



# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



## **Dr. Stephen Blank**

Stephen Blank is Professor of Russian National Security Studies at the Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College in Pennsylvania. Dr. Blank has been Professor of National Security Affairs at the Strategic Studies Institute since 1989. In 1998-2001 he was Douglas MacArthur Professor of Research at the War College. He has published over 600 articles and monographs on Soviet/Russian, U.S., Asian, and European military and foreign policies, testified frequently before Congress on Russia, China, and Central Asia, consulted for the CIA, major think tanks and foundations, chaired major international conferences in the USA and abroad in Florence, Prague, and London, and has been a commentator on foreign affairs in the media in the United States and abroad. He has published or edited 15 books focusing on Russian foreign, energy, and military policies and on International Security in Eurasia. His most recent book is *Russo-Chinese Energy Relations: Politics in Command*, London: Global Markets Briefing, 2006. He has also published *Natural Allies?: Regional Security in Asia and Prospects for Indo-American Strategic Cooperation*, Carlisle Barracks, PA: Strategic Studies Institute, US Army War College, 2005. Dr. Blank is also the author of a study of the Soviet Commissariat of Nationalities, *The Sorcerer as Apprentice: Stalin's Commissariat of Nationalities*, Greenwood Publishing Group, 1994 and the co-editor of *The Soviet Military and the Future*, Greenwood Publishing Group, 1992. Prior to this appointment Dr. Blank was Associate Professor for Soviet Studies at the Center for Aerospace Doctrine, Research, and Education of Air University at Maxwell AFB. He also held the position of 1980-86: Assistant Professor of Russian History, University of Texas, San Antonio, 1980-86, and Visiting Assistant Professor of Russian history, University of California, Riverside, 1979-80. Dr. Blank's M.A. and Ph.D. are in Russian History from the University of Chicago. His B.A is in History from the University of Pennsylvania.

## **Dr. Daniel Burghart**

Dr. Daniel L Burghart is a Professor of National Security and Eurasian Studies at the National Defense Intelligence College in Washington DC. A specialist in Russian, CIS and Central European Affairs, he entered the Army in 1973 as a distinguished military graduate of the University of Illinois, and served in a variety of Foreign Area Officer assignments before retiring as a Colonel with 30 years of service in June 2003. Prior to coming to NDIC, Dr. Burghart taught and was a research fellow at the National Defense University. He has also served as Senior National Security Policy Advisor at the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, U.S. Defense and Army Attaché to Kazakhstan, and a Mission Commander at the On Site Inspection Agency, where he led arms control inspections to the republics of the Former Soviet Union. Other assignments include: Senior Russian Military Analyst and Eurasian Branch Chief on the Army Staff, Professor of Russian and East European Studies at the Military Academy at West Point, and Director of Area Studies at the U. S. Army Russian

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Institute. Dr. Burghart has a BA in Political Science from Illinois, a dual Masters in Political Science and Russian Area Studies from University of Wisconsin, and a Ph.D. in Russian and International Studies from the University of Surrey. Along with articles in defense and civilian journals, he is the author of the book *Red Microchip: Technology Transfer, Export Control and Economic Restructuring in the Soviet Union*, and co-editor with Dr. Theresa Sabonis-Helf of *In the Tracks of Tamerlane: Central Asia's Path to the 21st Century*.

### **Mr. Fritz Ermarth**

Mr. Ermarth is a retired CIA officer who has served as Chairman of the National Intelligence Council, NIO/USSR, Director of the Strategic Evaluation Center, and several tours on the NSC Staff. He has also worked at the Rand Corporation, the Northrop Corporation, and Radio Free Europe. During the Cold War era, Ermarth concentrated on the USSR and on US nuclear weapons strategy, policy, and arms control. Since retirement from CIA in 1998, he has continued to work on Russia and nuclear weapons issues

