



# North County Chapterline

San Diego World Affairs Council

November, 2007

## *The Prez Sez*

*by Jim Young and Vojin Joksimovich for Cy Chadley, traveling in South America*

Last month we had scheduled two contrasting sessions on Iraq. The first, a critical look at Iraq, was held and is summarized below. The meeting was covered by the NC Times and you can read the article on their web site:

[http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2007/10/12/news/top\\_stories/21\\_04\\_2610\\_11\\_07.txt](http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2007/10/12/news/top_stories/21_04_2610_11_07.txt). The other session was to feature Lt. Col. Scott Shuster, Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment. Unfortunately, he got orders to report to 29 Palms and had to cancel. He would have given a first-hand report on their recent success in securing the Al Qaim region of Anbar Province. The following articles, found on the web, report Shuster's description of how the Marines collaborated with local sheiks to clear out Al Qaeda insurgents from that region: <http://www.moorparkacorn.com/news/2007/0105/editorials/012.html> and <http://www.theacorn.com/news/2007/0823/Community/042.html>.

### The Morning With The Generals (by Vojin Joksimovich)

On October 11 our chapter hosted two retired generals from the Washington DC based non-profit Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation Outreach Program: Marine Corps four-star General Joseph Hoar, who lives in Del Mar, and Army Lt. General Robert Gard. The Center's Outreach Program focuses on educating the American public and opinion leaders on national security issues. The goal is to empower citizens to engage in informal debate and raise these issues with policy-makers at every level. The chosen topics of Iraq and Iran fully engaged our membership. It should be noted that our chapter sponsored on the order of dozen talks on Iraq or Iran but this one reached the culmination level to educate our members and guests.

General Hoar retired in 1994. In the last three years he was the commander in chief of the U.S. Central Command, the unified command that has planning and operational responsibilities for 19 countries in the Middle East, South Asia, and the Horn of Africa. He was the deputy for operations for the Marine Corps during the Gulf War, and prior to that, he was General Schwarzkopf's chief of staff at Central Command. General Gard retired in 1981 after serving in the Korean and Vietnam wars. He held many distinguished posts including as an executive assistant to then Secretary of Defense McNamara. He holds a Ph.D. from Harvard University and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Both generals have been longtime critics of the war in Iraq and vehemently oppose a possible war in Iran they fear President Bush might launch before he leaves the office. They believe that the Bush administration's troop surge policy was not working. They have illustrated their assertion with various statistics, including the magnitude of sectarian cleansing in Baghdad, and polls conducted by American and British news organizations. Instead they recommend a substantial reduction in American forces but leave enough of them to train the Iraqi army, and to protect them from insurgent attacks until they become self-sufficient. They endorse the Baker-Hamilton task force recommendation for involvement of neighboring countries, including Iran and Syria, in search for a political solution and stress that there is no military solution.

General Gard warned that neo-conservative groups have already raised some \$15 million to push Bush into bombing Iran. He made a point that the Bush administration regarded negotiations with countries like Iran as "somehow rewarding bad behavior." Is it not the point of diplomacy "to deal with another nation with which you have disagreements, in the hope that you can find a resolution that is advantageous to both sides?" General Hoar said: "Six years ago, nobody thought it was possible to deal with North Korea, and look at the progress that has been made there."

### North County Chapter, Membership Application/Renewal

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

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#### Membership Categories

- \$60 Family
- \$50 Senior Family (+65)
- \$50 Individual
- \$40 Senior individuals (+65)
- \$15 Full time student
- \$100-\$499 Contributing

(new membership: Jan. 1 to June 1 above rates apply to current year; July 1 to Sep't. 30 half of above rates apply; after Oct.1 above rates apply thru following year)

Make Checks payable to : **World Affairs Council**

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Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter's News

- ◆ Details of SDWAC and NCC activities can be seen on [www.sdwac.com](http://www.sdwac.com). SDWAC office: (619) 325-8200.
- ◆ "Foreign Affairs" articles can be read on [www.foreignaffairs.org](http://www.foreignaffairs.org).
- ◆ In order to continue to reduce labor, postage expense and delays, the monthly newsletters will be sent by e-mail to those members for whom we have an e-mail address and will be available for collection by members at the Thursday meeting before the end of the month, prior to being mailed.



## North County Chapter November, 2007 Programs

10:00 AM, Thursdays at  
THE REMINGTON CLUB, 16916 HIERBA DRIVE, Rancho Bernardo\*

Everyone is welcome to attend and participate in these meetings - no charge, no need to reserve.

- November 1 **Dr. Dipak Gupta**, Fred J Hansen Professor of Peace Studies, Department of Political Science, SDSU, Director undergraduate program in International Security and Conflict Resolution, commentator on KPBS talk show, "These Days", and contributor to San Diego Union Tribune's Opinion section; "**Pakistan: The Biggest U.S. Foreign Policy Dilemma**".
- November 8 **Dr. Lahouari Addi** is a professor at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques at the University of Lyon (France) and has written extensively post-colonial Algeria. He is currently a visiting professor at UCLA and will discuss "**The Post Colonial Governments in North Africa**"
- November 15 **Dr. Michael Provence**, Assistant Professor of History, UCSD, a specialist in modern Middle East history and politics with emphasis on Arab nationalism in the colonial and post-colonial Arab world, will discuss "**Greater Kurdistan, Then and Now**", describing the politics of the Kurds in Iraq, Iran, Syria and Turkey.
- November 22 THANKSGIVING, No program.
- November 29 **Dr. Eric Frost**; who teaches at SDSU and among other activities directs the Central Asia Research and Remediation Exchange. He has traveled widely in the "Stans" (e.g., Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan), an increasingly important area because of its abundant gas and oil resources. He will discuss "**Perspectives on Central Asia**"

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Call Al Myers (760) 721-9072 or e-mail him at [almyers123@cox.net](mailto:almyers123@cox.net).

\* **Remington Club, Phase II, is located behind Von's Market. Please do not park in the Club's parking area.**

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