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NEWS & SUGGESTED READINGS

(Continued from page 1)

(Source: Publisher's notes) For a political outlook on this book, see Bob Woodward, *Greenspan Is Critical of Bush in Memoir*.

Michael Korda, *Ike: An American Hero*, Harper-Collins Publishing, 2007. This book is a big and ambitious new biography of Dwight D. Eisenhower. It includes much detail and many anecdotes which place particular emphasis on his generalship and leadership in World War Two. In doing so, this book is a more acute analysis of his character and personality than other biographies. There is more to this book than military history. It is a biography of a remarkable man, ambitious, a late starter, a brilliant leader of men, and perhaps the only American general who could command a difficult coalition. He won the respect of not only his own soldiers, but also those of Great Britain and France and led them to victory. This book is also the story of a remarkable Mennonite family. His parents were pacifists, so it is ironic that he went to West Point and became a general, to his mother's horror. His marriage was sometimes tumultuous and often difficult. Mamie was every bit as stubborn and forceful as her husband. It was by no means the sunny, happy marriage that Republican publicists presented to the public when Ike made his first moves toward the presidency. Your reviewer remembers Ike for his proposal of the Open Skies Treaty. When the Russians did not agree with his views, he

merely set out by starting what is now an aircraft and space surveillance group of systems that is without parallel. (Source: Publisher's notes)

Seymour Hersh, *The Samson Option*, Random House, 1991. This book is the result of much detective work on Israel's nuclear weapon development program. It reads almost like a novel, except that the main characters are real leaders. David Ben Gurion initiated the program in the early days of Israel's creation by a United Nations action. Hersh follows the development in detail, outlining the assistance given to Israel by France and other nations. The Israelis collaborated with South Africa in the 70's, including a nuclear test. This reviewer recalls when the Vela Hotel satellite system for detecting nuclear bursts detected some sort of "event" over the South Indian Ocean just east of Africa. Some staff members in the Department of Defense labeled it as a nuclear burst. The scientists in the White House indicated that this event was merely a false alarm in an aging satellite system. Hersh's main thrust, as an investigative reporter, is that the United States knew about the developments of Israel's nuclear program, ignored it, and did nothing about it. Israel's possession of anywhere from 50 to several hundred nuclear weapons provides a strong deterrent posture against a number of hostile neighbors, but entails some remarkable developments from time to time. (Source: Mark Leith, *Peace Magazine* and personal observations) ■



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NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Our speaker will be Colonel Thomas A. Drohan, Professor and Head, Department of Military Strategic Studies, United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs. He will discuss progress in Afghanistan.

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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.

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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.

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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.

