

IRC ALERT

January—February 2006

FOCUS: U.S. Response in Pakistan to Earthquake

“Pakistan is a friend of the United States government and the people of the United States will help as best as we possibly can.”

President George W. Bush, October 9, 2005

A COMMITMENT TO A FRIEND

The United States continues to stand with Pakistan in its hour of need. The U.S. response to the October 8 South Asia Earthquake is consistent with our humanitarian values and our deep commitment to our friend and ally.

TOTAL U.S. PLEDGE: \$510 MILLION

- * \$300 million in humanitarian relief and reconstruction assistance
- * \$110 million in military support for relief operations
- * At least \$100 million anticipated from U.S. private contributions
- * This is in addition to a five-year, \$1.5 billion commitment to Pakistan to support education, health, economic growth and government programs throughout the country.

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

- * Almost \$70 million dollars in humanitarian assistance has been committed to Pakistan through USAID.
- * The U.S. Government has signed a four-year \$200 million grant agreement with the Government of Pakistan to assist in reconstructing schools and hospitals and in the rehabilitation of livelihoods, education and healthcare systems.
- * USAID has provided nearly \$6.4 million in emergency relief commodities, including transport costs, for earthquake-affected populations in Pakistan.
- * USAID has funded nine NGO partners to provide shelter assistance for 75,500 households. This includes providing tarpaulin, blankets, galvanized iron sheeting, tool kits, and other materials.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD)

- * DOD has obligated \$106.6 million for relief operations.
- * 325 American military personnel are currently in Pakistan to assist with relief efforts.
- * DOD and other U.S. Government helicopters have flown 5,912 relief operations, delivered 14,322 tons of relief supplies to the disaster area and transported 19,638 people, including over 4,547 needing medical attention.
- * U.S. Military hospitals in Muzaffarabad and Shinkiari treated almost 35,000 people and inoculated 20,000.
- * A Naval Mobile Construction Battalion completed a dozen demolition projects, cleared over 50,000 cubic yards of debris and built 85 temporary shelters, many of

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which were used for schools.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

- * The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Populations, Refugee, and Migration contributed \$4 million dollars to support activities defined in the 2005 U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal.
- * Over \$2 million dollars worth of aviation support for the relief effort through the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs in the Department of State.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- * \$12 million dollars worth of wheat has been provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The wheat will be distributed to families lacking financial means to purchase food.

PRIVATE DONATIONS

- * On October 27, President George W. Bush established the South Asia Earthquake Relief Fund (SAERF), led by CEOs of five major U.S. corporations. The SAERF has received more than \$18 million in cash and pledges and awarded \$4.5 million in grants. For more information, please visit www.southasiaearthquakerelief.org.
- * \$108.9 million dollars has been pledged by U.S. corporations through financial and in-kind contributions, according to the Committee to Encourage Corporate Philanthropy.
- * The Indiana University Center for Philanthropy estimates that U.S. individuals, corporations and foundations have given a combined \$130 million for earthquake assistance.

*Produced by the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan,
Update as of March 7, 2006. For further information please
contact the Embassy Public Affairs Section at 92-51-208-2000*

FOCUS — Press Releases

1-1/FOC

\$200 MILLION GRANT AGREEMENT FOR RECONSTRUCTION SIGNED

January 21, 2006

<http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/h06012101.html>

Undersecretary Burns and Minister Khar signed a 4-year, \$200 million grant agreement with the first tranche of \$15 million given today, which marks the next phase of U.S. Government assistance for earthquake relief – helping communities rehabilitate, rebuild and revive. This first tranche of \$15 million from the United States for Pakistan's earthquake reconstruction represents the firm commitment of President Bush and the American people to the relief and reconstruction of Pakistan. Undersecretary Burns remarked, "The agreement signed here today is the first contribution toward our \$200 million pledge for rebuilding schools and hospitals destroyed by the earthquake and for reviving the livelihoods and systems needed for effective education and health care."

1-2/FOC

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT BUSH AND PRIME MINISTER SHAUKAT AZIZ IN PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

January 25, 2006

<http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/h06012502.html>

During his meeting with President Bush, Prime Minister Aziz said "Let me at the outset say that the assistance the United States has given to Pakistan -- the Chinooks, the MASH hospitals, the engineers, and the financial assistance after the earthquake -- has touched the hearts and minds of all Pakistanis -- and including your private sector and civil society. We really appreciate what has been done, and it will help restore the lives of the people who've been impacted by the earthquake."

1-3/FOC

REMARKS BY U.S. AMBASSADOR RYAN C. CROCKER AT 212 MASH TURNOVER CEREMONY

February 16, 2006

<http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/h06021603.html>

"We are honored to be able to contribute to the relief effort and to that which now lies ahead. The people of Kashmir and Northwest Frontier will never forget what we have accomplished jointly. From this tragedy, not only have lives been put back together, but the bonds of friendship between our nations and our people have been strengthened. Those of us from the United States will carry away with us the long memories of the courage and the spirit with which the people of Pakistan have dealt with this tragedy."

1-4/FOC

UNITED STATES PROVIDES \$6 MILLION IN EQUIPMENT AND ANNOUNCES U.S. MILITARY DEPARTURE SCHEDULE

February 4, 2006

<http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/h06020401.html>

As relief efforts transition to reconstruction, the United States Disaster Assistance Center announced today that U.S. forces will provide Pakistan over \$6 million in military medical and construction equipment. At a press conference held at Chaklala Air Base, Rear Admiral Michael LeFever, Commander Disaster Assistance Center outlined the turnover of equipment and the phased withdrawal of U.S. forces beginning mid February and ending March 31st. This departure coincides with Pakistan's transition from relief to reconstruction.

