

Defense Security Cooperation Agency

Partners

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ON THE COVER: Special Forces Unit 3rd Group (U3G), from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, instructs Nigerian Army medical personnel on specialized technical and life saving procedures, in Sokoto, Nigeria. (photo by PH3 J.B. Keefer, USN)

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From the Director

The uncertainties of the post 9/11 world require that the Security Cooperation Community have a clear plan that establishes priorities, guides our work, and remains up-to-date.

In December 2005 DSCA reviewed its strategic plan to ensure it was in line with the National Security Strategy, National Defense Strategy and the current Security Cooperation Guidance. That plan was finalized and issued in February.

The plan contains our mission and vision statements, which not only define who we are, but outline what DSCA should strive to become. The principal objectives, strategies, and action plan lay out what we must do to achieve our mission.

Although there is some work ahead of us, I think we have created a strong foundation for developing an effective road map.

The DSCA security cooperation conference scheduled for March 27-28 at the Sheraton Premiere Hotel at Tyson's Corner, Va. offers the Security Cooperation Community a great opportunity to discuss a variety of important and timely topics affecting the community.

Those who have not signed up should do so as soon as possible.

This year's theme, "Security Cooperation: New Challenges-New Opportunities," appropriately conveys our movement toward a host of new and exciting directions.

I believe this conference will illustrate the importance of the community's role in supporting the war on terrorism, and how we must adjust to meet future security cooperation challenges.

Senior leaders from DoD, State Department, and the Hill, as well as community experts will share personal and professional experiences that will challenge us to examine political, military and economic trends affecting security cooperation.

It is important that we take this opportunity to share views on current programs, but it is equally significant that we exchange

ideas about our new initiatives. Last year's conference drew more than 500 participants, this year may be even higher.



Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Kohler meets with U.S. and Colombian soldiers during his recent trip to Colombia.

At no other time will such a cross-section of security cooperation professionals assemble under one roof to discuss the value of our programs and how we, as a community, fit into the national strategy.

As we move toward new challenges and opportunities, let us seize moments during this conference to strengthen our bonds and synchronize our efforts toward a more efficient and effective security cooperation community.

My hope is that we walk away from the conference more enlightened, connected, and prepared for the array of challenges ahead.

Everyone has been working hard throughout the security cooperation community. This edition of *Partners* reflects some of the on-going programs and projects making a difference throughout the world. We hope that you continue to send your stories to our Legislative and Public Affairs Office so they can spread the word about your efforts.

So often the contributions made to the security cooperation community go unnoticed. We seem to complete one project and move right on to the next. Our business is fast-paced and sometimes seems non-stop. However, our programs and projects have a tremendous impact on both national and world security.

It is my hope that our revised strategic plan, the lessons learned from the conference, and your continuing hard work combine to reinvigorate the security cooperation community in the months ahead. As we work to achieve that synergy, remember that communication is key to linking each of us to one another and the larger community. Our mission is valuable and I thank you for your service to the security cooperation community.

Conference eyes future opportunities

Clearer understanding required as community faces new challenges

By C. E. Taylor

The Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) will hold its annual worldwide security cooperation conference on March 27-28 in the Sheraton Premiere Hotel at Tyson's Corner, Va.

This year's theme, "Security Cooperation: New Challenges-New Opportunities," focuses on understanding the emerging missions and how requirements for those missions are changing the security cooperation community.

"I believe participants will leave this year's event with a better understanding of the national defense and foreign policy requirements in play today," said Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Kohler, director, DSCA.

He said participants should come away with a clearer understanding of the many moving parts that must successfully mesh if the community is to prevail in the war on terrorism and meet emerging security cooperation challenges.

Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England will open the conference on March 27. Additional speakers that day include Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs (PM) John F. Hillen; Lt. Gen. (Ret) Lawrence Farrell, President and CEO of the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA); and Australian Ambassador Dennis J. Richardson.

RADM William D. Sullivan, Vice Director of Strategic Plans and Policy, Pentagon Joint Staff, also examines security cooperation as a critical tool in the war on terrorism.

Later, Gen. (Ret) Carlton Fulford discusses how the Department of Defense (DoD) U. S. Centers for Regional Studies are transforming their outreach programs to counter ideological support for terrorism in ways that de-legitimize terrorist extremism. In the afternoon, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army



During the upcoming conference, organizations will set up displays representing many elements of the security cooperation community.

