



THE MESSAGE BOARD

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News from CHDS and its Alumni

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“Face to Face Encounter:” CHDS Launches a New Outreach Event

On March 7th, CHDS launched its first “Encuentro Cara a Cara” (Face to Face Encounter), a new outreach event to promote open dialogue in a point-counter-point format. The event brings together subject-experts who use opposing perspectives to provide insight and observations on regional defense and security subjects of interest to the defense and international security community based in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Joy Olson, Executive Director of the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA) “faced” Mr. Stephen Johnson, Senior Policy Analyst for Latin America for the Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C. The topic was whether the armed forces should become involved with the problem of “Maras” (youth gangs) in Central America.



Colombia’s Vice Minister of Defense, Andrés Peñate Giraldo (center) leads the roundtable at the CCAI Bilateral Exchange held from March 29-31

Colombians Showcase Their Success in Integrated Operations

From March 29-31, CHDS hosted a bilateral academic seminar and a strategic level planning session between the Colombian Integrated Action Coordination Center (CCAI) and leaders in the Western Hemisphere. CHDS’ Director, Dr. Richard D. Downie opened the session, which was sponsored by the U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) in collaboration with Colombia’s Ministry of Defense, and organized by the Civil Affairs’ Operations Section under BG (P) Benjamin R. Mixon, Director of Operations (J3), USSOUTHCOM.

The goals set for the exchange were to: 1) Present the impact of the Colombian government strategic plan to consolidate its presence on the seven “Strategic Zones” established by President Uribe; 2) Refine CCAI plans for the country; and finally 3) Expose the participants from the Andean Ridge nations and Panama to CCAI as a strategic integration tool.

(Cont. on page 2, under “Colombians Showcase...”)



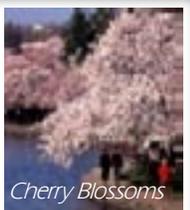
CHDS Director Richard Downie (center), who served as the moderator, with panelists Mr. Stephen Johnson (left) and Ms. Joy Olson (right)

The problem of the “Maras” has grown in recent years. Countries in Central America are the most affected, particularly in El Salvador. Some of the factors contributing to the proliferation of “Maras” are unemployment and police ineffectiveness. These youth gangs actively recruit youngsters with offers of money and young women, but also by promising to protect and to take care of them. According to Ms. Olson, “the problem of gangs in Central America is not going to be solved militarily. It requires addressing issues such as poverty, inequality, and lack of educational opportunities, as well as policing targeted at the violence produced by the gangs.”

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Cherry Blossoms



BG (P) Benjamin R. Mixon, Director of Operations (J3), USSOUTHCOM at a presentation during the CCAI Bilateral Exchange

“Colombians Showcase...”

The high point was the roundtable discussion where Colombia’s Vice Minister of Defense, Andrés Peñate Giraldo, Colombia’s Chief of Staff, GEN Padilla and CCAI Director, Mr. Luis Alfonso Hoyos, all briefed high-level government representatives from Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and Panama on the role of the CCAI and the impact of operations on the region. The representatives were impressed with the CCAI as a strategic integrating tool. The roundtable also pointed out the difficulties faced by bordering nations to respond to “Plan Patriota”, and exposed them to innovative solutions that could be used to address their own challenges with under-governed spaces, e.g. “cocaleros” in Peru and Bolivia, border challenges in Ecuador and the Darien in Panama.

Since 2002, USSOUTHCOM Civil Affairs has been working with Colombia’s government and military to establish an interagency capability to synchronize civil-military efforts to support the plans for that country. CCAI is an inter-agency center established in 2004 by the Government of Colombia as a result of this collaboration. Its focus is to coordinate and synchronize efforts at a national level to manage the complex problems of the country and fully re-establish governance. It manages assistance to priority areas, such as education, societal protection, social management of rural areas, health, human rights, transportation, and the legal system.

The CCAI bilateral exchange achieved its goal of refining Colombia’s government consolidation plan to present it to President Uribe and the Council of Ministers for final approval. BG(P) Mixon commended CHDS’ efforts in providing the venue and the logistic support to ensure the success of the event. 🌐

Growing Interest in Learning Management Systems - Spanish Navy’s “UVICOA”

On April 12th, a delegation of the Spanish Navy’s Virtual University Program (UVICOA)—led by RADM José A. González-Carrión—visited CHDS in conjunction with visits to the U.S. Navy with the hope of establishing international knowledge management collaborations with CHDS and countries in the region.

