

Australian Journal of International Affairs

Volume 66, Issue 4, 2012

The triviality of terrorism

Author- Christopher Michaelsen

Abstract

This article finds that the Australian government's perception of the threat of terrorism continues to be fundamentally flawed. Suggesting that it is imperative to clearly identify the sources and targets of the terrorist threat, the article concludes that terrorism does not pose an existential or even major objective threat to Western liberal democracies like Australia. At the same time, the political and psychological sensibilities surrounding terrorism, in combination with public demands for action, may require democratic governments to respond. Any response, however, needs to be carefully calibrated to meet the requirements of proportionality and (potential) effectiveness.

Russia's proposal for a new security system

Author- Glenn Diesen

Abstract

This article assesses former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's proposal for a new security system and varying perspectives in the context of this development. US-led unipolarity has been undermined as a gradually more independent 'Europe' has weakened transatlantic unity and that of a broader 'West'. Russia could neither join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or the European Union (EU), nor assume directorship for security in the former Soviet Union. It has nonetheless increased its ties and influence with the EU, becoming a major trade partner and the biggest supplier of energy resources. A discourse of multipolarity accompanies Russian geopolitical ambitions and incorporates demands for new arrangements that can facilitate reliable cooperation in the security field and beyond. This implies recognising and accommodating Russian interests, which presents challenges to existing organisations. Medvedev's proposal is viewed differently by political-security sectors in the United States, Germany, France, Poland, Russia and the hybrid EU.

Intelligence & National Security

Volume 27, Issue 4, 2012

Red Team: How the Neoconservatives Helped Cause the Iraq Intelligence Failure

Author- Patrick Conway

Abstract

This article explains how flawed intelligence assessments of Iraq's aluminum tubes became 'Exhibit A' in the Bush administration's case for the Iraq War. The assessments seem to have begun as a consequence of a debate within the administration over US Iraq policy in early 2001. The neoconservatives wanted intelligence that would help them argue for regime-change. A WINPAC 'Red Team' analyst analyzed the tubes using the same methodology as 1976's infamous Team B panel, which skewed intelligence to support neoconservative policies. The Red Team analyst erroneously concluded the tubes were for a nuclear program thus countering assessments that they had a non-nuclear purpose. After the attacks of September 11 and President Bush's embrace of regime-change, the Red Team tubes assessment began to become the official position of the Intelligence Community. In September 2002, the President cited the assessment publicly, forcing the Intelligence Community to adopt it as the majority position in the Iraq NIE. 'Exhibit A' in the case for war was thus the product of a Red Team and, as such, was essentially propaganda masquerading as intelligence.

The Enemy Within and the Pacific Threat: Canadian Security Intelligence in British Columbia, 1942–45

Author- Timothy Wilford

Abstract

Following Japan's successful attacks against Allied targets throughout the Far East and the Pacific in December 1941, Canada focused on protecting its own Pacific coastline in British Columbia, participating in joint US–Canadian defence measures as required. Canadian authorities removed all Japanese Canadians from the Pacific Coast, placed conscript troops in British Columbia, and searched for other enemies in the province. They investigated subversion and sought to avert coastal attacks, whilst Japan conducted nuisance raids and maintained a presence in the Aleutians. Recently declassified intelligence files show that several factors influenced the way in which Canadian authorities viewed 'the enemy within' and 'the Pacific threat'.

Asian Survey

Vol. 52, No. 4, July/August 2012

China's Strategic Futures

Author- William A. Callahan

Abstract-

This essay examines how China's "harmonious world" foreign policy has unintentionally created opportunities for citizens to challenge elite discussions of foreign policy. Although they are relative outsiders, the essay argues that citizen intellectuals are a growing influence as a source of ideas about China's future—and the world's.

East Asian Regional Security

Author- Jörg Friedrichs

Abstract-

The "ASEAN family" of regional security institutions has a mixed record: it has proved very helpful in improving interstate trust, fairly helpful in managing peaceful change, somewhat helpful in enhancing regime stability, but virtually useless in resolving interstate conflict. Overall, East Asia remains dominated by conventional forms of international relations.