Craig Hunter will examine future security cooperation challenges. Robert Maggi, Managing Director, Department of State, Office for Defense Trade Control, will provide perspectives on security cooperation based on his one-year experience in Afghanistan.

On March 28 participants have an opportunity to attend breakout presentations offered by selected DSCA principal directors. The subjects include technology transfer, an information technology update, financial challenges, policy developments, and country program operations.

House Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Jim Kolbe, (R-Ariz) will conclude the conference with a look at the challenges of balancing domestic priorities against international priorities in the Global War on Terrorism.

Members of the security cooperation community also get to meet DSCA staff representatives in an informal, unstructured setting to discuss issues of importance relating to individuals and their programs.

Temporary Duty (TDY) funding will not be provided by DSCA for this conference. However, there is no registration fee for U.S. military and U.S. government civilians. Lodging at the Sheraton Hotel has been negotiated within current per diem room rates (\$187.00). Attendees must contact the Sheraton Hotel at 703-601-3852 by Feb. 27 and mention that they are attending the DSCA conference to receive the per diem room rate.

The cost for non-US government attendees is \$120. To register for the conference, go to the DSCA Home Page at <http://www.dsca.mil>

DSCA executes new program

Global Peace Operations Initiative focuses on Africa

By C.E. Taylor

In this fast-paced, ever-growing field of international cooperation, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency is constantly evaluating its tools for managing international programs. Last year the agency assumed implementation and execution responsibility, within DoD, for another significant international instrument, the Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI).

While overall responsibility and management of the program resides with the Department of State, DoD partners with State to execute a portion of the larger program.

GPOI is a result of the 2004 Sea Island G-8 Summit, during which the U.S. and its foreign G-8 partners committed to training and equipping peace operations forces worldwide.

GPOI is a multilateral, five-year international initiative with the primary goal of training and equipping 75,000 military troops, a majority of them African, for peacekeeping operations by 2010.



U.S. special forces assist Kenyan soldiers during one of that country's many combat training exercises.

During the 2004 Summit, the U.S. committed to contributing \$660 million over 5 years, for training and equipment, to improve peacekeeping capacity worldwide.

"Training in Africa is the initial focus of the US government initiative," according to Brad Bittinger, DSCA program manager, "but the program will provide increasing support to build the peacekeeping capacity of countries outside of Africa in subsequent years."

GPOI will also promote the development of an international transportation and logistics support system for peacekeepers, and encourage information exchanges to improve international coordination of peace operations training and exercises. Other G-8 partners will take on these initiatives.

According to a February 16, 2005 Congressional Research Services Report, the GPOI incorporates previous capabilities-building programs. From FY1997 to FY2005, the U.S. spent just over \$121 million on GPOI's predecessor program, the African Crisis Response Initiative (ACRI) and its successor the Africa Contingency Operations Training and Assistance (ACOTA) program. Through these programs the U.S. trained about 16,000 troops from about nine African nations.

The report cites analysis that suggests continued efforts to improve the

peacekeeping skills of African and other military forces is an important step towards controlling the continent's devastating conflicts.

According to Bittinger, the Defense Department transferred \$80 million to the State Department for peacekeeping operations in support of GPOI for FY2005. Subsequent funding is planned from the State Department's Peacekeeping Operations account.

He said, "State will obligate much of this funding through current contracts, but has transferred \$27.34 million to DSCA. Currently DSCA Country Program Directors are working with the combatant commands to definitize requirements. To date, 17 of 29 requirements packages have been sent to State for approval, and five Letters of Offer and Acceptance, prepared by the military departments, have resulted so far."



GPOI is a five-year international initiative with the primary goal of training and equipping 75,000 military troops, a majority of them African, for peacekeeping operations by 2010.

Enemies become allies

Bosnia takes partnering to new heights

By Army Capt. Steve Alvarez
American Forces Information Service

For four years, Col. Robert Susac of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Army fought a bloody war inside the borders of his country. Today, those he fought against serve alongside him.

“We have ex-enemies working together as a team,” Susac said at his office at U.S. Central Command headquarters in Tampa, Fla. He is the coalition’s senior national representative from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The U.S. State Department’s human rights reports estimate that more than 250,000 people were killed between 1992 and 1995 during a genocidal period in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Susac estimated that 90 percent of his nation’s infrastructure was destroyed during the civil strife that tore his nation of four million along three ethnic lines shortly after declarations of sovereignty were issued in 1991 by Bosnia and Herzegovina.

