

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

# STATE

M A G A Z I N E

# Nicosia

DISTINCTLY CYPRIOT

MAY 2006

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Photograph by John Zimmerman



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# Small Steps to a Brighter Future

This month's *State Magazine* brings a world of stories that show the depth and diversity of Department experiences.

They prefer to work behind the scenes, although their labors create a brighter future for all the world's citizens. Meet the professionals at the recently reorganized Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation. At the drop of a hat, they travel the world over to secure fissionable material here, eliminate a SCUD missile there or destroy stockpiled chemical weapons somewhere else.

Their goal: slow the spread of weapons of mass destruction, so the world will be a little safer tomorrow than it is today. And while the responsibilities are heavy, the rewards are priceless. You might not learn how to defuse a nuclear weapon, but you will find a mandate ranging from treaty implementation to high-seas ship interdiction, from promoting peaceful nuclear energy to shutting down black-market proliferation networks.

Small steps sometimes get lost in the overall global perspective, but over time they can add up to big successes. Following the February bombing of the Al Askariya mosque in Samarra, Iraq, the Regional Embassy Office in Basrah took positive action to sow a little tolerance and understanding among suspicious groups.

This inspired group of Department professionals organized an event that brought together the area's top religious leaders—Shiite and Sunni Muslims, Christians and Mandaeans. The tools of tolerance in this instance were the area's children, a univer-

sal game and soccer equipment donated by the Real Madrid Football Club of Madrid, Spain. The results were both obvious and subtle—smiles on the faces of the Iraqi children and, for a brief period, proof that reconciliation is possible even under the most trying conditions.

No one knows how he or she will react when the unthinkable happens. Pamela Loring, an office management specialist and backup communicator at the U.S.



Consulate in Karachi, Pakistan, faced the horror of the March bombing in Karachi and reacted pretty much just as her associates throughout the city did that day, with calm professionalism. Then the unthinkable arrived—word that a colleague and friend didn't survive the bombing.

Suddenly, returning to the routine became unthinkable.

In many circles, Save the Whales is just a slogan. In the offices and cubicles of the Department's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, headed by Assistant Secretary Claudia McMurray, saving whales—and tigers and gorillas and forests—is all in a day's work. Assistant Secretary McMurray walks us through her vast bureau in an exclusive *State Magazine* "Department Inner-View." ■

*Rob Wiley*

Rob Wiley  
Editor-in-Chief

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The submission deadline for the July/August 2006 issue is May 15. The deadline for the September 2006 issue is June 15.

# History Lesson and Reality Check

Thanks to *State Magazine* and Marc Susser and Kathleen Rasmussen for a fascinating article in the February issue. "The African-American Heritage" was a wonderful history lesson and reality check for all of us working in the Department. We can only cringe at our institutional past in this area and trust that we will progress enough to prevent future generations from cringing at our performance.

**David Ballard**  
*Deputy Chief of Mission*  
*U.S. Embassy Tunis*

## Too Little Progress

I commend *State Magazine* for courage in publishing "The African-American Heritage" (February). The Department's history of hiring and treating African-Americans is reprehensible—in spite of equal opportunity laws passed in the 1970s. Take away the smoke screen of political appointees, and the profile of career African-American Foreign Service officers reflects too little progress. Without a class-action lawsuit, perhaps the Department's record on women Foreign Service officers might be equally as poor.

For those of us who loved the Foreign Service, all of this sadly diminishes our pride.

**Georgiana N. Prince**  
*Retired Foreign Service officer*  
*Washington, D.C.*

## Wharton a Joy to Work With

The caption on page 29 of the February issue should have read "Clifton Wharton,

with Secretary Dean Rusk, at his swearing in as Ambassador to Norway"—not Romania. That was in 1961. In 1958, President Eisenhower sent Minister Wharton to the American Legation in Bucharest. I served under him at that post

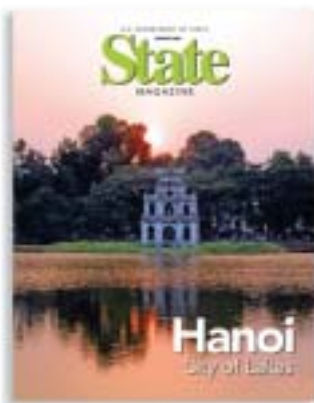
(which was not raised to an embassy until much later).

I went to Romania on an unusual carte blanche visa, accompanying a huge exhibit from the Museum of Modern Art. Because of fluency in Romanian and being able to go into areas political and economic officers could not, I had several other chores besides

finding museum space for the exhibit on American architecture, photography and contemporary sculpture, painting and prints.

Minister Wharton was a joy to work with and Mrs. Wharton was interested in the success of the exhibit.

**T. J. Crockett, 3rd**  
*Retired Foreign Service officer*  
*Unionville, Connecticut*



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## Revolution in Embassy Construction

Thanks for carrying our article on the opening of the new embassy in Phnom Penh (March). There is another part of the story that merits all our attention—the revolution wrought by General Charles Williams and the new Office of Overseas Buildings Operation.

This magnificent building is one of the first two new standard embassy design facilities. OBO completed the project in 28 months—five months ahead of schedule—and in full compliance with post-9/11 security standards. OBO's conduct of the project was impeccable throughout. General Williams' team led the design, contracting, construction, furnishing and accreditation consistent with best practices of private industry. The new OBO is truly changing the way we do business abroad and strictly for the better. To paraphrase a slogan from the auto industry, this ain't your Dad's OBO!

**Joseph A. Mussomeli**  
*Ambassador*  
*U.S. Embassy Phnom Penh*

# NEWS

## ART AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

On March 9, Visual Diplomacy, a monthlong display of ART in Embassies exhibition catalogues and poster reproductions of original works of art, opened in the Reading Room of the Department's Ralph J. Bunche Library. Visual Diplomacy marked the beginning of a new collaboration between ART and the library.

ART recently donated more than 100 print and electronic copies of its exhibition catalogues, dating from 2004, to the Bunche Library. These beautiful catalogues, produced by ART and designed and printed by the Department's Regional Program Office in Vienna, document individual ART exhibitions around the world. The catalogues are typically bilingual and include full-color reproductions of works of art, artist biographies, lender credits and ambassadors' statements explaining the significance of the exhibitions. Most important, the catalogues acknowledge the generosity of the artists and lenders and provide a useful diplomatic tool for ambassadors.

All Department employees around the world can access ART's catalogues through the Bunche Library's e-book collection. Simply visit the library's web site at <http://bunchelectroniclibrary.state.gov/> and click on the



*Anne Johnson, director of the ART in Embassies Program, and Frank Coulter, acting assistant secretary for the Bureau of Administration, stand before an oil painting by ART lender Thomas Paquette. Mrs. Johnson is holding a copy of the ART in Embassies exhibition catalogue for Athens.*

“e-books” link. The catalogues are accessible via the drop-down subject menu as “ART in Embassies Exhibition Catalog” or the drop-down collection menu as “ART in Embassies Program.”

**PLUS >>> State Honors Peace Corps Ties + Mary A. Ryan: A Life of Service + Burundi Celebrates Black History Month + Rome Lends Famous Statue + Let's Learn Online + Commemorative Stamps Feature Diplomatic Trailblazers**

# MARY A. RYAN: A LIFE OF SERVICE

Mary A. Ryan, a Career Ambassador with the Department of State and former Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs, died April 25 at her home in Washington, D.C.

Mary Ryan achieved the personal rank of Career Ambassador in 1999, an honor granted in recognition of exceptionally distinguished service. She was the second woman to achieve the rank of Career Ambassador and among only 46 officers to hold this rank in the history of the Department. She was the highest-ranking diplomat at the Department when she retired in 2002.

Ambassador Ryan's State Department career spanned more than 36 years and virtually every part of the globe. She was an acknowledged expert in African and European Affairs and served overseas at a number of Embassies and Consulates, many in difficult and challenging places while facing considerable personal hardship.

Although her professional focus rested primarily on administrative and consular positions, Ambassador Ryan was known

for her mastery of all aspects of the Foreign Service. She promoted U.S. interests wherever she served, and took as a great honor the opportunity to represent the United States as Ambassador to Swaziland from 1988 to 1990.

In the Bureau of Consular Affairs, where she served as Assistant Secretary from 1993 until 2002, Ambassador Ryan was known not only as one of the Department's most innovative and capable managers, but also for her integrity and leadership.



Ambassador Ryan had a tremendous impact on a generation of Foreign Service officers. She established mentoring as a key management component in the numerous leadership positions she held. She instilled in her colleagues a sense of dedication and commitment to public service. As one Foreign

Service officer noted, "her legacy endures through the lives of the officers she touched."

Ambassador Ryan received numerous awards during her career. She received the Presidential Distinguished Service Award

in 1998 and 1992, and the Department of State's Arnold L. Raphel Award for mentoring in 1996. In 2001, she received the first-ever Award for Outstanding Public Service, endowed by Ross Perot, for her leadership on consular issues worldwide.

After her retirement, Ambassador Ryan devoted herself to a number of endeavors that reflect her lifelong dedication to serving others. She tutored students in the D.C. Public School system. Devoted to her faith, she was active in her parish, serving as an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist at St. Stephen Martyr Roman Catholic Church in Washington, D.C., and also regularly attended the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Washington, D.C. She volunteered as a Eucharistic minister for patients at George Washington University Hospital. She graduated from a two-year program at Trinity University for parish administration associated with the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.

Ambassador Ryan held bachelor's and master's degrees from St. John's University in New York. She received an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from St. John's in May 1996, and the university awarded her its Medal of Honor in June 2000. Although her career took her around the world, she never lost her ties to her hometown of New York City, or to her beloved New York Yankees.

## STATE HONORS PEACE CORPS TIES

The U.S. Peace Corps has provided many State employees a wonderful preparation for living and working abroad. It continues to give a tremendous gift as returned volunteers and staff join the Department and bring with them language, cross-cultural and other skills gleaned from their assignments.

As the Peace Corps celebrates its 45th anniversary, bureaus and offices are finding ways to commemorate the event and congratulate and thank the Corps for its work.

Under the leadership of former volunteer Mark Nachtrieb, a Department group has been planning an event and developing a database of former Peace Corps workers at State who are Civil Service and Foreign Service employees, contractors or annuitants.

Those employees who have a Peace Corps background are asked to respond to a cable and department notices that were sent out asking for their country and years of service.

Based on two sample pools of employees—those entering as junior officers and specialists and those participating in the Ambassadorial Seminar—it is estimated that the number of former Peace Corps workers in the Department is between four and eight percent of the work force.

Current chiefs of mission who have served in the Peace Corps include Kate Canavan, Niels Marquart, Roger Meece, Richard Erdman (whose daughter was and son is a volunteer), Barrie Walkley, Robert Fitts and Michael Parmly. Ambassador Craig Stapleton was a member of the Board of the Peace Corps.

Former volunteers and staff tend to be found in higher concentrations in certain bureaus. About 10 percent of the staff of the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, for example, are returned volunteers and staff members. The Foreign Service Institute also has a high percentage. When the Department was looking for pioneers to staff the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance and the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq, service in the Peace Corps was considered desirable. Who would be better prepared to deal with the crude living and working arrangements than ex-volunteers?

Look for announcements of the upcoming Peace Corps-Foreign Affairs community event, which will take place in the Exhibition Hall in the Truman Building.

# BURUNDI CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY WITH MOVIE SERIES AND MUSIC



Management Officer Judes Stellingwerf, left, and OFDA Coordinator Denise Gordon, center, congratulate participants in the speech competition.

What do you do when a celebration is called for and you have big ideas but a small budget? You get creative. That is exactly what the U.S. Embassy in Bujumbura did recently to celebrate Black History Month.

A French-speaking, former Belgian colony, newly democratic Burundi abounds with people who have studied American history.

It is also a country where radio is the major source of information. So, to start off the month, the embassy presented a series of radio interviews with the coordinator of the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and the political officer, focusing on African-American music and history, the struggle for civil rights and the struggle's relevance to Burundians.

The next week, the embassy presented a series of movies that profiled aspects of the African-American experience, followed by lively discussions. For example, the movie *The Color Purple* juxtaposed the role of women in Burundi against that of the characters in the film.

One Saturday, the embassy sponsored a local student English club in a speech competition whose theme was "What can Burundians learn from African-American history?" The pupils recognized that both countries share many of the same experiences.

The finale of the monthlong celebration was a spectacular African-American musical concert, organized and presented by OFDA Coordinator Denise Gordon. In a concert hall packed to capacity, local Burundians coached by Ms. Gordon sang spirituals, blues, jazz, rhythm and blues and hip-hop songs. An exceptional singer and songwriter herself, Ms. Gordon also performed many different varieties of African-American songs.

## Rome Lends Famous Statue for Exhibition

The U.S. Embassy in Rome has loaned one of the most important pieces in its art collection—the famous *Venus Drying Herself After the Bath* by Giambologna—for an eye-catching exhibition at the Museo Nazionale del Bargello in Florence. The exhibition, "Giambologna: The Gods, The Heroes", will run until June 15.

