

Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, Islamabad

AIRC ALERT

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5-1

THE CANDIDATES

Department of State Electronic Journal, Vol. 13, No. 10, October 2008.

“Every presidential campaign is dramatic and historic, but as the fervor surrounding the 2008 election continues to build, U.S. voters and the rest of the world will want to consider the candidates’ personal histories more closely. What sort of people rise to the top in the U.S. political system, what are their attributes, their sensibilities, and their strengths? Writer and retired foreign service officer Domenick DiPasquale examines the lives of Barack Obama and John McCain, stressing each candidate’s readiness to lead the country, their long campaigns to become their parties’ nominees, and their aspirations and achievements as political leaders. Two things about this election are certain: A new president of the United States will be sworn into office on Monday, January 20, 2009, and the peaceful transition of power, one of the most critical aspects of the democratic system, will prevail, whichever candidate is victorious.”

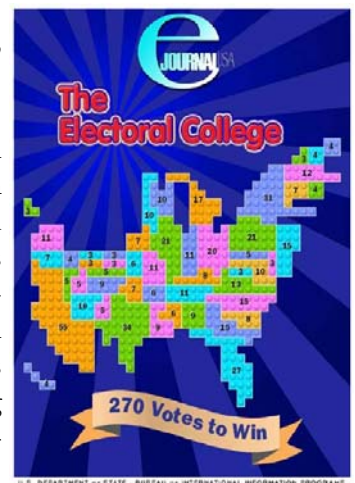


5-2

THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Department of State Electronic Journal, Volume 13, Number 9, September 2008.

“More than 100 million voters are likely to cast ballots in nationwide U.S. elections November 4. But only 538 men and women will elect the next president of the United States, and those elections will take place in 50 state capitals and in Washington, D.C., December 15. This indirect election system, called the Electoral College and devised in 1787 by the framers of the Constitution, puzzles Americans and non-Americans alike. It reflects the federal governing system of allocating powers not only to a national government and to the people but also to the states.



U.S.— PAKISTAN RELATIONS

5-3/UP

FACT SHEET: United States-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue: Partnership is based on shared interests, including peace and security

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 30 September 2008

<http://www.america.gov/>

The United States is committed to a long-term, broad-based partnership with the government and the people of Pakistan. This partnership is based on the shared interests of the two countries in promoting democracy, peace, security, stability, and prosperity in Pakistan and in South Asia. Since 2002 the United States has provided more than \$3.4 billion to Pakistan to improve economic growth, education, health, and governance and to assist with earthquake reconstruction. The United States has also provided more than \$2.4 billion in security assistance since 2002 to help Pakistan combat terrorism along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border and to support Pakistan's conventional defense and modernization needs. Total U.S. development and security assistance to Pakistan in Fiscal Year 2008 is more than \$960 million.

5-4/UP

THE MERITS OF DEHYPHENATION: Explaining U.S. Success in Engaging India and Pakistan

By Ashley J. Tellis

Washington Quarterly, Autumn 2008, pp. 21-42.

Decoupling India and Pakistan in U002ES. policy has been a dramatically successful example of the capacity to think strategically over the long term and implement complex policies that require diplomatic adroitness and political agility. It should be retained, although refined, by the next administration.

5-5/UP

ENGAGING PAKISTAN--GETTING THE BALANCE RIGHT

By Ashley J. Tellis

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, September 2008

The next U.S. president must pursue a balanced strategy toward Pakistan that simultaneously strengthens

the civilian government--the best hope for Pakistan's long-term stability--without alienating the Pakistani army. While strong U.S. support for Pakistan's civilian government risks undermining military cooperation in U.S. counterterrorism efforts, recognizing the military as the preeminent center of power reinforces a status quo that allowed the Afghan--Pakistan border region to become a sanctuary for terrorist organizations. Managing this dilemma will be difficult but necessary for the success of U.S. engagement with Pakistan.

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

5-6/DHR

THE 2008 ELECTIONS

By Larry P. Goodson

Journal of Democracy, Vol. 19, No. 4, October 2008, pp. 5-15.

On 18 February 2008, for the first time in Pakistan's 61-year history, a relatively free and fair national election brought about a peaceful transition of power after a government had completed its full term in office, setting the stage for General Pervez Musharraf's resignation from the presidency six months later. Yet even given these favorable conditions, democracy in Pakistan may be derailed by deep-seated problems that democracy, by itself, cannot solve, including rising Islamist militancy, antigovernment feeling, and deepening poverty among masses of young people. Pakistan now faces the classic "chicken-and-egg" problem of democratic development.

5-7/DHR

CABLE'S CLOUT

By Paul Farhi

American Journalism Review, Vol. 30, No. 4, August-September 2008.

Repetition and prominence, not the ability to break news, give cable news television an enormous amount of clout, says Washington Post reporter Farhi. Using the example of the story of the Rev. Jeremiah Wright and Barack Obama's responses to stories about his controversial minister, Farhi argues that "few campaign stories have much impact or become an important part of the campaign narrative until they get heavy play on cable." The ability to function as "an engine of reaction and response" is cable television's greatest

means for influence. "Cable's intense and often immediate coverage of the day's big controversy forces candidates to fire back, which then compels the rest of the media to cover the response," Farhi says. Whether they like to admit it or not, print media reporters are forced to consider addressing stories of whatever degree of merit if, thanks to cable television, enough people are talking about it.

5-8/DHR

CLIMATE CHANGE: Now What?

By Cristine Russell

Columbia Journalism Review, Vol. 47, No. 2, July/August 2008, pp. 45-49.