During this period, Susac said, he and other countrymen experienced a slow but steady progression to sorrow.

“After two to three months, you realize what’s going on,” Susac said of the unrest that took the lives of some of his family and friends. “After three to six months, you ask yourself if God exists,” he said. Then many in his country started to plead for international involvement.

“All of these people started to think they were forgotten,” Susac said. And, “after some time, people feel really hopeless. The only thing they care about is their own security — their basic needs.”

In 1995 after the warring parties signed the Dayton Peace Accord, a NATO-led international peacekeeping force of 60,000 troops entered Bosnia and Herzegovina to monitor the military aspects of the agreement. NATO then established a stabilization force to deter renewed hostilities. In 2004, the European Union sent a peacekeeping force, and today the EU still maintains a presence to ensure peace and stability in the country.

Despite having European forces overseeing the peace in his country and ongoing diplomatic discussions over land rights,



A few years ago angry mobs were staging protests throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. Today, the country has become more unified despite its diverse, ethnic mix.

Susac said, his country’s experience in founding democracy is one that has many parallels for Iraqis.

“There are lessons to be learned from my country,” Susac said. “First, [democracy] takes time. We were in the same situation — worse!” But, he added, “even after genocide, we’re able to work together.”

Bosnia and Herzegovina deployed a 36-person explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) team in 2005 to Taqaddum, Iraq. It also has a liaison officer in Baghdad. The EOD unit is attached to a U.S. Marine unit.

Susac said his country’s force in Iraq often shares its stories of struggle for independence with Iraqis, a common thread which has woven many friendships between the Bosnians and the Iraqis.

“I believe we don’t have any problems with the Iraqis because of our similar experiences,” Susac said. And he adds that religious commonality also helps. “One-third of our guys in the field are Muslim. They know absolutely everything about the culture.”

But the most common thread between Iraq

and Bosnia and Herzegovina is the struggle for freedom and peace, Susac admitted. Most Iraqis have been dramatically affected by the insurgency or by Saddam Hussein’s regime, coalition officials said. Likewise, many soldiers from Bosnia and Herzegovina also have been touched by their own civil conflict.

“A lot of my guys over there have lost someone during our war,” Susac said. He too lost family and friends during the fighting. “You can replace a car, a house, your belongings,” but, 25-year infantry veteran said, “you cannot buy a new member of your family.”

Although many of the soldiers from Bosnia and Herzegovina have “fresh wounds,” Susac said, they still manage to serve together and share esprit de corps.

“We must not live in the past,” he said. Susac said Iraqis should try to think about the future as they move toward democracy. “You can’t change the past.”

If Iraqis think about improving the lives of their families, change will take place, Susac said. “Try to provide a better life — think about building democracy — and understand it is a very long process.”

“Look at what happened in my country,”

Developing Professionals

DISAM launches new on-line system

The Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management (DISAM) recently announced the activation of the Professional Development On-line Certification Application and Tracking System. This is a significant step forward in assisting the international affairs (IA) workforce in career planning, documenting accomplishments, and applying for IA certification.

IA certification is just one leg of the triad of Defense Security Cooperation Agency initiatives to promote the professionalism of those involved in all aspects of international affairs – from foreign military sales (FMS) through cooperative research and development programs and all components in between.

Beginning in November of 2001, with the publication of *The Department of Defense, International Affairs, Certification and Career Development Guidelines*, DSCA has been progressively advancing a three-pronged approach to dealing with the significant potential fallout of a senior workforce, and providing current and future IA professionals with the necessary tools to deal effectively with an ever broadening environment.

This “triad” of initiatives includes an internship program, a graduate studies program (GMAP), and the IA Certification Program.

The DoD guidelines describe the certification portion of the personnel initiatives. The International Affairs Certification and Career Development Guidelines (IAC&CDG) are established primarily for personnel performing International



Activation of the Professional Development On-line Certification Application and Tracking system will assist future students with career planning.

Affairs (IA) duties as their primary discipline.

It further outlines that participation in this program is voluntary and is open to civil service, military, and foreign service national personnel. Titles 10 and 22 of the U.S. Code define International Affairs functions. Successful program execution under either Title requires specific, cross-cutting, functional expertise.