International Affairs

Vol 88 Issue 4, JULY 2012

India's rise in Africa

Author- IAN TAYLOR

Abstract-

India's rise in Africa has been largely overlooked, despite the important implications of the growing presence of Indian corporations and a rise in New Delhi's political ties with the continent. Not only are Indian actors providing much-needed investment and capital, but Indo-

African connections represent a further important diversification of Africa's international relations, something which reflects a major development for the continent. Indian activity in Africa may be said to constitute a middle ground between China's profit-maximizing and largely statist approach and the much-resented intrusive conditionalities associated with western policies. It is evident that India's growing activity in Africa has the potential to help African companies become more efficient by exposing them to competition, new advances in technology and modern labour skills. African governments could potentially use the opportunity of an increased Indian corporate presence in Africa as sources of appropriate technology, skills and advice for economic development. However, if not handled correctly, any goodwill that India possesses in Africa will quickly be squandered and/or India will become just another actor in Africa. It is up to Africans to negotiate with Indian actors to ensure that the benefits accrued from Indo-African ties are evenly shared and that Indian interest in the continent, alongside that of others, may help to serve as a catalyst for economic revitalization. The key issue is how African leaders can seek to leverage newfound Indian investment and interest in Africa so that Africa's place in global trade networks becomes more proactive and beneficial to the continent's citizens.

Asia's role in twenty-first-century global economic governance

Author- SRINIVASA MADHUR

Abstract-

The basic foundations of today's framework for global economic governance were laid in the years following the Second World War. Reflecting the balance of economic power at the time, Asia did not play a major role in either designing the institutional architecture or setting the agenda for global economic governance. In more recent decades the centre of gravity of the global economy has shifted towards Asia, and this trend is likely to continue in the decades to come. Asia's growing economic weight enhances its potential to play a much stronger role in shaping twenty-first-century global economic governance. Realization of that potential will, however, depend upon how successfully Asia addresses five key challenges: rebalancing sources of growth; strengthening national governance; institutionalizing regional integration; providing political leadership; and adopting the global lingua franca—English. While the Asian policy-makers' ambition to play a bigger role in global economic governance is growing, their appetite for addressing the necessary policy challenges is not necessarily keeping pace with that growing ambition. This gap between ambition and action will need to be gradually closed—only then can Asia help itself in playing a bigger role in global economic governance.

Foreign Policy Analysis

Vol 8 Issue 3, July 2012

Religion and Preferences: A Decision-theoretic Explanation of Turkey's New Foreign Policy

Author- Serdar Ş. Güner

Abstract-

Religious beliefs can affect preferences of decision makers who formulate and guide foreign policy. This article investigates the relationship between preferences affected by Islamic worldview of Turkey's new leadership and foreign policy the new elite conduct through two simple models. The models are games against nature; thus, Turkey is the only decision maker facing no strategic uncertainty. It is found that the subjective estimates of achieving gains under the new foreign policy (NWP) and the old foreign policy (SQP) are critical and distinct from gains and costs of both policies. The new Turkish foreign policy (NWP) is a reversible move, even though Turkish decision makers evaluate it as generating a higher gain and a lower cost compared with the preservation of the status quo (SQP).

Development and US Troop Deployments

Author- Tim Kane

Abstract-

For over six decades, the US military has shaped international economic development, notably by way of nearly 31 million US troop-year deployments since 1950. Worldwide, life expectancy increased by 10 years between 1970 and the present. The mortality rate of children dropped from 132 per 1,000 live births to 55. The number of telephone lines per capita quadrupled from 48 to 196 per thousand. In each case, the improvement was faster in countries with a heavy US troop presence and slower in countries with zero US troop presence. These relationships stem from a data set on US deployments across all countries and years from 1950 to the present matched with World Bank data on indicators of social well-being since 1970 across 148 countries.