### **LTC Robert Hamilton**

LTC Robert E. Hamilton was commissioned in Armor Branch upon graduation from the United States Military Academy in 1988. His first assignment took him to the 2nd Squadron, 4th U.S. Cavalry Regiment at Fort Stewart, Georgia, where he served as a Scout Platoon Leader in A Troop, the Squadron Support Platoon Leader in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, and the A Troop Executive Officer. Upon graduation from the Armor Officer Advanced Course in April 1993, LTC Hamilton assumed command of E Troop, 5th Squadron, 15th U.S. Cavalry Regiment at Fort Knox, Kentucky, commanding the troop until June 1994, when he took command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 2d Battalion, 33d Armor Regiment, 194th Armor Brigade. After giving up command of HHC in February 1996, LTC Hamilton entered the Eurasian Foreign Area Officer training program. He completed the Russian Language Course at the Defense Language Institute in February of 1997, graduated from the George C. Marshall Center for European Security Studies in December of 1998, and received his Masters Degree in Contemporary Russian Studies from the University of Virginia in May of 2000. From 2000 until 2002 LTC Hamilton was an exchange student at the German Armed Forces Staff College. In June 2002 LTC Hamilton was assigned to the United States Central Command (CENTCOM) at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, where he served as a war planner for Operation Iraqi Freedom at CENTCOM's Forward Headquarters in Qatar and later as the desk officer for Uzbekistan and Afghanistan. From July 2005 until June 2006 LTC Hamilton served as the Chief of Regional Engagement for Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan, in Kabul. From July 2006 until July 2008 LTC Hamilton has served as the Chief of the Office of Defense

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Cooperation in Tbilisi, Georgia. LTC Hamilton is married to the former Leigh Brown of Louisville, Kentucky. Together they have two sons – Connor, born in 1998 and Trevor, born in 2001. LTC Hamilton's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Order of St. George, the German Armed Forces Leistungsabzeichen (Achievement Badge-Gold Award), the Combat Action Badge and the Parachute Badge.

### **Mr. Mark Handy**

Mr. Mark Handy assumed his current position with appointment to the Defense Intelligence Senior Level in July 2008. As DIO for Eurasia, Mr. Handy is the substantive analytic expert on Eurasia for DIA and the broader Defense Intelligence Analytic community. He serves as the Department of Defense's counterpart to the National Intelligence Officer for Russia and Eurasia. Mr. Handy has been assigned to a variety of collection, analysis, staff and policy support positions in the Intelligence Community over a 30-year career, including duty with the US Military Liaison Mission, Potsdam, deputy of an overseas Defense bilateral unit, and positions including Senior Intelligence Officer and Division chief within DIA. Mr. Handy is also a foreign area officer in the Army Reserve, specializing in Russia and Central Asia.

### **Dr. William Hill**

Dr. William Hill is currently a Professor of National Security Strategy at the National War College in Washington, DC. A retired foreign service officer, Dr. Hill is an expert on Russia and the former Soviet Union, east-west relations, and European multilateral diplomacy. Most recently he served two terms – January 2003-July 2006 and June 1999-November 2001 – as Head of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, where he was charged with negotiation of a political settlement to the Transdniestrian conflict and facilitation of the withdrawal of Russian forces, arms, and ammunition from Moldova. He was a Public Policy Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington DC in 2001-2002, and an Associate of Georgetown University's Institute for the Study of Diplomacy in 2006-2007. During his foreign service career he has served in Moscow, Leningrad, Belgrade, the U.S. CSCE delegation in Vienna, and Dhaka. In Washington, DC, he has held a number of posts involving east-west relations, political-military affairs, and intelligence analysis, including CSCE Coordinator and Chief of Analysis for Eastern Europe in the State Department, European Division Chief in the Voice of America, and Senior Advisor for Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus in the Office of the Secretary of Defense in the Pentagon. Prior to joining the foreign service, Dr. Hill held teaching and research posts at the University of California, Santa Cruz, Virginia Tech, and the Harvard Russian Research Center. He holds BA in history from Harvard and a PhD in Russian history and Soviet politics from the University of California at Berkeley, and studied at Leningrad State University and Moscow State University as a participant in the U.S.-Soviet academic exchange. His languages include Russian, Serbian, Croatian, German, Romanian, and French.

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### **Dr. Fred Kagan**

Frederick W. Kagan is a resident scholar in defense and security policy studies at AEI. His most recent book, *Ground Truth: The Future of U.S. Land Power* (AEI Press), which he co-authored with AEI resident scholar Thomas Donnelly, was published in May 2008.

Previously an associate professor of military history at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he is the author of *Finding the Target: The Transformation of American Military Policy* (Encounter Books, 2006) and *The End of the Old Order: Napoleon and Europe, 1801–1805* (Da Capo, 2006) and coauthor of *While America Sleeps: Self-Delusion, Military Weakness, and the Threat to Peace Today* (St. Martin's Press, 2000). A contributing editor at *The Weekly Standard*, he has also written numerous articles on defense and foreign policy issues for *Foreign Affairs*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Policy Review*, *Commentary*, *Parameters*, and other periodicals.