Mounting scientific evidence demonstrates the reality of global warming and attendant climate change, so media coverage must move from simply covering the science to broader areas, including what governments, NGOs, businesses and ordinary citizens are doing about it. "Climate change will require thoughtful leadership and coordination at news organizations," the author writes, while discussing coverage and its pitfalls. The science story is ongoing, but journalists unfamiliar with the subject must beware of oversimplifying or missing important scientific subtleties. Russell cautions that we need to be alert for "techno-optimism" — renewable-energy proponents promoting the benefits without examining the potential downside. Climate change issues now touch politics, international relations, and commerce — "virtually all aspects of contemporary life;" the author suggests coverage in science, technology, land use and transportation, economics and international cooperation. Monitoring what is done to slow deforestation in the tropics, estimated to account for one-fifth of man-made global carbon emissions, is one of "countless questions" about "a story that is only going to get bigger" over decades. "The job of a professional journalist is to give the audience information that is good for them to know," said ABC News correspondent Bill Blake-more, adding "The unprecedented nature of this story is quite grave."

5-9/DHR

CONTAINING CLIMATE CHANGE: An Opportunity for U.S. Leadership

By Carter F. Bales and Richard D. Duke

Foreign Affairs, Vol. 87, No. 5, September/October 2008, pp. 78-90.

Both presidential candidates have expressed willing-

ness to limit carbon emissions. Bales, an energy consultant, and Duke, the Director of the Natural Resources Defense Council's Center for Market Innovation, have devised a four-part system for decreasing carbon pollution. The "cap-and-invest" strategy would need to be enacted by Congress and would result in increased funding for newer environmental technologies and a system of carbon-trading. A recent study by McKinsey & Company suggests that the cost of reducing US emissions by 2030 will be close to zero with the proposed plan. The authors go on to discuss a larger plan to involve the rest of the world in a system for reducing carbon emissions that requires polluting nations to buy allowances from less-developed nations, injecting cash into the economies of developing countries. The U.S. is the world's leading innovator in environmental technology and the authors contend that it would serve the nation's economic interests to promote innovation and open up new markets to U.S. technology services.

5-10/DHR

AN EMERGING CIVIL SOCIETY?

By S. Akbar Zaidi

Journal of Democracy, Vol. 19, No. 4, October 2008, pp. 38-40.

Civil society became suddenly relevant to Pakistani politics following a 9 March 2007 incident in which military ruler General Pervez Musharraf demanded the resignation of Chief Justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry from his seat on the Supreme Court, and then suspended him when he refused to comply. Almost immediately there arose a widespread protest movement—spearheaded by Pakistani lawyers—that denounced Musharraf's action as illegal and demanded Chaudhry's reinstatement. Is the lawyers' movement evidence of a burgeoning civil society and a new democratic trajectory for Pakistan, or something more ambiguous?

5-11/DHR

FOOD SECURITY: Achieving the Potential

By Per Pinstrup-Andersen and others

Environment, Vol. 50, No. 5, September/October 2008, pp. 48-60.

The authors evaluate how far world governments have come in meeting global food security since the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission) stated two decades ago that more than 730 million people were insufficiently nour-

ished to lead productive lives despite an abundance of food. Presenting figures from the past and present, they discuss the critical role of food distribution. They predict food security problems will worsen unless governments prioritize protection food supplies in rural communities as well as urban centers, promote sustainable food production, and introduce policies that improve natural resources management and tackle trade distortions to ensure people can obtain the diverse, balanced diet required for good health.

5-12/DHR

HOW OBAMA REALLY DID IT: Social Technology Helped Bring Him to the Brink of the Presidency

By David Talbot

Technology Review, Vol. 111, No. 5, September/October 2008, pp. 78-83.

Talbot, chief correspondent for *Technology Review*, writes that Barack Obama "has forever changed electoral politics by making new media platforms and his own social networking site fulcrum of his campaign." Jascha Franklin-Hodge, cofounder of Blue State Digital, the high-tech company working for the Obama campaign, states that the key is tightly integrating online activity with tasks people can perform in the real world -- "the core of the software is having those links to taking action." Those actions are donating money, making calls, writing letters and organizing house parties. McCain has an online campaign, but has a lot of catching up to do, according to Talbot; it needs a text messaging strategy to reach voters under age 25. Joe Trippi, who ran John Dean's campaign in 2004, states that "there won't be a campaign in 2012 that doesn't try to build a social network around it."

5-13/DHR

LIBRARIES CONNECT COMMUNITIES

By Peggy Barber and others

American Libraries, Vol. 39, No. 9, Oct 2008, pp. 52-56.

In North Carolina, public libraries banded together to provide downloadable audiobooks at a discounted price. A Utah library director convinced a county IT department to give him laptops that were scheduled to be discarded. E-government- dealing with agencies like Social Security, state employment commissions, the IRS, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and traffic court- is another growing area of use reported by library users. The Public Library Funding and Technol-

ogy Access Study provides data and insights to help library staff and supporters strengthen their advocacy efforts.

5-14/DHR

THE MEDIA TAKE CENTER STAGE

By Zafarullah Khan and Brian Joseph

Journal of Democracy, Vol. 19, No. 4, October 2008, pp. 32-37.

The protests ignited by General Pervez Musharraf's 9 March 2007 sacking of Chief Justice Chaudhry provided a testament to the newfound importance of Pakistan's media. Coverage of the lawyers' movement protests and the government's crude attempts to suppress it were brought to millions via satellite television and FM radio. The media's role in the events that lead up to Musharraf's resignation on 18 August 2008 is a study in unintended consequences; the dictator's earlier efforts to liberalize media had unleashed a force for public transparency and accountability that he could not fully control, and democratic prospects improved as a result.

5-15/DHR

MILLIONS UPROOTED: Saving Refugees and the Displaced

By Antonio Guterres

Foreign Affairs, Vol. 87, No. 5, September/October 2008, pp. 90-99.