1-5/FOC

UNITED STATES STILL RAISING FUNDS FOR PAKISTAN EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

January 23, 2006

<http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/h06012301.html>

U.S. Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Karen Hughes said relief efforts are "the continuation of a very important friendship

and partnership" between the United States and Pakistan. "The people of America who are concerned about the victims of the horrible earthquake in Pakistan are coming together to send money to people in Pakistan halfway across the world," Hughes said. "People they don't know, but they are concerned. They care about them."

1-6/FOC

USAID FUNDED SHELTERS RENEW HOPE FOR QUAKE VICTIMS

January 30, 2006

<http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/h06013001.html>

After living in tents for four months, families who lost their homes in the October 8 earthquake will have a new place to live. USAID funded the distribution of transitional shelter kits in Chatterplain and Muzaffarabad to start moving families from tents to semi-permanent, weather-resistant structures. By the end of February, shelter kits will be distributed to more than 13,000 families, benefiting more than 100,000 people.

1-7/FOC

USAID HELPS STRENGTHEN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

February 3, 2006

<http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/h06020301.html>

The United States, through USAID, is providing more than \$1.5 billion in development assistance to Pakistan over the next five years to improve education, health, governance and economic growth. In addition, the United States has pledged a total of \$510 million in earthquake relief and reconstruction efforts to assist the people of Pakistan and to support Pakistani government efforts.

1-8/FOC

U.S. GOVERNORS DEMONSTRATE CONTINUED AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR QUAKE RELIEF EFFORT

January 27, 2006

<http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/h06012701.html>

The Governors came to Pakistan in order to get a

better understanding of the devastation of the October 8th earthquake and moreover the massive relief efforts of the United States. They hope to be able to use their experience here to assist in continued fundraising efforts back in the United States as well as to convey a sense of what is still required to assist the people of Pakistan.

1-9/FOC

U.S. RESPONSE TO PAKISTAN'S EARTHQUAKE DISASTER

November 19, 2005

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2005/57154.htm>

“The United States stands with Pakistan in its hour of need. The U.S. has committed \$510 million for earthquake relief and reconstruction efforts. The U.S. responded immediately to Pakistan’s call for relief within 24 hours after the earthquake struck, and will continue to stand with Pakistan amid ongoing earthquake relief and reconstruction. It is consistent with our humanitarian values and our commitment to a democratic ally in Pakistan.”

FOCUS — Internet Sites

RELIEF AGENCIES

American Red Cross: South Asia Earthquake

http://www.redcross.org/news/ds/profiles/disaster_profilei-sasiaearthquake.html

CARE USA

http://www.careusa.org/newsroom/articles/2005/10/20051009_pak_india_quake2.asp

Center for International Disaster Information: South Asia Earthquake and Tsunami

<http://www.cidi.org/incident/tsunami>

CNN: Aid Agencies Working in South Asia Quake Zone

<http://www.cnn.com/2005/WORLD/asiapcf/10/09/quake.aid/index.html>

InterAction: Earthquake in South Asia

http://www.interaction.org/south_quake/?url=south_quake

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<http://www.ifrc.org>

ReliefWeb: South Asia Earthquake

<http://www.reliefweb.int>

Save the Children

http://www.savethechildren.org/emergencies/south_asian_earthquake

South Asia Earthquake Relief Fund

<https://www.southasiaearthquakerelief.org>

United Nation Emergency Response - Pakistan

<http://earthquake05.un.org.pk>

U.S. GOVERNMENT

USAID: South Asia Earthquake

http://www.usaid.gov/locations/asia_near_east/south_asia_quake

U.S. Department of State: Earthquake in South Asia

http://www.usaid.gov/locations/asia_near_east/south_asia_quake

U.S. Geological Survey: Pakistan Earthquake Report

<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/eqinthenews/2005/usdyae>

U.S. Info: U.S. Response to the Earthquake in South Asia

http://usinfo.state.gov/sa/south_asia/earthquake.html

U.S. Embassy in Islamabad: U.S. Response To The Earthquake

http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/earthquake_relief.html

1-10/IS**THE CHALLENGES OF STRATEGIC TERRORISM****By Giandomenico Picco****Terrorism & Political Violence, Vol. 17, Nos. 1-2, Winter 2005, pp. 11-16.**

Terrorism is a multidimensional phenomenon, which is essential for nations to understand as they blend the necessary ingredients of an effective counterterrorism program, says the author, chairman and chief executive officer of GDP Associates in New York. Al-Qaida as a transnational terrorist organization is substantially different from the Irish Republican Army or Hizballah, the author argues. While groups such as al-Qaida may seek a clash between the Islamic world and the West, groups such as the IRA and Hizballah have a limited, specific objective in both scope and geography. Picco writes that, unlike tactical terrorism, which groups like the IRA and Hizballah use to achieve a specific goal with their adversaries, al-Qaida represents strategic terrorism, which is characterized by perpetual conflict and the "never ending struggle."

1-11/IS**DEMOGRAPHICS AND SECURITY: The Contrasting Cases of Pakistan and Bangladesh****By Christine C. Fair and Others****Journal of South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Vol. 28, No. 4, Summer 2005, pp. 53-76.**

The authors note that during the time since Bangladesh split from Pakistan during the 1971 civil war, the two countries have gone down very divergent paths. Pakistan has a patchwork of competing ethnic groups, and contends with Islamist extremism and several security issues, including border disputes with Afghanistan, nuclear arms rivalry and the long-running conflict over Kashmir with India, and difficult relations with Iran. Bangladesh, with a more moderate form of Islam, a more homogeneous population and fewer external security concerns, has developed a parliamentary democratic system. Both countries are facing considerable population pressures and competition for natural resources; Bangladesh has

been more receptive to NGOs, and has pursued an ambitious family-planning campaign, whereas in Pakistan, the government has relied on the support of religious parties opposed to contraception. A possible source of conflict between Bangladesh and India is the potential for a major influx of Bangladeshis into the comparatively lightly-populated provinces of northeastern India. The authors believe that U.S. policymakers should recognize these and other potential sources of conflict in South Asia.

