



The Passport

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

April 2016

Terrorist Financing: Past, Present and Future

Professor Michael Freeman

Naval Postgraduate School

Monday, April 25, 2016

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

Rancho Canada, Carmel Valley Road

Terrorism costs money. In fact, some experts have described money as “the lifeblood” of terrorist organizations. Without money, these groups could not conduct their operations or exist as organizations. While the cost of specific terrorist operations may be relatively small, terrorist organizations require much larger budgets to function. Many groups raise millions if not hundreds of millions of dollars every year to support their organizations.



Professor Michael Freeman, a specialist in the field of terrorism and counter-terrorism, will address these questions in his presentation to the World Affairs Council.

Michael Freeman joined the staff of the Naval Postgraduate

School in 2005 where he is an Associate Professor in the Department of Defense Analysis. Professor Freeman earned his BA, MA, and PdD in political science from the University of Chicago. He is the author of *Freedom or Security: The Consequences for Democracies of Using Emergency Powers to Fight Terror* (Praeger, 2003).

What are the sources of terrorist financing?
How do terrorist organizations move money?
And, most important, what countermeasures can be taken to disrupt terrorist financing?

(Please see page 3 for reservation details.)

Calendar of Events

Thursday, April 7	Board meets in Conference Room, McCone bldg. MIIS. Open to members.	4:30 pm
Monday, April 11	<i>Great Decisions</i> meets at MPC, room 101 Social Science bldg.	4 pm
Monday, April 4, 18 & 25	<i>Great Decisions</i> series meets at CSUMB in the OLLI office at 6th and Inter-Garrison Roads, Seaside.	2-3:30 pm 4-5:30 pm
Monday, March 21	<i>Terrorist Financing: Past, Present and Future.</i> Luncheon and presentation at Rancho Canada, Carmel Valley Road	11:30-2 pm

February program report . . .

IS RUSSIA BACK?

Yes and no, according to Dr. Kathryn Stoner, Russian specialist at Stanford. “Yes,” if you look at Russia’s ability to be disruptive in international affairs, its strong growth in personal incomes, its improving infrastructure. “No,” if you look at its unsustainable economy heavily based on raw materials and energy export, a decreasing population, crony capitalism, and many other negative indicators.

Thanks to sanctions by the West (which show no signs of being lifted), Russia is isolated from the global economy. Government revenues from low-priced oil and gas are down by half, forcing significant cuts in government spending (except on the military). Its gross domestic product (GDP) is less than half that of the U.S. Russia is no longer a good place for foreign investment. Corruption is rampant and property rights non-existent. Economic growth is declining, thanks to a failed economic model which stifles innovation, and crony capitalism which rewards the top one quarter of one percent, resulting in an income disparity much worse than in the U.S.

Some analysts say Putin is playing a weak hand very well on the international stage. Dr. Stoner disagrees. His takeover of Crimea was “impetuous,” rather than well thought out. His military moves in Syria are more an attempt to get America’s attention to Russia as an important world player than a clever geopolitical strategy. He also gets to try out some of his new military “toys” in the Syrian theater of war. Putin’s main ability (and perhaps his aim) is to cause turmoil in the Middle East. And his recent cozying up to Iran may be for the same reason: to make things difficult there for the West.

Putin’s principal weakness is internal, despite a very high approval rating from the Russian people. With the economy tanking, personal income growth stalled, and fair elections virtually non-existent, he could face an increasingly hostile public, the biggest danger to his “reign.”

On the international stage, he faces a largely unified U.S.-European opposition, solidified by the commercial airliner shot down over eastern Ukraine by a Russian-

built missile. So economic sanctions aimed squarely at Putin’s oligarch buddies are probably not going to go away and will continue to erode the Russian economy, as well as the loyalties of some of his cronies.

The biggest and most important threat Russia holds over the West is its unique ability to hit New York or L.A. with nuclear missiles in 20 minutes. And importantly, Putin recently backed away from Russia’s long-standing “no first use of nukes” pledge, making it an even more sinister threat. While Putin is very unlikely to launch such an attack, it is a powerful threat to hold over the heads of his adversaries.

In the final analysis, Russia is back in terms of making trouble, but probably a declining power on the world stage in the long run, subject to significant unrest among Muslims within its borders, and all the downside of a declining economy and shrinking demography.

Ron Nelson

Make it your *GREAT DECISION* to check out this month’s final discussion groups at MPC and the CSUMB. Under the leadership of Larry Johnson at MPC and Fred Lawson at CSUMB the WAC discussion groups are flourishing—and laying the groundwork for even more participation in 2017.