At few times in history have so many people been on the move, says the author, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, blurring the traditional distinctions between refugees, internally displaced people, and international immigrants. Conflict and human rights violations are scattering millions of people who need access and resettlement assistance in other states. At the same time, authoritarian governments should not be allowed use "sovereignty" to shield themselves from international accountability if they abuse their citizens. The international community must ensure that people seeking safety are protected; sovereignty is not a shield behind which authoritarian governments may terrorize their own people.

5-16/DHR

THE NEXT PRESIDENT: Mastering a Daunting Agenda

By Richard Holbrooke

Foreign Affairs, Vol. 87, No. 5, September-October 2008, pp. 2-24.

Holbrooke, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations from 1999 to 2001 and chief architect of the 1995 Dayton peace agreement, describes the many daunting challenges facing the next administration. To restore U.S. leadership in the world requires drastic change in the domestic U.S. economy and repair to the U.S. reputation around the world. Long-term economic reform requires different national policy on energy and climate change. Repairing the United States' reputation can begin immediately in the next administration by issuing a clear official ban on torture and closing the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay. He says Obama favors diplomacy as the best way for enhancing U.S. power and influence. Except for climate change, he says, McCain takes harder-line positions on international issues than the Bush administration.

5-17/DHR

THE SHORT LIST: The Most Effective Actions U.S. Households Can Take to Curb Climate Change

By Gerald Gardner and Paul Stern

Environment, Vol. 50, No. 5, September/October 2008, pp. 12-24.

Individual efforts represent a "huge reservoir of potential for reducing carbon emissions and mitigating climate change," according to the authors. About 38 percent of national carbon emissions come from U.S. households. More energy-efficient choices in household and motor vehicle technologies can make a more rapid and direct difference than policy revisions that take time and negotiation. The public needs better and more accurate advice on the most effective conservation measures individuals can take. Efficiency-improving actions save more energy than limiting use of inefficient equipment, studies find, and home upgrades can result in significant savings and reduction of carbon emissions. Government policies can assist by providing simple guides and incentives for "going green".

5-18/DHR

THINK AGAIN: The Geneva Conventions

By Steven Ratner

Law Quadrangle Notes, Vol. 50, No. 2, Summer 2008, 95-97.

The author, professor at the University of Michigan Law School focuses that the modern Geneva Conventions were created producing a kind of international "bill of rights" that governs the handling of casualties, prisoners of war, and civilians in war zones. The conventions won't prevent wars, but they are supposed to protect innocent bystanders, shield soldiers from unnecessary harm, limit the physical damage caused by war, and even enhance the chances for cease-fires and peace. The conventions contain one section (Article 3) that protects all persons regardless of their status -- whether spy, mercenary, or terrorist, and regardless of the type of war in which they are fighting. Article 3 also prohibits torture, cruel treatment, and murder of all detainees; requires medical care for the wounded; and obligates trials conducted by regular courts that respect due process. In a landmark 2006 opinion, the U.S. Supreme Court declared that, at a minimum, Article 3 applies to detained al-Qaeda suspects even if al-Qaeda ignores them, and it may be that even tougher rules must then be used in such a fight.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

5-19/IS

AL-QAEDA AND ITS AFFILIATES: A Global Tribe Waging Segmental Warfare

RAND Corporation, October 10, 2008.

It has become sensibly fashionable to regard al-Qaeda as a cutting-edge, postmodern phenomenon – an information-age network, or network of networks. But this emphasis misses a crucial point: Al-Qaeda and affiliates are using the information age to reiterate ancient patterns of tribalism on a global scale. They are operating much like a global tribe waging segmental warfare. The report aims to describe the dynamics of classic tribes – what motivates them, how they organize, how they fight – and show that al-Qaeda fits the tribal paradigm quite well, the author argues that the war they are waging is more about virulent tribalism than about religion. The tribal paradigm should be added to the network and other modern paradigms to

help formulate the best policies, strategies, and analytical methods for countering it.

5-20/IS

BEYOND THE WAR ON TERROR: Into the Fifth Generation of War and Conflict

By Donald Reed

Studies in Conflict & Terrorism, Vol. 31, No. 8, August 2008, pp. 684–722.

The author, with the U.S. Northern Command, asserts that fifth-generation warfare has arrived and is irreversibly changing the character and nature of human conflict. This article uses four essential elements of war -- the new domains of conflict, the changing nature of adversaries, the changing nature of objectives, and the changing nature of force -- to build a generational typology of war and conflict that informs the characteristics of fifth generation warfare. The resultant model produces two outcomes: First, it demonstrates how recent events such as the rise of computer hackers, the 2001 anthrax and the 2003-2004 ricin attacks, the 2004 Madrid bombings, and the emergence of Al Qaeda demonstrate characteristics of fifth-generation warfare. Second, it illustrates the way in which these events are unique indicators of a future in which non-state entities are increasingly able to wage war on equal footing with nation-states. The author concludes that the U.S. must embrace fifth-generation warfare if it is to successfully confront these threats that have taken on new and heretofore unimagined forms in the postmodern era of war.

5-21/IS

THE BURDEN OF HISTORY

By Sumit Ganguly

Journal of Democracy, Vol. 19, No. 4, October 2008, pp. 26-31.