The International Affairs population is extremely broad and varied. Individuals may be full or part time, with a primary specialty within international affairs or as an adjunct to a primary functional area. It is because of the broad nature of the population, that the career programs are administered by the various MILDEPs as well as DSCA (DISAM) for non-MILDEP agencies within DoD.

The federal workforce faces a critical loss of human “information” capital. A

variety of options are available to senior leaders to effectively limit adverse results. Options include establishing mentoring programs, intensive training and educational programs, and recruitment and retention initiatives. Other actions may also include providing competitive benefits and other inducements, including monetary, targeted to recruit and retain a qualified workforce.

A structured and well-funded training program is critical to the success of any workforce shaping or career development program. The creation of a “pool” of qualified personnel, which provides the basis for future senior leadership, requires the identification and availability of qualitative and quantitative training. This combination provides the necessary functional knowledge, as well as, the skills and abilities to effectively execute International Affairs.

IA certification consists of meeting specific educational, training, and experience

requirements for each of three levels of certification. Each Military Department (and DSCA/DISAM for non-MILDEP agencies) has developed service specific implementation plans, but all certifications are transportable throughout DoD and must be in accordance with the “DoD Guidelines.”

Under the guidelines multiple levels of certification are used in current defense organization career programs. These programs use job experience, training, and education to establish thresholds for certification. Because of the voluntary nature of this program, certification level requirements for a position cannot be assigned; however, the basic thresholds for certification still apply.

Additional information on all of the initiatives can be found on-line at: <https://www.personnelinitiatives.org/index.html>

FY06 budget hit by 1 percent rescission, President sends FY07 request to congress

by Neil Hedlund
and
Lorna Jons

As reported in the November issue of *Partners*, the President signed the FY06 Foreign Operations Appropriations Act (P.L. 109-102) on Nov. 14.

However, all funding was subsequently reduced by an across-the-board rescission of 1 percent that applies to nearly all discretionary federal spending, including most defense spending.

This rescission reduces the enacted level of Foreign Military Financing (FMF) from \$4.51 billion to \$4.465 billion and International Military Education and Training (IMET) from \$86.7 million to \$85.9 million. Country-level allocations are still pending approval at the State Department.

The FY06 Defense Appropriations Act (P.L. 109-148) was signed into law on Dec. 30 following House and Senate approval just before the holidays. The Act fully funded the Overseas, Humanitarian, Disaster and Civic Aid (OHDACA) account (\$61.5 million), the Regional Defense Counterterrorism Fellowship program (\$20 million), and DSCA's Operation and Maintenance (O&M) funds for the Warsaw Initiative, the Defense Regional Centers for Security Studies, and headquarters operations (all amounts subject to 1 percent rescission).

As part of the FY06 supplemental "bridge" funding for Iraq and Afghanistan, the Act provides \$195 million of O&M to reimburse Pakistan, Jordan, and other key cooperating nations for logistics, military, and other support provided to US operations.

The Act also provides up to \$500 million of O&M (with concurrence of the Secretary of State) to train, equip, and

provide related assistance to military and security forces of Iraq and Afghanistan, and authorizes O&M to provide logistical support to coalition forces supporting operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Congress also completed action on the FY06 Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 109-163) just prior to the holidays and the President signed the bill on Jan. 6. The Act authorizes full funding for OHDACA and DSCA's O&M requirements, but does not consolidate and standardize the legal authorities of the DoD Regional Centers.

For OHDACA, the Act also authorizes an additional \$40 million for humanitarian assistance to the Pakistan earthquake victims under the authorization of FY06 emergency supplemental funding.

In addition to authorizing \$1.5 billion for reimbursing coalition nations for supporting Iraq, Afghanistan, and the war on terrorism, the Act also provides new authority to build partner capacity and transfer defense articles and services to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Section 1206 of the Act provides new authority for a two-year pilot program to provide up to \$200 million annually for the provision of equipment, supplies, and training to build the capacity of a foreign nation's military forces to conduct counter-terrorist operations and support military and stability operations.

