



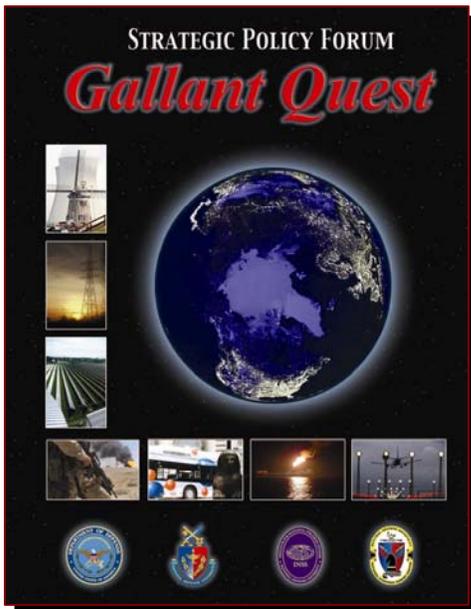
“Gallant Quest”

SPF Hosts U.S. Members of Congress, Executive Branch Officials to Discuss Global Energy Security

—EXERCISE SUMMARY—

Members of Congress met with senior-level Executive Branch officials on Monday, March 26, 2007, to discuss the intersection of global energy markets and U.S. security interests. In *Gallant Quest*, a table-top exercise hosted by the Strategic Policy Forum (SPF), participants explored a range of potential policy options to counter a series of energy supply disruptions in a not-for-attribution setting at National Defense University’s Institute for National Strategic Studies. This is the second SPF event of 2007.

Over the course of the exercise, Senators and Representatives from geographically-diverse constituencies dealt with domestic and international responses to posited short-falls in the global energy supply. The complexity of the global energy market and its relative impact on nearly all facets of U.S. national and economic security became clear as the Members of Congress contemplated how their recommendations would impact the global energy market as well as the “price at the pump.”



The Honorable Christopher “Ryan” Henry, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, opened the event with an address that highlighted the complexity of the issue as well as the challenges presented by energy dependence.

Several Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives took part in this forum, joined by Federal participants from various departments including Defense, Energy, State, and the National Security Council. The Executive Branch officials offered their individual perspectives and expertise as well as their Department’s/Agency’s perspectives, as it relates to energy security.

Participants walked away with a better understanding of the complexity of energy security as a national and international issue and an understanding that even if the U.S. were to become energy independent, shocks to the global energy market would still affect the U.S. through the impacts felt by its allies and partners.



Senator John Cornyn of Texas offers recommendations on how to better assure access to global energy supplies.

In a plenary discussion following the exercise a number of attendees remarked that *Gallant Quest* highlighted that protecting and diversifying America's energy supply is one of our most important national security priorities, especially considering our continued dependence on foreign oil and the potential for supplier countries to leverage their energy resources to achieve political goals. Mr. Peter F. Verga, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense

and Americas Security Affairs, and LtGen Frances C. Wilson, President, NDU, delivered the closing remarks. Both observed that this exercise highlighted the need for continued interagency discussion and planning to create a long-term energy policy that would minimize the impact of shocks to the energy market.

Gallant Quest was the twentieth in a series of Strategic Policy Forum events. These crisis-simulation exercises are designed to give Members of Congress and senior government officials insights into the complexity of policymaking in the current global security environment. In addition, they serve to illuminate policy and organizational options for enhancing national security and the pursuit of U.S. interests. One hundred thirty distinct Members of Congress have participated, with many taking part in several exercises.

The next SPF event is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, 2007 and is entitled *Divided Horizons*. *Divided Horizons* will examine how events in Nigeria and the West Africa region influence U.S. national security interests.

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