The statue was created by Giambologna in 1583, when the artist was at the height of his career. When he was very young, Giambologna settled in Florence and became Francesco I de' Medici's favorite sculptor. He gained fame in Italy and Europe through his elegant works that offered a new way of thinking about sculpture. He produced monumental compositions and a large number of small bronzes. The bronzes were used as diplomatic gifts for European rulers, promoting the "Florentine style" abroad.

The *Venus*, created for Giangiorgio Cesarini, is unique, said embassy Fine Arts Curator Valeria Brunori, because of the

certainty of the date and because of the extraordinary permission Francesco I granted to Giambologna to work on the statue for Cesarini. The reason permission was granted is still a mystery: possibly Cesarini's activity as an agent searching for works of art in Rome for the Medici collections, or more likely his marriage to Clelia Farnese, daughter of Cardinal Alessandro Farnese. Clelia was courted by the entire Roman aristocracy, but one of her most ardent admirers was Ferdinando de' Medici, Francesco I's brother and future Grand Duke of Tuscany. Maybe this was the liaison that provided the commission for Cesarini.

The beautiful *Venus* was acquired in the 1620s by Cardinal Ludovico Ludovisi for his collection. The nucleus of the Villa Ludovisi estate is today the U.S. Embassy compound. The statue's attribution to Giambologna became uncertain during the 18th and 19th centuries, but in 1880 the statue was correctly ascribed to him. In



Workmen prepare to remove the *Venus* from the embassy.

1950, the scholar Elisabeth Dahnens authenticated the attribution to Giambologna with certainty. In 1993 the statue was restored and exhibited in Rome and Washington.

The loan of this unique masterpiece to the exhibition in Florence has been welcomed by scholars, the general public and the media.



## Let's Learn Online

The Foreign Service Institute presented a Distance Learning Showcase on March 28 and 29 at the Harry S Truman building to highlight opportunities for online and electronic learning at the State Department.

“Distance learning” is instruction that occurs when an instructor and student are separated geographically. It can be offered online, through a text with communication via e-mail, through CD-ROMs or via a combination of delivery methods. In some courses, students set their own pace; in others, an instructor guides students.

Distance learning through the Foreign Service Institute is open to all federal government personnel and eligible family members.

The showcase featured information booths on the School of Applied Information Technology, the Transition Center, the School of Language Studies, the Leadership and Management School, the School of Professional and Area Studies, the Instructional Support Division, the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training and more. For more information on distance learning, go to: <http://fsi.state.gov/courses/default.asp>.

*Jane Burt-Lynn, left, shows some materials on FSI's School of Professional and Area Studies to FSI Director Ruth Whiteside, center, and Under Secretary for Management Henrietta Fore, right, at the Distance Learning Showcase.*

## Commemorative Stamps Feature Six Diplomatic Trailblazers

Among the commemorative stamps being issued this year by the U.S. Postal Service is a series on “Distinguished American Diplomats.” A ceremony dedicating the stamps on May 30 will honor six individuals for their contributions to international relations—not only as negotiators and administrators, but also as trailblazers, shapers of policy, peacemakers and humanitarians.

While serving as a diplomat in France during World War II, Hiram Bingham IV defied U.S. policy by issuing visas that saved the lives of more than 2,000 Jews and other refugees. Since the discovery of his heroism, he has been posthumously honored for “constructive dissent.”

Frances E. Willis began her diplomatic career in 1927 and served with distinction, especially in Europe, until 1964. She was the first female Foreign Service officer to rise through the ranks to become an ambassador and the first woman to be honored with the title of career ambassador.

A skilled troubleshooter, Robert D. Murphy played a key role in facilitating

the Allied invasion of North Africa during World War II. He served as the first postwar U.S. ambassador to Japan, and in 1956 became one of the first diplomats to be named career ambassador.

The distinguished career of Clifton R. Wharton, Sr., spanned nearly four decades. In addition to becoming one of the first African-American Foreign Service officers, he was the first African-American diplomat to lead an American delegation to a European country—Romania. He later became ambassador to Norway.

A renowned expert on the Soviet Union, Charles E. Bohlen helped to shape foreign policy during World War II and the Cold War. He was present at key wartime meetings with the Soviets, served as ambassador to Moscow during the 1950s and advised every U.S. president between 1943 and 1968.

Philip C. Habib was renowned for his diplomacy in some of the world's most dangerous flash points. An authority on Southeast Asia, a peace negotiator in the Middle East and a special envoy to Central America, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1982.



*This souvenir sheet consists of a collage featuring details from photographs of six diplomats placed in front of visas, passport pages and other items associated with diplomacy.*

# The E-Age

PASSPORT



United States  
of America



To facilitate international travel for U.S. citizens and enhance border security, the Department has begun phasing in electronic passports, better known as e-passports. On Dec. 30, 2005, the Bureau of Consular Affairs began pilot production of the first-ever diplomatic e-passports. Beginning in April, official passports will be issued in this new format.

The e-passport integrates the latest concepts in electronic document protection and readability. It represents another milestone toward improving the security and integrity of the U.S. passport and enhancing national security. This new passport also reduces the likelihood of lost or stolen passports being used for illicit purposes.

The new passport combines facial recognition and contactless chip technology. Each e-passport contains an integrated circuit, or chip, with a storage capacity of at least 64 kilobytes that operates in a manner consistent with international standards.

The chip, which will be embedded in the cover of the passport, holds the same information that is printed on the data page of the passport and the full facial image of the passport bearer. The chip will also contain a unique identification number and a digital signature to protect the stored data from alteration.

**BUILT-IN SECURITY**

Consular Affairs has incorporated several features into the e-passport that

will prevent data skimming, eavesdropping or tracking of the passport bearer. The anti-skimming material is a metal shielding in the front cover that wraps around onto a portion of the rear cover. This material greatly inhibits reading the chip as long as the passport book is closed.

Basic Access Control technology minimizes the risk of unauthorized reading of the data on the chip. This technology requires that the data page be read electronically to generate a key that unlocks the chip and allows for an encrypted communication session between the chip and chip reader. Finally, the e-passport will include a randomized unique identification feature to mitigate the risk that an e-passport could be used to track the bearer.

Consular Affairs added these features to the initial design largely because of public concerns expressed during the rulemaking process. When taken together, they will mitigate unauthorized reading of the passport.

Although more than 30 other nations around the world will issue e-passports to their nationals, no other country is taking all of these steps to protect the data of its citizens.

Compatible port-of-entry readers allow the chip to be electronically read within seconds to confirm that the person and the passport are indeed a match. The securely stored information will further protect

against passport fraud, identity fraud, identity theft, information skimming and illegal immigration, while allowing for faster processing of travelers.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

U.S. passport demand has nearly doubled between fiscal years 2003 and 2006. Fueled by increasing international travel, more naturalizations, more Americans using their passport as an identity document for reasons other than international travel and new document requirements for travel within the Western Hemisphere, Consular Affairs expects this year to adjudicate about 13 million passport applications.

The bureau expects that number to balloon to at least 15 million in fiscal year 2007, with a sustained demand of 17 million or more in 2008 and beyond.

The Department plans to begin issuing e-passports for tourists this summer, and have all domestic passport agencies issuing e-passports by the end of 2006. Previously issued passports without electronic chips will remain valid until their expiration dates.

For more information about the electronic passport, visit the Bureau of Consular Affairs web site at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov). ■

*The author is an operations specialist in Passport Services.*



The security laminate film in the new passport, left, contains the same highly secure technology as the current passport. The new document has a new design in the film, including an image of George Washington, words from the national anthem, the Capitol and a bountiful harvest. The signature page, right, has the preamble to the Constitution, a flag, grain stalks and an eagle. Under ultraviolet light, the page shows stars and fireworks.



# Soccer Matches

Smiles with Children,  
Shiites with Sunnis,  
Christians with  
Mandaeans

**BY MARK MARRANO**

When the Al Askariya mosque in Samarra, Iraq, was bombed in February, sectarian violence in the country surged dramatically. Yet a short time later, one State Department office in Basrah organized an event that assembled the area's top religious leaders—and brought smiles to the faces of Iraqi children.

The Regional Embassy Office in Basrah organized the event for children with cooperation from leaders of the area's Christian, Shiite, Sunni and Mandaean religious communities. At the celebration, held March 5 at the largest mosque in Basrah, children were given soccer balls and sports paraphernalia donated in part by soccer star Zinedine Zidane of the Real Madrid Football Club of Madrid, Spain.

PHOTOGRAPHS: REGIONAL EMBASSY OFFICE BASRAH



*Opposite page: Iraqi children show their Real Madrid souvenirs. Top: The religious clerics representing the Shia, Sunni, Christian and Mandaean communities in Basrah. Bottom: Iraqi Provincial Action Officer Rachel Schneller and Deputy Regional Coordinator Mark Marrano distribute gifts from soccer star Zinedine Zidane.*

The idea for the event began when the Regional Embassy Office saw an urgent need to promote religious tolerance following the Al Askariya mosque bombing. I began meeting with different religious leaders to gauge their interest in an event that would bring children together under the umbrella of sports.

I had received a variety of Real Madrid soccer material from Zidane, whom I had met while working at the U.S. Embassy in Madrid. Zidane donated the material for the Iraqi children in Basrah. The Regional Embassy Office supplemented the material with other soccer balls bought locally using office donations.

I met separately with the Christian leader, Archbishop of Basrah Gabriel Kassab; the Shiite cleric of the largest mosque in Basrah, Sayyid Abdul Aaly Al Mousawi; and a highly respected Shiite leader and Basrah Provincial Council member, Sayyid Bahaa Jama al Deen. The latter was instrumental in influencing the participation of the Sunni imam, Sheik Khalid Al Mullah, and the leader of the Mandaeans, Sheik Raad Gbashi. (The Mandaeans are an ancient religious community that venerates St. John the Baptist.)

The religious leaders were asked to bring children between the ages of 6 and 10 from their communities. On the day of the event, 6 girls and 16 boys arrived at the Al Mousawi mosque, accompanied by parents and the religious leaders. Regional Coordinator Ken Gross spoke, thanking the religious leaders for their courage in gathering together for the sake of the children of Basrah. He said that the gifts were given to assure the children of Basrah that there are people from around the world who wish them a bright future.

During the event, the 22 children were extremely well behaved, even if slightly fearful. The sight of heavily armed security personnel brought several of them to tears, clearly showing how some have been traumatized by the tense security situation in the city. One of the children had been the victim of a kidnapping and subsequent torture.

However, when the candy, soccer balls and Real Madrid souvenirs were distributed, the children began smiling. Their smiles grew even larger when they started to examine their candy and discovered most of it had been sent directly from the United States.

The event was a resounding success. The Regional Embassy Office was able to organize an event emphasizing reconciliation, yet free of political and religious strings during a period of heightened tension and strife between the Shia and Sunni communities. More important, with the help of soccer great Zidane, the office was able to bring smiles to the faces of Iraqi children who have had little to smile about in the past. ■

*The author is Deputy Regional Coordinator in the Regional Embassy Office in Basrah, Iraq.*

*An embassy-sponsored archaeological workshop showcased this replica of the ancient sailing ship Kyrenia.*





# Nicosia

DISTINCTLY CYPRIOT

**By Bridget Alway**



# CYPRUS

is a study in contrasts. An island roughly the size of Connecticut, it has both natural beauty and an ongoing conflict of considerable proportions.

Barbed wire, a buffer zone and 860 United Nations peacekeepers stretch across the island, separating the Greek and Turkish communities from each other. The division is the result of clashes that began in the 1960s and culminated in armed conflict in the summer of 1974, which displaced about 200,000 people.

Today, the political conflict, though contained, persists and has the potential to increase tension between North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies Greece and Turkey in an already fragile region.

U.N. peacekeepers first came to Cyprus in 1964 to calm violence that erupted after independence from the British in 1960. Even today, British military bases make up approximately 3 percent of the island and are recognized by treaty as sovereign territory. Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots—including many embassy staff—remember the 1960s as a very turbulent time, when family members were killed or went missing.

When Greek Cypriot nationalists, with help from the military junta ruling Greece at the time, organized a coup in 1974 against then-President and Archbishop Makarios III, Turkey responded with a military intervention. To this day, many Greek Cypriots accuse the U.S. of failing to prevent the coup and the Turkish intervention that followed. The U.S. mission also experienced a

*Above: The restored 19th century Hala Sultan Tekkee Mosque in Larnaca. Right: From left, former political officer Emily Plumb, political officers Matt Palmer and Mark Libby, and former desk officer Marisa Plowden enjoy Golden Beach at the tip of the Karpass Peninsula.*



PHOTOGRAPHS: (TOP) UNDEFEATED; (LAND) TRISTAN; (BEACH) JIM MILES; (SEA) EL DIXON



tragedy when Ambassador Rodger Davies and administrative section assistant Antoinette Varnava were killed by bullets fired at the embassy.

### Split Decisions

The U.S. has kept full diplomatic relations with the Republic of Cyprus while maintaining contact with representatives of the Turkish Cypriot community. Only Turkey recognizes the self-proclaimed Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, which covers 37 percent of the island.