CAPT Francisco Rosique and CAPT Francisco Díaz Martínez shared their experiences with UVICOA, a knowledge management application designed as a learning management system. UVICOA’s main advantage is its global approach to integrate knowledge that works as a learning platform that complements the coursework in the training centers, but also as a turn-key solution for other needs, e.g. problem-solving analysis and decision-making. The obvious benefits are the savings in time and cost, and also, the reduction of user anxiety, and the multiple number of people with quick access to accurate information.



Mr. Dennis Caffrey, Prof. Ismael Idrobo, CPT. Francisco Rosique and RADM José A. González-Carrión exchanged ideas on adult learning

RADM González-Carrión also pointed out that the system—developed at a fraction of the cost of similar systems—is flexible and open to content-exchange so that it could be used in environments other than the Spanish Navy.

The presentation was of great interest, because CHDS is engaged in outreach efforts, such as RIO (Regional International Outreach) to better share information with alumni, prospective candidates to the academic programs, as well as to provide pre-course materials to accepted candidates. 🌐

CHDS to Launch an Exclusive Website for Alumni

In May 2005, CHDS plans to launch an exclusive alumni website to permit classmates and faculty to keep in contact, for information sharing, access to electronic publications and online research, discussion boards and more... This project is the focal point of the Center’s effort to foster a learning community environment that supports continuing education and promotes dialogue on regional security issues, including the global war on terrorism and defense transformation. The site will be accessed through our Blackboard student interface. Any alumni who do not have a Blackboard account should contact Alumni Services at chdsalumni@ndu.com. Please check the e-learning section of the CHDS website for additional information. www.ndu.edu/chds 🌐



Dr. Juan Belikow raises an issue during a presentation at the counterterrorism workshop held from March 29-30, 2005.

CHDS is Actively Involved in Two Major Research Projects

In early April, CHDS' Research Director, Dr. John Fishel, announced that the research team delivered to the U.S. Under-Secretary of Defense for Policy its research report on Capacity Building in Latin America focusing on Peace-Keeping Operations.

This research project was among several that were funded by the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). As part of the research project, Dr. Fishel conducted a workshop that successfully leveraged diverse strengths and incorporated different perspectives, all necessary to support multilateral missions. Participants were current and former senior regional defense officials and advisors, scholars, as well as CHDS alumni. The final stages of the research project will be published as a special issue of CHDS' electronic journal, **The Security and Defense Studies Review** and will feature Mr. Andrés Saenz and Dr. Fishel as guest editors.

CHDS is also on the verge of completing a second research project centered on the ideological support for terrorism, led by Dr. Juan Belikow. The project benefited from the extraordinary input of several prestigious experts from multilateral organizations and NGOs that openly shared their views during two workshops under CHDS' policy of non-attribution. The first preparatory workshop took place on January 31st, called "Hemispheric Security, Terrorism, and Organized Crime." The second was a plenary workshop: "Cooperation and Regional Efforts against Terrorism and Related Crimes" held from March 29-30th with the participation of 23 subject-matter experts in terrorism and illicit activities. The project is expected to be completed by early June. 🌐

"New Outreach Event"

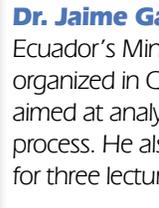
(Continued from page 1)

Those who argue in favor of using the Armed Forces to address the problem claim that they should be seen not as the solution, but as collaborators to ensure continuity of defense and security policy. For example, the armed forces should not replace the security and police organisms; they could contribute with intelligence and information. The armed forces could also provide high-tech equipment for communications and coordination, such as high-fidelity transmitters to communicate in rural areas where there is little or no telecommunications infrastructure. Furthermore, the armed forces could provide logistics support. The event ended with what seemed to be a consensus that any measure taken to control this problem, needs to be complemented with alternative activities as well as an educational program where gang members are rehabilitated and successfully reintegrated to society. 🌐

Entre Amigos...



Dr. Michael Gold-Biss traveled to Colombia from March 30-April 1, 2005, to deliver three lectures on defense economics to graduate students at Colombia's Escuela Superior de Guerra (ESDEGUE) in Bogota.



Dr. Jaime García-Covarrubias joined Ecuador's Minister of Economics in an event organized in Quito by the Ministry of Defense aimed at analyzing Ecuador's military restructuring process. He also joined Dr. Gold-Biss at ESDEGUE for three lectures on military transformation.



Mr. Raul Neine completed his Masters of Science in Management Information Systems, with Honors (Summa Cum Laude); and the U.S. Department of Defense Chief Information Officer Certificate at the Information Resources Management College (IRMC) at the National Defense University.



Ms. Alicia Torres-Ferrer completed her Masters degree in Business Administration (MBA) graduating Cum Laude with a specialization in Human Resource Management.