Third World Quarterly

Volume 33, Issue 8, 2012

Aid Relations and Aid Legitimacy: mutual imaging of aid workers and recipients in Nepal

Author- Margit van Wessel

Abstract-

This paper considers mutual imaging of aid workers and Bhutanese refugees in Nepal. Based on a theoretical perspective of aid as a socially negotiated arena, the contextual and interactionist concept of imaging is used, rather than labelling (which is done to people), or perceptions (located in one actor's head). The paper uses a Q-methodology that symmetrically researches different groups of actors by posing the same questions. Our data confirm that the distinctions between the way aid workers and recipients view themselves, each other and the aid provided were more gradual than clear-cut between categories and that the legitimacy of aid workers is not determined by the perceived quality of aid. Problems with routinised aid were not translated into negative images, whereas problems with new and irregular types of aid were. Our research indicates the importance of the interaction between implementing staff and active beneficiaries. The roles of these active volunteers and incentive workers are important but ambiguous. They may smooth the divide between aid agencies and clients, but their proximity to the aid regime may also lead to tensions. The way these roles are played out and the effect this has on imaging and aid legitimacy is an area for further research.

A Moral Economy? Social interpretations of money in Aidland

Author- Cathy Shutt

Abstract-

This article considers the implications of the varied social meanings and values practitioners give to aid and the logics they use to make sense of Aidland's inequitable economy. The author draws on experience as an aid practitioner, as well as on ethnographic research in Cambodia to propose that dominant economic approaches to assessing the value for money delivered by aid risk overlooking the values and varied interpretive logics aid workers use to make sense of aid allocations and exchanges. The article highlights dilemmas experienced by aid workers living and working in an inequitable socioeconomic system produced by aid flows that constantly have to be negotiated, reconciled or ignored. A case study from Cambodia shows how the interpretive lenses aid workers use to evaluate the use of aid money influence their relationships and practice in ways that have material effects.

Contemporary Security Policy

Volume 33, Issue 2, 2012

Beyond Tailoring: North Korea and the Promise of Managed Deterrence

Author- Van Jackson

Abstract-

How can one state maintain deterrence against another state undergoing an uncertain political transition? A debate within fourth wave deterrence theory focuses on whether and when a tailored approach, based on cultural, organizational, and idiosyncratic characteristics of a target state, has the greatest value. Tailored deterrence may not be appropriate under conditions of domestic political uncertainty in the target state, often those most in need of deterring. A more promising alternative for a defending state may be *deterrence management*. Deterrence management compensates for insufficient or low-confidence assessments of a target's values, organizational structure, power distribution, or cultural idiosyncrasies that prevent employment of tailored deterrence strategies intended to manipulate such factors. To make this case, I combine insights from deterrence theory with an exploration of the uncertain politics of a post-Kim Jong-il North Korea and the unpredictable process of power consolidation. Deterrence management may be applicable in cases of imperceptible leadership transitions in other target states. While no panacea, the deterrence management approach reinforces stability while remaining flexible enough to accommodate change.

Constructing Ontological Insecurity: The Insecuritization of Britain's Muslims

Author- Stuart Croft

Abstract-

The development of ontological security studies, for example by Mitzen, Steele, and Berenskoetter and Giegerich, has been an important innovation in the field. However, by focusing on the level of the state rather than that of the individual, this new tradition is somewhat different from the intellectual origins of ontological security in sociology and psychology. Drawing on those disciplines, I argue that the key focus should be on the understandings of individuals about their own security, intersubjectively constructed. Ontological security can be understood in terms of the need to construct biographical continuity, to construct a web of trust relations, to act in accordance with self-integrity, and to struggle against ontological insecurity, or dread, in Kierkegaard's sense. I then take and apply this framework to understand the process by which British Muslims have become insecuritized (understood as a term through which dominant power can decide who should be protected and who should be designated as those to be controlled, objectified, and feared) in the period since 9/11.

Contemporary South Asia

Volume 20, Issue 3, 2012

Birth registration and citizenship rights of surrogate babies born in India

Author- Usha Rengachary Smerdon

Abstract-

International surrogacy arrangements have created paradoxical situations of 'legal orphanhood' where highly desired surrogate babies with multiple parents are not recognized by either the child's country of birth or the country of the child's commissioning parent(s). This article examines the parentage and citizenship status of children born to Indian surrogate mothers and foreign commissioning parent(s). In the absence of comprehensive legislation, Indian courts have struggled to address these fundamental issues of surrogate babies given the differing interests of the parties and countries involved. The rights of surrogate children are addressed only on an ad hoc basis and only after the commissioning parents encounter actual difficulties in taking children to another country. By viewing the rights of the surrogate child as paramount, surrogate children born through surrogacy arrangements in India should have their origins known and documented accurately to preserve their identity. In addition, Indian citizenship should automatically attach at birth to prevent statelessness. Contrary results place the interests of other parties above the rights of the child.

