



National Defense University Symposium



The New Security Environment – Implications for American Security in the Asia Pacific Region

April 4-5, 2011
National Defense University
Fort Lesley J. McNair

The United States remains the world's preeminent power, even as a growing number of state and non-state actors exhibit consequential influence. This changing distribution of power indicates evolution to a "multi-nodal" world characterized more by shifting, interest-driven coalitions based on diplomatic, military, and economic power, than by rigid security competition between opposing blocs. There are global and regional powers exhibiting nationalism and assertiveness that tests our partners' resilience and U.S. leadership. There exist in Asia two rising global powers and a large number of consequential regional powers. . . . Dynamics in Asia and the Middle East, in particular, may challenge regional stability. – Military Strategy of the United States of America - 2011

Efforts to develop national security policies and defense plans are dependent on the national grand strategy, the available resources, a thorough assessment of the strategic environment and an understanding of how to advance our national interests within that environment. Uncertainties over the future security environment (physical, technical, and social conditions, and the political and military developments of other nations) loom especially large in the process. Our objective during this symposium is to focus on perceptions of other nations on the future security environment and their likely responses, and to then assess and discuss the resultant implications, opportunities and challenges for the United States.

Much has been written recently about America's place of pre-eminence in the world in the economic, political, technological, social, and security spheres. There are widely ranging assessments – continued primacy if not dominance, relative or absolute decline – for our purposes we have chosen a middle ground – that assumes a multi-polar or multi-nodal world – to use the terminology of the most recent National Military Strategy.

During the past year, the East West Center and the Naval Postgraduate School have embarked upon a project to look at various nations' likely responses to this environment. Building on their project, we intend to focus on the perceptions of emerging multi-polarity on regional stability and if/how countries are adapting their foreign and security policies accordingly, and then assess and discuss the resultant implications, opportunities and challenges for the United States.

Featured speakers include a wide range of Asia Pacific and defense experts. This symposium will be of interest to specialists in national security affairs in and out of government, military officers, the diplomatic and attaché corps, and members of the media.

AGENDA

MONDAY, APRIL 4

0700 – 0745 Registration Marshall Hall, Atrium
0750 – 0805 Administrative Remarks Marshall Hall, Room 155

0805 – 0815 Welcoming Remarks: Dr. Hans Binnendijk, *Vice President for Research & Applied Learning & Director, Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University*

0815-0945 Panel 1: Can the US retain global/regional dominance?

- Do recent events reflect a fundamental, long-term change in the United States' dominant position globally or in certain regions? If so, what indications would offer evidence of such a change or proof that this change has not/will not occur?
- Where and in what ways has the United States already lost its position of power? What remedies can/should the United States undertake to either reverse or accommodate a relative or absolute shift in power? Which elements of national power warrant the greatest attention?

Moderator: **Dr. Cynthia Watson**, *Professor, National War College*

Panelists:

- **Dr. Robert Lieber**, *Professor, Department of Government, Georgetown University*
- **Mr. Dan Blumenthal**, *Resident Fellow, American Enterprise Institute*
- **Dr. Phillip Saunders**, *Director of Studies at the Center for Strategic Research and Director of the Center for Study of Chinese Military Affairs*

1000-1040 Featured Address

Speaker: Honorable James Steinberg, *Deputy Secretary of State*

1050-1230 Panel 2: Views on the regional response: Australia, China, India & Indonesia

- What are the range of views on multi-polarity in “your country”?
- What are the implications for relations with the United States?
- How will the country pursue regional security objectives?
- How will this impact their contributions to regional/global security and what role are they likely to pursue?
- How does a redistribution of power affect willingness to lead in the region or follow the United States?

Moderator: **Dr. Satu Limaye**, *Director, East-West Center in Washington and Editor, Policy Studies Series*

Panelists:

- **Dr. Rod Lyon**, (AUSTRALIA) *Program Director, Strategy and International Program, Australian Strategic Policy Institute*
- **Professor Michael Glosny**, (CHINA) *Assistant Professor, Naval Postgraduate School*
- **Professor Sumit Ganguly**, (INDIA) *Rabindranath Tagore Professor of Indian Cultures and Civilizations, Indiana University, Bloomington*
- **Dr. Ann Marie Murphy**, (INDONESIA) *Associate Professor, Seton Hall University*

1245-1430 Luncheon

Marshall Hall Room 155

Speaker: Major General Randolph Alles, USMC, Director, J5 Strategic Planning and Policy, United States Pacific Command

1445-1630 Panel 3: Views on the regional response: Japan, Russia & Viet Nam

- What are the range of views on multi-polarity in “your country”?
- What are the implications for relations with the United States?
- How will the country pursue regional security objectives?
- How will this impact their contributions to regional/global security and what role are they likely to pursue?
- How does a redistribution of power affect willingness to lead in the region or follow the United States?

Moderator: **Dr. John Parker**, *Visiting Research Fellow, Institute for National Strategic Studies*

Panelists:

- **Dr. Christopher Hughes**, (JAPAN) *Professor of International Politics and Japanese Studies, The University of Warwick*
- **Dr. Stephen J. Blank**, (RUSSIA) *Research Professor of National Security Affairs, U.S. Army War College*
- **Professor Frederick Z. Brown**, (VIET NAM) *School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University*

TUESDAY APRIL 5, 2011

0900-1045 Panel 4: Implications for United States Security

- What are the implications for the United States for security cooperation operating in a multipolar environment or in an environment of lesser dominance than in recent decades?
- How will Asia-Pacific nations maneuver in a multi-polar world to protect their national and economic security interests?
- What role will any of the countries in the region play in the military competition?
- What is the preferred role for the United States in the region in a multi-polar world?

Moderator: **Dr. Bernard D. Cole**, *Professor, National War College*

Panelists:

- **LtGen Keith J. Stalder, USMC (Ret)**, *formerly Commanding General, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific*
- **Dr. Sheldon Simon**, *Professor, School of Politics & Global Studies, Arizona State University*
- **Dr. Evelyn Goh**, *Reader in International Relations, Royal Holloway, University of London*
- **Dr. Kongdan Oh**, *Research Staff Member, Institute for Defense Analyses*
- **Dr. Inderjit Singh**, *Professor, National War College*

1100-1200 Closing Keynote

Speaker: Mr. Derek J. Mitchell, *Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense*

1215-1300 Tour of NDU Library Special Collections in Marshall Hall (Optional) – Guide will meet participants near registration table