1-12/IS**A NEW NON-PROLIFERATION STRATEGY****By Joseph Cirincione****SAIS Review of International Affairs, Vol. 25, No. 2, Summer 2005, pp. 157-165.**

Cirincione, Director for Non-Proliferation at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, discusses the June 2004 Carnegie Endowment report **UNIVERSAL COMPLIANCE: A Strategy For Nuclear Security**, and asserts that the new proliferation challenges make it clear beyond doubt that the present non-proliferation regime needs fixing. He believes that now is the time to demand systemic change: a new strategy to defeat old and new threats before they become catastrophes. Moreover, he argues that only by forging this balance of obligations involving all states and actors can we erect a defense against the dangers of the spread of nuclear weapons.

1-13/IS**PEACEMAKING IN KASHMIR: From Physical Tremor to Political Earthquake?****By Michael Renner****WorldWatch, Global Security Brief No. 8, December 6, 2005.**

<http://www.worldwatch.org/features/security/briefs/8>

The author, director of the Global Security Project at the WorldWatch Institute, writes that the October 8 earthquake that struck northern Pakistan and Kashmir "cut through a fault line of conflict that has divided Pakistan and India for 58 years". The quake "paid no heed to human-drawn boundaries", and the enormous toll it exacted, and the need for relief and rebuilding efforts, required that both countries overcome their long-standing political divide. Beyond the immediate

need to provide aid to the quake's victims, Renner argues that the disaster presents a unique opportunity for Pakistan and India to overcome decades of hostility, solve the Kashmir conflict, and reduce military expenditures so that scarce funds can be used for urgent social needs. He notes that the catastrophic December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami led to a breakthrough peace agreement between the Indonesian government and Aceh's GAM rebels. He argues that "the physical tremor in Kashmir needs to translate into a political earthquake that jolts deeply-ingrained status-quo thinking."

1-14/IS

STABILIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION IN AFGHANISTAN: Are PRTs a Model or a Muddle?

By Michael J. McNerney

Parameters, Vol. 35, No. 4, Winter 2005, pp. 32-46.

McNerney, Director of International Policy and Capabilities in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Stability Operations, notes that Afghanistan and Iraq illustrate that stabilizing a country after a war is often more challenging than the initial combat. In reviewing the effectiveness of Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs) in Afghanistan, he concludes that PRTs have made significant gains in the past several years, but due to their nature and the insecure environment in which they operate means that there will always be "a little confusion" over their role. McNerney believes that to be preferable to rigid guidelines that might eliminate the flexibility that makes the PRTs so adaptable. Although the PRTs are "generally on the right track," he believes that certain improvements are in order -- there need to be more of them; civil-military coordination needs to be improved, and better methods are needed to measure the effectiveness of relationship-building efforts. Finally, McNerney states that the PRTs should place greater emphasis on capacity-building programs to improve local governance and improve ties between municipalities and regions to the central government. In spite of their imperfections, he believes that PRTs may provide a good starting point for developing the tools needed to achieve political and military success in future missions.

1-15/IS *

UNDERSTANDING MADRASAHs

By Alexander Evans

Foreign Affairs, January/February 2006, Vol. 85, No. 1, pp. 9-16.

Madrasahs, the religious schools that educate millions of students in the Muslim world, have been blamed for all sorts of ills since the attacks of September 11, 2001. Critics have denounced them as dens of terror, hatcheries for suicide bombers, and repositories of medievalism. These criticisms have focused on the few dozen Pakistani madrasahs that served as de facto training grounds for jihadists fighting the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan in the 1980s. They extrapolate from this relatively small number of problem madrasahs in Pakistan and conclude that all madrasahs breed fanatics. But they are wrong. The majority of madrasahs actually present an opportunity, not a threat. For young village kids, it may be their only path to literacy. And for U.S. and European policymakers, madrasahs offer an important arena for public diplomacy - a chance to ensure that the Muslim leaders of tomorrow do not see the West as an enemy inherently hostile to all Muslim institutions.

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

1-16/DHR

AMERICAN VICEROY: Zalmay Khalilzad's Mission

New Yorker, Vol. 81, No. 40, December 19, 2005, pp. 54-55.

The author describes U.S. Ambassador to Iraq, Zalmay Khalilzad, as "the ideal envoy for Iraq," noting that although "Khalilzad is accredited to the new Iraqi government, but with the backing of a hundred and sixty thousand U.S. troops, he seems to be the one holding the government together. His position is more like that of a viceroy ... than that of a traditional diplomat." Khalilzad, born in Afghanistan, is a moderate Muslim with long experience in American foreign policy circles, and a former student of military strategy expert Albert Wohlstetter. Khalilzad has been at the center of the Bush administration's war on terror since September 11, with a reputation as a pragmatic and insightful

strategic thinker; he sees himself as a "kind of diplomatic soldier." Anderson notes that Khalilzad "has a unique advantage in a part of the world in which the U.S. has become massively engaged and does not have many people at the top equipped to deal with it."

1-17/DHR

CLOSE, BUT NO DEMOCRACY

By Ray Takeyh

National Interest, No. 78, Winter 2004/2005, pp. 57-64.