Donor support towards good governance in Bangladesh

Author- Muhammad Mustafizur Rahaman

Abstract-

International donors to Bangladesh have emphasized governance reform since the 1990s, on the basis that bad governance was siphoning away both domestic and foreign aid resources. While donor support towards good governance is encouraging, such support should be judged in the light of actual contributions to the promotion of good governance. This article examines a donor-funded project called the Participatory Rural Development Project (PRDP), which aims to promote good governance at the grassroots level. The article assesses the effectiveness of PRDP in promoting good governance, especially in bringing transparency and accountability to Bangladeshi Public Administration. The core finding is that the project achieved remarkable success, with a tangible impact in terms of promoting good governance at the local level. The paper analyzes the reasons for this success with the aim of providing indicators for other donors working in this area.

The Round Table

Volume 101, Issue 4, 2012

Rule of Law: An Unruly Horse? Some Reflections on its Application in India

Author- Soli J. Sorabjee

Abstract-

It may not be possible to define Rule of Law with scientific precision but it cannot be dismissed as an elusive notion or as an unruly horse. Rule of Law is the heritage of all mankind because its underlying rationale is belief in the human rights and human dignity of all individuals everywhere in the world. It needs to be emphasised that there is nothing western or eastern or northern or southern about the concept of Rule of Law. It has a global reach and dimension. Rule of Law symbolises the quest of civilised democratic societies, be they eastern or western, to combine that degree of liberty without which law is tyranny with that degree of law without which liberty becomes licence. It is entrenched in India to the extent that the Rule of Law cannot be abolished even by a constitutional amendment.

Assessing the Relationship between Legislative and Judicial Supremacy in the UK

Author- Chris McCorkindale

Abstract-

In this article, the authors will consider a very narrow yet spectacularly important aspect of the rule of law: its place in a constitution—the constitution of the United Kingdom—in which supremacy rests not with the constitution as a document to be interpreted by a constitutional court, but with the legislature itself. While traditionally the supremacy of the Crown in Parliament has meant that British courts have had no right to set aside even the most oppressive legislation, recent extra-judicial writings and obiter dicta in case law have been indicative of a shift in the judicial mood.

Europe Asia Studies

Volume 64, Issue 7, 2012

Who's Socialising Whom? Regional Organisations and Contested Norms in Central Asia

Author- David Lewis

Abstract-

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) represent competing sets of international norms in Central Asia. The contestation between these sets of norms has not led to a complete polarisation between members of the two organisations, however. Instead, the OSCE has used a range of discursive tactics to reduce political contestation, downplaying some contested issues and seeking shared discourses on security threats. This article explores these tactics and suggests that these discursive shifts may eventually threaten the normative identity of the OSCE and lead to the acceptance of a more hybrid set of security-related norms in the region.

Russia's Climate Policy

Author- Laura A. Henry

Abstract-

This article accounts for the gap between Russia's weak initial implementation of the Kyoto Protocol and its more active engagement in climate policy during the Medvedev presidency. We examine the intersection of climate policy and broader efforts to modernise Russia's economy, drawing attention to synergies between domestic and international politics. We argue that international factors alone do not explain the change in climate policy as they have remained relatively constant. Instead, greater attention toward climate policy results from efforts to introduce new technologies and increase energy efficiency, spurred by the recent financial crisis and a shift in domestic policy priorities associated with the Medvedev presidency.

Security Dialogue

43 (4) August 2012

Military gender integration and foreign policy in the United States

Author- Saskia Stachowitsch

Abstract-

The article investigates the relevance of foreign policy discourse and practice for military gender relations. The link between women's status in military institutions and the gendering of foreign policy has so far not been thoroughly addressed in military and gender research or foreign policy analysis. Feminist international relations provides a research strategy to show how foreign policy doctrines and debates are gendered and how they are connected to gender (in)equality in central state institutions such as the military. The article thus applies feminist international relations as a theoretical framework that

transcends the constructed dichotomy between national and international levels of analysis.