### **Dr. James Keagle**

Dr. James M. Keagle is the Director of the Transforming National Security seminar series at the Center for Technology and National Security Policy at the National Defense University. Prior to this position, Dr. Keagle was the National Defense University's Provost (effective 2004) and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Prior to these positions, he served as a professor of National Security Strategy at NDU. In that role Dr. Keagle worked as a research faculty member assisting with NDU's modeling and simulation and work with interagency education and training. Accepting an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy, he graduated second academically in his class in June 1974. Following graduation, he went to the University of Pittsburgh to complete his Master's of Arts degree in political science and earned a graduate certificate in Latin American studies. After a tour as a munitions maintenance officer, Dr. Keagle went on to become an assistant professor of political science at the U.S. Air Force Academy. In 1980, he went on to Princeton University where he completed both a Master's of Arts degree and Ph.D. in politics. He proudly notes his honorary Ph.D from the Military Technical Academy of Romania--the only United States citizen so honored. Following his extensive education, Dr. Keagle's next six tours were political-military assignment that included direct access and interaction with Cabinet-level government officials on national security related matters. These assignments included work for two Combatant Commanders as a senior strategist; for the Office of Secretary of Defense pertaining to Cuba; Deputy Director, Office of the Secretary of Defense Bosnian Task Force; and for the Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force in International Affairs as Senior

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Strategist. Military medals include the Defense Superior Service Award, the Legion of Merit, and the Purple Heart. Since leaving military service, Dr. Keagle has held the position of adjunct professor at a number of institutions to include: Syracuse University, American University, Central Michigan University, Catholic University, University of Colorado, and Lake Superior State College. He also holds an honorary professorships with Transilvania University in Brasov, Romania, as well as the Mongolian Defense University--again, the only American so honored. Dr. Keagle and wife Kay are the proud parents of three children.

### **Dr. Lowell Schwartz**

Lowell Schwartz is a political scientist who has worked at the RAND Corporation since 2000. He has co-authored twelve RAND studies that range across a wide variety of national security issues and he has been published in the National Interest, the LA Times, the Baltimore Sun, the Washington Times and the UPI wire service. His work has focused on three areas. First, he has worked on the evolution of strategic warfare from a bi-polarity to multi-polarity. This includes publications on U.S. nuclear strategy, the impact to defense planning of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, the strategic impact of the rise of China as a major power, and how to improve nuclear relations between the United States and Russia. A second area he has worked on are the various forces, (political, technological, and budgetary) that influence the future of DOD strategy, policy and forces. Finally, he has worked on how public diplomacy/information operations can help shape public opinion abroad with publications on the use of public diplomacy/public affairs in Operation Iraqi Freedom, strategies for building moderate Muslim networks, and the barriers to the dissemination of creative work in the Arab world issues. Dr. Schwartz obtained his PhD from the Department of War Studies, Kings College, University of London and his thesis "Political Warfare Against the Kremlin: U.S. and British Propaganda Policy at the Beginning of the Cold War" will be published by Palgrave Macmillan in the spring of 2009.

### **Dr. Peter Stavrakis**

Professor Stavrakis is currently Professor of Political Science at the National Defense University, and Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Vermont. He received his Ph.D. and M.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1986, 1980), and his B.A. in Mathematics from the University of Delaware (1978). Professor Stavrakis teaches courses in Political Science, National Security Decision-making, Russian Foreign and Domestic Politics, International Relations and Balkan politics. He is the author of Moscow

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and Greek Communism, 1944 - 1949, (Cornell, 1989), and editor of *Beyond the Monolith: The Emergence of Regionalism in Post-Soviet Russia* (Johns Hopkins, 1997), and is the author of numerous articles on post-Soviet politics, U.S. foreign assistance, democratization, and comparative politics. His article "The Evolution of Russia as a Predator State," (2002) appeared in the U.S. Congress's Joint Economic Committee study of the Russian economy, and is part of an ongoing comparative study of the political dynamics of post-imperial states. During the 1990s, Professor Stavrakis served as Deputy Director of The Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington DC. He has testified before the US Congress on numerous occasions, and served as an advisor for, among others, the US Congress, Department of State, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and various corporations and NGOs. Dr. Stavrakis authored or supervised the development of more than a dozen successful individual and institutional grants with a combined value of in excess of \$3 million. In 2000 Stavrakis helped organize and create UVM United Academics, the faculty union at the University of Vermont, affiliated with the American Association of University Professors and the American Federation of Teachers. In 2001 he was subsequently elected and served as the first President of UVM United Academics. Stavrakis is of Russian and Greek descent, speaks Russian and Portuguese, and was born in Wilmington, Delaware. He presently lives in Oak Hill, Virginia with his Brazilian wife, Regina Romanos, and two children, Natalia Maria and Steven Alberto.