The author, senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, notes that the need for democratic reform in the Middle East has never been greater. The Arab regimes must create 100 million jobs over the next 15 years to accommodate a "youth bulge"; however, Takeyh writes that it is "difficult to see how any government in the Middle East can undertake meaningful economic reforms without political modernization." Instead of using pressure to compel Arab autocracies to comply with reform criteria, successive U.S. administrations have "opted for dialogue with the incumbent regimes", providing economic aid and technical assistance, which has resulted in incremental changes, rather than genuine reform. Takeyh writes that the Arab regimes have become liberal autocracies, in which token opposition is allowed, but the prerogatives of an entrenched elite remain intact. If the U.S. is serious about democratization in the Middle East, Takeyh argues, it should use its political and economic influence to place curbs on executive power, promote constitutional reform and an independent judiciary, and resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

1-18/DHR

DAMNED IF THEY DO, DAMNED IF THEY DON'T: Jurors' Reactions To Defendant

Testimony or Silence During a Capital Trial

By Michael E. Antonio and Nicole Arone

Judicature, Vol. 89, No. 2, September-October 2005, pp. 60-66.

The right of the accused to speak or not speak on one's own behalf in court is one of the foundations of U.S. criminal law. However, a defendant's testimony or silence may have an effect on the jury hearing the case. In this article, the authors explore whether or

not defendants are penalized by juries for choosing to remain silent. The authors use graphs and charts to compare the effects of not testifying in both the guilt and punishment stages of the trial. They conclude that, although both testifying or not testifying can leave negative impressions with the jurors, not testifying results in jurors drawing their own conclusions about the defendant, despite explicit court instructions that it should have no impact on their judgments. According to the authors, when polling jurors about a defendant who did not testify, "many reported confusion or trouble understanding why the defendant would not take the stand to prove his or her innocence, and some even interpreted such silence as an indication or admission of guilt."

1-19/DHR

FAITH IN DEMOCRACY

By James W. Ceaser

Weekly Standard, Vol. 11, No. 8, November 7, 2005, pp. 26-34.

The outcome of democratic reform in the Middle East will rely on addressing the problems associated with the interactions of faith and politics, writes author James Ceaser. Western fears of Islamic fundamentalism in the past lead to ambivalence about democracy in the Middle East, he notes. Now, threats by fundamentalists, he says, has led many to ask why the West should support democracy in many countries, such as Iraq, where elections may bring fundamentalists to power. According to the author, one solution to this dilemma is "to determine whether the fundamentalism vs. democracy dilemma is as intractable as many have depicted it."

1-20/DHR *

RELIGIOUS PROTECTION: Why American Muslims Haven't Turned to Terrorism

By Spencer Ackerman

New Republic, Vol. 233, No. 4743, December 12, 2005, pp. 18++

Counterterrorism experts note that relatively few American Muslims are involved in the global jihadist movements. Ackerman contrasts the patterns of Muslim immigrants in the U.S. and Europe to understand why American Muslims have not become involved in Islamic extremism. Muslim migration to Europe is country-specific and linked to the colonial

era -- most Muslims in England are from South Asia; French and Spanish Muslims are overwhelmingly North African; and German Muslims are predominantly Turkish. European Muslims are "ghettoized" and have high levels of unemployment, few professional prospects and lack access to higher education, and are socially isolated. Not surprisingly, most of them identify themselves as Muslim, rather than with their European country of residence. American Muslims, on the other hand, are a diverse group, live in mixed neighborhoods, have high levels of homeownership and college education. Ackerman argues that the fact that Muslims in the U.S. are more integrated into American society may explain why American Muslims have shunned radical Islam, even as suspicions of Muslims in the U.S. increased after Sept. 11.

1-21/DHR

A TALE OF THREE CITIES

By John R. Thomson

National Interest, No. 81, Fall 2005, pp. 142-148.

Thomson, a businessman, diplomat, and journalist who has lived and worked in the Middle East for more than three decades, describes the movement toward democracy in Afghanistan, Lebanon and Egypt. The real debate in the region is not whether there will be democracy but what form of democracy. During his recent travels to the region, Johnson has found reasons to feel optimistic. In Kabul, there have been successful elections by formerly fractious Pashtun, Tajik, Hazara and Uzbek ethnic groups, Sunni and Shi'a Muslims, and many smaller tribes and sects. In Beirut, there is a youth movement demonstrating to vote on the issues, not on religion. In Cairo, there is hope for a peaceful presidential transition based on elections.

1-22/DHR

TEN MYTHS ABOUT GOVERNANCE AND CORRUPTION

By Daniel Kaufmann

Finance and Development, Vol. 42, No. 3, September 2005. <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2005/09/basics.htm>

Kaufmann, director of Global Programs at the World Bank Institute, says governance -- which is being given a higher priority in development circles -- is a

much misunderstood topic. There are still unresolved questions and debates in the development community, not only about the importance of governance, but also about the ability of international financial institutions to help countries improve on it, he explains. Kaufmann explores 10 myths about governance and concludes by recommending a bolder approach to development in which the rich world must not only deliver on its aid and trade liberalization promises -- but also lead by example.

1-23/DHR

TYRANTS ON TRIAL

By Clive Foss

History Today, Vol. 55, No. 11, November 2005, pp. 48-51.

The author examines the history of bringing tyrants to justice, from the first trial of its kind in modern times, King Charles I in England in 1649, to present-day dictators such as Slobodan Milosevic and Saddam Hussein. Foss discusses a number of questions these trials raise, such as whether domestic or international judicial bodies should try them; for what offenses should they be tried; can their followers get a fair trial; what a just outcome would be; were their offenses illegal according to the laws in effect; and are the tribunals they face legitimate and competent to judge them. The author examines the basic problems of legality and fairness these trials raise, and the various purposes these trials serve, from revenge to reconciliation. Foss notes that international law has an increasing role in these trials, making the rendering of justice more complex.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

1-24/ES

AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY ADOPTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

By Matin Qaim

American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Vol. 87, No. 5, December 2005, pp. 1317-1324.

