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SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS

U.S. Tsunami Programs: A Brief Overview. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Peter Folger. March 14, 2011.

An 8.9 magnitude massive earthquake struck off Japan's northeast coast near Honshu in the afternoon on Friday, March 11, 2011. The earthquake triggered a tsunami¹ that has caused widespread devastation to parts of the coastal regions in Japan closest to the earthquake. The tsunami traveled across the Pacific Ocean, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) tsunami warning centers in Hawaii and Alaska issued tsunami warnings for coastal areas of Hawaii, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, American Samoa, Alaska, and California. Although the tsunami caused widespread damage along the northeast coast of Japan, tsunami warnings issued from the tsunami warning centers gave the above U.S. Pacific territories, Hawaii, and the U.S. West Coast ample warning to prepare for incoming waves. NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) manages the two tsunami warning centers that monitor, detect, and issue warnings for tsunamis generated in the Pacific Ocean.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41686.pdf> [PDF format, 5 pages].

Lessons from Kenya for the Global Health Initiative. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Janet Fleischman. February 23, 2011.

The Obama administration's Global Health Initiative (GHI), announced in May 2009 as a six-year, \$63-billion program, has put a strong emphasis on integration of health services, building largely on the work of PEPFAR. As implementation of GHI is moving ahead and country strategies are being developed, this is an important moment to bring forward lessons learned from the experience of integration in the U.S. government's health and development programs. A key example involves U.S. health programs in Kenya over the past five years, notably the APHIA program (the AIDS, Population and Health Integrated Assistance program), which developed an integrated program based on the PEPFAR platform. The paper finds that the APHIA programs in Kenya hold some important lessons that should help inform GHI implementation. Since Kenya has been designated one of eight GHI-Plus countries, the emphasis on program integration in those U.S. government programs is especially relevant. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110222_Fleischman_LessonsFromKenya_web.pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

Lessons for the Mideast from Asia's Revolutions. Council on Foreign Affairs. Joshua Kurlantzick. February 25, 2011.

The experiences of several Asian states in the past quarter-century are worth noting in today's turbulent Mideast. The Asian cases show the value of swift, cohesive action by opposition groups, and the need for a light U.S. touch, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/middle-east/lessons-mideast-asias-revolutions/p24246> [HTML format, various paging].

Understanding Saudi Stability and Instability: A Very Different Nation. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Anthony H. Cordesman. February 26, 2011.

Saudi Arabia is scarcely immune to protest and dissent, and has long struggled with the challenges of reform. What is most striking about the Kingdom over the past weeks of crisis, however, has been the lack of any major challenge to government and the way it functions. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://csis.org/publication/understanding-saudi-stability-and-instability-very-different-nation> [HTML format, various paging].

Religion in the News: 2010. The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. February 24, 2011.

Events and controversies related to Islam dominated U.S. press coverage of religion in 2010, bumping the Catholic Church from the top spot, according to the study by the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://pewforum.org/uploadedFiles/Topics/Issues/Politics_and_Elections/PEJ-2010%20Religion%20in%20the%20news-webPDF.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Could ASEAN Drift Apart?: China's Growing Influence in the Greater Mekon Subregion Risks Splitting the Organization. YaleGlobal. Geoff Wade. February 25, 2011.

The motto of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations is "One Vision, One Identity, One Community." But the economic powerhouse to the north, China, directs more attention to ASEAN's mainland members in the Greater Mekong subregion than its maritime members. The subregion comprises of five member states: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand as well as the Chinese provinces of Yunnan and Guangxi. But China's "Bridgehead Strategy," including massive investment in dams, transportation routes, energy grids, trade bases and other infrastructure, gives China preponderant influence over these countries, explains historian Geoff Wade. China's infrastructure assistance helps economic growth, but the weighting toward the organization's mainland members contributes to tensions that could weaken ASEAN's own collaboration. Other Asian powers, including Japan and South Korea, seek to create a balance by offering development assistance. Lopsided development of ASEAN will weaken the organization and diminish its influence as a unified bloc in Southeast Asia as envisaged in its founding charter. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/could-asean-drift-apart> [HTML format, various paging].