The U.S. Embassy in Nicosia has played an important role in recent efforts to find a solution to the divided island's political problems, supporting U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan's Mission of Good Offices to reunify the island. In April 2004, the "Annan Plan" was supported by the Turkish Cypriots but overwhelmingly rejected by the Greek Cypriots in two simultaneous referenda and, in May 2004, Cyprus entered the European Union as a divided island.

For many years, Congress has earmarked economic support funds for Cyprus to be used on scholarships, bicomunal projects and measures aimed at reunification of the island. The funds, designed to reduce tensions and promote peace and cooperation between the two communities, support both bicomunal and economic growth activities. Bicomunal work focuses on areas such as youth, education and cultural heritage. Economic growth work is designed to help the Turkish Cypriot community shoulder its share of the costs of a settlement and reunification of the island.

The mission employs approximately 53 American staff and 116 local staff, with representatives from the Department of Defense, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Office of Special Counsel.

The embassy building, constructed in 1992, sits on a compound not far from the walled city of Old Nicosia and two of four crossing points to northern Cyprus. The embassy maintains a satellite office on the north side of Nicosia in the area administered by Turkish Cypriots. Travel across the buffer zone was tightly controlled until April 2003, but is now relatively routine, with thousands of Cypriots and third-country nationals crossing each day.

## AT A GLANCE



**Country name**  
Cyprus

**Capital**  
Nicosia

**Government**  
Republic

**Languages**  
Greek, Turkish and English

**Religions**  
Greek Orthodox, Muslim, Maronite and Armenian Apostolic

**Population**  
784,300

**Total area**  
9,250 square kilometers

**Approximate size**  
About 0.6 times the size of Connecticut

**Agriculture products**  
Citrus fruits, potatoes, barley, grapes and olives

**Industries**  
Tourism, food and beverage processing, cement and gypsum production, textiles and ship repair

**Export partners**  
United Kingdom (27.2 percent), Greece (11.9 percent) and Germany (5 percent)

**Import partners**  
Greece (15.2 percent), Italy (10.5 percent) and Germany (8.9 percent)

**Airports**  
16 (13 with paved runways)

**Internet country code**  
.cy



*Top: From left, deputy chief of mission Jane Zimmerman, nurse Barbara Joannides and political specialist Anna Maria Yiallourou work the embassy's blood drive following the August 2005 crash of Helios Airways Flight 522. Above: Ambassador Ronald L. Schlicher, left, and Cyprus Minister of Justice and Public Order Doros Theodorou sign Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty Instruments, harmonizing the previous instrument to similar agreements with other European Union members. Right: Weekend markets in Old Nicosia overflow with fresh fruits and vegetables.*

PHOTOGRAPHS: SPYROS CHARITOU (BOTTOM RIGHT); LORRI AND TONI CARTER

Nicosia lies 40 miles inland from the international airport at Larnaca and has been the island's seat of government since the 11th century. About 220,000 people live there today. Half of them own cars. Traffic is jammed at rush hour, but otherwise zooms along.

### Charm and Desolation

The old city is a combination of charm and desolation. Restored yellow and white stone architecture with ornate covered balconies contrasts with dilapidated, dusty concrete buildings. Many abandoned buildings still show the scars of bullet holes, and many are homes to families of stray cats. Recent archaeological excavations have revealed the domestication of cats on Cyprus more than 9,000 years ago, the earliest finding of cats in burial sites in the world.

Some of the most beautiful buildings in Nicosia have been restored under the Nicosia Master Plan, a bicomunal restoration initiative begun in 1979 under the auspices of the U.N. Development Programme. Funding came from a variety of sources, including the U.S.-funded Bicomunal Development Program. The Master Plan is a comprehensive urban planning document designed to improve living conditions. Almost 100 projects have been completed or are ongoing, each worth \$50,000 to \$500,000.

Landmarks abound outside of Nicosia, particularly in the coastal cities of Limassol, Larnaca, Paphos, Famagusta and Kyrenia. Beautiful reminders of the ancient civilizations that inhabited these cities can be found at the second- through fourth-century ruins of Kourion, including an amphitheater where Shakespeare and ancient Greek productions are staged in summer; at Kolossi Castle, the French Crusader headquarters after the final loss of the Holy Land in the 13th century; and at the Greco-Roman gymnasium of Salamis, with its colonnaded palaestra, built by Roman emperors Trajan and Hadrian.

The U.S. Embassy in Nicosia has cooperated with Cypriots to preserve their historical sites, including the Hala Sultan Tekkee mosque, where the Prophet Mohammed's paternal aunt is entombed, just two miles from the Larnaca airport. A partially U.S.-sponsored workshop organized by the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute showcased a replica of the ancient sailing ship *Kyrenia*, which for more than 2,000 years lay undisturbed on the bottom of the Mediterranean, just a few kilometers off Cyprus' shore.

A tour in Nicosia offers many things: hot summer sun, mountain winter snows, Mediterranean food, backyard family barbecues and museums galore. Notably, politics is a way of life here. In the not-so-distant past, even the national brands of coffee and beer had political and religious affiliations. While Cypriots increasingly focus on their future in the European Union, daily life remains distinctly old-world. Distinctly Cypriot.

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*The author is a political officer at the U.S. Embassy in Nicosia.*

## BICOMMUNAL PROGRAMS GIVE PEACE A CHANCE **BY JULIETTE DICKSTEIN**

To help the separated Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities find a peaceful resolution to their long-standing conflict, the U.S. Embassy in Nicosia oversees congressionally earmarked economic support funds for bicomunal and economic growth activities.

The bicomunal programs promote peace and cooperation between the two communities and benefit the island as a whole. The economic growth program is designed to enable the Turkish Cypriot community to bear its share of the economic costs of reunification of the island.

The Bicomunal Support Program implements politically sensitive activities in areas ranging from education and health to youth leadership. Since its inception in 2000, the program has reached more than a thousand Cypriots.

The Cyprus America Scholarship Program is implemented by the Cyprus Fulbright Commission under the embassy's guidance. It provides scholarships and training programs and conducts bicomunal activities. Since its creation in 1981, the program has given 1,717 scholarships worth approximately \$126 million to Cypriot students for study in the United States at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

The embassy's USAID office oversees the Action for Cooperation and Trust in Cyprus program, which is implemented through the U.N. Development Programme. It funds projects designed and implemented by Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots on issues of common concern,

such as education, the role of civil society and sustainable development.

The Cyprus Partnership for Economic Growth, also overseen by USAID, supports economic growth in the Turkish Cypriot community in ways that will enable its economy to shoulder its share of the economic costs of a settlement, contribute to Turkish Cypriot-Greek Cypriot economic interaction and advance the adoption and implementation of European and international standards and practices across the island.

The Cyprus Partnership, Embassy Nicosia's newest and largest program, implements three major projects. The Economic Development and Growth for Enterprises project will strengthen Turkish Cypriot enterprise competitiveness, while upgrading banking skills and improving the financial environment in which banks and firms do business. The Resource Efficiency Achievement Project will improve the efficient use of energy and water. It will improve the quality of service, reduce the environmental impact and improve competitiveness and economic performance of Turkish Cypriot firms. The Supporting Activities that Value the Environment project will improve the competitiveness, financial status and quality of basic services and infrastructure, as well as the local capacity to manage natural resources and cultural assets to generate economic benefits. ■

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*The author is bicomunal coordinator at the U.S. Embassy in Nicosia.*

# Asian Pacific American Trailblazers in Foreign Policy

BY CORAZON SANDOVAL FOLEY

In May, the State Department joins the nation in celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Throughout the country, there are more than 13 million Asian Pacific Americans—a designation commonly used to identify Americans having origins in East Asia, Southeast Asia or the Indian subcontinent. This includes people from China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam and the Pacific Islands.

To celebrate the month, the Department will host a foreign policy workshop on the future of U.S.-Asia relations on May 24 featuring prominent Asian Americans. Participants include Asia Society President Vishaka Desai, National Security Council

*Left: Ambassador Sichan Siv on horseback. Below: The author, left, with late civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks.*



White House Asia Director Victor Cha and Smithsonian Institution Asian Pacific American Program Director Franklin Odo. The event will be held in the Dean Acheson Auditorium from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Below are some of the stories of Asian Pacific Americans who made significant contributions to U.S. foreign policy.

## DEPARTMENT TRAILBLAZERS

Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink was the first Asian Pacific American to serve as an assistant secretary at the Department. From 1977 to 1978, she was the assistant secretary of state for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. Her career was a series of

firsts: the first woman of color elected to the U.S. Congress, the first Asian American woman to practice law in Hawaii and the first Asian American woman to be elected to the Hawaiian territorial house of representatives. She played a key role in the 1972 passage of Title IX, the federal civil rights legislation that prohibits gender discrimination at educational institutions receiving federal funds. Title IX is credited for greatly increasing scholarship money for female athletes. Soon after her death in 2002, President Bush signed a congressional resolution renaming Title IX “The Patsy Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act.”

Julia Chang Bloch became the first Asian Pacific American to be named a U.S.



*Left: The first Asian Pacific American ambassador from the career ranks, William H. Itoh (second from right), with former Deputy Secretary Talbott and members of the Asian Pacific American Federal Foreign Affairs Council in May 1996. Below left: The first Asian Pacific American assistant secretary of State, Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink, with her intern, Melinda Corazon Foley, the author's daughter. Below right: The first Asian Pacific American ambassador, Julia Chang Bloch.*

Throughout the country, there are more than **13 million** Asian Pacific Americans—a designation commonly used to identify Americans having origins in East Asia, Southeast Asia or the Indian subcontinent.



ambassador. She served in Nepal from 1989 to 1993. She had an extensive career in international affairs and government service, beginning as a Peace Corps volunteer in Malaysia in 1964. At the U.S. Agency for International Development, she was assistant administrator for Asia and the Near East, and assistant administrator for Food for Peace and Voluntary Assistance. She is now president of the U.S.-China Education Trust, a nonprofit organization working in China to promote U.S.-China relations through education.

William H. Itoh was the first Asian Pacific American ambassador to emerge from the career Foreign Service ranks. He served as the U.S. ambassador to Thailand from 1996 to 1999, and received the Department's Charles S. Cobb Award in 1998 for his support of the American business community. He also was awarded an honorary doctorate in economics in 1998 by Khon Kaen University in recognition of his efforts in support of Thailand's recov-

ery during the Asian financial crisis. Ambassador Itoh served as executive secretary of the National Security Council from 1993 to 1995, as well as deputy executive secretary and acting executive secretary of the State Department from 1991 to 1993.

Sichan Siv in 2001 became the first Asian Pacific American with a Southeast Asian heritage to serve as a U.S. ambassador, serving as U.S. representative to the U.N. Economic and Social Council. Ambassador Siv was a delegate to the 57th U.N. Commission on Human Rights. From 1989 to 1993, he served as deputy assistant to the President for Public Liaison and deputy assistant secretary of state for South Asian Affairs. He played a key role in the official declaration by the White House in 1990 of National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. He was born in Cambodia, but fled to Thailand in 1976 after being imprisoned in forced labor camps and twice marked for death by the Khmer Rouge. He resettled as a refugee in Wallingford, Connecticut.

## TRAILBLAZERS IN CONGRESS

Asian Pacific American members of Congress also have made significant contributions to U.S. foreign policy.

U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye is known for his distinguished record as a legislative leader, chairman of the Iran-Contra committee and a World War II combat veteran who earned a Medal of Honor.

Senator Daniel Kahikina Akaka is America's first senator of native Hawaiian ancestry and is the only Chinese-American member of the Senate. He is a leader in the Senate on issues dealing with the Freely Associated States and Pacific U.S. territories.

The late Senator Spark Masayuki Matsunaga was a decorated World War II combat veteran. He was also a lifelong peacemaker who helped establish the U.S. Institute of Peace in 1984. ■

*The author is a Filipino American and program manager in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research Office of External Research.*



# PowerBrakes

STATE OFFICIALS SLOW THE SPREAD OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION **BY CAROLYN LEDDY**

The U.S. government has made it one of its highest priorities to stop the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. One of the key U.S. organizations leading this fight is the State Department's Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation. *State Magazine* this month focuses on three offices in the bureau.

## FORGING ALLIANCES

The dangerous nuclear black market of Pakistani scientist A.Q. Khan uncovered a few years ago demonstrated clearly that those who seek financial gain can find ways to exploit weak security controls—at the expense of international security. Khan confessed in 2004 that he had been peddling

nuclear secrets and technology to countries such as Libya, Iran and North Korea.

Even without Khan's network, the danger of the spread of these weapons has intensified in recent years. More of the equipment and know-how for building nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, and for developing missile programs, is becoming available on the open market.