Qaim, an agricultural economist, says there are three main differences between agricultural biotechnology and previous crop technologies that influence

availability and access to farmers. First, genetically modified (GM) crop developments are driven by the private sector, and therefore involve intellectual property rights (IPR). Second, GM crops are associated with new environmental and health risks that entail new and often cumbersome regulatory procedures at the national and international level. Third, GM traits can be incorporated into different varieties and adjusted to local conditions. The private sector's leading role means IPR and technical use restrictions impact GM seed prices, explains Qaim, but farmers retain the option to use conventional seed, so GM seed demand is price-responsive, which limits the companies' monopoly power. Additionally, he notes, since the private sector focuses on large and lucrative markets, poorer countries do not have the same opportunities to adopt GM crops as the more advanced developing countries. Biotechnology holds great potential for developing countries, he writes, but realizing the benefits on a larger scale requires complementary public endeavors to ensure wider dissemination.

1-25/ES

HOW OIL SHOCKS EFFECT MARKETS

By Roger Kubarych

International Economy, Vol. 19, No. 3, Summer 2005, pp. 32-36.

Kubarych, senior economic adviser with HVB America, Inc., reviews recent history of financial market responses to oil shocks and predicts an irregular uptrend in energy prices over the next decade. History suggests that after a tripling in price, market pressures tend to subside and prices slip back, he notes. However, he explains, several features in the current energy situation argue against this usual market correction: oil producers are operating at full capacity; Saudi Arabia has little incentive to relieve a tight supply; and huge leaps in energy demand from China and other Asian countries are altering the demand side of the equation. These factors, and fact that all the possible solutions have lengthy lead times, mean oil prices will likely rise to new peaks -- with inflationary consequences on financial markets, says Kubarych.

1-26/ES

EXPORTING TEXTILES & CLOTHING:

What's the Cost For LDCs?

By Matthias Knappe

International Trade Forum, No. 1, pp. 19-24.

Knappe, senior market advisor at the International Trade Centre, says the end of quotas in the textile and clothing industry benefits large Asian producers, but other countries still have a stake in the business. It is not clear, he explains, what will happen in least developed countries (LDCs) and other small, vulnerable countries with low-value products, fragmented industries reliant on quota protection, and little regional cooperation. LDCs will need to change their strategy to survive the higher standards brought on by increased competition, he says. Some of Knappe's recommendations are: take over responsibilities along the textile and clothing value chain, accelerate South-South cooperation to tap into the markets of other developing countries, cooperate regionally to benefit as much as possible from preferential and differential treatment, and address weaknesses in trade facilitation to create the necessary enabling environment for business.

1-27/ES

INTERNATIONAL PATENTS AND INTERNATIONAL HARMONIZATION

Biopharm International, Vol. 18, No. 9, September 2005, pp. 58-63.

The protection of intellectual property rights (IPR) plays a key role in bilateral trade negotiations among international partners, according to the authors, both lawyers with the Washington, DC law firm of Mayer, Brown, Rowe and Maw. Strong U.S. patent laws have long fueled innovation in the biopharmaceutical industry, they note, and the U.S. government has consistently used bilateral and regional negotiations to improve IPR standards worldwide. These have helped establish U.S. biopharmaceutical companies as leaders in the world but these same companies still face the counterfeiting of patented products. In today's increasingly global markets, they say, new innovations and the development of the new, cutting-edge medicines depend on a better harmonization of patent laws and stronger protection for biopharmaceutical products. Markets such as China and India are important to the U.S. pharmaceutical industry, so

many U.S. companies will try to enter these challenging markets and IPR will be important to bringing new and better medicines to patients. Much progress has been made through implementation of the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement and other patent standards, they say, but strong patent protections on par with those in the United States will require more effort by both the U.S. government and the industry.

1-28/ES

MUST WE OVERLOOK ALL IMPAIRMENT OF OUR INTERESTS? Debating the Foreign Aid Role of the Export-Import Bank, 1934-41

By Michael R. Adamson

Diplomatic History, Vol. 29, No. 4, September 2005, pp. 589-623.

Adamson argues that the Export-Import Bank (Exim), established by President Roosevelt in 1934, tried to define the role that foreign aid would play in accomplishing the goals of U.S. foreign policy. Proposals for a large-scale U.S. foreign aid program and efforts for its implementation predated World War II and the Cold War, he says, but such aid was opposed by the State Department as too expansive. An interagency debate in the Roosevelt administration ensued over the role of Exim and the appropriate scale of economic development projects and new programs. Eventually, The State Department did use Exim to advance short-term national interests and as leverage to restore a long-run liberal international political economy, Adamson explains. However, Exim limited its function as a development bank, since liberalizing private capital flows was one of its objectives. The struggle over the use of public vs. private avenues for foreign aid continued until the Marshall Plan and other post-1945 efforts, he says, when Exim's function as a development bank temporarily expanded as policymakers justified foreign aid as a national security response to counter the perceived threat of communism.

1-29/ES *

REFORMING THE WORLD BANK

By Jessica Einhorn

Foreign Affairs, Vol. 85, No. 1, January/February 2006, pp. 17-23.

The World Bank entered a new era when Paul Wolfowitz took over as its president on June 1, 2005. Wolfowitz's predecessor, James Wolfensohn, had served in the role for ten years, with a mission of transformation and a management style that placed great emphasis on his personal leadership. By the time he left the post, Wolfensohn had succeeded in giving the bank "a human face" and "a dream of a world without poverty," and in altering the institution's priorities to emphasize building institutions, improving governance, enhancing the voice and participation of the poor, strengthening the rule of law, and stamping out corruption. When he replaced Wolfensohn, Wolfowitz was quick to emphasize that he embraced the bank's antipoverty mission. At the same time, he has let it be known that he will forgo a big-bang presidency. But the world has changed dramatically since the bank's founding over 60 years ago; the bank must change, too, if it is to flourish for another 60 years.