Economic Report of the President 2011. Council of Economic Advisers. February 2011.

The Economic Report of the President is an annual report written by the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers. It overviews the nation's economic progress using text and extensive data appendices. The Economic Report of the President is transmitted to Congress no later than ten days after the submission of the Budget of the United States Government. Supplementary reports can be issued to the Congress which contain additional and/or revised recommendations.

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/search/pagedetails.action?packageId=ERP-2011> [HTML format with links].

National Archives: Framework Governing Use of Presidential Library Facilities and Staff. U.S. Government Accountability Office. February 28, 2011.

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) operates presidential libraries for all of the former U.S. presidents since Herbert Hoover. These libraries received over 2.4 million visits in 2009, including researchers, public program attendees, and museum visitors. Each library is associated with a private foundation, which raised the funds to build the library and then turned the library facility over to the federal government. These foundations typically have ongoing relationships with the libraries they built, and some of these library-foundation relationships involve sharing of staff and facilities. Per congressional request, this report describes the principal laws, regulations, and NARA policies that govern library-foundation relationships and the appropriate use of library facilities and staff. GAO reviewed specific laws governing presidential libraries, and NARA regulations and policies.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11390.pdf> [PDF format, 21 pages].

The Download: The Cloud Computing Research Study. Lockheed Martin. February 2011.

In December 2010, the 1105 Government Information Group and Beacon Technology Partners conducted a survey of federal IT managers to determine their attitudes toward cloud computing. The survey revealed the greatest cloud opportunities among federal agencies and the preferred deployment modes for cloud initiatives. Additionally, the research showed perceived advantages of cloud computing, concerns about security, and more. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://download.1105media.com/GIG/Custom/2011PDFS/CloudComputing/CloudComputingLM.pdf> [PDF format, 15 pages].

Europe Confronts Mediterranean Mayhem - Part I. YaleGlobal. Jean-Pierre Lehmann. February 28, 2011.

European leaders were cozy with dictators throughout the Middle East and North Africa for decades. Beginning in Tunisia, citizens have swiftly challenged authoritarian regimes in the region, threatening decades-old enforced stability with non-violent protests. The series gauges European reactions to a crisis that threatens the continent's borders, economy and stability. Europe supported and depended on family regimes to ensure stability and provide oil, explains the author. Such arrangements offered few benefits for millions of citizens trapped in the stagnant economies. In terms of demographics and expectations of one another, the divide is deep between the northern and southern coasts of the Mediterranean. He urges Europe to take immediate steps to right past wrongs and nurture stability based on citizens' consent. Lehmann reminds that Arabs contributed immensely to the European Renaissance before and could do so again. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/europe-confronts-mayhem-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

Peer-to-peer Healthcare. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Susannah Fox. February 28, 2011.

Many Americans turn to friends and family for support and advice when they have a health problem. The report shows how people's networks are expanding to include online peers, particularly in the crucible of rare disease. The most striking finding of the national survey is the extent of peer-to-peer help among people living with chronic conditions. One in four internet users living with high blood pressure, diabetes, heart conditions, lung conditions, cancer, or some other chronic ailment (23%) say they have gone online to find others with similar health concerns. By contrast, 15% of internet users who report no chronic conditions have sought such help online. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

http://pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/Pew_P2PHealthcare_2011.pdf [PDF format, 26 pages].

Getting Warmer: U.S. CO2 Emissions from Power Plants. The Environmental Integrity Project. February 18, 2011.