The origins, structure and ideology of the Pakistani nationalist movement coupled with critical elite choices made in the early years of the republic in large part explain Pakistan's current problems of governance. The Pakistani nationalist movement was woven around the charismatic personality of Mohammed Ali Jinnah but lacked a firm organizational and institutional structure. More to the point, it had little or no internal democracy. Not surprisingly, in the aftermath of the creation of Pakistan, the leadership, especially after Jinnah's early demise, proved singularly incapable of coping with an ethnically and socially diverse state and inept at handling competing demands and priori-

ties. As public order rapidly deteriorated, the military, with the tacit support of the elitist civil service, seized power. Once in power, the military came to relish its privileges and even when it relinquished power it remained *primus inter pares*. Long periods of military rule led to the steady deterioration of fragile political institutions further undermining the prospects of democracy.

5-22/IS

FOLLOW THE MONEY: Why the US is Losing the War in Afghanistan.

Center for Strategic & International Studies, September 26, 2008.

Work by Seth G. Jones, a leading Rand analyst, has shown how insurgent groups like the Taliban, Haqqani Network, Gulbuddin Hakmayer's Hezb-i-Islami (HIG); Al Qa'ida; and affiliated groups in Pakistan have formed three fronts in Northeastern, Southeastern, and Southern Afghanistan that are linked by what he calls —a complex adaptive system of loosely cooperating groups that act as a distributed and constantly adapting network. At the same time, the UN and other assessments summarized in the CSIS briefing show that the Taliban and other groups have steadily expanded their presence and influence in the country side, particularly in the many areas where NATO/ISAF and the Afghan government cannot provide either security or governance. These now include substantial areas in central Afghanistan, in and around the capital, and growing pockets in the north and west.

5-23/IS

FROM GREAT GAME TO GRAND BARGAIN

Foreign Affairs, Vol. 87, No. 6, November/December 2008, pp. 30-44.

The article focuses on the U.S.-led reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan following the war in 2001. Particular attention is given to finding a solution to the violence in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The author states that the next U.S. president should launch an effort, authorized by the United Nations (U.N.) Security Council, to end the violence in that region. Article topics include the role the Afghan and Pakistani security forces will have in the reconstruction efforts and the insurgency efforts at the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. The crisis in Afghanistan and Pakistan is beyond the point where more troops will help. U.S. strategy must be to seek compromise with insurgents while addressing regional rivalries and insecurities.

5-24/IS

LOSING THE AFGHAN-PAKISTAN WAR? THE RISING THREAT

The Center for Strategic and International Studies, September 18, 2008

The situation in Afghanistan has been deteriorating for nearly half a decade, and is now reaching a crisis level. Secretary Gates and Admiral Mullen have acknowledged that it is now an Afghan-Pakistan conflict, and one lacking in both military and civilian resources. It is also a war that is becoming increasingly more deadly for civilians, aid workers, and US and NATO forces. Resurgent Taliban, Haqqani, and HIG forces have turned much of Afghanistan into “no-go” zones for aid workers and civilians. These forces, benefiting from a rise in poppy cultivation and safe havens in the FATA regions of Pakistan, are steadily expanding their capabilities and geographic reach. This report includes a graphic and map analysis of the fighting in Pakistan, changes in the character of the threat, and the rise in Afghan and allied casualties. UN and declassified US intelligence maps detail the steady expansion of threat influence and the regions that are unsafe for aid workers. Other data show how Afghan drug growing has steadily moved south and become a major source of financing for the Taliban. It shows that the next President will face a critical challenge in dealing with a war that is probably being lost at the political and strategic level, and is not being won at the tactical level. It is clear why the senior US and NATO/ISAF commanders in Afghanistan are calling for substantially more troops than President Bush decided to deploy this September, and the problems in this briefing are compounded by critical problems in Afghan and Pakistani governance and economic development.

5-25/IS

MAKING BORDERS IRRELEVANT IN KASHMIR.

U.S. Institute of Peace, September 2008.

This report has offered a wide range of recommendations for softening the LOC that presently divides Kashmir. It is important, however, to prioritize these recommendations and to first pursue those short-term measures that have a prospect of immediate success, such as a relaxation in travel arrangements. An incremental approach must be adopted, one that dovetails the introduction of individual measures into the larger process of confidence building between the two coun-

tries. A series of initial successes would give momentum to the peace process and set the stage for longer-term measures, such as cross-border development projects. The emphasis has to be on implementing decisions taken, rather than on adding to these decisions.

5-26/IS

MANAGING FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES IN PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITIONS

By Kurt Campbell and James Steinberg

Washington Quarterly, Vol. 31, No. 4, Autumn 2008, pp. 7-20.

The authors, CEO of the Center for a New American Security (CNAS) and dean of the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs in Austin, Texas, respectively, write that presidential transitions are replete with dangers and missteps that blindside even the most experienced practitioners, but they are also times of opportunity. The end of the Cold War has changed the nature of the challenges, but the two-and-a-half-month transition that will take place at the end of this year poses even greater challenges than in the past. Although each transition is unique, the next president and his team need to understand the lessons of the past if he is to take advantage of the great opportunities for new U.S. leadership and avoid the landmines that lie ahead. Grave national security challenges during times of presidential transition are hardly new; selecting key personnel is further complicated by the sheer number of appointments that must be made as a result of the widening scope of national security issues. Although cabinet officials are almost always named and confirmed by the first day in office, cumbersome vetting procedures and congressional overload can cause second- and third-tier appointments to languish for months, producing systemic uncertainty and wedging open a dangerous window of vulnerability.

5-27/IS

NO SIGN UNTIL THE BURST OF FIRE: Understanding the Pakistan-Afghanistan Frontier

By Thomas H. Johnson and M. Chris Mason

International Security, Vol. 32, No. 4, pp. 41-77.