1-30/ES

SUNRISE FOR RENEWABLES?

Economist, Vol. 377, No. 8456, December 10, 2005, pp. 18-20.

Environmental concerns, higher energy prices, a desire for greater energy security and improved technologies are converging to create the best investing environment ever for renewable power, as renewables become more cost-competitive with conventional energy sources. Regulatory incentives such as taxes on carbon emissions or tax credits for renewables are impacting cost of use. Improved technologies such as larger wind turbines, simplified solar panel installation, "smart" meters that make it possible for power companies to charge more during peak hours, and new materials are providing new energy options that make renewables more competitive. Additionally, the price fluctuations in oil make the comparatively stable prices for renewable energy look very attractive. Although there are still nay-sayers, this article notes that the investment levels indicate strong confidence in the future of renewable

energy.

1-31/ES*

THE UTOPIAN NIGHTMARE

By William Easterly

Foreign Policy, No. 150, September/October 2005, pp. 58-64.

Easterly, an economics professor at New York University, says that utopian goals to cure world poverty are not the best way to help the world's poor. He asks why, after 43 years and \$568 billion (2003 dollars) in foreign aid, Africa remains trapped in economic stagnation. The dream of solving poverty with a "big push" in aid or a realignment of conditionalities may make rich countries feel good, but it is not a realistic cure-all, says Easterly. The problems of the poor nations have deep institutional roots where markets don't work and pervasively corrupt politicians and civil servants are not accountable to their citizens. This is not to say that all foreign aid is futile, he explains, but instead of focusing on utopian goals such as ending world poverty, global leaders should simply concentrate on finding interventions that work. To best accomplish this, he adds, aid organizations will need to do a better job of evaluating the impacts of their programs.

GLOBAL ISSUES AND COMMUNICATION

1-32/GIC

CAN WE STOP THE NEXT KILLER FLU?

By Joel Achenbach

Washington Post Magazine, December 11, 2005, pp. 10-28.

The story of the re-creation in 2005 of the 1918 Spanish flu virus is the centerpiece of this detailed overview of the search for effective treatments, including vaccines, for avian influenza. The author profiles flu specialist Jeffrey Taubenberger, and explains in easy-to-understand terms how DNA and RNA work and the crucial ways in which they relate to flu. While studying tissue from a victim of the 1918 pandemic, Taubenberger and his associates used a new technique called reverse genetics to re-create the virus, now used to determine exactly how it

mutated from an avian flu harmless to humans to a global killer. Results can then be adapted to the present H5N1 strain of influenza.

1-33/GIC*

DETECTING ILLICIT NUCLEAR MATERIALS

By Richard T. Kouzes

American Scientist, Vol. 93, No. 5, September-October 2005, pp. 422-427.

According to the author -- who works on disarmament, nonproliferation and homeland security at the Department of Energy Pacific Northwest National Laboratory -- installing radiological monitoring equipment in the United States and overseas is helping thwart nuclear terrorism. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, fear has grown that the wrong people might acquire dangerous nuclear materials. The possibility became more frightening after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. U.S. and European authorities have worked to keep terrorists from acquiring materials they could use to build a nuclear weapon or a dirty bomb -- one that disperses radioactive debris over a wide area. A major part of the effort involves outfitting U.S. and overseas shipping ports and other border crossings with equipment that can detect nuclear materials' telltale radiation. The author outlines the many-layered program the U.S. is now undertaking and describes some technical challenges.

1-34/GIC

ECONOMICS IN A FULL WORLD

By Herman Daly

Scientific American, September 2005, Vol. 293, No. 3, pp. 100-107.

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/TradeandForeignAid/bg1881.cfm>

Schaefer, an economist with The Heritage Foundation, says that foreign assistance can be useful but increasing economic assistance to an arbitrary 0.7 percent of GNP will not improve economic growth and development in poor nations. Numerous studies have concluded that economic freedom, good governance, and the rule of law -- which are essential for encouraging investment and entrepreneurialism -- are the keys to long-term economic growth and poverty reduction, he writes. The twentieth century

approach to development -- which emphasized monetary aid as the road to poverty reduction -- produced a vicious cycle of aid, default and dependency, states Schaefer. In one study of 88 countries, he reports, only one case was found in which foreign aid actually led to increased investment and economic growth. Further, he notes, eleven years of data from the Index of Economic Freedom show a clear positive relationship between economic growth and the adoption of policies that promote economic freedom and the rule of law. The U.S. should continue to reject arbitrary aid targets and encourage developing countries to adopt policies that encourage private investment and entrepreneurship, writes Schaefer, because these are the true keys to development.

1-35/GIC

MORE PROFIT WITH LESS CARBON

By Amory Lovins

Scientific American, Vol. 293, No. 3, September 2005, pp. 84-91.

The author, co-founder of the Rocky Mountain Institute, notes that the energy sector of the global economy is woefully inefficient. Power plants, buildings, motor vehicles and consumer appliances waste huge amounts of energy, costing the businesses and consumers hundreds of billions of dollars. Lovins notes that if nothing is done, consumption of oil, gas and coal will continue to rise, adding to pollution and climate problems. He believes that improving end-use efficiency would be the best way to save energy, as energy-efficient products cost no more than conventional ones. Improvements in efficiency and use of renewable-energy sources would enable the U.S. to phase out oil use by the middle of the century, saving immense amounts of money.