Section 1209 authorizes the transfer of up to \$500 million of defense articles and

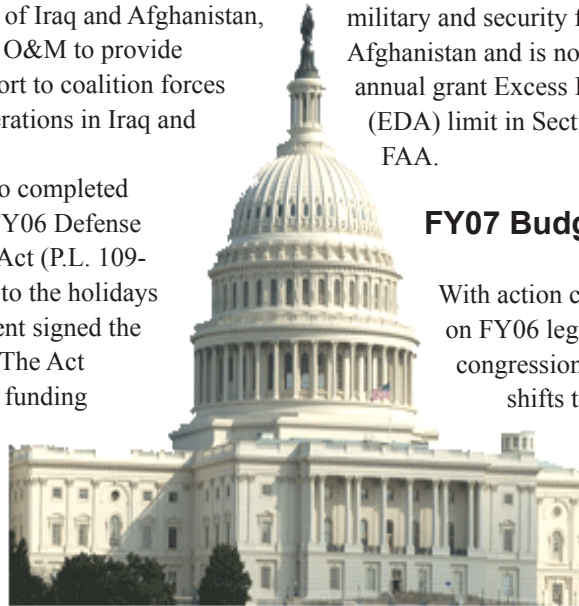
services from stocks to the military and security forces of Iraq and Afghanistan and is not subject to the annual grant Excess Defense Articles (EDA) limit in Section 516 of the FAA.

FY07 Budget Request

With action completed on FY06 legislation, the congressional focus now shifts to the FY07 budget request submitted by the President on Feb. 6. The President's FY07 International Affairs budget request is \$35.1

billion, an 11.2 percent increase over the FY06 figure. The FY07 FMF request is \$4.551 billion and the IMET request is \$88.9 million, both modest increases over the FY06 figures. Full details can be found on the State Department's website at <http://www.state.gov/s/d/rm/c6112.htm>. The FY07 DoD budget request totals \$491.3 billion, including \$50 million for emergency supplemental funding for Iraq and Afghanistan.

The FY07 OHDACA request is \$63.2 million, a slight increase over FY06. Other security cooperation-related account requests include Warsaw Initiative (\$31.5 million), DoD Regional Centers (\$65.8 million), and the Regional Defense Counterterrorism Fellowship program (\$19.0 million). Congressional budget hearings with the Secretaries of State and Defense have begun and the committees will work on their bills in the spring.



Security Cooperation Program Scope

GRANT ASSISTANCE

- FMF - \$4.465B (FY06)
- \$4.551B (FY07 request)
- IMET - \$85.877M (FY06)
- \$88.90M (FY07 request)
~ 100 Countries
~ 11,000 Students
- Global Peace Operations Initiative (PKO)
- \$100.384M (FY06 estimate)
- \$102.575M (FY07 request)

FMS BUSINESS

- Sales - \$13.5B (FY04)
\$10.6B (FY05)
- Deliveries - \$11.512B (FY05)
- Open Cases - 11,858 / \$227.1B (1/06)
- FMS Trust Fund - \$7.07B (1/06)

OTHER PROGRAMS

- Humanitarian Assistance
- \$40.8M (FY06 est) 100+ countries - \$40.3M (FY07 req)
- Disaster/Emergency Response
- \$15.0M (FY06 est) - \$17.9M (FY07 est)
- Humanitarian Mine Action
- \$5.0M (FY06 est) - \$5.0M (FY07 est)
- Warsaw Initiative
- \$31.7M (FY06 est) - \$31.5M (FY07 req)
- Canadian Environmental Program
- \$12.0M (FY06 est) - \$12.5M (FY07 req)
- Excess Defense Articles FY05
- \$74.0M Grants Offered (\$9M FMS Offered)
- Regional Centers
- \$67.9M (FY06) ~ 5,900 participants - \$65.8M (FY07 req)
- Drawdowns
- Sec 506 Emergency (Pakistan—Dec 05: \$30M)
- Special (Afghanistan Support—Feb 06: \$17M)
- Regional Defense Counterterrorism Fellowship
- \$19.6M (FY06 est) ~3000 participants- \$19M (FY07 req)

Secretary Rice addresses Marshall Center

The key to spreading and sustaining democracy is for leaders to remain visionary and optimistic, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice told the students, faculty and staff at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies on Feb. 10.

Rice addressed the group, which consisted of more than 200 students from 49 countries, in a late-afternoon teleconference from the State Department in Washington, D.C. The students were participants in the Center's 12-week Program in Advanced Security Studies and its five-week Program in Terrorism and Security Studies.

"It really was an extraordinary event for our participants to not only interact with the U.S. Secretary of State, but to engage in the kind of no-holds-barred question-and-answer session they did," said Marshall Center Director Dr. John P. Rose.