One of the offices combating this problem is the Counterproliferation Initiatives Office. While multilateral diplo-



*Opposite page: Italian firefighters establish perimeter around suspected WMD during exercise "Clever Sentinel 04." Above: From left: Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction staff members Rose Brown, program assistant; Aija Straumanis, commercialization specialist; Beth Cameron, program director; Jennifer Herring, resource coordinator; Rich Jarvis, Iraq program director; Sarah Macdonald, Science Center assistant; Tonika Sikder, management analyst; Brent Eastman, national security analyst; Aryn Lester, national security analyst; Chris Williams, intern; Shelly Overton, program assistant; and Kendra Bodnar, deputy director of the BioIndustry Initiative.*

macy remains a critical means for addressing the threats posed by nuclear programs in Iran and North Korea, this office leads the Department's efforts to make it harder for these and other countries to advance programs of proliferation.

The office heads U.S. diplomatic efforts to eliminate and investigate the A.Q. Khan network. It advances multinational agreements to stop trafficking in weapons of mass destruction. It tracks and freezes assets that finance proliferation. And when an actual illicit transfer of such weapons occurs, the office intervenes to stop it.

The U.S. cannot stop the proliferation of these weapons on its own. Since 1968, the United States and its partners have forged an international consensus against proliferation. Part of CPI's mission is to mobilize the capabilities and wherewithal of all responsible countries to stop transfers of weapons of mass destruction. To do this, the office is developing new tools and strengthening existing ones.

The Proliferation Security Initiative is a multinational effort to coordinate the capabilities of countries to stop weapons trafficking. More than 70 countries support the initiative, which uses exercises, information-sharing, in-depth policy and legal discussions to ensure that participating countries can bring their existing laws and resources to bear to stop this problem.

To eliminate the A.Q. Khan network and similar movements, CPI works closely with the National Security Council and other U.S. agencies to develop strategies to close loopholes exploited by the Khan network. The office identifies procurement trends that might point to covert weapons programs, seeks to shut down companies and individuals involved in proliferation-related activities and works with the international community to strengthen

export-control regimes and legal authorities. CPI also works with countries to help them address gaps in their controls.

A key to preventing proliferation is to stop the flow of money. A new Executive Order allows the United States to freeze funds used to finance proliferation. CPI implements this order and urges other countries to adopt similar authorities. The office also tracks financial transactions that can help identify new networks and middlemen who traffic in these weapons.

When actual illicit transfers occur, CPI helps coordinate U.S. diplomatic, law enforcement, military and intelligence efforts to stop these dangerous shipments.

## PREVENTING SELLOUTS

Former scientists and researchers who specialize in weapons and who are making very little money in their own countries can be vulnerable to terrorists who offer to pay them for their expertise. In the former Soviet Union and elsewhere, many weapons experts are under-engaged and receive little or no salary. Yet a survey of 600 former Soviet weapons scientists showed that obtaining Western grants could discourage working for rogue states.

To engage these experts in sustainable, peaceful, cooperative research, the Department's Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction runs five programs in the former Soviet Union, Iraq and Libya.

The Science Centers Program supports financial self-reliance for former Soviet weapons researchers and institutes through the International Science and Technology Center in Moscow and the Science and Technology Center in Kiev. Through these centers, the United States has directed more than 60,000 former nuclear, missile, biological and chemical weapons scientists in 11 former Soviet countries to peaceful, productive work.

The U.S. Bio-Chemical Redirect Program engages former Soviet biological and chemical weapons personnel in cooperative research with experts from U.S. government agencies. State leads

the U.S. government in efforts to engage these experts. The program supports U.S. and global efforts to combat biological and chemical terrorism through countermeasures, early detection and response, antidotes and decontamination.

This program provides high-quality U.S. government collaborative efforts with newly identified biochemical institutes, especially those in financial distress or those reporting recent approaches by terrorists or rogue states. It also expands efforts for under-engaged experts in Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Azerbaijan and Ukraine.

The U.S. BioIndustry Initiative is the only U.S. program dedicated to transforming former Soviet large-scale biological production facilities into peaceful commercial operations. This program collaborates with former weapons scientists to accelerate drug and vaccine development, particularly for highly infectious diseases. Recent successes include

- A U.S.-Russian collaboration that led to the discovery of highly pathogenic avian flu in birds in Siberia in 2005.
- Recruiting more than 30 major U.S. companies, including Eli Lilly and DuPont, to join the program.

- Partnering with former biological and chemical weapons scientists to develop research and development projects for infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and flu, and support for a major cancer research program.

The Iraqi Scientist Redirect Program, developed in 2004, is a program to redirect former Iraqi weapons scientists to peaceful work. Despite serious security constraints, the Department has made progress in funding approximately 200 key former weapons personnel and worked closely with the United Kingdom to draft an agreement with Iraq to provide a legal framework for the program. The Iraqi Interim Center for Science and Industry opened in April 2004, staffed by a dozen Iraqis. Program activities include

- Soliciting, collecting and reviewing proposals for research and development or industrial projects that can employ weapons experts.
- Paying monthly stipends to 150 Iraqi former weapons scientists/technicians.
- Intensifying efforts to match participating Iraqi scientists with companies looking to do business in Iraq.

The Libya Scientist Engagement Program grew from Libya's decision to dismantle its weapons of mass destruction

programs in 2004. Libya requested Western assistance to engage nuclear, chemical and missile scientists, engineers and technicians in civilian activities that enhance Libya's scientific, technological and economic development. Through the Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund, the Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction launched initiatives to achieve this goal. Libyan priorities include water management and desalinization, nuclear medicine, oil and gas technologies and services, and environmental monitoring.

## SPECIAL FORCES

The Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund office serves as the "Special Forces" of the government's traditional security assistance programs. It is light, agile and responsive. Designed in 1994 to react quickly to sudden problems and opportunities posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the office quickly established a record of turning potential crises into real threat-reduction achievements.

For example, in 2002 the office removed poorly secured fissionable materials from Vinca, Serbia, to a secure facility monitored by the International Atomic Energy Agency. The office secured weapons com-







*Opposite page: Italian Air Force F-16 intercepts a U.S. Navy P-3C during exercise “Air Brake 04.” Above: Czech national forces arresting “suspect” smuggling WMD items during exercise “Bohemian Guard 05.” Right: Polish border guard interdiction of mock chemical precursors during PSI exercise “Safe Borders 04.”*

ponents from Libya in 2005 after that country chose to forgo the weapons. There have been many successes in between.

NDF staff members are first responders who react quickly—and go wherever in the world they’re needed. The office is often sent in to “hold the line” until traditional U.S. government programs can gear up and relieve the NDF.

The office has done many small but vital projects on its own—securing small amounts of fissionable material here; eliminating SCUDs, SS-23 or SA-3 missiles there; destroying or securing stockpiled chemical weapons or pathogens elsewhere. In the immediate aftermath of the Cold

War, these smaller jobs were an important element of U.S. nonproliferation policy. In the aftermath of 9/11, securing and/or eliminating these dangerous materials is absolutely essential, because terrorists often seek out unguarded weapons.

NDF maintains the highest possible expertise in policy development, negotiations, program management, financial operations and contract administration to ensure the work is accomplished in the most secure, safe, and cost-efficient manner possible. ■

*The author is senior adviser to the assistant secretary for the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation.*



# An FSO in ISN



## ADVENTURES IN NONPROLIFERATION **BY GEOFFREY ODLUM**

First, a disclaimer: After more than three years working on the Iran nuclear issue and becoming immersed in nuclear nonproliferation policy, I still have no idea how to defuse a nuclear weapon. Sensitive secrets like that are best left to real nuclear scientists and Hollywood action heroes.

But to give an indication of how far I have come—considering I struggled to earn a “C” in high school physics—I can now explain the differences between yellowcake and UF<sub>6</sub>, between heavy and light water reactors, and between Articles I, II, III and IV of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Don’t even get me started on the fascinating military vs. civilian uses for

polonium-210. But what is most interesting is that this body of knowledge isn’t just for scientists anymore. It is increasingly discussed in the corridors of State and read on the front pages of the world’s newspapers. Nuclear nonproliferation is a critical subject, and every Foreign Service officer should have a basic understanding of it.

That is where the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation Affairs comes in. The ISN Bureau is a new entity resulting from the merger of the Nonproliferation and Arms Control bureaus. It is one of State’s larger and more topically diverse bureaus, with close to 200 FSOs, Civil Service employees, and military

and intelligence officers. The cultural cross-fertilization is refreshing, and the daily dynamics remind me more of an embassy country team than of a typical State bureau.

The result is a fast-paced, results-oriented approach to the work, which itself is endlessly engaging. ISN’s mandate runs the gamut from treaty implementation to high-seas ship interdiction, from promoting peaceful nuclear energy to shutting down shadowy black-market proliferation networks. ISN’s experts do whatever it takes to keep the world’s most destructive weapons out of the hands of the world’s most dangerous regimes.



*Left: Foreign Service officer Geoffrey Odum spent three years helping build an international consensus on Iran's nuclear program. Above: Iran nuclear specialists Geoffrey Odum and Roopa Rangaswamy were motivated by the thought of sparing the world from the threat of a nuclear-armed Iran.*

### UNIQUE ASSIGNMENT

I arrived at ISN three years ago, as international concerns were starting to heat up over Iran's nuclear program. With basic nonproliferation knowledge gleaned from a weeklong course at the U.S. Department of Energy, I watched as the International Atomic Energy Agency began a rigorous investigation of Iran's nuclear program, prompted by disclosures of formerly secret Iranian nuclear facilities. Every new quarterly report from the Atomic Energy Agency confirmed the worst suspicions about Iran's nuclear program: that for almost 20 years, Iran had undertaken secret work in the most sensitive aspects of the

nuclear fuel cycle, in stark violation of its Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and Atomic Energy Agency obligations.

Three years later, after seven more agency reports; a worthy but failed diplomatic effort by the United Kingdom, France and Germany; and countless long hours, urgent taskings, and diplomatic strategies produced by ISN's small Iran nuclear team, our diplomacy is succeeding. We have built a broad international consensus that Iran's nuclear program is not peaceful. Now the challenge is to translate this consensus into international pressure and incentives to persuade Iran to end its nuclear weapons efforts.

Given this Administration's commitment to resolving this issue and the ISN Bureau's record of providing effective policy options that reflect both Civil Service expertise and Foreign Service diplomatic perspectives, I am optimistic that our diplomacy will eventually succeed. The thought of sparing the world from the threat of a nuclear-armed Iran motivates me every day. The idea that my work could help secure such a world for future generations, including my own three children, makes this ISN assignment the most rewarding experience in my Foreign Service career.

### A PARTING PLEA

As I prepare to move on, I want to affirm to Foreign Service colleagues the value of

working in this bureau. There has been an alarming dearth of FSOs bidding on ISN assignments, including critically important ones. This may stem from a perception that service in functional bureaus is not career enhancing for FSOs, and perhaps because of perceptions surrounding the recent merger. While we could debate the implementation of the merger, one key outcome has been the effective consolidation of the right expertise in the right places. Meanwhile, the work in ISN continues to be among the most important work being done by anyone in the U.S. government. Stopping nuclear proliferation truly is its own reward. I believe that senior Department leaders recognize the essential contribution of FSOs in Arms Control and International Security family bureaus in achieving this goal. With high-level recognition, excellent service will shine through and be rewarded.

As I move on, I hope to look back soon and see a reinvigorated Foreign Service presence throughout ISN helping to lead the way in keeping our world safe from the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. I think the Foreign Service is designed to take up exactly this kind of challenge, and it is time for the Foreign Service to do so. ■

*The author is a Foreign Service officer who served in the new Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation Affairs.*



# 3 days in Karachi

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An Eyewitness Account of the  
March Bombing in Pakistan

By Pamela Loring

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## thursday, march 2

### It was a regular day—or so it seemed.

I had had a particularly good day at work on Wednesday (a person on temporary duty had complimented me) and I was motivated this particular morning to dress in a very businesslike way, as opposed to wearing a more casual outfit or a traditional Pakistan *shalwar* chemise. My shuttle that morning arrived at 9 a.m. Acting Regional Security Officer Wayne Conway was in the car already and we headed off to the consulate.

At 9:02 a.m., the driver received a call saying there had been an explosion very close to the consulate.

At 9:03 a.m., Consul General Mary Witt called Wayne and asked, “How bad is it?”

Meanwhile, the driver started driving around in circles. (Later, I was told he was doing exactly as he should, not knowing the location of the nearest safe haven.) Wayne said, “Stop driving around in circles and take me to the consul general’s residence!” The driver complied. As we approached the consulate and the consul general’s residence, which were within a mile of each other, we could see billows of smoke.

We diverted to the consul general’s residence, where Mary was awaiting our arrival. Mary, Wayne and I immediately got on our phones to get a report on everyone’s whereabouts. Mary asked me to monitor the local news for updates. For the next few minutes, I raced up and down the stairs relaying moment-by-moment reports on the developing story. Meanwhile, Wayne and Mary were getting a handle on where all staff members were. We had just about everyone accounted for in short order.

Then Wayne said, “Pam, try to reach Dave Foy” (our facilities maintenance officer).

Our driver said, “One of the drivers is unaccounted for.”

I kept trying Dave’s line, but rather than getting a no-answer or busy signal, I was getting an immediate recording saying the telephone was not available. The U.S. Marines were trying to get a sighting of the explosion scene, but their view was blocked by a lot of smoke and a building. I went back into the residence to check the news.