1-36/GIC

PHOTO CHOP SHOP

By Kate Greene

Technology Review, December 6, 2005

http://www.technologyreview.com/InfoTech-Software/wtr_15966,300,p1.html

Digital forensics has emerged as a growth industry to combat the ease with which images can be manipulated and altered with software programs like

Photoshop. Recent cases of newspapers doctoring photos, coupled with the concern that digitally altered images could be used as court evidence, led Polytechnic University computer scientist Nasir Memon to join the effort to expose digital alterations. One method of detecting tampering, known as digital watermarking, adds identifying data to an image, which is corrupted when the image is altered in any way, though the process is costly and not widely practiced. Because not every photo submitted in court has a digital watermark, digital forensics can be used to determine if an image has been altered and then match it to the camera used to take the picture. Memon developed software to identify a camera's manufacturer by identifying the company's unique interpolation algorithm, which compensates for the red, blue, or green sensors that were not functioning in a given pixel at the time the picture was taken. A more specific application, developed by Jessica Fridrich of the State University of New York, can match a photo to a specific camera by zooming in on unique imperfections known as noise; this software can still match a photo even if its file has been compressed, unlike Memon's technique.

1-37/GIC

PREPARING FOR A PANDEMIC

By W. Wayt Gibbs and Christine Soares

Scientific American, Vol. 293, No. 5, November 2005, pp. 44-54

<http://www.sciam.com>

As the H5N1 bird flu virus spreads to more countries and new cases of human infection occur, resulting in the death of about half those infected, there is growing concern that this virus could mutate enough to cause a global influenza pandemic and claim millions of lives. Scientists, medical experts, and government officials are assessing the strengths and weaknesses of public health systems and developing plans to respond to such a pandemic. The authors review progress on four lines of defense: surveillance to detect outbreaks, methods to contain outbreaks, vaccine development and medical treatments. The authors note that no government is prepared at this time to deal with a pandemic and "responses will vary locally as individual countries with differing resources make choices based on political priorities as much as on science."

1-38/SV

50 BEST AND MOST INFLUENTIAL JOURNALISTS

By Garrett Graff

Washingtonian, Vol. 51, No. 3, December 2005, pp. 50-58.

In a year in which journalists have taken as many hits as plugs, the author notes, the journalism field in Washington is as cutthroat as ever. An increase in the number of news outlets means an increase in journalists, and quantity does not necessarily translate into quality. This article outlines, in the opinion of journalists, who the fifty best and most influential reporters and writers are; the author notes that journalists who may be popular are not necessarily the most influential in Washington. Some names have been on the list since 1973, including Robert Novak (Chicago-Sun Times) and Bob Woodward (Washington Post). Many are newcomers, including Steve Coll (New Yorker), who recently won the Pulitzer for his book on terrorism, and Judy Miller (New York Times), for her commitment to ethical reporting and influence on the media. A companion section looks at the "up-and-comers", who are reporting through the Internet, blogs, and other non-traditional media, and ruffling lots of government feathers in the process.

1-39/SV *

BOOMER CENTURY

By Joshua Zeitz

American Heritage, Vol. 56, No. 5, October 2005, pp. 32-49.

<http://www.americanheritage.com/articles/web/20051025-baby-boom-boomers-1960-1970-1980.shtml>

In this examination of the "Baby Boom" generation, Zeitz asks, "What's going to happen when the most prosperous, best-educated generation in history finally grows up? (And just how special are the baby boomers?)." He discusses the trends that caused the explosion of births between 1946 and 1964, describes the societal forces that shaped this group rooted in time instead of place or race, and explores both the

contradictory and unifying aspects of the generation that continues to define "the limits and promise of American life." Sidebars look at the baby boomers' cars, toys, and movies; feature a photo gallery of famous boomers; include a defense of the generation by novelist Benjamin Cheever; and provide a bibliography.

1-40/SV

FULBRIGHT CONNECTS WITH THE MUSLIM WORLD

By Sara Lipka

Chronicle of Higher Education, November 4, 2005, pp. A47-A49.

Fulbright, the United States' best-known academic-exchange program, is increasing its focus on the Muslim world, strengthening its ties with critical countries and establishing a short-term exchange program for professors from Muslim countries. Exchanges were reopened with Afghanistan and Iraq in 2003. The Fulbright program has also established outreach programs to high-school and undergraduate students in the Muslim world in an effort to reach more than just those countries' elites. The article includes features on three Fulbright exchange participants from Afghanistan, Egypt or Iraq who relate their experiences in the U.S.

DOCUMENT ALERT

1-41/DOC

AFGHANISTAN'S TROUBLED PAST AND UNCERTAIN FUTURE

By Arthur Lezin

American Foreign Service Association, January 2006.

<http://www.afsa.org/fsj/dec05/lezin.pdf>

To understand how Afghanistan was transformed into a breeding ground for terrorist attacks on the West, and to help it get back on its feet, we need to know something of its bloody history.

1-42/DOC**DEMOCRACY AND THE MAKING OF FOREIGN POLICY****By John Gershman****Institute for Policy Studies, February 2006.**<http://fpif.org/pdf/papers/0602makingfp.pdf>

The recent attention focused on how American foreign policy can promote democracy abroad has obscured something just as fundamental and controversial. How does U.S. foreign policy influence democratic values, practices, and institutions at home? And what roles do and should democratic processes play in shaping America's foreign policy? The aim of this brief discussion paper is to raise some of these questions as a way of contributing to a strategic dialogue on these less prominent dimensions of the relationship between democracy and U.S. foreign policy.

1-43/DOC**EL-BARADEI AND THE IAEA'S NOBEL PEACE PRIZE A MIXED BLESSING****By Stephen Zunes****Institute for Policy Studies, December 2005.**<http://fpif.org/pdf/gac/0512nobel.pdf>

The IAEA--and the United Nations as a whole--can be useful if its findings and policies support U.S. policy and can be ignored or rejected when they do not. Unless and until that changes, this noble effort by the Nobel committee in honoring El-Baradei and the IAEA will end up meaning very little.