Rice addressed the group for several minutes, then took questions from the students. She told students that participating in a Marshall Center program gave them something she finds in short supply. "The Marshall Center, I think, is one of the finest institutions that has been created in recent times. It really is very important...after the end of the Cold War, to bring together leaders and future leaders of countries that are concerned about peace, concerned about democracy, concerned about prosperity. I think (attending a Marshall Center program is) a wonderful opportunity for people...to get to know each other and spend some time

reflecting on the tremendous events we are all witnessing."

As government officials in the ministries of foreign affairs, defense or the interior for their nations, the students are often participants in events that affect their home countries. Being a participant makes it hard to find time for reflection, but Rice encouraged the students to "step back and think about the big picture of history that is unfolding before us.

"When I do that, I think about the person for whom this center is named, I think about the people like George Marshall, who in 1945 faced a world that was really in ruin after the end of World War II. And I ask myself how those people must have felt every day when they got up and they went to work and thought about the tremendous strategic challenges to democracy that they were facing."

Those who are able to do that will help bring peace and prosperity to today's troubled regions in the same way that the work of George Marshall and his contemporaries led to the peace Europe enjoys today, she said.

"There is no doubt that the great challenge of our time now is to see liberty and democracy spread to places where it has not taken root, to sustain and nurture new democracies around the world to the place that they are self-sustaining,



and capable, and able to deliver for their people."

Rice's comments prompted the Marshall Center participants to ask a wide range of questions, including several about the participants' home countries and the U.S. position on issues in the news.

"She was very candid and answered any question that any of our participants cared to ask," said Rose. "I think both sides benefited, because our participants got to ask direct questions of someone who thinks and operates on a global scale, and the U.S. benefited because these are 200 men and women who, I really believe, are going to be the future ambassadors, general officers, parliamentarians and ministers for their nations. All are certainly among the very best, most talented and brightest leaders from 49 different nations. Secretary Rice made a difference and truly enhanced the image of the United States," Rose said.

APCSS pursues outreach in Nepal, Singapore

As part of the new Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies' (APCSS) educational outreach program, retired Army Lt. Gen. Ed Smith, Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies, traveled to several countries in the Asia-Pacific region, most recently to Nepal and Singapore.

In Nepal, Smith experienced, first-hand, some of the effects of that country's most pressing security concerns - the Maoist insurgency.

He met with U.S. Ambassador James Moriarty and various Nepalese civil and military government leaders to discuss current security issues and how APCSS

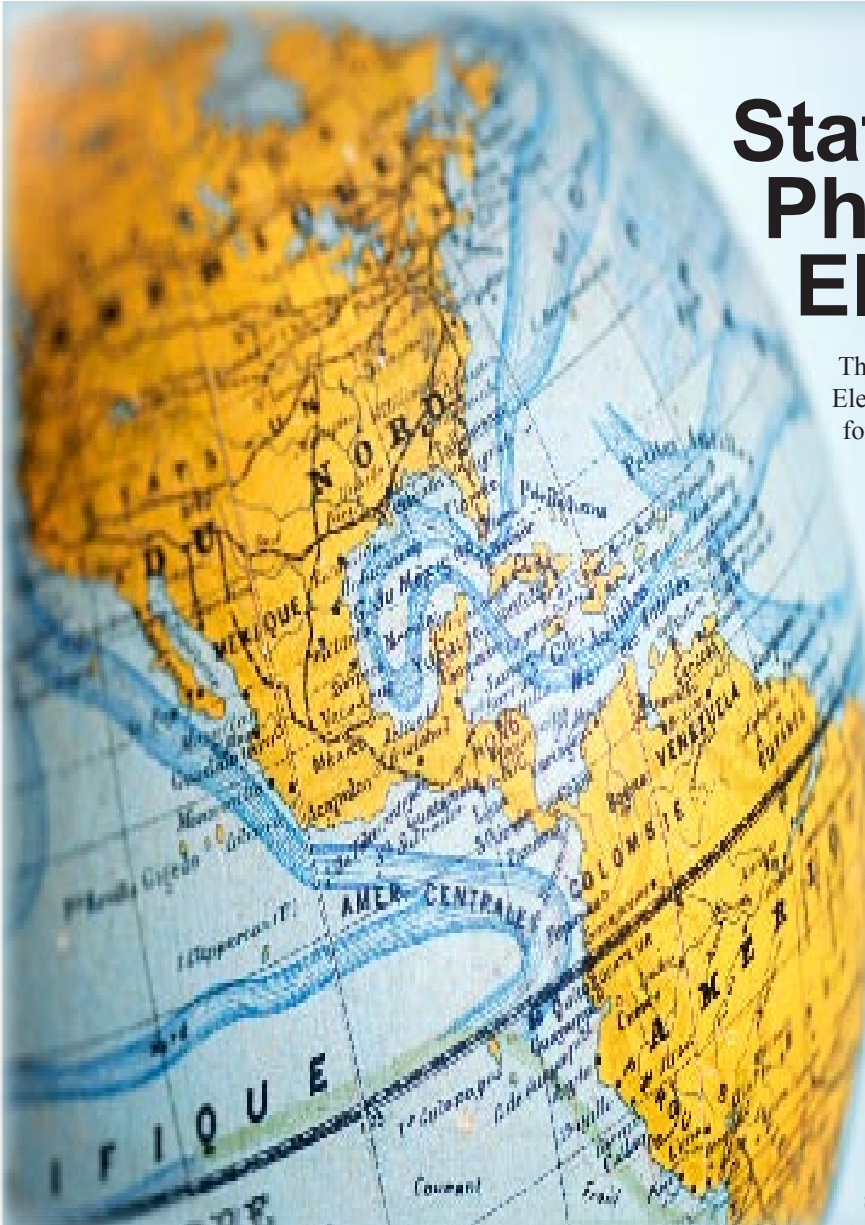
might provide related educational assistance.