Politics for the day after tomorrow: The logic of apocalypse in global climate politics

Author- Chris Methmann

Abstract-

The recent global climate change discourse is a prominent example of a securitization of environmental issues. While the problem is often framed in the language of existentialism, crisis or even apocalypse, climate discourses rarely result in exceptional or extraordinary measures, but rather put forth a governmental scheme of piecemeal and technocratic solutions often associated with risk management. This article argues that this seeming paradox is no accident but follows from a politics of apocalypse that combines two logics – those of security and risk – which in critical security studies are often treated as two different animals. Drawing on the hegemony theory of Ernesto Laclau and Chantal Mouffe, however, this article shows that the two are inherently connected. In the same way as the Christian pastorate could not do without apocalyptic imageries, today's micro-politics of risk depends on a series of macro-securitizations that enable and legitimize the governmental machinery.

Millennium: Journal of International Studies

• **41 (1) September 2012**

What's at Stake in the Historical Turn? Theory, Practice and *Phronēsis* in International Relations

Author- David M. McCourt

Abstract-

Taking issue with Hobson and Lawson's rejection of the historical turn, this article argues that what is at stake in the turn is the type of knowledge of politics International Relations scholars should produce, and the relationship between theory and practice. The relevant issues are not, then, exhausted by

answering the question ‘What is history in International Relations?’; instead, the turn forms part of a wider movement in the social sciences away from neo-positivism and its deficient vision of history. The article follows one line of thought on non-neo-positivist International Relations and its relationship to history that seeks to emphasise the centrality of historical knowledge to political *praxis* understood as practical wisdom or *phronēsis*. However, while a turn is thus to be welcomed, because the impact of International Relations knowledge lies ultimately in the relationship between the academy and politics, the stakes of the historical turn lie beyond International Relations, adequately historical or not.

Security, War, Violence – The Politics of Critique

Author- Claudia Aradau

Abstract-

Tarak Barkawi has recently enjoined International Relations and security studies scholars to embark upon a critical study of the phenomenon of war. There is much to agree with in his argument and the idea of ‘critical war studies’ seems particularly apposite in a world where war and other forms of organised or dispersed violence have become increasingly constitutive of daily life. However, the turn to ‘critical war studies’ works by silencing disagreements and homogenising the heterogeneity of critical security studies. Instead, I propose a dialogue that brings to the fore the political stakes of a critique of war, security and violence. Not only have security and war been entwined in complex ways, but I argue that they need to be analysed within a continuum of violence that includes insurrections, revolts, revolutions, insurgencies, rebellions, seditions, disobediences, riots and uprisings.

Journal of Peace Research

July 2012; 49 (4)

Armed Conflicts, 1946–2011

Author- Peter Wallensteen

Abstract-

In 2011, the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) recorded 37 armed conflicts with a minimum of 25 battle-related deaths. This significant increase from the 31 conflicts recorded in 2010 was primarily driven by an increase in conflicts on the African continent, and is only in part due to events tied to the Arab Spring which mostly led to other forms of violence than conventional armed conflict. The number of active conflicts still remains at a relatively low level compared to the peak years in the early 1990s, when more than 50 conflicts were active. The number of wars – conflicts leading to 1,000 or more battle-related deaths – increased to six; however, it is a considerably lower number than during the peak years of the early 1990s. For the second consecutive year, Afghanistan claimed the highest number of fatalities. Five armed conflicts listed for 2010 were not active in 2011, but during the year three new conflicts erupted – Libya, South Sudan and Sudan (Abyei) – and six conflicts already registered were restarted. Only one peace agreement was concluded during the year. Thus, the trend with low numbers of peace accords which started in 2009 continues.