1-44/DOC**MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING AND NGO MONITORING: A CHALLENGE TO FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS****Amnesty International, January 2006.**[http://web.amnesty.org/library/pdf/POL300022006ENGLISH/\\$File/POL3000206.pdf](http://web.amnesty.org/library/pdf/POL300022006ENGLISH/$File/POL3000206.pdf)

Governments in Europe and North America are increasingly sending persons who they allege are suspected of involvement in terrorism and others to places where they risk denial of fundamental human rights, especially freedom from torture and other ill-treatment. Such forcible transfers expose these individuals to serious risk of torture or ill-treatment in the states to which they are transferred. Some states

have therefore sought and received "diplomatic assurances" (DAs) from the receiving state that transferred individuals would receive humane treatment upon transfer. States offering such assurances have typically included those where torture and other ill-treatment are often practiced, as well as those where detainees belonging to particular groups (such as suspected "terrorists") are routinely singled out for the worst forms of abuse. At least one government, the United Kingdom, is also increasing negotiating and agreeing Memorandums of understanding (MOUs) to implement those assurances.

1-45/DOC**PAKISTAN: The Myth of an Islamist Peril****By Frederic Grare****Carnegie Endowment, February 2006.**<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=17998&prog=zgp&proj=zsa>

In a new Carnegie Policy Brief, Pakistan: The Myth of an Islamist Peril, Visiting Scholar Frederic Grare argues that the risk of an Islamist takeover in Pakistan is a myth invented by the Pakistani military to consolidate its hold on power. In fact, religious political parties and militant organizations are manipulated by the Pakistani Army to achieve its own objectives, domestically and abroad. The army, not the Islamists, is the real source of insecurity on the subcontinent. Sustainable security and stability in the region will be achieved only through the restoration of democracy in Pakistan. Grare suggests that the West should actively promote the demilitarization of Pakistan's political life through a mix of political pressure and capacity building. Enlarging the pool of elites and creating alternative centers of power will be essential for developing a working democracy in Pakistan.

1-46/DOC**PAKISTAN: The Resurgence of Baluch Nationalism****By Frederic Grare****Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, January 2006.**http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/CP65_Grare.FINAL.pdf

A new conflict is emerging in Baluchistan, a vast yet

sparsely populated Pakistani province, straddling three countries: Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan. This instability has potential implications for the United States, as it is a launching pad for U.S. military operations against Islamic terrorism. This paper provides insight to the numerous factors that have led to the complex struggle between the Pakistani government and the Baluch population's fight for independence. Were Baluchistan to become independent, Pakistan would lose a major part of its natural resources and Baluchistan would become a new zone of instability in the region.

1-47/DOC

PREFERENTIAL TRADING IN SOUTH ASIA

By Nihal Pitigala and others

World Bank, January 2006.

http://wdsbeta.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/IW3P/IB/2006/01/18/000016406_20060118141219/Rendered/PDF/wps3813.pdf

The authors examine the economic case for the South Asia Free Trade Area (SAFTA) Agreement signed on January 6, 2004 by India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Maldives. They start with a detailed analysis of the preferential trading arrangements in South Asia to look at the region's experience to date and to draw lessons. Specifically, they examine the most effective free trade area in existence—the India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Area—and evaluate the developments under the South Asian Preferential Trade Area (SAPTA). The authors conclude that, considered in isolation, the economic case for SAFTA is weak. When compared with the rest of the world, the region is tiny both in terms of economic size as measured by GDP (and per capita incomes) and the share in world trade. It is argued that these facts make it unlikely that trade diversion would be dominant as a result of SAFTA. This point is reinforced by the presence of high levels of protection in the region and the tendency of the member countries to establish highly restrictive "sectoral exceptions and sensitive lists" and stringent "rules of origin." The authors argue that the SAFTA makes sense only in the context of a much broader strategy of creating a larger preferential trade area in the region that specifically would encompass China and the member nations of the Association of South East Asian Nations. In turn, the case for the latter is

strategic: the pursuit of regionalism in the Americas and Europe has created increasing discrimination against Asian exports to those regions, which must inevitably affect the region's terms of trade adversely. An Asian bloc could be a potential instrument of changing incentives for the trade blocs in the Americas and Europe and forcing multilateral freeing of trade. Assuming that the SAFTA Agreement is here to stay, the authors suggest steps to ensure that the Agreement can be made more effective in promoting intra-regional trade, while minimizing the likely trade-diversion costs and maximizing the potential benefits.

1-48/DOC

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEACEMAKING WHEN RELIGION BRINGS PEACE, NOT WAR

By David R. Smock

United States Institute of Peace, January 2006.

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/peaceworks/pw55.pdf>

This report provides a series of case studies addressing specific religious conflicts through a variety of methodologies. Some of the cases describe dramatic successes, like the Inter Faith Mediation Center mediating peace between Christians and Muslims in some of the most strife-torn regions of Nigeria. Others tackle some of the most intractable conflicts in the world, such as the Alexandria process among Muslim, Jewish, and Christian leaders working to establish a religious peace track in Israel and Palestine. The analysis of the Iraqi Institute of Peace shows how the organization has grappled with the most critical issues currently facing a religiously fragmented Iraq. Not all the cases presented here describe dramatic success stories, but even the less decisive cases provide experiences and lessons that are instructive for future religious peacemaking in other places.

1-49/DOC

TWO JUSTIFICATIONS FOR TERRORISM: A MORAL LEGAL RESPONSE

By Ben Saul

Institute for Policy Studies, January 2006.

<http://fpif.org/pdf/papers/0601justifications.pdf>

This article pauses to take seriously two specific claims of justification for terrorist violence: firstly,

that some civilians are not "innocent" and deserve to be killed; and secondly, that suicide bombing is excused by the defense of necessity. It unravels each of these claims and subjects them to the scrutiny of existing international legal principles (particularly international humanitarian law (IHL)) and the moral framework underlying those principles.