



# The Passport

World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (www.wacmb.org)

January 2016

## ***DOES EUROPE HAVE A FUTURE?***

**Colonel Peter Frank, Naval Postgraduate School**

**Thursday, January 21, 2016**

**11:30 am registration ~ noon luncheon ~ 1-2 program**

**Rancho Canada, Carmel Valley Road**

The European Union (EU) is in many ways a remarkable political achievement. A supranational community with a population of more than half a billion, the EU has a combined GNP larger than that of the United States, considerable wealth, advanced industries, and significant military. Nevertheless, Europe is currently struggling with fundamental challenges both old and new including ISIS terror and unparalleled migration, as well as political, economic, and financial problems.

Our guest, Colonel Peter Frank, will discuss the root causes of Europe's dilemmas today, the current situation, and the steps leaders are taking.

Colonel Frank, German Army, is an Associate Military Professor in the Department of National Security Affairs at the Naval Post-

graduate School. His research interests include international relations, crisis management, NATO and the European Union, and European security and defense policy. He joined the faculty in October 2014. He has held a variety of national and international leadership and staff positions at the tactical, operational and national ministerial level as well as in NATO operations.



Colonel Frank received an M.A. in Business and Administration from the Bundeswehr University, Neubiberg. He is a graduate from the German Armed Forces General Staff Course, Hamburg, and also received an M.A. in National Security Affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School in 2003.

*(Please see page 3 for reservation details.)*

### Calendar of Events

Thursday, January 7	Board meets in Conference Room, McCone bldg. MIIS. Open to members.	4:30 pm
Monday, January 11	Discussion on <i>What to Do About Isis?</i> Meets in Room 101, Social Science bldg., MPC.	4 pm
Monday, January 25	Discussion Group meets at CSUMB in the OLLI office at 6th and Inter-Garrison Roads, Seaside.	2-3:30 pm 4-5:30 pm
Thursday, January 21	<i>Does Europe Have a Future?</i> Luncheon and presentation at Rancho Canada, Carmel Valley Rd.	11:30-2 pm

## The Purple Pipe and Other Water Stories

“Water, water everywhere...” is a familiar line, but alas, not true. And so our speaker, Matthew Heberger, Senior Research Associate with the Oakland-based Pacific Institute, gave us a picture of some places where water is a problem, starting with California, and what’s being done to solve the problem, here and abroad.

Any region faced with water scarcity has two apparently simple options: to increase supply or to decrease demand. Both are easier said than done. In the 4th year of California’s current drought, ground water supplies are dropping, in some places precipitously. Ground water sources in the Central Valley are so overdrawn that land in some places is sinking up to two feet per year. Water supply dams are at very low levels, and the few new dams that have been proposed will probably never get past their astronomical cost, government environmental laws, and the general unpopularity of dam building.

The paradox in California is that rainfall in northern parts of the state, where there are relatively few people, can reach up to 10 feet a year, while the central and southern parts, where there are millions of urban dwellers, gets fifteen inches in a good year, which they haven’t had for quite a while. Hence the 460-mile California Aqueduct, a system of canals, tunnels, and pipelines that conveys water collected from the Sierra Nevada Mountains and valleys of Northern and Central California to Southern California. And the proposed “California Water Fix” would construct two 30-mile-long tunnels to draw water from the Sacramento River and deliver it to the pumps and government-operated canals near Tracy. From there, the water would be pumped, as it has been for decades, to 25 million Southern Californians and 3 million acres of farmland.

Californians, all 39 million of us, are big water users. (Monterey Bay area residents excepted.) And we may be headed to 50 million people. What then? Look at Australia, our speaker suggested. When “down-unders” finally woke up to their water problem after several years of devastating drought, they set about completely changing how they think about and use water. Today, nearly every Australian home has a “dual-flush” toilet, and rainwater harvesting tanks have become the norm. In addition, coastal cities built lots of desalination plants. But when the drought ended in 2011, the plants were shut down and now many consider them expensive “white elephants.”