Spotlight



Dr. Thomaz Costa has been invited to become a contributing editor in the Handbook of Latin American Studies, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: BRAZIL. In this position, he will have the privilege of reviewing the latest works from Brazil and elsewhere acquired by the Library of Congress before they become part of the library's main collection. Dr. Costa is joining a distinguished group of scholars who are recognized as authorities in their respective fields, and as such, they serve as library consultants who are able to publicize deserving works. CHDS congratulates Dr. Costa for this outstanding achievement.



CHDS Curriculum Evaluation, Jan. 3-7th, Virginia

CHDS faculty and support staff met to review all of its academic programs to ensure consistency with its new operational concept of “foundational” and “sustainment” events. As a result, the faculty increased the depth and substance of the curriculum; developing new activities and redesigning and realigning others.



National Security Planning Workshop (NSPW) Jan. 23-25th, Peru

CHDS, along with Peru’s Congressional Security and Defense Commission and the US Embassy, conducted a NSPW for high-level government representatives, from Congress, several ministries and the Armed Forces. The workshop focused on the challenges of strategic leadership, and addressed topics such as: Defining the Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces, Inter-agency Coordination, Joint Operations, and Resources for Defense Budgets. The event, deemed a success, had 40 participants.



Argentina-U.S. Bilateral Working Group, Mar. 14-18th, Washington, D.C.

Delegation members of Argentina’s Ministry of Defense, led by Susana Carranza, collaborated with CHDS and NDU’s National Security Gaming Center on developing an interagency game for the bilateral working group that will provide an interagency decision-making simulation later this year.



Distinguished Visitors During CCAI Bilateral Exchange March 29-31st, Washington, D.C.

Colombia’s Ambassador to the U.S., Luis A. Moreno (photo on left) spoke about CCAI’s accomplishments during its Bilateral Exchange held from March 29-31st. Also participating in the event were Bolivia’s Minister of Defense, GEN.(Ret.) Gonzalo Arredondo Millán (left), SOUTHCOM’s Dr. Miguel González, LTC Carl Doug Jewell from the USMILGRP in Ecuador, and Dr. John Fishel (right).



Distinguished Guest Speaker, April 8th, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Roger Pardo-Maurer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Western Hemisphere Affairs, provided his views and responded to Fellows’ questions regarding U.S. security and defense policy towards the Western Hemisphere to open the defense planning and resource management course.



Distinguished Guest Speakers During DPRM Course April 14th, Washington, D.C.

The internationally-recognized Gen. Vincent Brooks (left) poses for photos with DPRM fellows, following his presentation on the Armed Forces and the media. On April 14th, BG Ricardo Aponte (right), SOUTHCOM’s Director of Transformation and Commander of Standing Joint Force Headquarters, delivered a briefing about the U.S. Southern Command. He also met with Dr. Downie to discuss future cooperative activities with U.S. Southern Command.



**Advanced Policy-Making Seminar (APS),
February 22-26th, The Bahamas**

50 English-speaking participants actively exchanged experiences and identified common challenges and proposals regarding defense and security policy, as part of this effort to provide “sustainment” events for CHDS alumni. Guest speakers addressed the theoretical, practical and critical perspectives of defense transformation.



**Senior Executive Dialogue (Caribbean)
March 13-18th, Washington , D.C.**

16 senior officials participated in this quarterly event which engaged high-ranking officials from the executive and legislative branches to meet and discuss important issues, as well as an orientation on U.S. security and defense policy formulation processes. Participants met with U.S. senior decision-makers and key staff.



**Defense Planning and Resource
Management Course,
April 3-22, 2005 , Washington, D.C.**

72 fellows from 17 countries participated in this survey course designed to analyze the scope and range of defense and security policy formulation and implementation issues through activities that integrate elements of theory and practice. High- lights of the course were CHDS’ unique “Tabula Rasa” exercise and the presentation by Chile’s UN Ambassador Heraldo Muñoz.



**Joint Staff Talks
March 31st, Washington, D.C.**

A delegation of the Mexican Navy Staff of the Armed Forces accompanied by ADM Conrado Aparicio (Mexico’s Naval Attaché) met with representatives of the U.S Joint Staff to discuss issues of mutual interest.

**Distinguished Visitors
April 25th, Washington, D.C.**

Mr. Jaime Garreta, Argentina’s Vice Minister of Defense, GEN (Ret.) Julio A. Hang, Advisor to the Argentine Minister of Defense and COL Michael R. Borders, Commander of the U.S. Military Group in Argentina during a visit on April 25th to discuss potential collaborations.