### **Mr. Timothy Thomas**

Timothy L. Thomas retired from the U.S. Army as a Lieutenant Colonel in the summer of 1993. He received a B.S. from West Point and an M.A. from the University of Southern California. He was a U.S. Army Foreign Area Officer who specialized in Soviet/Russian studies. His military assignments included serving as the Director of Soviet Studies at the United States Army Russian Institute (USARI) in Garmisch, Germany. Mr. Thomas has done extensive research and publishing in the areas of Russian peacekeeping, information war, psychological operations, low intensity conflict, and political military affairs. He is a member of three Russian organizations, the Academy of International Information, the Academy of Natural Sciences, and the Academy of Security, Defense, and Law Enforcement.

### **Ms. Mary Warlick**

Prior to joining the Department of Defense Ms Warlick served as the Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Russia on the National Security Council. A career Senior Foreign Service Officer, she joined the State Department in 1983. Previous Washington assignments include Director of the Office of Russian Affairs at the Department of State (2005-2007); Director of the Office of Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus Affairs (1998-2000); Senior Watch Officer (1992-1994); Economic Officer in the Economic Bureau (1990-1992);

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and Staff Assistant to the Director of the Foreign Service Institute (1985-1986). Ms. Warlick's assignments abroad include two tours at the U.S. Embassy in Manila, Philippines (1983-1985 and 1988-1990). She has also served in Dhaka, Bangladesh (1986-1988); Bonn, Germany (1994-1998); and, as Minister-Counselor for Economic Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow (2001- 2004). During her assignment in Moscow, Ms. Warlick worked on a wide range of trade, investment and energy issues, including Russia's accession to the World Trade Organization. Ms. Warlick was born in Papua New Guinea and attended high school in Adelaide, South Australia. She received a B.A. in Political Science and Humanities from Valparaiso University in 1979, and a Masters degree in international relations from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in 1982. Ms. Warlick speaks Russian and German. She is married to a Foreign Service Officer, James B. Warlick, Jr. They have three children.

### **Dr. Richard Weitz**

Richard Weitz is a Senior Fellow and Director of the Center for Political-Military Analysis at Hudson Institute. His current areas of research include defense reform, WMD nonproliferation, homeland security, and U.S. policies towards Europe, the former Soviet Union, Asia, and the Middle East. Dr. Weitz currently serves as head of the Case Studies Working Group of the Project on National Security Reform. Dr. Weitz is a graduate of Harvard College (B.A. with Highest Honors in Government), the London School of Economics (M.Sc. in International Relations), Oxford University (M.Phil. in Politics), and Harvard University (Ph.D. in Political Science). He is proficient in Russian, French, and German. Dr. Weitz has written extensively in such journals as *The National Interest*, *The Washington Quarterly*, *NATO Review*, *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, *Defense Concepts*, and *The Journal of Strategic Studies*. His commentaries have appeared in the *International Herald Tribune*, *Baltimore Sun*, *The Guardian*, *Washington Times*, *Wall Street Journal* (Europe), and many Internet-based publications such as those of the *WashingtonPost.com* and *World Politics Review*, where he is a contributing editor. Dr. Weitz has appeared on the BBC, CNN, C-SPAN, ABC, MSNBC, CBC, CTV, Al-Hurra, Al-Jazeera, Voice of America, Pacifica Radio, and additional broadcast media. He has delivered numerous presentations at conferences, panels, and other events. Dr. Weitz published or edited several books and monographs, including *China-Russia Security Relations: Strategic Parallelism without Partnership or Passion* (Strategic Studies Institute of the US Army War College, 2008); *Kazakhstan and the New International Politics of Eurasia* (Central Asia-Caucasus Institute, 2008); *Mismanaging Mayhem: How Washington Responds to Crisis* [co-editor with James Carafano] (Praeger Security International, 2008); *The Reserve Policies of Nations: A Comparative Analysis* (Strategic Studies Institute, 2007); and *Revitalising US-Russian Security Cooperation: Practical Measures* (London: Routledge for The International Institute for Strategic Studies, 2005).