Then I experienced an inexplicable moment. On the television screen, I saw flames engulfing one of our armored vehicles and the security car that had been following it. A chill passed through me and I ran down the stairs with a speed I didn’t know I had. I told Mary and Wayne what I had seen.

Mary and I held hands as we tried to believe that the unthinkable hadn’t happened—but somehow I knew. My hands were trembling and a sickening feeling mixed with a huge adrenaline rush came over me. At that moment one of the Marines called and asked if Dave Foy was there. In a voice that didn’t sound like my own, I told him I had just seen the missing car in flames on the local news.

A locally hired person from our Regional Security Office went to the blast site and reported that there were three unrecognizable bodies in the car. And so it started to fall into place: We realized we had lost Facilities Maintenance Officer David Foy and one of our dedicated drivers, Iftikar.

Colleagues who were out of town started calling to make sure we were all okay. I had to break the news. It was a sad and shocking time for the U.S. Consulate in Karachi, Pakistan.

The reports continued over the news media. A suicide bomber had been waiting in a parked car, and spotters must have alerted him to the approach of our cars. When they came close, the terrorist backed his car into the armored vehicle and set himself off. The blast was so powerful that nine windows in the consul general’s residence—about a mile and a half from the site—were broken or blown out.

The explosion triggered a secondary blast of a very large propane tank. Pieces of what looked like shrapnel were found near the consul general’s pool and front yard. A Toyota windshield wiper was found in a yard some distance away. The bumper of our armored vehicle and other car parts were

The blast was so powerful that nine windows in the consul general’s residence—about a mile and a half from the site—were broken or blown out.

found in the Marriott Hotel swimming pool. Every window on all nine floors of the back side of the Marriott had blown into the rooms.

A young Moroccan child in the hotel was killed, a guard who was trying to stop the bomber was killed as were our two friends. At least 48 people were injured.

That evening, with the help of our brave Marines, we gathered together and lowered the flag to half-staff in a moment of silence.

## friday, march 3

**A casket for Dave was delivered to the** consul general’s residence. The flag at the consulate has been lowered and now awaits its trip to Dave’s family in the States. The paperwork and protocol for transporting a body from a foreign country is rigorous and time-consuming—perhaps the most distasteful yet vital work in the service. This morning, the death certificate for Dave arrived by pouch mail.

Soon the body of Dave Foy will be released to his family. I may be escorting the body to the States. For some reason, nothing can deter me from this honor. He was my friend. The least I can do is escort him home to his wife and daughters.





## saturday, march 4

**It took some doing, but today we were** able to finally release the body of the driver, Iftikar, to his grateful family: his pregnant wife and one-year-old daughter.

Doors were blown in and all windows in the snack bar were blown out. Unbuttered toast on the kitchen counter and a lone chocolate donut are now part of the forensic evidence.

It has now been 63 hours since the blast. The FBI and an evidence recovery team have arrived on the scene and are investigating. I went to the consulate for the first time today; the entire place is a crime scene. Doors were blown in and all windows in the snack bar were blown out. Unbuttered toast on the kitchen counter and a lone chocolate donut are now part of the forensic evidence.

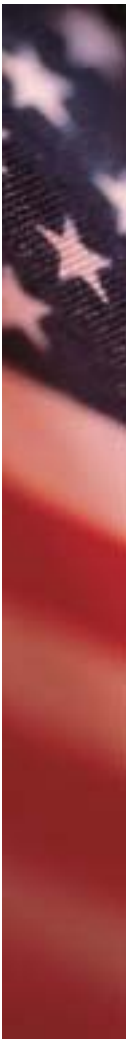
I spoke to a local staff member who had been in the snack bar having breakfast at the time of the blast. He said another worker who had been sitting there received a piece of glass in his back. He also told me that it wasn't the glass that he remembers—it broke and passed all around him, never touching him. Instead, he remembers the pushing wind force of the

blast. He sat only a few feet from the large glass windows and watched them blow out and then in, like a slow-motion movie, till they burst. The sound of the “breeze,” as he called it, was so unbelievable and eerie that he couldn't get it out of his head.

I have seen very few of the local staff. It is Saturday night now. Monday will be our first day back in the office full force. I provided a few hugs today.

It is difficult to eat and it is difficult to sleep. I just know that a couple of really nice people cannot do these things anymore and, for me, maybe it just doesn't feel that good to try. ■

*The author is office management specialist to the Consul General and back-up communicator at the U.S. Consulate in Karachi, Pakistan.*



*War College student Carolyn Bryan, a U.S. Agency for International Development program officer, kneeling second from left, visits the USS New Jersey with her seminar class.*

# Interagency Education

ARMY WAR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE BUILDS BRIDGES TO TRANSFORMATIONAL DIPLOMACY  
**BY LOUIS J. NIGRO, JR.**

State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development officers and specialists can pursue studies in strategy, national security policy and the military sciences at the U.S. Army War College, a venerable institution of higher learning whose mission has never been more relevant to our country's security.

The college was founded by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elihu Root, whose distinguished career included service as secretary of State, secretary of War and U.S. senator. Mr. Root also helped found the International Court of Justice, the Council on Foreign Relations and the Carnegie

Endowment for International Peace. His vision for the War College was simple:

“Not to promote war, but to preserve peace by intelligent and adequate preparation to repel aggression...To study and confer on the great problems of national defense, of military science and of responsible command.”

The War College grooms U.S. military officers for higher rank and command. The yearly resident student enrollment of 340 includes some 40 foreign military officers and 20 civilian employees of the Department of Defense. Student slots are also reserved for a limited number of State

Department and USAID officers and specialists, who can also enroll in the Distance Education program, which includes two summer residency periods.

Why should State Department and USAID professionals consider spending a year at the War College? First, transformational diplomacy will demand closer interagency training, planning and operations. The War College experience provides an intense intellectual, practical and personal education in the interagency process and offers perhaps the best courses focused on interagency planning and operations in the United States, according to Ambassador Margaret McMillion, deputy commandant for International Affairs. Second, a degree from the War College satisfies one of the new requirements of the Career Development Program for crossing the senior threshold.





*Above: Alan Roecks, former information management officer in Ankara, Turkey, left, listens to different viewpoints in a seminar on Russia and Eurasia taught by Dr. Craig Nation, second from left. Left: Richard Pruett, former personnel officer in Baghdad, Iraq, right, presents a gift to Ambassador Robert Gallucci, who spoke at the Sonny and Martha Moore Lecture. Ambassador Gallucci is dean of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.*



Finally, the Army War College experience provides a superb opportunity to hone intellectual skills, reinforce substantive knowledge of national security strategy and policies, sharpen interpersonal skills through close interaction with peers, polish communication skills through classroom discussion and debate and draft research-based papers and a master's thesis.

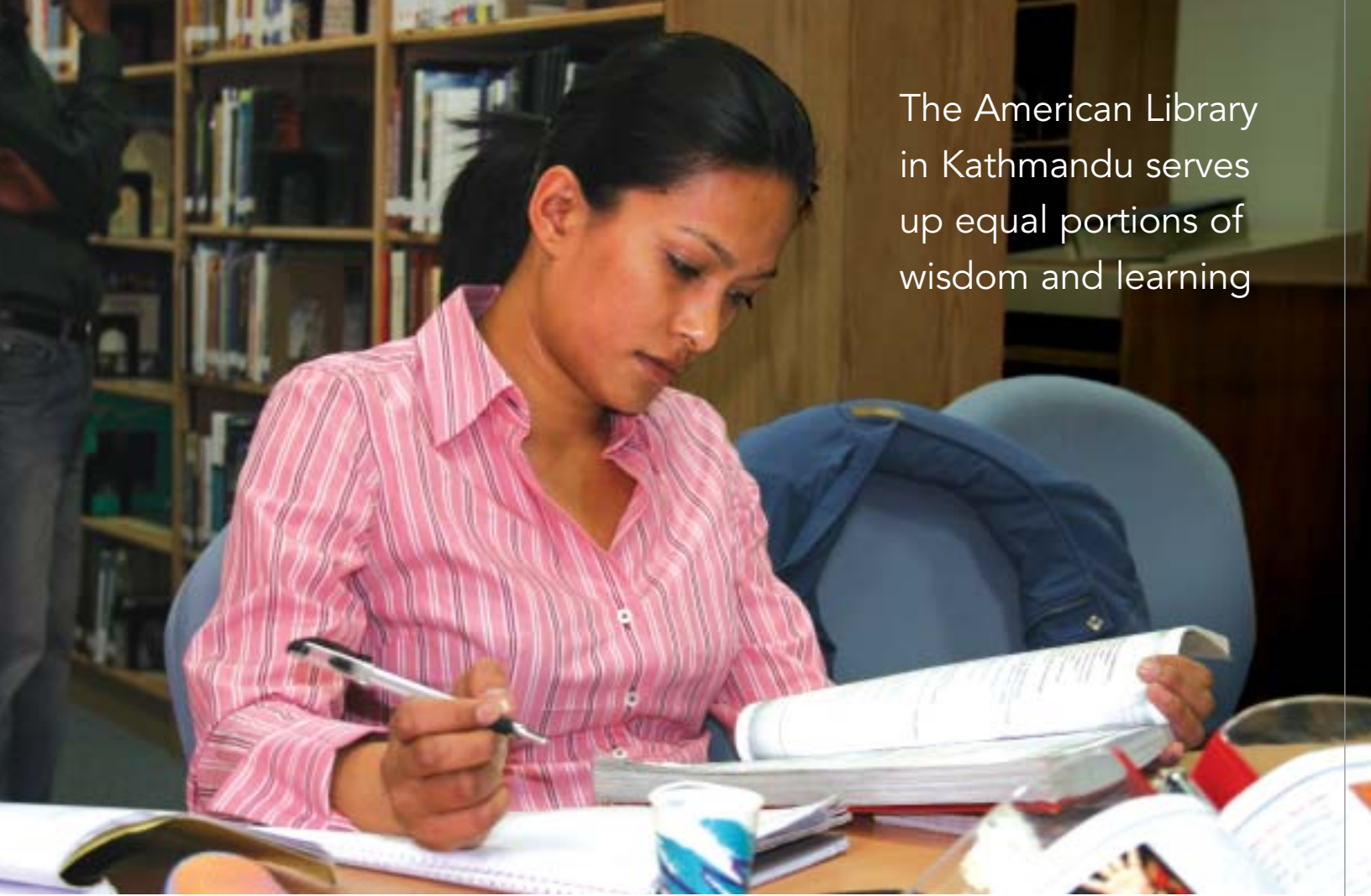
The oldest of the Defense Department's senior service schools, the Army War College has prepared generations of senior military officers and civilian officials for strategic leadership responsibilities. Military, civilian and international leaders from all military services and government agencies continue to come to historic Carlisle Barracks, Pa., to study and confer on the responsible strategic application of national power.

The War College awards the Master of Strategic Studies degree to successful graduates. The curriculum is based on core courses in the Elements of Strategic Thinking, the Theory of War and Strategy, Strategic Leadership, National Security Strategy and Policy, the Implementation of National Military Strategy and the Development of Land Power. The college offers a wide variety of elective courses that span the range of strategic, military, crisis management and national security policy subjects, as well as strategic appraisals of the world's major regions. Domestic travel is an integral part of the core courses, and some electives involve international travel.

Built in 1757, Carlisle Barracks is the second oldest active military post in the country and also serves as home base for other U.S. Army institutions. The Strategic Studies Institute conducts cutting-edge geostrategic and national security research and analysis. The Center for Strategic Leadership excels at strategic war-gaming and simulation. The Army Heritage and Education Center is a prestigious research and historical preservation institution. The Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute is a preeminent authority on stability operations at the strategic level.

For more information, contact Maryanne Thomas in the Bureau of Human Resources at (202) 647-3822. ■

*The author, a Senior Foreign Service officer, was professor of International Relations at the Army War College from 2004 to 2006.*



The American Library in Kathmandu serves up equal portions of wisdom and learning

# Civilization at Its Best

BY LAURA LUCAS

Standing room only. That's a phrase usually associated with rock concerts and the popular bars of fancy restaurants. Not libraries.

But for a literature discussion program on great American speeches held at the U.S. Embassy's American Library in Kathmandu, Nepal, in January, more than 40 people were turned away at the door.

No more room. The American Library was packed. Again.

May 10 marks the one-year anniversary of the transition of Kathmandu's former Information Resource Center into a full-fledged American Library. When the resource center moved to a more secure location in April 2005, the public affairs section tripled its collection of books, purchased state-of-the-art computers and launched a modern, more active lending library.

The American Library in Kathmandu was closed until further notice on April 6, as the embassy went on authorized departure amid uncertainty in the political and security situation in Nepal. Prior to that closure, the library averaged more than 120 visitors per day. The library just reopened on May 1 to an overflow crowd of more than 100 visitors.

## LOCAL FOCAL POINT

An information resource center delivers targeted information on America to elite policymaking and opinion-shaping audiences, while a library acts as a focal point for anyone with an interest in America, especially impressionable high school and university students. With more than 100 visitors per day, the new American Library is now one of the most popular libraries in the country.