As a result of these meetings, APCSS may have an opportunity to partner with representatives of Nepal's National Tribhuvan University to host a regional outreach education event. The meetings energized continuing security cooperation discussions among Nepalese alumni of APCSS and established a mutually beneficial relationship between APCSS and the Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies, a subset of the Tribhuvan University.

"Whatever the forum or format, we

at APCSS are available to partner with counterparts in Nepal on regional outreach education related to security issues critical to Nepal today and tomorrow," said Smith

In Singapore, Smith met with U.S. and host-nation officials to discuss opportunities for partnering with the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS) in Singapore on a conference. Smith met with both Nepalese and Singaporean alumni of APCSS during his trip. They offered valuable feedback on how APCSS might improve some of its in-residence courses.



State Department Phases-in New Electronic Passport

The Department of State is phasing-in the issuance of the new Electronic Passport (e-passport) to better facilitate international travel for U.S. citizens and enhance border security.

On December 30, 2005, the Department began limited production of the first-ever U.S. e-passports. As part of a pilot program, State is now issuing diplomatic passports and soon official passports in electronic format. The e-passport integrates the latest concepts in electronic document protection and readability.

The new passport combines face recognition and contactless chip technology. The chip, embedded in the cover of the passport, holds the same information that is printed in the passport: name, date of birth, gender, place of birth, dates of passport issuance and expiration, passport number, and photo image of the bearer. Previously issued passports without electronic chips will remain valid until their expiration dates.

To address privacy concerns, the Department has incorporated an anti-skimming device in the passport's front cover. The Department also included basic access control (BAC) technology to prevent skimming and eavesdropping. The anti-skimming device and the BAC technology, when taken together, will mitigate unauthorized reading of the e-passport.

The Department plans to issue the first full validity U.S. e-passports to the American public later this year and plans to issue e-passports at all domestic passport agencies by the end of 2006. For more information about the Electronic Passport, please visit the State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs' website at <http://travel.state.gov>.

Senate Confirmations

Senate confirmed Feb. 17

- Preston M. Geren as undersecretary of the Army
- James I. Finley as deputy undersecretary of Defense for acquisition and technology

Senate confirmed Feb. 16

- Bernadette Mary Allen as ambassador to Niger
- Janice L. Jacobs as ambassador to Senegal and ambassador to Guinea-Bissau
- Patricia Newton Moller as ambassador to Burundi
- Steven Alan Browning as ambassador to Uganda
- Jeanine E. Jackson as ambassador to Burkina Faso
- Kristie A. Kenney as ambassador to the Philippines
- Robert Weisberg as ambassador to the Congo
- Janet Ann Sanderson as ambassador to Haiti
- Claudia A. McMurray as assistant secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs
- James D. McGee as ambassador to the Union of Comoros
- Gary A. Grappo as ambassador to Oman
- Bradford R. Higgins as chief financial officer and assistant secretary of State for Resource Management
- Patricia A. Butenis as ambassador to Bangladesh

Haydon Memorialized at Arlington Cemetery

Army Major Joseph J. Haydon Jr. was memorialized at Arlington Cemetery on Jan. 4. The ceremony commemorated the life of the former chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation in Nigeria who was killed in an airplane accident near Lagos, Nigeria, on Oct. 22, 2005.