The Pakistan-Afghanistan border area has become the most dangerous frontier on earth, and the most challenging for the United States' national security interests. Critically, the portion of the border region that is home to extremist groups such as the Taliban and al-Qaida coincides almost exactly with the area over-

whelmingly dominated by the Pashtun tribes. The implications of this salient fact—that most of Pakistan’s and Afghanistan’s violent religious extremism, and with it much of the United States’ counterterrorism challenge, are contained within a single ethnolinguistic group—have unfortunately not been fully grasped by a governmental policy community that has long downplayed cultural dynamics. The threat to long-term U.S. security interests in this area is neither an economic problem, nor a religious problem, nor a generic “tribal” problem. It is a unique cultural problem. In both southern Afghanistan and the tribal areas of Pakistan, rather than seeking to “extend the reach of the central government,” which simply foments insurgency among a proto-insurgent people, the United States and the international community should be doing everything in their means to empower the tribal elders and restore balance to a tribal/cultural system that has been disintegrating since the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979.

5-28/IS

THE PETRAEUS DOCTRINE

By Andrew J Bacevich

***The Atlantic Monthly*, Vol. 302, No. 3, Oct 2008, pp. 17-19.**

After serving in Iraq as a battalion operations officer, Nagl helped rewrite the Army’s counterinsurgency manual and commanded the unit that prepares U.S. soldiers to train Iraqi security forces. By calling for an Army configured mostly to wage stability operations, Nagl is effectively affirming the Long War as the organizing principle of post-9/11 national-security strategy, with U.S. forces called upon to bring light to those dark corners of the world where terrorists flourish.

5-29/IS

PRAETORIANISM AND TERRORISM

By Aqil Shah

***Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 19, No. 4, October 2008, pp. 16-25.**

An uneasy relationship between military and civilian power hangs like a cloud over the future of democratic reform in Pakistan. Praetorianism has been a deeply-ingrained feature in Pakistani politics since the country’s birth, making depoliticization of the military a nettlesome task for any civilian government, particularly given that the military’s “prerogatives” comprise the defense sector, internal security, legal system, and even foreign relations and nuclear weapons. With the

ever-present threat of terrorism and the public insecurity and unrest terrorist acts provoke, authoritarian backsliding remains a sobering possibility.

5-30/IS

THE SEPTEMBER 12 PARADIGM: America, The World, And George W. Bush

By Robert Kagan

***Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 87, No. 5, September/October 2008, pp. 25-39.**

Future presidents should not shy away from using U.S. power to promote American values. September 11 changed a presidential administration once leery of “nation building,” into an activist for democracy, achieving minimal results while accelerating growing ambiguity from Europe. The United States and other democratic nations share a common aspiration for a liberal international order, argues the author, which is increasingly coming under pressure from both “great-power autocracies” and “radical Islamic terrorism.” In the face of these challenges, “a return to realism” is as important as ever, and all sides must come together to offer both words and actions in democracy’s defense.

5-31/IS

U.S. STRATEGY MUST ADDRESS AFGHAN-PAKISTAN TENSION

***The Heritage Foundation*, September 26, 2008.**

Heightening tensions between U.S. and Pakistani forces along the Afghan-Pakistani border threaten to play into al-Qaeda’s agenda of fueling anti-American sentiment among the Pakistani population and causing confusion within the ranks of the Pakistani military about the primary threat to their country. Heightening tensions between U.S. and Pakistani forces along the Afghan-Pakistani border threaten to play into al-Qaeda’s agenda of fueling anti-American sentiment among the Pakistani population and causing confusion within the ranks of the Pakistani military about the primary threat to their country. Coalition military strategy must preserve the ability of military forces to defend themselves and defeat al-Qaeda and the Taliban. Additionally, this strategy must promote cooperation with Pakistan to jointly address transnational terrorist threats in the region. Finally, the U.S. must proactively support a comprehensive regional strategy that enhances cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

5-32/ES**AFTER THE CRASH****By James Grant****Foreign Affairs, Vol. 87, No. 6, pp. 141-146.**

In this article the author examines how to improve economic conditions in the U.S. According to the author the next U.S. president could plan for a return to a sound dollar, regulate the U.S. securities industry without hindering it, and resisting the urge to manipulate prices in a politically expedient direction. The author suggests that the government should get control of its lost finances before taxes are increased. Additional topics include the importance of strengthening the U.S. dollar, fixed exchange rates, and anchoring the reserve currency in gold.

5-33/ES**ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT****By J. Brian Atwood and others.****Foreign Affairs, Vol. 87, No. 6, November/December 2008, p123-132.**

In this article the author examines why effective foreign aid programs can and should be a significant aspect of U.S. foreign policy. The author believes that the next U.S. president will have to enact major institutional reforms in order to ensure that taxes are being spent on a single, understandable foreign aid bureaucracy under a single chain of command. Additional topics include the downsizing of the U. S. Agency for International Development (USAID), reconstructing USAID, and devising a U.S. government policy on humanitarian and development programs.

5-34/ES**BOILER ROOM: The Business Press is Missing the Crooked Heart of the Credit Crisis****By Dean Starkman****Columbia Journalism Review, September/October 2008, pp. 48-53.**

The author, head of the business and finance desk at CJR, writes that while there have been many good articles about the subprime mortgage fiasco that has resulted in the widespread crisis in the credit markets, most have treated it as a “kind of natural disaster or nasty turn in the business cycle.” There is acknowl-

edgement that abusive practices did occur, but Starkman writes that few have reported about how extensive they were. He says that the most comprehensive and insightful reporting on the system that produced the credit crisis was a story aired in May 2008 on (U.S.) National Public Radio, called “The Giant Pool of Money”. This narrative describes the global pool of savings, which had doubled to USD 70 trillion, was searching for higher returns, and the U.S. financial system, from the investment banks at the top, down to the mortgage brokers and salesmen across the country, was under tremendous pressure to create financial “products” for this money to invest in. Traditional underwriting procedures were abandoned in favor of aggressively selling loans to marginal borrowers. Some former loan company agents reported that the movie BOILER ROOM, about unethical stockbrokers, was used as a “training tape”. Starkman notes that systemic corruption and fraud has been revealed at lenders across the board. “Yet to be explored fully”, he writes, “is the extent of Wall Street’s role, and the size of the transfer of wealth from millions of civilians” to the financial professional class.