The program on great American speeches was part of the public affairs section's monthly literature discussion group, which averages more than 70 participants. The section uses these discussions to make contacts in the education sector, to excite young people about American values and to relate culture to policy.

For this event, the section asked three embassy officers and two Nepalis to do dramatic readings of five speeches, including President Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural address and President Bush's 9/11 address to the nation. Subsequent discussion explored how leaders have used oratory skills to encourage unity in difficult times. The theme resonated in Nepal, as it was the day before an alliance of seven political parties called a citywide strike to protest government authoritarianism, and was set against the backdrop of an upsurge in Maoist insurgent violence.

Such programs have helped build the library's audience. In one year, the library has signed up more than 450 members and gone



Above: On a typical day, the library is full of young people. Below: The library's literature discussion groups draw many participants. Opposite page: A student concentrates on her work.



from about 75 visitors per day to more than 100. At any one time, about 500 books are checked out—everything from *Gone with the Wind* to the ever-popular *Test of English as a Foreign Language* prep books. There is a waiting list to use the library's five computers, and a comfortable couch seats people with headphones watching American movies. Even on Nepal "bandh" days—strike days during which all businesses are closed and transportation grinds to a halt—the library rarely notices a drop in visitors.

#### UNDERSTANDING U.S. CULTURE

Regular visitors have become involved in planning events. Matrika Poudel, a graduate student in English literature, visits the

library almost daily. At the September literature discussion group, Matrika recruited four friends to read a scene from the play *Fences*, by August Wilson.

"I wanted to work with American people to learn more about their culture," he said. "There are so many perceptions about America, but unless we look at people, we cannot understand your country. The discussion groups help me participate with Americans actively."

Samridhi Poudel is a science student who comes to the library about twice a week. She recited American poetry at an event in August.

"The environment of the library is simply welcoming and friendly," she said. "And the literary programs have been a good platform for me to express my opinions and develop my perceptions [of American culture]."

Besides the literature discussion groups, the library hosts regular film screenings for high school and university students. The librarians also organize regular orientation tours for secondary schools. This targeted engagement works: On any given day, about 70 percent of those packed into the library are dressed in school uniforms and have their noses buried in books.

Aside from cultural activities, the librarians issue "Article Alerts" on U.S. policy and field requests from government officials or journalists for information on democracy, human rights, good governance and other issues. Such services are crucial in a country where the United States is pressing for democracy amid political chaos and a Maoist insurgency.

The American Library has succeeded this past year in building audiences through cultural activities—audiences that will better understand U.S. policies because they have an understanding of American values.

Longtime visitor and English professor Dr. Shreedhar Lohani offers a concise summary of the excitement and growth of the library.

"The place is developing into a community center," Dr. Lohani said. "It's heartwarming to see this wonderful library, which I had been associated with for more than four decades as a member, growing into a source of inspiration and pleasure, of wisdom and learning, and becoming a symbol of civilization at its best—secure, democratic, universally accessible." ■

*The author is assistant public affairs officer at the U.S. Embassy in Kathmandu.*

*A child plays guitar in the audience at Cape Maclear.*



# Black History Month in Malawi

BY MITCHELL MOSS

**H**ow do you celebrate Black History Month in a remote African post when you can't afford to bring a speaker or performer from the States? I was imagining another session of talking heads when Anne Carson, our regional information resource officer, heard me warm up on a dobro guitar for a small acoustic gig. She suggested that I consider performing as part of a local Black History Month event.

My first reaction was, "I can't do that in the Foreign Service!" But Ambassador Al Eastham and Deputy Chief of Mission Dave Gilmour both enthusiastically supported the idea of a homegrown Black History Month outreach program. So I

recruited a local five-piece band and began rehearsing 30 tunes drawn from blues, gospel, New Orleans music, early rock and roll, zydeco and funk.

Then nerves set in. I had played in roots-rock, blues and Cajun/zydeco bands in New Orleans, but Malawians are very discriminating about music. It's one thing to flop when talking policy, but the prospect of playing music badly while representing the U.S. government was somehow much worse.

We presented the program "African Roots-American Music" in seven venues across Malawi—including some remote regional towns that had not seen an embassy program in years. We began with a lecture on Black History Month and the history of the blues, which we illustrated

by playing snippets of songs. In our first gig in Nkhata Bay, we kicked off with a zydeco number called "Bon Temps Rouler." Barefoot children started to dance, and as the sun was going down behind us, thunder rumbled from a huge bank of clouds floating out over Lake Malawi—it stuck with me as one of those moments to be filed under the "other-duties-as-assigned" category.

When Malawians in the audience asked why U.S. Black History Month should matter to them, I began by talking about why it matters to me—as a white Southerner from Mississippi with an ancestor who was in the Ku Klux Klan. We can't change history, but it's our responsibility to try to understand it. While my story isn't that different from that of many



*Above: An audience on the beach at Cape Maclear. Below: From left, Deputy Chief of Mission Dave Gilmour, Bassist Jack Chisinga and Public Affairs Officer Mitchell Moss play in the band.*

other people of my generation, Black History Month is an opportunity to reflect on our history and to communicate that understanding with others.

What people are most attached to about Southern culture—from B.B. King and Professor Longhair to fried okra and collard greens—is profoundly African, which is part of the allure of working in the African Affairs Bureau. For me, the major difference between America and Europe is that who we are culturally has been created in part by 400 years of influence by Africans—their work, values and creativity. The goal of this program was to get local audiences to understand that for Americans, black history is everyone’s history, and to tell part of that story in music.

Since much of the program focused on New Orleans, audiences regularly asked about Katrina and the face of American poverty it

revealed to the world. I acknowledged that it showed some of the weaknesses in our system, where different levels of government failed to coordinate to protect the poorest citizens of New Orleans, but we also talked about the way forward.

It was also a chance to tell the story of New Orleans music, which started with slavery, and the fact that slaves in New Orleans were allowed to play music at Congo Square on Sunday afternoons—something that didn’t happen elsewhere in the South. That tradition kept African drumming alive, which created the syncopated New Orleans sound that eventually led to jazz, second-line, funk and much of what came after. It was fun to talk about all that—and then bring the band on to play the Meter’s “Hey Pocky Way.”

Jazz saxophonist and Deputy Chief of Mission Gilmour joined in on the final show in Lilongwe, which received strong reviews in the local press. After the tour was over, I was unsure how my contacts would respond, but the experience actually helped in my day job. We’d been negotiating on and off for more than a year with an institution to host an American Corner in Blantyre. The chief librarian had been skeptical, but in our last meeting he was unexpectedly open to the idea and we negotiated a memorandum of understanding. Over lunch after the meeting, he leaned forward with a grin and said, “I didn’t know diplomats could play that kind of music!” ■

*The author is public affairs officer at the U.S. Embassy Lilongwe in Malawi.*

*Assistant Secretary Claudia McMurray confers with former colleague and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Steve Johnson.*



# Department Inner-View

Q&A WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY CLAUDIA A. McMURRAY **BY ROB WILEY**

The problem is huge and growing. Fueled by unchecked demand, the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife parts represents a thriving \$10-billion-a-year black market. Because of wildlife trafficking, many species are literally on the brink of extinction.

Assistant Secretary Claudia McMurray, officially sworn in to head the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs in February, was instrumental last fall in forming the Coalition Against Wildlife Trafficking. The Coalition, originally consisting of the U.S. government and seven partners, set a goal of focusing public and political attention on these growing threats to global wildlife from poaching and illegal trade.

Original partners included Conservation International, Save the Tiger Fund, Traffic

International, WildAid, Wildlife Conservation Society, the Smithsonian Institution and the American Forest & Paper Association. Four more nongovernmental organizations quickly joined as partners in the fall of 2005—the Humane Society International, Cheetah Conservation Fund, International Fund for Animal Welfare and the World Wildlife Fund. Early in 2006, the United Kingdom and India officially joined as government partners.

The Coalition is focusing its initial efforts on Asia. Backed by funding from OES, the Thai government last fall hosted a regional wildlife trafficking workshop at a national game preserve. The workshop included representatives from the 10 ASEAN countries and the People's Republic of China. The meeting was the

first step toward establishing an ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network, a regional trafficking law enforcement network that will serve as a model for other regions.

The Coalition fits well with Assistant Secretary McMurray's bureau, where the OES professionals do the gritty, grinding work that protects real natural and strategic resources around the planet. They negotiate the treaties, hammer out the multilateral agreements and agonize over just the right words that bind nations and people to protecting their environments.

And that's just part of the bureau's portfolio. Other professionals among the bureau's three major directorates and nine offices work on international health issues and cooperation with other nations on science, technology, bioterrorism and the use of outer space.

The bureau's mandate ranges far and wide, and Assistant Secretary McMurray came to the bureau well prepared. She spent two years as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment, where she managed international environmental issues and wildlife and national resource conservation issues. Before joining the Department in 2003, she served as Associate Deputy Administrator and Chief of Staff to the Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

She also held several key staff positions in the United States Senate, including serving as a senior policy advisor and counsel to three senators—Fred Thompson, R-Tenn.; John Chafee, R-R.I.; and John Warner, R-Va. From 1991 through 1995, Assistant Secretary McMurray was Republican Counsel to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. In that capacity, she advised Committee Chairman Chafee on key environmental issues, including the Clean Air Act, Superfund, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Toxic Substances and Control Act and the Oil Pollution Act.

Private industry experience includes stops at D.C. government relations firm Van Scoyoc Associates; and law firms Patton Boggs, L.L.P. and Kirkland & Ellis. She also ran her own consulting firm, McMurray & Associates.

In late March, Assistant Secretary McMurray discussed her bureau's portfolio with *State Magazine*.

**SM:** *The Department is active in several environmental areas. What can you tell me about Department initiatives or programs in, for example, global climate change?*

**Assistant Secretary McMurray:** I'm happy to do that. The work this bureau does internationally is an untold story in a lot of ways, not only in other countries but also in our own country. I'm committed to remedying that, and I want to get the message out in the Department. A lot of what we do falls below the radar screen.

As you know, we have decided to pursue an alternative path to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Bush administration decided early on that this was not a path we were going to take, partly because there was no hope that the Congress would ratify this treaty. Our job, therefore, was to figure out how to address the issues raised by climate change and all the inter-related issues—energy use, air

pollution and so on—without joining this treaty.

We have accomplished a great deal, but I'll mention just a couple of initiatives. We announced in January the Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate between the U.S. and five other countries—Australia, China, India, Japan and the Republic of Korea. We tried to gather the most crucial countries that contribute to carbon dioxide emissions, energy use and air pollution. We brought these

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We have one of the most dedicated groups of people that I've ever encountered in my career.

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countries together to figure out technologically how to solve these problems.”

What's notable about the Asia Pacific Partnership is the engagement of China and India; all the parties to the Kyoto Protocol have not been able to get those two countries to work within the Protocol in the way that we have through the APP. We look at our effort as complementary to Kyoto, but we also think engaging those countries is groundbreaking. They are growing tremendously, they are looking for cleaner energy and they are trying to solve pollution problems.

A second initiative, called Methane to Markets, is quite creative. Under this initiative, the United States shares its expertise with countries around the world in a very specific way. Methane is a greenhouse gas; it has some other environmental problems, but the big concern is the greenhouse gas. We've established technologies in the United States that take methane from landfills and from other industrial facilities and actually translate it into energy. It not only takes the pollutant out of the air, but it also is a renewable source of energy. You get two bangs for the buck.

We're trying to share that technology, primarily with developing countries and

with others, so they can use it to address their own energy concerns.

We also have a huge list of bilateral diplomatic initiatives, too many to mention here. We have one team that does nothing but this work, and they work very hard. This is an important part of our work here.

**SM:** *Were your people involved in the recent presidential trip to India and the proposed agreement on nuclear energy that came out of that trip?*

**Assistant Secretary McMurray:** Actually, I was in India two weeks before the president arrived, helping a bigger Department team that included Under Secretary Paula Dobriansky, Under Secretary Nicholas Burns and other administration officials. We worked to get the list of items finalized for the summit between the prime minister and the president.

Obviously and appropriately, most of the attention has been focused on the groundbreaking nuclear initiative. However, we did some other things that probably haven't received as much attention but are still important.

First, the Department has a long history with India on natural resource conservation, in particular wildlife conservation. We saw this trip as a big opportunity to take that commitment to the next level. We saw a particular opportunity in issues involving the Bengal Tiger. Indian Park officials have had troubles keeping those tigers in their country. They are being killed and traded illegally. Some of them are coming to the United States illegally.

We took this opportunity to focus on that issue and then to look more broadly at their parks, considering the potential for attracting new tourism to India that would encourage more wildlife conservation. It was a very broad initiative that the President and the Prime Minister agreed to in their summit, and we're really proud of getting that over the finish line.

A second item involves science and technology. Again, we've had a long-standing cooperative relationship with India on science, and we wanted to take that one step further. We established a seed-money fund, \$15 million from each country, as an endowment that will focus on a number of scientific initiatives. Whether it's in biotechnology or pharmaceuticals, we thought our two countries could put our best minds to work and actually improve the lives of Americans and Indians.