The report shows that carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from power plants in the U.S. rose 5.56 percent in 2010 over the year before, the biggest annual increase since the EPA began tracking emissions in 1995. The report is based on data from the EPA's "Clean Air Markets" website, which tallies emission reports from electric generators. Texas power plants led the pack in 2010, with nearly 257 million ton of CO₂ emissions, as much as the next two states combined (Florida and Ohio), and more than seven times the total CO₂ emissions from power plants in California. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

http://www.environmentalintegrity.org/documents/CO2Report_2011RJD21811final.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

Of Revolutions, Regime Change, and State Collapse in the Arab World. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Marina and David Ottaway. February 28, 2011.

In spite of the massive popular protests that have swept away two Arab strongmen and shaken half a dozen monarchies and republics, the Arab world has yet to witness any fundamental change in ruling elites and even less in the nature of governance. *[Note: contains copyrighted material]*.

<http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=42799&prog=zgp&proj=zme> [HTML format, various paging].

Bahrain: Reform, Security, and U.S. Policy. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kenneth Katzman. February 18, 2011.

After experiencing serious unrest during the late 1990s, Bahrain undertook several steps to enhance the inclusion of the Shiite majority in governance. However, protests erupting following the uprising that overthrew Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on February 11, 2011, demonstrate that Shiite grievances over the distribution of power and economic opportunities remain unsatisfied. The new unrest comes four months after smaller protests against the efforts by the Sunni-led government's efforts to maintain its tight grip on power in the October 23, 2010, parliamentary election. That election, no matter the outcome, would not have unseated the ruling Al Khalifa family from power, but the Shiite population was hoping that winning a majority in the elected lower house could give it greater authority with which to challenge the ruling family. In advance of the elections, the government launched a wave of arrests intended to try to discredit some of the hard-line Shiite leadership as tools of Iran. The main Shiite faction, an Islamist group called "*Wifaq*" (Accord), won one more seat than it did in the 2006 election but still ended up short of a majority (18 out of the 40 seats) in the elected lower house.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/95-1013.pdf> [PDF format, 20 pages].

Race to the Top and Teacher Preparation. Center for American Progress. Edward Crowe. March 1, 2011.

Strengthening teacher education is an essential part of any strategy to improve America's primary and secondary schools, writes Edward Crowe. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/03/pdf/teacher_preparation.pdf [PDF format, 48 pages].

Iran's Economy in the Shadow of Regional Upheaval. Brookings Institution. Suzanne Maloney. February 28, 2011.

Iran's stability is once again in question, as historic protests sweep the Middle East and revive the flagging fortunes of its own opposition movement. Expectations of the Islamic Republic's inevitable demise are further fueled by the revolutionary state's own vulnerabilities, says the report. Political elites are constantly at war with one another. Much of the clerical estate is alienated from theocratic rule. The merchant community has fought both the encroachments of the state and tax obligations. And youth are simply fed up with the lack of opportunities and the stultifying social and cultural restrictions. Since the disputed June 2009 presidential election, a new homegrown opposition movement has emerged, led by political revolutionary stalwarts and propelled by millions of ordinary Iranians who took to the streets for six months. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0228_iran_maloney.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Libya on the Brink Leads the News. Pew Project for Excellence in Journalism. March 1, 2011.

With Libya engulfed in civil war, the continuing turmoil in the Middle East returned to the top of the mainstream news agenda. From Feb. 21-27, events in the Middle East, dominated by the precarious situation in Libya, accounted for 35% of the newshole, according to the Pew Research

Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. Up from 22% the previous week, this marks the fourth time in the last five weeks the Mideast has ranked as the No. 1 story in PEJ's News Coverage Index. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.journalism.org/index_report/pej_news_coverage_index_february_2127_2011 [HTML format, various paging].

Getting to Deficit Reduction. American Enterprise Institute. John H. Makin. March 1, 2011.