**Distinguished Visitors
April 6th, Washington, D.C.**

Panama’s Minister of Government and Justice, Héctor Alemán (center) accompanied by Ricardo Lombara (far right), Counsel General and Minister Counsel , Daniel Delgado, Foreign Ministry’s Secretary General (right), Jon Danilowicz (far left) of the U.S. Embassy during their visit on March 29th to discuss the next steps of Panama’s national security planning process.

**“Thanksgiving” Luncheon
April 20th, Washington, D.C.**

Ms. Eve Tidwell, in coordination with the NDU Foundation, hosted a “Thanksgiving” luncheon in honor of the DPRM Fellows and the CHDS Faculty and Staff. Her theme of thanksgiving was “everyone in a country can make a difference”; Ms Tidwell focused the participants on the numerous awards available to individuals and organizations engaged in public service work.





United Nations Chilean Diplomat Addresses CHDS Course



Chile's UN Ambassador, Heraldo Muñoz, addressing the participants of DPRM course held in Washington, D.C. April 3-23, 2005

On April 20th, Heraldo Muñoz, Chile's Ambassador to the UN and Chairman of the UN Security Council Committee monitoring sanctions against Al-Qaida and the Taliban addressed the participants of the DPRM course in Washington, D.C. The Ambassador spoke about the efforts of the committee to advance the novel concept of going beyond the extension of sanctions to only countries and expand it to also sanction individuals and entities. At the end of the presentation, DPRM fellows had an opportunity to ask Amb. Muñoz several questions. 🌐

CHDS Alumni Association in Bolivia

The **CHDS Alumni Bolivia** installed its new board of directors on February 3, 2005. COL Thomas Cabrera took office as the president of the organization, which is currently organizing a seminar: ¿Cómo afectaría la Asamblea Constituyente a la Seguridad Nacional? The seminar is scheduled to take place in early July. For more information please contact Jorge Amonzabel at rjamonzabel@hotmail.com.



Bolivia's Alumni Association new executive board: Jorge Moreira (Vocal), Beatriz Pardo (Treasurer), Jorge Amonzabal (Past President), Robert Brokmann (Vocal), COL Thomas Cabrera (President), Jorge Lema (Vice-President) and Edgar Montañó (General Secretary)

45 Universities Gather at Security and Defense Seminar in Peru



Peru's Minister of Defense, GEN (Ret) Roberto Chiabra León

Peru's Ministry of Defense and the Universidad Nacional Federico Villareal organized a Security and Defense Seminar for the academic vice-rectors of public and private universities in Peru. The event was held from April 5-6th at the Círculo Militar de Perú.

Peru's Minister of Defense, GEN Roberto Chiabra León, was the keynote guest speaker addressing the role of the Ministry of Defense in national security and defense policy. He explained the efforts undertaken to reform and modernize the armed forces, and he highlighted the role played by military institutions in providing support to the civil population, as well as defending national integrity and sovereignty, and protecting natural resources.



Dr. Alberto Bolívar Ocampo, (Peru DPRM Nov 2003)

The seminar was attended by academic vice-rectors from more than 45 universities and is part of Peru Ministry of Defense's outreach program aimed at universities throughout the country. Its goal is to ensure the integration of the armed forces into Peru's democratic political system by providing theoretical and practical knowledge on national security and defense to academic communities.

Several CHDS alumni participated in the event, including Dr. Alberto Bolívar Ocampo who spoke on asymmetric challenges to national security. CHDS' Chief of Policy, Planning and Outreach, Mr. Dennis F. Caffrey, also participated with a presentation on building consensus for a national defense and security policy. 🌐



Marcelo Saín

Marcelo Saín (Argentina, DPRM* Jan 2003) was designated by Argentina's President, Nestor Kirchner to redesign and lead the Airport Security Force (Policía de Seguridad Aeroportuaria-PSA) to be reassigned under the Ministry of Interior. PSA will replace the former PAN (Policía Aeronáutica Nacional) under the Ministry of Defense. Mr. Saín, previously served as the Vice Minister of Security of the Province of Buenos Aires, and as the Director of the Financial Information Unit, which investigates financial crimes.

Carlos Wellington Leite de Almeida, (Brazil, DPRM Nov 2003)) has been named Secretary of External Control in the "Tribunal de Contas da União, the Brazilian GAO, where he previously served as a permanent auditor. Mr. Leite de Almeida or "Charlie Brown", as he is known affectionately by his CHDS classmates, will be responsible for the control and oversight of the whole federal budgetary and financial supervision in the Federal State of Rondonia in Northern Brazil.