5-35/IS**THE DEADLY WORLD OF FAKE DRUGS****By Roger Bate and Rachel Nugent****Foreign Policy, No. 168, September/October 2008, pp. 57-65.**

The fake-drug sector has continued to grow in speed and sophistication and, in the past decade, become one of the world’s fastest-growing criminal enterprises, says the author, a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. Knock-offs have expanded, with often fatal consequences for unaware patients, from mostly lifestyle drugs to pharmaceuticals used in treating major diseases. A lack of quality oversight and enforcement makes poorer countries the most lucrative potential markets for counterfeiters. Bate points to China and India as the largest sources of dangerous fakes. The Indian government denies it has a problem, and in China, the military is rumored to be engaged in manufacturing and trade of fake drugs. The international community officially condemns counterfeiters but is too afraid to engage on a politically sensitive issue. NGOs contribute to the problem by purchasing inadequately-tested copy drugs from China and India. The author believes that pursuing major producers of fakes will require far more effective international drug testing and oversight as well as determi-

nation and funds. But he fears that it may take large-scale casualties for real action to occur.

5-36/IS

ECONOMICS AND THE AMERICAN FAMILY: A Review of Recent Literature

By Darius Conger

Choice, Vol. 46, No. 1, September 2008, pp. 33-34, 36-45.

As Americans head into another presidential election in November, one of the most important issues facing the voter will be the economic situation of the average family. This essay focuses on the recent literature that addresses the economic decisions and outcomes of American families, a growth occupation for academic scholars and policymakers. The author breaks down his categories into history of the family; economic theory and the family; law and the family; families with children; work; child outcomes, or societal concern such as welfare reform for families at the bottom of the income distribution; and family reconfiguration, such as divorce, retirement and death. Such variety in employment studies and family research now requires a good background in demographics and population trends which was not the case even twenty years ago. One reason has been the impact of the working mother, as the beginning of the 21st century has seen increasingly vital positions in the corporate world held by women with children. The cost to employers of losing these key employees has started to impact employment policy thinking in ways that were previously not considered.

5-37/IS

IS THE 'GOOD LIFE' AS AMERICA KNOWS IT OVER?

By Steve Fraser

Tomdispatch, posted September 19, 2008.

<http://www.tomdispatch.com/>

The author writes that the undoing of Pres. Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal program and its regulatory regime, with the "socialization of risk", beginning with the massive bailout of the savings and loan associations in the 1980s, is what has resulted in the present-day collapse of the U.S. financial system. He notes that, despite the free-market, anti-government rhetoric, the bailing out of the financial industry by Washington is acknowledgment of how dependent the U.S. economy has become on the financial sector. The recent decisions of allowing some firms to survive and

others to fail is more a symptom of confusion of how to deal with a spiraling crisis. Fraser notes that the financial system is out of control, and that it is "time for a reversal of course — reregulation of [the financial system] is not enough anymore ... the government must figure out how to shift the flow of investment capital out of the mine-fields of speculative paper transactions and back into productive channels that will help meet the material needs of American society."

5-38/IS

THE NEW VALLEY GIRLS

By Patricia Sellers

Fortune, Vol. 158, No. 7, Oct 13, 2008, pp. 152 -162.

The clock has just struck seven on a Thursday night, and Sheryl Sandberg is networking furiously. Not on Facebook, the site she joined in March as COO and where she boasts 1,114 friends. No, she's doing it the old-fashioned way, in her Atherton, Calif., living room. She hosts her Silicon Valley soirees a few times a year, and it's always the A-list crowd. On this particular evening the group includes the new head of eBay North America, the manager of Google's ad-selling platforms, and well-known tech bankers and venture capitalists. It's a high-wattage, high-powered group. Oh, and there's one other thing: All those attending are women. These are the New Valley Girls. They are super-smart. Super-connected. And way too serious about their jobs and careers to endorse, much less embrace, that title. But the fact is, these women are vastly different from their predecessors who broke Silicon Valley's glass ceiling in the 1980s and '90s. While the old guard tended toward househusbands, the new women leaders have power marriages, young children, and lives tethered to tech.

5-39/IS

STRATEGIC COLLABORATION: How The United States Can Thrive As Other Powers Rise

By Nina Hachigian and Mona Sutphen

Washington Quarterly, Vol. 31, No. 4, Autumn 2008, pp. 43-57.

The authors note that calling for a new G-13 forum would be a bold and useful step that the next president could take. The new president will face a radically different world than the one that George W. Bush inherited -- beyond instability in the Middle East, several major new world powers have emerged. This strategic environment is unlike any the United States has ever

encountered. The authors argue that, instead of regarding the emergence of China, India and Russia as a threat to American prominence, the next administration must harness the power of these new players, particularly through a new forum that can tackle the greatest threats to contemporary global security. They note that this new world is shaped by technology, rather than ideology, and allows money, goods, and people to cross borders. By the same token, infectious diseases can spread with similar ease, and technology has empowered rogue states and terrorist groups. In this new era, the authors note, the greatest threats to the peace and prosperity that the international community desires does not emanate from other strong powers but from these "technologically empowered forces of chaos -- the rotten fruit of globalization."

5-40/ES
TURNING YOUR LAWN INTO A VICTORY GARDEN WON'T SAVE YOU -- Fighting the Corporations Will
 By Stan Cox
AlterNet, posted June 23, 2008.