Dynamics of political instability in the United States, 1780–2010

Author- Peter Turchin

Abstract-

This article describes and analyses a database on the dynamics of sociopolitical instability in the United States between 1780 and 2010. The database was constructed by digitizing data collected by previous researchers, supplemented by systematic searches of electronic media archives. It includes 1,590 political violence events such as riots, lynchings, and terrorism. Incidence of political violence fluctuated dramatically over the 230 years covered by the database, following a complex dynamical pattern. Spectral analysis detected two main oscillatory modes. The first is a very long-term – *secular* – cycle, taking the form of an instability wave during the second half of the 19th century, bracketed by two peaceful periods (the first quarter of the 19th century and the middle decades of the 20th century, respectively). The second is a 50-year oscillation superimposed on the secular cycle, with peaks around 1870, 1920, and 1970.

International Relations of the Asia Pacific

Volume 12 Issue 3, September 2012

Managing Malaysia–Indonesia relations in the context of democratization

Author- Shakila Yacob

Abstract-

This paper argues that Malaysia–Indonesia relations have become increasingly problematic and complex to manage in a post-Mahathir/Suharto era. The unequal pace of the democratization pattern in both countries has largely contributed to this state of affairs. The four key ‘transnational’ variables or determinants such as migrant labor, mass media, non-governmental organizations and the Anwar factor have significantly impacted on Malaysia's ties with Indonesia against the backdrop of the unequal domestic political changes. These four variables have over the years become more prominent in bilateral relations – often in negative terms. More specifically, they represent the dynamics of the people-to-people dimension in bilateral ties. As such, the deterioration in people-to-people relations threatens to significantly reshape government-to-government diplomacy.

Sovereignty, hegemony, and peace in Western Europe and in East Asia

Author- Timo Kivimäki

Abstract-

Amitav Acharya and Barry Buzan wrote in volume seven of this journal that ‘the main ideas in this discipline (of international relations) are deeply rooted in the particularities and peculiarities of European history, the rise of the West to world power, and the imposition of its own political structure onto the rest of the world.’ Taking this claim as the starting point the intention of this article is to see where international relations theory over-generalizes and how it could learn from the alternative experience of East Asia.

Comparative Political Studies

September 2012; 45 (9)

Citizens' Conceptualizations of Democracy

Author- Damarys Canache

Abstract-

Empirical evidence of how citizens around the world understand democracy highlights the predominance of the liberal model of democracy. Yet the existence of a dominant view does not mean that *all* citizens in every nation *exclusively* endorse a liberal conceptualization. Hence, this article asks whether public beliefs about the meaning of democracy affect people's political attitudes and behaviors. Using data from the 2006–2007 Latin American Public Opinion Project AmericasBarometer surveys, the author develops a taxonomy to categorize democratic conceptualizations in terms of structural complexity and substantive content. The author then examines the effects of the structure and substance of democratic conceptualizations on attitudes toward democracy and on patterns of political participation. Findings indicate that variance in the structure of citizens' democratic conceptualizations brings several effects on political attitudes and behaviors. As to the substantive content of democratic conceptualizations, conceiving of democracy in terms other than liberty influences numerous aspects of citizens' attitudes and behaviors.

Presidents, Parties, and Referenda in Latin America

Author- Angélica Durán-Martínez

Abstract-

Over the past two decades the use of referenda has spread throughout Latin America, and 39 referenda have taken place since 1990. For some observers, referenda can improve accountability, promote participation, and reduce corruption. For others, given the strong tradition of Latin American presidentialism, referenda can be manipulated by populist presidents

attempting to bypass unpopular representative institutions such as congresses or to bolster their popularity. This article provides a more nuanced view of referenda, arguing that presidents cannot always manipulate referenda to increase their power. The effect of referenda on executive power varies depending on the scope of the referenda, that is, whether they aim at institutional change or, alternatively, at policy change. Moreover, the agenda-setting process and the role of political parties in referenda campaigns also mediate the effect of referenda on executive power. Although referenda do not necessarily enhance executive power, the risks of presidential manipulation are strong, and thus referenda should be carried out taking sufficient precautions.