But before you close your briefing books, participants are urged to fill out the opinion ballots at the back of each chapter. Believe it or not you can make yourself heard “.. by the people who shape U.S. foreign policy,” according to a recent report from the World Affairs Councils of America.

Ballots returned to the Foreign Policy Association in New York are tabulated and then forwarded as the National Opinion Ballot Report to the White House, State Department, Defense Department, members of Congress, and the media. The report communicates opinions of informed citizens to people who matter in Washington. Maybe you, too, can make a difference!

RESERVATION FORM
Reservations due April 21 , 2016

April 25, 2016
Registration 11:30 am
Luncheon at noon
Program 1 pm

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. _____
Guests @ \$35 ea. _____
Credit card charge \$2 ea _____
Total _____

Name/s _____

Address _____

Card Number _____

Signature _____

Email address _____

Card Holder's name _____

Exp Date _____-VISA _____MC _____

Phone number _____

Vegetarian? (72 hours notice) _____

Students! Belonging to WAC
Opens Some Doors

such as to the WACNC educational program conducted out of the WAC offices on Sutter Street in San Francisco. Interested high school and community college students are offered an in-depth study and training on today's global issues thru the **2016 Summer Institute**. Applications available on line are due Friday, April 22.

++++

The **Student Ambassador Program** offers immersion in world issues through research, discussion, outreach, action, and leadership training. Participants serve one academic year and attend council meetings two times a month. Current "Ambassadors" will present their projects at Global Issues Night 2016 on Thursday, April 28 6-7:30 pm, WAC Auditorium, 312 Sutter St. Suite 200, S.F.

++++

Applications are due by midnight Friday, April 15, for **WAC Scholarships** to provide for high school, community college and university students attendance at WAC's annual foreign policy conference.

++++

Participation in such student programs makes one eligible for a **Certificate of Global Citizenship**. (Wouldn't that look good on a resume!) Go on line to <programs@worldaffairs.org>.

Good luck!

CENTER FOR THE BLUE ECONOMY
At MIIS

offers two free presentations: *The Arctic in the Mirror*, with Dr. Brendan Kelly on March 29, 6-7:30, Irvine Auditorium; and a documentary film, *Sonic Sea* on Thursday, April 21, 6-8 pm, Irvine Auditorium. Register at: centerfortheblueeconomy.org/events.

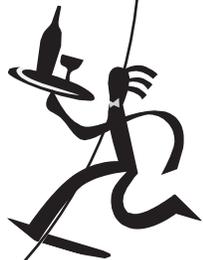
LUNCHEON
MENU

Apple Cider Salad
with

Grilled Chicken,
Pecans, Cranberries and Blue
Cheese

Chef's Choice Dessert

(vegetarian)
Apple Cider Salad



The Passport April 2016

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.

Corporate and institutional support for the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area is provided by:
Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey
Defense Language Institute
Monterey Peninsula College
California State University, Monterey Bay
Naval Postgraduate School
Rancho Cañada Golf Club Horan & Lloyd law firm
Pebble Beach Resorts Ventana Winery

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 49
Carmel, CA

**World Affairs Council
P.O. Box 83
Monterey, CA 93942
wacmb@redshift.com**

**WAC office, 479 Pacific St., 5A, Monterey 93940
Mail to: P.O. Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942
831-643-1855 FAX 831-643-1846
e-mail: wacmb@redshift.com
Website: www.wacmb.org**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Benefactor.....\$1000
Patron.....\$600
Sponsor..... \$300
Contributing.....\$150
Sustaining.....\$75
Family (couple)..... \$50
Individual \$30
Student.....\$15

**Make checks payable to WAC and mail to:
WAC, P.O. Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942**

Name/s _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Student memberships are limited to full-time students matriculating at an accredited college or graduate school. This includes special military membership for enlisted personnel. Grades E-1 to E-4 only.

Officers & Board of Trustees

**President: Gail Sheridan 626-6226
Secretary: Abby Foss 920-1058
Treasurer: Jerry Sullivan 655-8013**

**Betty Crowder Jim Emery
Jean Hurd George Howling
Larry Johnson Chris Keehn
Fred Lawson Mary Jo McDonough
Marti Myszak Ron Nelson
Cynthia Harris Peter Powles
Glenn Robinson Judy Sloan
Naomi Terman Doug Wilhelm
Phil Morgan Lynn Yaghoubian**

**-Liaisons-
MPC/Marilynn Gustafson
CSUMB/Holly White
DLI/COL Roger Bowman
NPS/David Anderson
MIS/Eva Gudbergsdottir**