The "edible-landscaping trend," adopted by ordinary Americans to grow their own food in their front and back yards, is a laudable endeavor, but it will not do much toward easing food shortages or the high cost of food, in the view of Stan Cox, a plant breeder and writer based in Salina, Kansas. "Too many people are getting the idea that the solution to America's and the world's food problems is for all us in cities and suburbia to grow our own -- it's not," Cox writes. The author argues that the food problems are the creation of "Big Agribusiness," which controls what he calls "a dirty, cruel, unfair, broken system." The global food problems stem from shortages of grains -- rice, wheat, corn and beans, produced by large agricultural corporations. The problem will not be solved by city dwellers growing cucumbers and tomatoes in their yards and balconies. Looking back over history, Cox notes that control of grain production is intimately linked with political power. Agribusiness, which dominates grain production in the U.S., functions "with the singular goal of turning maximum profit," Cox writes. He asserts that agribusiness's attempts to increase efficiency have been "ecologically devastating," adding that the "biofuel craze ... compounds the problem." Cox argues that the solution lies in taking political action against agribusiness interests with the aim of promoting more widespread land ownership.

5-41/SV
50 MOST POWERFUL WOMEN
 By Jessica Shambora and others
Fortune, Vol. 158, No. 7, Oct 13, 2008, pp. 165-68.

"Fortune magazine's 50 Most Powerful Women report is presented. Talk about drama! Fortune's 11th annual list was dominated by firsts (Sunoco's Lynn Elsenhans makes history as the first woman to run a major U.S. oil company), superlatives (Google's Marissa Mayer becomes our youngest honoree ever at age 33), and also notable departures (Citi's Sallie Krawcheck steps down from her perch as the most watched woman on Wall Street). Overall, perhaps the only thing more challenging than the business environment this year was the criteria for making the list, which, with eight newcomers, was our most competitive yet."

5-42/SV
BECOMING TYLER: Bill Collector Turned Billion-Dollar Media MOGUL Was Molded From Pain, Promise and Persistence
 By Margena Christian
Ebony, October 2008 Vol. 63, No. 12, pp. 72-84.

Tyler Perry is an accomplished African American director, screenwriter, playwright and actor. Yet just ten years ago he was struggling, recently homeless, hungry and having trouble paying the rent on his apartment, yet persevered believing in his talent and message. In 1998 he finally found success in the theater. In 2005 his *DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN* brought him success in film. Perry has thrived in his movie career without the help of Hollywood; he owns 100 percent of his movies. He has also started added his name in front of his movies and plays: "I started to have them put my name on the marquee and on the ticket so that people would know this play is different from other shows. I was building a brand and it started to work. With film, I knew other movies would come along and try to duplicate what I was doing. That's why my name is front of my movies." From his Tyler Perry Studios in Atlanta he now manages a multimillion dollar enterprise. Having just turned 39, these achievements may be only the beginning for this tremendously talented individual.

5-43/SV

CHINA MOVES UP TO FIFTH AS IMPORTER OF STUDENTS

By Mara Hvistendahl

Chronicle of Higher Education, Vol. 54, No. 4, September 19, 2008, pp. A1, 21-A22.

After joining the World Trade Organization in 2001, China embarked on an ambitious plan to attract 120,000 international students by 2007 and went on to exceed its goal by 60 percent. While foreign students are a lucrative source of revenue for Chinese universities, China's bid for international students is driven by its diplomatic goal of developing soft power and cultivating a non-threatening image in the world, according to Hvistendahl. As part of the same diplomatic drive, China has been opening Confucius Institutes around the world to form partnerships with foreign universities to promote Chinese language and culture. China also seeks to internationalize its universities and realizes it can't have world-class universities without large numbers of international students, says an expert on Chinese education Hvistendahl interviewed, Gerard Postiglione. Most of China's international students come from other parts of Asia, but the United States ranks third as a source, behind South Korea, the top source, and Japan. The Chinese Scholarship Council awarded more than 10,000 full scholarships to international students in 2007 at a cost of \$52 million. A separate scholarship program targets students in the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa. International students are drawn to study in China more by the country's growing economic and political power than by the quality of the universities, but those universities are improving. Korean students already say that the quality of the English instruction they receive in China is far superior to what they can get at home.

5-44/SV

A DESPERATE TREK ACROSS AMERICA

By Andrés Reséndez

American Heritage, Vol. 58, No. 5; Fall 2008, pp. 19-25.

Resendez relates the harrowing survival stories of Spanish adventurer Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca and his men. The hopeful adventurers had embarked from Cuba in four ships and a brigantine intending to take possession of Florida in the name of His Most Catholic Majesty. Caught up in the excitement and rush to explore, the commander rashly divided the expedition. The interminable and confusing coast of Florida pre-

vented the two parties from making contact. Many perished of exposure and hunger, some even resorting to cannibalism. Fewer still withstood enslavement at the hands of the natives in the vicinity of Galveston Bay. As slaves, Cabeza de Vaca and his companions were forced to cope with native North America on its own terms and lived by their wits, coming to terms with half a dozen native languages.

5-45/SV

LINCOLN'S HOME AWAY FROM HOME RE-OPENS

By Ann Geracimos

American Heritage, Vol. 58, No. 4, Spring/Summer 2008, pp. 12-15.

Only three miles from the White House, the house in northwest Washington DC, offered Abraham Lincoln a refuge from the capital's summertime heat and political pressures. The 16th president spent an estimated one-quarter of his time in office at this 34-room, brown-and white stucco building. Here, Geracimos features the \$15 million restoration and refurbishment of this Lincoln Cottage, reopening it for visitors to have an inside look at this little-known presidential dwelling.