**SM:** *What about your bureau's role in free-trade agreements?*

**Assistant Secretary McMurray:** Free-trade agreements actually allow us to be creative. The Congress a long time ago said if we were going to have free-trade agreements with other countries, we should make sure that we don't compromise the environment.

OES negotiates what we call "environmental cooperation agreements" that go hand-in-hand with the overall free-trade agreement. We sit down with our new trading partners and determine their priorities. Some tell us they need an environment ministry. Others say they have good environmental laws but can't enforce them. Some mention specific problems, such as losing sea turtles.

We can go in almost any direction while working with our new trading partners. We have the opportunity to do two things: follow the congressional mandate to not harm the environment with increased trading activity or increased manufacturing, and go a bit further. We aren't satisfied in maintaining the status quo; we actually push forward and give these countries the opportunity to improve their environmental situation.

Congress has just earmarked \$40 million for labor and environment activity under the Central American Free Trade Agreement trade agreement, and we're working on environmental cooperation agreements with six countries in Central America and the Dominican Republic. We won't get all of that money, but we hope to get a good portion of it to further our cooperation agreements.

**SM:** *What role does the Department take in conserving global marine resources?*

**Assistant Secretary McMurray:** The U.S. is a leader in preventing illegal activity in fishing and also in protecting species like sea turtles, whales and other marine mammals. There are countless treaties where we are in the forefront of preserving those natural resources. That's an important part of our environmental agenda. This bureau negotiates those treaties. Sometimes the Commerce Department will take the lead because of its expertise, but in most cases we lead the U.S. delegation in these negotiations.

**SM:** *OES issues are all over the map. How do you set priorities with such a broad mandate?*

**Assistant Secretary McMurray:** I thought a lot about this during the confirmation process because it is a daunting array of issues. Here's how I boiled it down. It may not be the perfect way, but it's how I deal with my job every day. There are a couple of issues that are out there that we have to deal with head on. One is climate change and the other is avian influenza. Those are just facts of life. There they are; they are important and I think about each one of them every day.

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Literally, you pick up the newspaper every day and there's something that this bureau deals with.

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For both of those issues, Under Secretary Dobriansky is very much the point person, but I'm on her team and I support her in every way I can. There's plenty of work to do not only for the Under Secretary, but also for the people in our bureau and the other folks who are working on avian influenza.

In addition to the top two, we are parties to international legal obligations and are observers in other cases. We are parties to more than 100 treaties and agreements, and we have to continue to honor our obligations. Some people might say that's probably more than enough work, but I don't approach it that way. There are some things we want to do that aren't obligations. We want to provide leadership in those areas. When we have some extra time, we try to pick a few issues to focus on.

I've asked our deputy assistant secretaries to form teams on a couple of areas. One is the Arctic, an area that is changing now and has the potential to change quite a bit in the future. It has environmental issues; it has commercial fishing and other issues related to oil and gas development;

and it has endangered species from the polar bear on down. Pretty much every part of this bureau has some bit of the Arctic portfolio. There's a tremendous amount of excitement in the bureau about looking at the Arctic, and it's another opportunity to be a little more creative.

Literally, there's something in the newspaper every day that this bureau deals with, whether it's protecting polar bears, space or Global Positioning System satellites.

That's a big plateful with a lot of different courses, but the opportunities are really enormous.

**SM:** *Your portfolio also includes oversight of the Department's role in "sustainable development." Can you explain the Department's role in implementing sustainable development throughout the world?*

**Assistant Secretary McMurray:** You can talk to 10 different people about sustainable development and get 10 slightly different definitions, but I do think there is a core principle: how do you promote economic growth and improve people's lives economically, but at the same time not harm the environment? Some people say you have to leave the environment better than it was. I think sustainable means that you make sure our abundant natural resources are available to the next generation.

It's a challenge, but it's behind our search for cleaner sources of energy. All of these pieces together make up this whole that hopefully promotes better drinking water, better air and water, better sources of food and better livelihoods.

There was a watershed moment on this topic in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002. It was a call to action from the United States, joined by a lot of other countries, that said we're looking at poverty, at air pollution and at water pollution, and we need to make a concerted effort to address them all as a comprehensive whole rather than as single issues here and there. Instead of just sitting around a table and negotiating a piece of paper that may or may not ever have any meaning to a human, we put out the challenge to actually get on the ground and do the work, and try to translate the goal into something more immediate.

We came out of Johannesburg with at least 10 to 15 partnerships—we've probably gone beyond that to about 20 now—to deal with these sustainable development issues, whether it's bringing drinking water





*Top: Battling illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife parts is a big part of the OES agenda. Here, Assistant Secretary McMurray gains first-hand experience at a gorilla rehabilitation reserve near Brazzaville, Republic of Congo. Bottom: Before Secretary Rice swore her in as Assistant Secretary, Ms. McMurray served as the Department's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment.*

to remote areas in Africa, changing the way people heat their homes or combating illegal trade in trees, wildlife or fish. There was an array of really creative ideas that didn't just come from us, but from other countries, too. I think it's been a really great example of global partnership.

**SM:** *We understand part of ensuring sustainable development is conserving natural resources. How is OES involved in that worldwide effort?*

**Assistant Secretary McMurray:** Let's look at illegal logging as an example. We battle illegal logging around the world under the Presidential Initiative Against Illegal Logging, which is an umbrella program that allows us to combat the illegal trade in timber. Some of what we're dealing with is a violation of international agreements, some of it is lack of enforcement of national laws and some of it involves countries that just don't have laws.

We formed the Congo Basin Forest Partnership under this umbrella. The Congo Basin is second only to the Amazon Basin on most lists of the world's most valuable areas in terms of forestry, wildlife or just natural bounty. It's also an area of extreme poverty, and one of the ways they were growing economically in the Congo Basin was to cut down trees like mad and sell them. There were a lot of concerns about the threat to natural resources that went on in the name of economic growth.

The Congo Basin Forest Partnership came out of the 2002 Johannesburg summit. It made sense to look at the six countries in the area because natural resources don't necessarily stop at manmade borders. Through the U.S. Agency for International Development, we have put in about \$50 million on this effort. I think we'll start to see some real results in the next two or three years, either forests that have been preserved or individual species that will come back. It's a really

good story.

We were also successful in Liberia, where government corruption was literally denuding the country's forests. This bureau actually led the successful effort to get UN sanctions imposed on Liberia to stop this trade from happening. The sanctions are still in place, but the new president, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, recently asked President Bush to lift the sanctions. She thinks they now have a management plan in place that would preserve the resources but allow some forestry to occur so there's economic growth for that country. The UN Security Council must decide whether to lift the sanctions, but we're obviously a key player because it was our initiative. We want to stay on the ground and help them through this transition period to make sure they don't slip back.

**SM:** *All these responsibilities require a huge range of intellectual capability. How do*

*you recruit that much talent and how do you keep it once you have it?*

**Assistant Secretary McMurray:**

Those are all real challenges. Once I got here and looked at the really breathtaking array of issues, I found you have to have a combination of two kinds of people.

One, you really do need to have the people with the substantive expertise to get through some really technical issues. These are not easy issues. Some of them deal with chemicals and some with how a tree grows. I think we have more Civil Service employees in this bureau than probably in any other, at least in the building, as a proportion of the total in the bureau. We need to keep those people because you just can't send somebody to a chemical meeting who's never dealt with these issues before.

We focus on having a good cadre of civil servants who have the opportunity to move up. I'm working on that; it's not that easy here right now. We have a lot of people at the top of the ladder and not a lot of space to move more people up, but we're working on that.

Then we draw on people from other places quite a bit. Sometimes, I actually have stolen a couple of people that I knew before at EPA. We've gotten some real good people that way; I know in the oceans area we've had people come from other agencies.

We use every other resource at our disposal, like science fellows from the American Association for the Advancement of Science. We take in 12 or so science fellows every year on a temporary basis, but once they get here many find that they like the issues. If we like them, we try to find a spot for them. We use interns, other kinds of fellows and details from other agencies, as well.

I have four deputy assistant secretary positions in this front office, and when my whole team gets assembled, you'll see those positions all filled from inside the Department. I'm told that's probably unprecedented. I'm trying to communicate that there are real opportunities for leadership here, and if you stick around, you might be able to move up.

I think we have one of the most dedicated groups of people that I've ever encountered in my career. It's crucial to get people who are already enthusiastic, and then to keep that enthusiasm going along with the notion that we're all working together on some really important issues. ■

*The author is the editor of State Magazine.*

*Family Liaison Special Employment Projects Coordinator Susan Campbell discusses current FLO employment initiatives with Jeffrey Donald, vice president of the Business Council for International Understanding.*



# We Can Work It Out

FAMILY LIAISON OFFICE ANSWERS THE TOUGH QUESTIONS **BY DONNA AYERST**

A call from the Department's task force comes in to the Family Liaison Office the day after Christmas in 2004.

"A tsunami has struck south Asia, and we need Family Liaison Office staff to sit on the task force to answer calls from individuals seeking information about official Americans."

FLO staff members, many of whom are on holiday leave, return to the Department to work eight-hour shifts. Some work through the night.

On another occasion, the situation in Haiti is rapidly deteriorating and the ambassador has called for an "ordered departure." Many employees and family members arrive in Washington for what turns out to be a long evacuation. In support of evacuees,

FLO invites the Port Au Prince community liaison officer to work out of the Family Liaison Office and continue providing services to the community during a particularly stressful time. The officer ends up working out of the office for six months.

## REAL-LIFE CONCERNS

Since 1978, the Department's Family Liaison Office has been addressing the real-life concerns of Foreign Service employees and family members of all agencies who come under the Chief of Mission's authority at posts around the globe. As the world changes, the Foreign Service changes, and FLO strives to be two steps ahead of those changes.

As trends occur, Family Liaison's advocacy, programs and services ensure that the issues and questions those trends raise become part of the conversation. FLO provides a steady voice of advocacy through meetings and discussions with a wide variety of offices within the Department and other foreign affairs agencies: the Avian Flu Working Group, the Family Member Employment Working Group, Gays and Lesbians in Foreign Affairs Agencies, the Inter-Agency Roundtable and others.

The Family Liaison Office portfolio cuts a path across moments in Foreign Service lives many will face: evacuation, security concerns, personal crises, meeting the needs of elderly parents, finding education appropriate for a child, or securing meaningful employment for a family member. These moments are made more difficult by the very nature of the Foreign Service, which requires moving and adapting to different cultures every few years.

Everyone in the Foreign Service community—singles, married couples and spouses, members of households, children, teens, parents and pets—is affected by being overseas.

#### DESPERATE LIVES

A parent at post places a frantic, emotional call to the Family Liaison Office's education and youth officer.

"My teenaged son is about to be expelled from the international school for poor grades and truancy," the caller says. "He is only in tenth grade, and we have two more years at post. We don't know what to do.

The community liaison officer suggested we call your office."

The education and youth officer, collaborating with other Department offices, ultimately guides the parents and the troubled youth to consider placement at a therapeutic boarding school.

"My spouse wants me out of the house!" cries another frantic caller. "Will the embassy rent a house for me and the kids? How will I find a house here? Why do I have to leave the house if I am still at post? I don't even know if we are going to get a divorce!"

The office's support services officer fields questions on divorce, in addition to adoption,

## At a Glance

**Office name**  
Family Liaison Office

**Symbol**  
M/DGHR/FLO

**Office Director**  
Ann DeLong Greenberg

**Staff size**  
17

**Office Location**  
Room 1239, Harry S Truman Building

**Web site(s)**  
<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo>  
<http://hrweb.hr.state.gov/flo/index.html>

evacuation and crisis management. Clients are directed to office resources and other resources available to them.

An unaccompanied tour is now a reality of Foreign Service life. The office's program specialist for unaccompanied tours offers support and resources to employees and family members learning to manage a temporary separation.



Family Liaison's expeditious naturalization officer, Vanja Huth, second from right, joins U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services Washington District Office Director Phyllis Howard, third from left, and USCIS Supervisory Adjudicator Billy Ingram in congratulating new U.S. citizens and Foreign Service spouses: from left, Silje Grimstad, Nataliia Azarova and Yan Himmelsteil.

Foreign-born spouses wanting to become naturalized American citizens come to the office's expeditious naturalization specialist, who guides the employee and spouse through the process. Employees from other agencies should contact their human resources office to take advantage of the special provisions offered by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services regarding naturalization of Foreign Service spouses.

The Community Liaison Office Program forms the cornerstone of Family Liaison programs. Today, almost 200 posts have active community liaison offices to serve as advocates for the post's community.

The Family Liaison Office invests in the well-being of post communities by offering essential community liaison officer training five times a year: two sessions at the Foreign Service Institute and three regional training sessions covering the geographic bureaus. Officers are trained in all aspects of their jobs so they can serve as a professional member of post's management team.

FLO's family member employment team develops strategies and programs aimed at helping family members learn the skills needed to secure a job—domestically, within the mission or in the local economy. Currently, Family Liaison operates its Strategic Network Assistance Program at 35 posts, where local employment advisers establish a network of contacts among potential employers. Entrepreneur training educates family members on how to establish an online business.