East European Politics and Societies

August 2012; 26 (3)

Patterns of Parliamentary Representation and Careers in Ukraine

Author- Elena Semenova

Abstract-

This article focuses on the patterns of parliamentary representation and careers in post-communist Ukraine. The data includes individual information on 1768 members (with substitutes) of the Ukrainian parliament, the Verkhovna Rada, from the parliamentary elections in 1990 through to 2007. Low chances for the social upward mobility of sociodemographic groups such as women and poorly educated people were identified, as well as the high impact of social status on inclusion in the political ruling strata, as exemplified by business elites. Furthermore, MPs with an entrepreneurial background have a greater chance of staying in parliament for three or more legislative terms.

Success against All Odds? Determinants of Sectoral Rise and Decline in Central Europe

Author- Lucia Kureková

Abstract-

This article investigates the development over time of the automotive and textile industries post-1989 in four Central European countries in order to identify the key reasons behind sectoral growth or decline. The analysis demonstrates a divergent pattern of sectoral development, one that is in contrast to the perceived initial endowments of the countries and the structural positions of the sectors at the outset of the transition. Comparing the two sectors and individual success stories within them against a broader background of sectoral success and failure allows us to understand and isolate factors that lie behind the high status of the automotive sector by not only regional but also international standards.

Studies in Conflict & Terrorism

Volume 35, Issue 9, 2012

Fighting Al Qaeda in Yemen? Rethinking the Nature of the Islamist Threat and the Effectiveness of U.S. Counterterrorism Strategy

Author- Christina Hellmich

Abstract-

This article evaluates U.S. perception of and response to Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) operating in Yemen. It evaluates the empirical evidence on which the present understanding of the group is based, the implications of the sociopolitical context in which it operates, and the uneasy position of the Yemeni government in the War against Terror as it has been affected by U.S. policy from the early 1990s to the present. In the contested Yemeni state, AQAP is competing for political legitimacy and is increasingly dependent on public support. The U.S. kill-or-capture response, the “on-off” nature of its support that has made Yemen vulnerable to the influence of Al Qaeda in the past, and the actions of the Yemeni government itself, which depends on the continued existence of the threat to secure financial support vital for political survival, means that none of the measures being taken has the potential to defeat AQAP.

Counter-COIN: Counterinsurgency and the Preemption of Strategy

Author- David Martin Jones

Abstract-

The notion of “counterinsurgency” (COIN) has for some years been the central concept driving military operations in Afghanistan, and before that, in Iraq. It constitutes the dominant idea influencing much current military planning of the major Western powers. This study questions the assumptions and relevance of the thinking behind counterinsurgency doctrine. It suggests that

the ultimate effect of its dominance is to reduce the highly contingent nature of war to a list of techniques, the application of which are regarded as a sufficient precondition whenever states deem that they are confronted by conflicts that can be described as an “insurgency.” Such assumptions are both arbitrary and risk crowding out necessary, although by their nature very difficult, political judgments that are required for the effective construction and implementation of strategies that seek to ensure that the ends sought are proportional to the means employed.

Journal of Strategic Studies

Volume 35, Issue 4, 2012

The Meaning of the Nuclear Evolution: China's Strategic Modernization and US-China Security Relations

Author- Thomas J. Christensen

Abstract-

Will China's development of a new generation of nuclear weapons impact US-China security relations in important ways? One's answer depends on how one views the following: whether or not Chinese leaders believe that they are only now acquiring a secure second strike capability; the scope of coercive power that secure second strike capability provides to conventionally inferior actors; the meaning of China's 'No First Use' Doctrine; and the prospects for escalation control in future crises. Applying Cold War theories and tapping Chinese doctrinal writings this article concludes that China's nuclear modernization program might prove more consequential than is commonly believed.

Getting COIN' at the Tactical Level in Afghanistan

Author- Sergio Catignani

Abstract-

This article reassesses the extent to which the British Army has been able to adapt to the counter-insurgency campaign in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. While adopting Farrell's definition of bottom-up military adaptation, this article contends that the task force/brigade level of analysis adopted by Farrell and Farrell and Gordon has led them to overstate the degree to which innovation arising from processes of bottom-up adaptation has actually ensued. Drawing on lower level tactical unit interviews and other data, this article demonstrates how units have been unable or unwilling to execute non-kinetic population-centric operations due to their lack of understanding of the principles of counter-insurgency warfare.