The Director of Logistics and Security Assistance at U.S. European Command, Rear Adm. Mike Lyden, presented the

Legion of Merit award to Haydon's wife and parents at a reception afterward. Stewart Bentley, Haydon's senior mentor at The Citadel, presented a class ring to Haydon's family to replace the one lost in the accident. Also in attendance at the reception was Ambassador John Campbell, U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria, Theresa Whelan, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs,

and Col. Sue Ann Sandusky, the Defense Attaché in Nigeria.

In a ceremony on Dec. 11, a U.S. European Command representative presented a plaque at the Defense Institute for Security Assistance Management at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, where Haydon's name will be added to a memorial recognizing security assistance personnel who have given their lives while performing their duties.

General Explains GWOT During 12-week Course

General Bryan D. Brown, Commander of the U.S. Special Operations Command, spoke on the difference between the traditional warfare and the global war on terrorism to about 200 participants from more than 40 nations at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies Feb. 2.

The course participants are attending the Center's 12-week Program in Advanced Security Studies and the five-week Program in Terrorism and Security Studies.

More than 4,000 participants have graduated from Marshall Center programs, which feature important guest speakers such as Brown, as well as classes, field trips and other unique educational opportunities.

Mediterranean Issues Discussed at Marshall Center Security Conference

About 50 decision makers from 27 countries, involved in Mediterranean security issues, gathered for the second Mediterranean Dialogue conference at the George C. Marshall Center for Security Studies in January.

The Marshall Center brought participants together to examine progress made since the first Mediterranean Dialogue conference, discussing the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism, and further identifying and exchanging insights on common security challenges.

Invited participants included representatives from Albania, Algeria, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Macedonia, Malta, Mauritania, Moldova, Morocco, Portugal, Romania,

Serbia and Montenegro, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

This conference builds on the success of the Marshall Center's first Mediterranean Dialogue Conference, held in December 2004.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) initiated the Mediterranean Dialogue in 1994 to contribute to regional security and stability, achieve better mutual understanding, and dispel misconceptions about NATO among Dialogue countries, which include the countries of North Africa and the Near East.

More recently, NATO, European Union, and Group of Eight summits reiterated the need to further develop cooperation within the Mediterranean Region.

Trained Georgians Head to Support Operation Iraqi Freedom

The 54-member Georgia Sustainment and Stability Operations Program U.S. Task Force, many of them veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, celebrated the completion of its mission to train the Republic of Georgia's 22nd Light Infantry Battalion soldiers.

The graduation ceremony,

held in Krtsanisi, Republic of Georgia on Dec. 16, 2005, marked a proud moment in the lives of the Georgians who will fill more than 530 positions in Iraq.

"Our mission was to train and equip the 22nd Light Infantry Battalion in preparation for its mission

in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Our duty was to help the 22nd Battalion realize its full potential, and I am confident we accomplished that and more," said Maj. Melvin Chattman, 38, the GSSOP Task Force commanding officer and native of Memphis, Tenn.

United States Ambassador to

Georgia, John Tefft, addressed the task force and the Georgian 22nd Battalion during the ceremony.

"I congratulate Maj. Chattman and our outstanding team for the work they did in training the 22nd Battalion," Tefft said.

African Students Complete Next Generation Leaders Course

During a closing ceremony held Feb 3, Africa Center Director Carlton W. Fulford congratulated the participants of the Africa Center's Next Generation of African Military Leaders course. He also encouraged them to stay in touch, and to apply the principles discussed during

the event when they return to their home countries. The closing ceremony also featured remarks from Captain Samuel Sam Jr., from Ghana who attended the course and spoke on behalf of his fellow participants, thanking the Africa Center for the experience and offering his thoughts

on the accomplishments of the program.

A four-week course, the event was designed to examine the qualities of leadership, dilemmas encountered in combat or peacekeeping operations, and methods by which officers might advance military interests within democratizing states.