



INAUGURAL DEAN ACHESON LECTURE
WITH THE HONORABLE ROBERT M. GATES, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

OCTOBER 15, 2008
RITZ-CARLTON, WASHINGTON, D.C.



THE HONORABLE DEAN ACHESON

Dean Acheson was the consummate statesman of his time. Son of the Episcopal bishop of Connecticut, he attended Groton, Yale, and Harvard Law School, and joined the prestigious law firm of Covington & Burling in Washington before entering public life. He served for more than twelve years at the U.S. State Department (1941–1953), first as Assistant and Under Secretary of State and then as Secretary of State during President Truman's second term. As Secretary of State between 1949 and 1953, he was a principal architect of America's foreign policy at the start of the Cold War. During these years Acheson was instrumental in forging the NATO alliance, the Truman Doctrine, and the Marshall Plan. He was also a key figure in developing America's postwar posture towards Germany, the Soviet Union, and the People's Republic of China, and in diplomatic negotiations during the Korean Conflict. Following his retirement as secretary of state, Acheson returned to his law practice, served as advisor to Presidents John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, and Richard Nixon, and wrote several books including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Present at the Creation*. He died on October 12, 1971.

THE HONORABLE ROBERT M. GATES



Dr. Robert M. Gates was sworn in on December 18, 2006, as the 22nd Secretary of Defense. Before entering his present post, Secretary Gates was the President of Texas A&M University, the nation's seventh largest university.

Prior to assuming the presidency of Texas A&M on August 1, 2002, he served as Interim Dean of the George Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M from 1999 to 2001.

Secretary Gates served as Director of Central Intelligence from 1991 until 1993. Secretary Gates is the only career officer in CIA's history to rise from entry-level employee to Director. He served as Deputy Director of Central Intelligence from 1986 until 1989 and as Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Adviser at the White House from January 20, 1989, until November 6, 1991, for President George H.W. Bush.

Secretary Gates joined the Central Intelligence Agency in 1966 and spent nearly 27 years as an intelligence professional, serving six presidents. During that period, he spent nearly nine years at the National Security Council, The White House, serving four presidents of both political parties.

Secretary Gates has been awarded the National Security Medal, the Presidential Citizens Medal, has twice received the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal, and has three times received CIA's highest award, the Distinguished Intelligence Medal.

He is the author of the memoir, *From the Shadows: The Ultimate Insider's Story of Five Presidents and How They Won the Cold War*, published in 1996.

Until becoming Secretary of Defense, Dr. Gates served as Chairman of the Independent Trustees of The Fidelity Funds, the nation's largest mutual fund company, and on the board of directors of NACCO Industries, Inc., Brinker International, Inc. and Parker Drilling Company, Inc.

Dr. Gates has also served on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the American Council on Education, the Board of Directors of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, and the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America. He has also been President of the National Eagle Scout Association.

A native of Kansas, Secretary Gates received his bachelor's degree from the College of William and Mary, his master's degree in history from Indiana University, and his doctorate in Russian and Soviet history from Georgetown University.

In 1967 he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force and served for a year as an intelligence officer at Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri.

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Evan Thomas, *Editor-at-Large, Newsweek*

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The Honorable J. Robinson West



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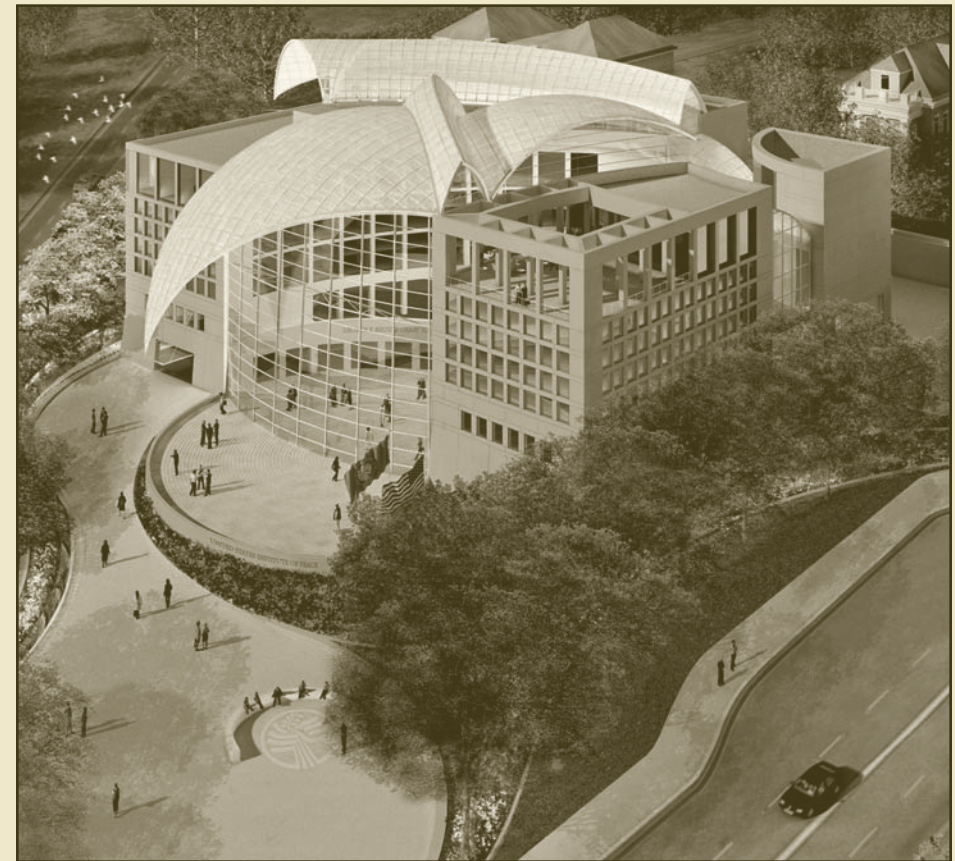
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ABOUT U.S. INSTITUTE OF PEACE

The United States Institute of Peace, established by Congress in 1984, is an independent, nonpartisan institution. Its goals are to help prevent and resolve violent international conflicts, promote post-conflict stability and development, and increase conflict management capacity, tools, and intellectual capital worldwide. We do this by empowering others with knowledge, skills, and resources, as well as by directly engaging in peacebuilding efforts around the globe.

The Institute engages in a full range of activities from research to training to operations in zones of conflict around the world. This unique integration of activities allows us to craft innovative and practical approaches to peacebuilding.

By act of Congress the United States Institute of Peace has secured an extraordinary building site in Washington, D.C. Located at the northwest corner of the National Mall at the intersection of Constitution Avenue and 23rd Street, N.W., the site faces the Lincoln Memorial. Currently under construction, the headquarters, designed by Moshe Safdie and Associates, is a symbolic architectural statement of our nation's commitment to international peacebuilding. The facility will house working space for staff and research fellows, a library and archives, and a state-of-the art conference center. Within the building, there will be a Public Education Center, with approximately 20,000 square feet, which will provide displays and interactive exhibits designed to make peacebuilding, peacemaking and conflict management come alive for students and the general public.



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