5-46/SV

THE NEW EVANGELICALS

By Frances Fitzgerald

New Yorker, Vol. 84, No. 19, June 30, 2008, pp. 28-35.

There is a new movement among evangelicals that is friendly to science, environmental protection (including fighting global warming), caring for the poor, immigration reform and humane treatment of detainees, and it is "posing the first major challenge to the religious right in a quarter of a century," writes journalist and author Frances Fitzgerald. Evangelical leaders such as Joel Hunter and Rick Warren are setting a national agenda very different from that of the fundamentalist right that had so much influence in the 2004 presidential election. The new evangelicals are theologically conservative and remain opposed to sex outside of heterosexual marriage and abortion, but "they lack the cultural attitudes descended from the fundamentalist resistance to modernist thought, such as a distrust of science, a rejection of institutional solutions to poverty." Hunter and others have been criticized, but polls show that half of all evangelicals have substantial differences with the religious right. "The

younger generation, that's what's driving this thing," Hunter says. Pew polls find that while evangelicals aged 18-30 care more about abortion than their elders, they are less bothered by gay marriage, more concerned about health care and the poor, and more likely to champion environmental causes. The Democrats may pick up more evangelical votes in 2008, "but for reasons that could be circumstantial," says Fitzgerald. Polls during the primaries "showed that evangelicals were more concerned with jobs and the economy than with gay rights and abortion."

5-47/SV

FACE THE NATION

By Fergus Bordewich

Smithsonian, Vol. 39, No. 6, September 2008, pp. 60-69.

In late August 1858, the U.S. senatorial candidates for Illinois, incumbent Stephen Douglas and challenger Abraham Lincoln, squared off in what became the most famous debates in U.S. history. The author notes that these debates transformed the national debate over slavery, turned Lincoln into a contender for the presidency and "set a standard for political discourse that has rarely been equaled." The author writes that, while this was a state-level race, both Douglas and Lincoln realized that they were speaking to the nation — the introduction of shorthand, the telegraph and the railroad meant that their words were transmitted across the country. Douglas was the favored candidate, and few thought that the underdog Lincoln could best him; it took several debates before Lincoln figured out how to go on the offensive, notes one historian quoted for the article, but soon he was "like Rocky Balboa". Excitement ran high in anticipation of the two larger-than-life political figures coming into town — tens of thousands of people flocked to hear them. While Lincoln lost the election, the debates transformed him into a national political figure. Douglas, in favor of slavery, was speaking primarily to the status quo, notes the author, while Lincoln spoke "to the future, to the better angels of our own nature."

5-48/SV

A LIBERAL SHOCK DOCTRINE

By Rick Perlstein

American Prospect, Vol. 19, No. 9, September 2008, pp. 22-24, 26.

The author, a senior fellow at the Campaign for America's Future, believes that progressive political change

in American history is rarely incremental. History continues to teach us that presidents have to move quickly to enact progressive reforms before the opportunities escape them. With few exceptions, most of the reforms (such as Social Security, Medicare, desegregation) that have advanced our nation's status as a modern, liberalizing social democracy were pushed through in such circumstances. The post-Civil War reconstruction of the South, the Progressive Era remaking of democratic institutions, the New Deal, and the Great Society, were all blunt shocks that required immediate decision-making, a course of action that the White House's most effective occupants have always understood. Franklin D. Roosevelt "hurled down executive orders and legislative proposals like thunderbolts" during his First Hundred Days, hardly slowing down for another four years; Lyndon Johnson, aided by sympathy generated by John F. Kennedy's death and the landslide of 1964, generated legislation at such a breakneck pace that even his aides were awestruck.

5-49/SV

PROBLEM: Foreign Students. Solution: Corporate Partner: More Colleges are Recruiting and Educating Overseas Applicants with the Help of Private Companies

By Karin Fischer

Chronicle of Higher Education, Vol. 54, No. 2, September 5, 2008, pp. A41-43.

Oregon State University is the first U.S. university to strike a deal with a private company to recruit and educate foreign students in a college preparatory program, something British and Australian universities have been contracting out for years. Before September 11th, U.S. universities could sit back and wait for international students to knock on their doors, but now with increased competition and the widespread perception that the U.S. visa process is onerous, a more active approach is necessary. Private partners can do the hard work of screening and recruiting international students and even provide some additional training if, for example, a better grounding in English is necessary for full-time enrollment. Oregon State, as part of its deal with Into University Partnerships (IUP), a UK firm, has agreed to construct a \$52 million classroom and residential facility for the students IUP will provide and hopes to make \$25 million annually after five years. While such partnerships have encountered initial criticism and opposition in Australia and the UK, faculty and staff opposition has generally diminished over time, says Fischer. Oregon State's

Provost, Sabah Randhawa, saw no other way for his cash-strapped institution to get foreign enrollment numbers up, and was willing to take a chance on a partnership with a private company.

5-50/SV

PROJECT URBAN RECREATION

By Michael Edwards

Parks & Recreation, Vol. 43, No. 3, March 2008, pp. 39-45.

The creation of public parks in close proximity to urban areas is a new trend in urban development. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Spokane, Washington, serve as examples of this trend, which is being spurred by increasing demand for places for outdoor exercise. Cities are opening parks that allow residents to enjoy the outdoors without leaving the city; Pittsburgh's Three Rivers Park is situated along the riverfront, with trails, bridges, green space, water landings, public art, historic artifacts, restaurants, and community events. Spokane is developing the Spokane River Gorge, which has 400 acres of river access, open space located adjacent to downtown, and a wide variety of activities to lure visitors. The author notes that parks like these benefit cities by encouraging growth of urban communities, tourism, future investment and real estate values.