Carlos Wellington Leite de Almeida



LTC Richard Sadler

LTC Richard Sadler, (Jamaica, DPRM Jan 2004) is now responsible for the methodology of the Jamaican working group on security policy and strategy. During the Advanced Policy-making seminar held in Nassau, The Bahamas in February 2005, LTC Sadler pointed out the value of the analytical skills and practice he received in the resident course in Washington, D.C.

María Christina Rosas, (Mexico, DPRM Jan 2003) has published a new book: "América Latina en la Cuenca del Pacífico: México, Chile, Perú en APEC." The book was presented in April at the Matías Romero Institute of the Foreign Relations Ministry in Mexico City.



María Christina Rosas



Carlos A. Spinsa

Carlos A. Spinsa, (Argentina, DPRM Nov 2003), has been named Consul General of Argentina in The United Kingdom. His new contact information is: csp@cancilleria.gov.ar or spinosacarlos@yahoo.co.uk

Juan Beranger, (Argentina, DPRM Nov 2003; CDIM** Apr 2004) resides in Paraguay and has completed his doctorate graduating Cum Laude. His doctoral dissertation title was: "Defense as a Socio-Political Concept: An Axiological Focus."



Juan Beranger



Gastón Schulmeister

Gastón Schulmeister, (Argentina, DPRM Nov 2003;) submitted a report to "Fundación Fundar Justicia y Seguridad de Buenos Aires" entitled: "Triple Frontera: Donde confluye una multiplicidad de factores y problemáticas de la seguridad."

Carlos Morán-Soto, (Peru, DPRM Nov 2004) who was recently promoted to Colonel of the Peruvian National Police, has also been named the new Director of Intelligence Against Drug-Trafficking.



Carlos Morán-Soto

• DPRM Defense Planning and Resource Management Course

** CDIM Curriculum Design and Instructional Methodologies Course

In Memoriam



Marcelo L. Dragan García,

(Argentina, DPRM Nov 2003) has passed away. He was a member of Argentina's House of Representatives, and served in the defense commission.

CHDS The Message Board is published by the Planning and Outreach team at CHDS, a regional education center of the U.S. Department of Defense under the administration of the National Defense University (NDU).

CHDS provides strategic level education on international security and defense policymaking to military and civilian leaders in the Western Hemisphere to foster mutual understanding, trust and cooperation.

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CHDS Announcements

ACADEMICS:

Departures - Mr. Andres Saenz, ended three and a half successful years as a Research Associate at CHDS to become a Senior Analyst at Maritime Intelligence Group, which provides information and services that help counter terrorist and criminal threats to the maritime domain. He can be reached at:
asaenz@maritimeintelgroup.com.

Arrivals - CHDS welcomes CAPT. Richard Goodwyn (USN) as a visiting scholar at CHDS. He previously served as the Commander of Fleet Air Keflavik in Iceland, and will undergo military attaché training for his assignment in Chile. In the meantime, he is busy with several CHDS projects, including his work as course director for the Senior Executive Dialogue-Andean Ridge to be held from June 5-10, 2005.

ADMINISTRATION:

New Alumni Website - CHDS is launching an exclusive website for CHDS alumni-only. For more information, check the CHDS website under "e-learning".

OUTREACH:

Next outreach events - The next *Face to Face Encounter* will take place in June.

CHDS will hold a follow-up National Security Planning Workshop (NSPW) in Panama later this summer.

Submissions to E-JOURNAL

The Security and Defense Studies Review is currently accepting submissions for late 2005 and 2006 issues. For information visit:
<http://www.ndu.edu/chds/journal/>

Contributions are Welcome!
If you have an article or news to share
please contact Carolee Montañez-Allman @
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Upcoming Events

May 9 - 13, 2005

AMISTAD course in collaboration with the Inter-American Defense College
Location: Washington, D.C.

CORRECTION: Our previous edition stated that the Amistad course was going to be held from May 2-6, 2005. The correct date is: May 9-13th

May 22 - 27 2005

Advanced Policy Seminar (APS)
Location: San Salvador, El Salvador (in Spanish)
In-Region sustainment seminar on policy formulation and defense transformation specifically for countries in Central America, Mexico and the Dominican Republic

June 5 - 10, 2005

Senior Executive Dialogue (SED)
Location: Washington, D.C.
Exchanges on policy and practices for senior leaders of the Andean Ridge (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela)

July 10 - 30, 2005

InterAgency Coordination and Counter-Terrorism Course (ICCT)
Location: Washington, D.C.
Course designed for all the countries in the Western Hemisphere with an emphasis on analytical developments, policy trends and collaborations.

The Sub-Regional Conference "Regional Views of the Global War on Terrorism" originally scheduled in Quito Ecuador from June 21-24th has been cancelled.