But for many here in California, seawater desal is the Holy Grail of water solutions, if only we could bring down the cost, and learn to better manage environmental impacts. There are already a number of small plants in operation, several large ones under construction, and plans for many more. Will this all actually happen, or will we ultimately discover the advantages of conservation and recycling, like Australians have? After an 11-year study, Monterey Bay area is pioneering the use of recycled water for agriculture and human consumption.

Indeed, in most places around the world, desalinated seawater is considered too expensive for agricultural uses, with the exception of the oil-rich Middle East. A cheaper and more environmentally-friendly alternative to desalination may be recycled wastewater, pioneered right here in California, where we created the “purple pipe” as the symbol for it. Singapore is also going the recycle route. Last year in West Texas, one community faced with extreme shortages, became the first to begin “direct reuse,” where sewage water is highly treated to drinking water standards and put right back into water supply reservoirs.

Catching runoff from roofs, called rain water harvesting, has long been used in many parts of the world, including right here in our area. In Saipan, runoff is being collected from their airport runway, the largest paved area on the island. Smart water utilities around the world are focusing on smarter economics, using smart metering to immediately detect leaks and pricing water correctly for optimum use. Israel invented drip irrigation, now being taken up for many California crops.

Conservation, or demand management, is also gaining. Californians average 120 gallons per person per day. In Australia, that number is closer to 30, as it is here in Monterey! For the first time ever, California has started to manage ground water, and Governor Brown recently called for a 25% reduction in California water use. We are beginning to see much more emphasis on landscaping with native plants that require much less water than, say, lawns. Mr. Heberger even speculated on a possible cap-and-trade system for water, similar to California’s system for trading greenhouse gas emissions.

Ron Nelson

RESERVATION FORM  
Reservations due January 18, 2016

January 21, 2016  
Registration 11:30 am  
Luncheon at noon  
1 pm Program

Mail form & check or credit information to:  
WAC - P.O. Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942  
or Fax reservation form to (831) 643-1846.

Members @ \$25 ea. \_\_\_\_\_  
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***DOES EUROPE HAVE A FUTURE?***

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Vegetarian? (72 hours notice) \_\_\_\_\_

***Great Decisions —  
Plan Ahead!***

The World Affairs Council of Monterey Bay presents the eight-week *Great Decisions* series beginning Monday, February 1st at Monterey Peninsula College. *Great Decisions*, produced by the Foreign Policy Association of America, is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program provides background information and policy options for eight of the most critical issues facing America each year and serves as the focal text for discussion groups across the country.

The eight-week program is free to the public. It begins Monday February 1 in Social Sciences Room 101 at MPC at 4-5:30 pm. Parking is \$2 in Lot D. Permits for attendees can be obtained by contacting [www.wacmb.org](http://www.wacmb.org). Participants can purchase Briefing Books through the Foreign Policy Association by calling 1-800-477-5836 or order on line at [www.greatdecisions.org](http://www.greatdecisions.org). Briefing Books are also available through the discussion moderator at \$22 per book.

TOPICS: Feb. 1: Middle East Alliances; Feb. 8: The Rise of Isis; Feb. 22: The Future of Kurdistan; Feb. 29: Migration; March 7: The Koreas; March 14: The United Nations; March 21: Climate Change; March 28: Cuba and the U.S.

Larry Johnson is the moderator.  
(continued)

A similar program sponsored jointly by OLLI, CSUMB and WACMB starts Jan. 25 and runs on alternate Mondays through April 25 in the OLLI office, CSUMB, Seaside. One group meets 2-3:30 pm and another 4-5:30 pm. Fred Lawson moderates.  
See you there!

***LUNCHEON  
MENU***

*Wedgewood Salad  
with Golden Italian Dressing*

***Chicken Cordon Bleu***  
*with  
Whipped Potatoes  
and Vegetables*

***Dessert : Chef's Choice!***

*(vegetarian)  
Vegetable Napoleon*



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*This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area. Founded in 1951, the Council is a non-profit, non-partisan organization established to promote the presentation, discussion and study of international affairs. WACMB is a tax exempt 501(c)3 organization, EIN-0301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups and student scholarships.*

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