The job seekers network group offers family members networking support during their job search in the Washington, D.C., area. The November 2005 issue of the *Foreign Service Journal* contains more information on the office's family member employment initiatives.

The Family Liaison Office publicizes its many services and programs through several media, including frequent public briefings, publications and Intranet and Internet web sites. Visit [www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo](http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo) to learn more about the FLO service portfolio. ■

*The author is publications coordinator for the Family Liaison Office.*



*Top: The Community Liaison Officer in Manama Meghan Bondy, seated, confers with a Manpower Singapore, Inc., representative about training and employment benefits that company offers for Foreign Service family members. Bottom: U.S. Ambassador to Singapore Patricia L. Herbold briefs participants at a community liaison office training session in Singapore. Family Liaison Office Director Ann DeLong Greenberg listens.*

# Tuba, Gospel Singer Among Noontime Concert Attractions

By John Bentel

The Foreign Affairs Recreation Association and the State of the Arts Cultural Series provided an eclectic offering of noontime concerts recently, including a tuba player with piano accompanist, a multinational string quartet, a classical pianist and a gospel singer.

Michael Parker, on tuba, and piano accompanist Marvin Mills played selections ranging from the late 1600s through the 1930s. Mr. Parker teaches at the Levine School of Music in the Washington area and Mr. Mills is the organist at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Kensington, Md. The appreciative audience walked away with a much better understanding of the tuba and its musicality.

Gospel singer Tonya Gipson provided a heartfelt offering of her faith through both traditional and contemporary gospel music. Ms. Gipson, who began singing in the choir in her native Alabama, is the praise and worship leader at the gospel services of Bolling Air Force Base in Washington. Many of her selections were from her CD titled *What He's Done for Me*.

Returning for his second appearance at the State of the Arts Series, John Robilette once again delighted the audience with his classical piano recital. He lived up to *The Washington Post* characterization of him as "a first-class artist who seems able to intuit effortlessly the composer's intent." Mr. Robilette performed works by Schumann and Beethoven and was rewarded with a standing ovation.

The Euclid Quartet is a multinational string ensemble known for its personality and vibrant color. Jamison Cooper, Jacob Murphy, Luis Vargas and Amy Joseph played a Mozart program to resounding applause. Their last musical offering was very contemporary and written for a competition, which they won. ■

*The author is a computer specialist in the Executive Secretariat.*

Gospel artist Tonya Gibson sings at a State of the Arts Cultural Series event.



## CALENDAR

May 3	Piano Recital—Georgetown University and Department of State
May 17	TBA
June 14	Noor Wodjouatt Ensemble—Afghan Music with Yasmina, dancer
June 28	Piano Prodigies—Angelique Scully, 8, Christopher, 13, and Taylor Chan, 11

Performances are on Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. in the Dean Acheson Auditorium.



**U.S. Ambassador to Niger**

**Bernadette Mary Allen** of Maryland, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Counselor, is the new U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Niger. Previously, she served as principal officer at the U.S. Consulate General in Montreal. Her other overseas postings include Bujumbura, Manila and Guangzhou, where she was chief of consular services.



**Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs**

**Richard A. Boucher** of Maryland, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, is the new Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs. Previously, he was assistant secretary for public affairs. He has served as the Department's spokesman or deputy spokesman under six secretaries. He was ambassador to Cyprus and also served overseas in Taiwan, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Hong Kong, where he was consul general. He is married and has two children.



**Assistant Secretary for Resource Management and Chief Financial Officer**

**Bradford R. Higgins** of Connecticut, a government official and investment banker, is the new Assistant Secretary for Resource Management and Chief Financial Officer. Prior to his appointment, he was senior adviser to the U.S. ambassador to Iraq and co-director of the joint civil-military strategic planning group. Before that, he served in several other Iraq-related positions. He spent 20 years on Wall Street, primarily as an investment banker at CS First Boston and Goldman Sachs.



**U.S. Ambassador to Burkina Faso**

**Jeanine E. Jackson** of Wyoming, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, is the new U.S. Ambassador to Burkina Faso. Her other overseas assignments include Switzerland, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, Kenya and Afghanistan. She has been a key player in creating, adapting, rebuilding and reopening different

embassies, most recently the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. She is married to Foreign Service officer Mark Jackson.



**U.S. Ambassador to Senegal and Guinea-Bissau**

**Janice L. Jacobs** of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, is the new U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal and, concurrently, to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. Previously, she served as deputy assistant secretary for Visa Services. Her other overseas assignments include Nigeria, Ethiopia, France, Mexico and the Dominican Republic, where she served eight months as chargé d'affaires. She is married and has two sons.



**U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines**

**Kristie A. Kenney** of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Career Minister, is the new U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines. From 2002 to 2005, she was U.S. Ambassador to Ecuador. Before that, she was senior adviser to the assistant secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement. Her other overseas assignments include Geneva, Buenos Aires and Kingston. She is married to William Brownfield, a Foreign Service officer serving as U.S. Ambassador to Venezuela.



**U.S. Ambassador to Comoros**

**James D. McGee** of Florida, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, is the new U.S. Ambassador to the Union of Comoros. He has been U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Madagascar since 2004. His other overseas postings include Lagos, Lahore, The Hague, Bombay, Bridgetown, Kingston, Abidjan and Swaziland, where he was ambassador. He served in the Air Force and earned three Distinguished Flying Crosses in Vietnam. He is married.



**Assistant Secretary for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs**

**Claudia A. McMurray** of Virginia, a government official and private sector executive, is the new Assistant Secretary for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. Prior to her appointment, she was deputy assistant secretary for Environment. Before that, she was associate deputy administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. She has been vice president of a government relations firm, head of a strategic counseling firm and a staff member in several key positions in the U.S. Senate.



**U.S. Ambassador to Haiti**

**Janet Ann Sanderson** of Arizona, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, is the new U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Haiti. Previously, she was the Department's diplomat in residence at the University of California-Berkeley. She served as ambassador to Algeria from 2000 to 2003. Her other overseas assignments include Jordan, Egypt, Israel, Kuwait and Bangladesh.



**U.S. Ambassador to Burundi**

**Patricia Newton Moller** of Arkansas, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Counselor, is the new U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi. Until recently, she was deputy chief of mission in Tbilisi, Georgia. Before that, she was deputy chief of mission in Yerevan, Armenia. Her other overseas postings include Munich, Madras and Belgrade. She was Vietnam desk officer during negotiations to reestablish diplomatic relations. She is married to retired Foreign Service officer Gilbert Sperling.



**Assistant Secretary for Population, Refugees and Migration**

**Ellen R. Sauerbrey** of Maryland, a federal official and state government leader, is the new Assistant Secretary for Population, Refugees and Migration. She formerly served as U.S. Representative to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and has undertaken international missions dealing with family issues and women's political participation. She served as minority leader of the Maryland House of Delegates and was twice the Republican nominee for governor.



**U.S. Ambassador to Finland**

**Marilyn Ware** of Pennsylvania, a businesswoman, is the new U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Finland. Previously, she was chairman of the board of American Water Works Company, which at the time was the largest water-utility holding company in the United States. She is a lifetime advocate for farmland and open space preservation, assistance for abused families and early childhood education and care. She has three adult children.

# \*retirements

**Foreign Service >>>**

Greenwood Jr., C. Lawrence  
Hughes, Maryann  
Keil, Rodolfo F.

Leiker, David C.  
Marino, Carolann  
Rooker, Ronnie E.

**Civil Service >>>**

Cote, Barbara E.  
Dowd, Charmae S.  
Lwin, Than  
Ochoa, Lucille I.

Paterniti, Kathleen Ann  
Plyler, Sandra L.  
Price II, Jack E.  
Schlosberg, Susan D.

Spillane, Robert R.  
Stewart, Jo Ann  
Welch, Dennis P.  
Wollan, David S.

**Edward R. Cummings**, 57, a career member of the Senior Executive Service, died of pancreatic cancer Feb. 27 in Bethesda, Md. He was an internationally recognized authority on the law of armed conflict and human rights. He joined the Department in 1979 after serving on active duty with the Army. Between 1995 and 2000, he served as counselor for legal affairs at the U.S. mission to the European office of the United Nations in Geneva. He was an avid mountain climber and skier.

**Edward W. Mulcahy**, 84, a retired Foreign Service officer, died March 12 of complications from Alzheimer's Disease in Winchester, Va. He served with the Marines in World War II. His overseas postings included Munich; Mobassa, Kenya; Asmara, Eritrea; Athens; Salisbury, Rhodesia; Tunis, Tunisia; and N'Djamena, Chad. He served as ambassador in the latter two countries. After retiring in 1980, he became vice president of Project Hope, which provides medical care and education in the developing world.



**<<< Margaret "Peg" Kieffer**, 65, wife of retired Diplomatic Security Service Special Agent Gerard Lopez, died March 24 of cancer in Napa, Calif. She accompanied her husband on postings to Guatemala City, Caracas, Abidjan, Bangkok and New Delhi, and visited about 60 other countries. Her volunteer activities overseas included serving as a docent at the Bangkok National Museum. During recent years, she volunteered at Copia, a food and wine museum in Napa.



**<<< Arlyne Nelson**, a retired Civil Service employee, died March 8 in Vancouver, Wash. After joining the Department in 1991, she served in several bureaus and did overseas tours in Moscow and Cairo. She won a meritorious honor award in Cairo, where she worked from 2001 to 2004.



**<<< George Knight**, 74, a retired Foreign Service officer, died of lung cancer March 4 in Eatonton, Ga. His overseas postings included Uganda, Australia, Honduras, New Zealand, Korea, Indonesia and Thailand. After retirement, he traveled extensively and was active in church and charity affairs.



**<<< Richard A. Poole**, 86, a retired Foreign Service officer, died Feb. 26 of natural causes in McLean, Va. He served in the Navy in World War II and served on a committee to create a constitution for postwar Japan and define the role of the emperor. His overseas assignments included Canada, Colombia, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Spain and Burkina Faso. After retiring in 1979, he was a civic activist in McLean and coordinated the planting of thousands of trees in the city.



**<<< Donald K. McIntyre**, 93, a retired Foreign Service officer, died Oct. 28 in Chapel Hill, N.C. He was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War. His overseas assignments included Vietnam, Iraq, Pakistan, Zaire, Austria and Yemen. After retiring in 1972, he worked as a physician at the University of North Carolina and served with the American Indian Health Service and National



**<<< Kenneth Rabin**, 81, a retired Foreign Service officer with the Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development, died Feb. 26 in Portland, Ore. He served in the Army Air Force during World War II. His overseas assignments included Australia, Belgium, the Philippines, Guinea and Thailand. He retired in 1976. He loved classical music, art and literature.

Health Service.





<<< **George A. Robinson**, 86, a retired Foreign Service officer, died Jan. 6 from the effects of a stroke in Spring Hill, Fla. He served in the Army during World War II before joining the Department in 1951. His overseas postings included Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; Brussels; Vientiane, Laos; Nicosia, Cyprus; Dhaka, Bangladesh; Bombay; Beirut; London; and New Delhi. He retired in 1979.

several think tanks, lectured and traveled on luxury cruise ships, and wrote his memoirs.

**Harriet E. Whitaker**, 92, widow of retired Foreign Service officer Charles H. Whitaker and mother of retired Foreign Service officer Andrea Mohn Baumann, died Feb. 17 of cancer in Falls Church, Va. She accompanied her husband on five overseas postings, including Manila, where they and their children were interned by the Japanese. She received international attention when she gave birth to her third child on a Japanese ship during a prisoner exchange.



<<< **Francis Joseph Tatu**, 77, a retired Foreign Service officer, died Jan. 29 of complications from Parkinson's Disease in Washington, D.C. He was in the Navy during World War II and the Korean War as an aerial photographer. His overseas postings included Hong Kong, Laos, Taiwan, the Philippines, Thailand, Nepal, Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia and Brunei. After his retirement in 1986, he worked for

## In the Event of a Death

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Questions concerning employee deaths should be directed to the Office of Casualty Assistance at (202) 736-4302. Inquiries concerning deaths of retired employees should be directed to the Office of Retirement at (202) 261-8960.



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“ There are so many perceptions about America, but unless we look at people, we cannot understand your country. ”

Matrika Poudel  
*“Civilization at Its Best”*  
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# LYING IN STATE: AMBASSADOR BLUESTONE AFTER HOURS...

## AT THE GROCERY STORE...

TWO KINDS OF TATER TOTS TO CHOOSE FROM? WHERE'S MY CONTROL OFFICER?



## AT THE BARBER SHOP...

A LITTLE OFF THE BACK, FEATHERED ON TOP - I'LL NEED THAT IN A SCENARIO PAPER...



## DINNER AT HOME...

DO YOU HAVE BIOS HANDY?

JUST STICK TO YOUR TALKING POINTS...



## AT THE MOVIES...

I DON'T REMEMBER THIS PART FROM THE BRIEFING MEMO...



## AT THE END OF THE DAY...

SPALDING, COME TO BED.  
I'LL NEED A PARTICIPANTS LIST...





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