The report says that the 112th Congress must address a serious budget problem; the ratio of debt to gross domestic product (GDP) will continue to rise without aggressive deficit-reduction measures. Policymakers can arrest the slow death of the U.S. economy by following prescriptions similar to those of the bipartisan deficit commission: cut federal spending, lower tax rates, stabilize the debt-to-GDP ratio, and avoid deflation. Waiting for a fiscal crisis to occur before taking action is unwise. Japan's failure to address its debt problem has caused an erosion of living standards over the last decade and a half, and the U.S. could follow suit if it does not learn from Japan's mistakes. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/EO-2011-03-g.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].

Egypt's Draft Constitutional Amendments Answer Some Questions and Raise Others. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Nathan J. Brown and Michele Dunne. March 1, 2011.

Proposed amendments to Egypt's constitution meet some longstanding opposition and civil society demands but also create new uncertainties. A committee appointed by the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces presented the amendments on February 26, allowing for a brief period of public discussion and possible further changes before a public referendum, which might be held as soon as March 19. The proposed changes shorten the presidential term and create a two-term limit, significantly expand the pool of eligible presidential candidates, restore judicial supervision of elections, pave the way for a new constitution after elections, and restrict the ability to declare and renew a state of emergency. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=42817&prog=zgp&proj=zme> [HTML format, various paging].

World Population Prospects and the Global Economic Outlook. American Enterprise Institute. Nicholas Eberstadt. February 28, 2011.

This paper examines global demographic prospects to the year 2030 and assesses the influence that impending population trends may have upon economic performance in coming years for the world as a whole and the major regional economies. A reasonably reliable assessment of prospective global trends to 2030 is feasible today because the overwhelming majority of people who will be living in that future world are already here, alive today. This includes all of that future world's senior citizens and almost its entire workforce. Major changes in global population trends are in the offing--among these, a sharp slowdown in the growth of available manpower, with impending declines of manpower for some regions, and pervasive population aging. Furthermore, in many of today's important "emerging markets" demographic pressures may constrain economic growth more significantly than is currently appreciated. Coping with these looming demographic realities will require far-reaching reforms and innovations if we hope to maintain the pre-crisis tempo of global economic growth, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/EberstadtAEIDevelopmentPolicyWorkingPaperFINAL.pdf> [PDF format, 43 pages].

Elder Justice: Stronger Federal Leadership Could Enhance National Response to Elder Abuse. U.S. Government Accountability Office. March 2, 2011.

Each day, news reports cite instances of older adults across the United States being abused, denied needed care, or financially exploited, often by those they depend on. This report contains information on (1) existing estimates of the extent of elder abuse and their quality, (2) factors associated with elder abuse and its impact on victims, (3) characteristics and challenges of state Adult Protective Services (APS) responsible for addressing elder abuse, and (4) federal support and leadership in this area.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11208.pdf> [PDF format, 64 pages].

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11384t.pdf> Congressional Testimony [PDF format, 14 pages].

The Geography of Fear. National Bureau of Economic Research. Daniel Treisman. February 28, 2011.

Whether the danger invoked is nuclear war or genetically modified foods, far more people in some countries than in others say they are afraid. The author shows that the levels of reported fear of different dangers correlate strongly across both individuals and countries. The author constructs indexes of fearfulness for 15-25 countries and map the prevalence of fear in Western Europe. About one quarter of the crossnational variation within Europe can be explained by differences in pessimism, the degree to which respondents exaggerate the likelihood of disasters. Among the countries, the most robust correlates of fearfulness relate to countries' religious traditions. Fear tends to be higher in countries where more people believe in Hell and where fewer believe in Heaven. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.nber.org/papers/w16838.pdf> [PDF format, 62 pages].

States' Revenue Estimating: Cracks in the Crystal Ball. Pew Center on the States and Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government. March 2011.

The ability to estimate how much money is coming in each year is critical for any individual, family, business and government to set spending priorities, plan for the future and cover day-to-day expenses. But when those estimates are substantially off, the consequences can be significant. The report shows that in fiscal year 2009, the errors by states in forecasting personal income, sales, and corporate income tax collections added up to a \$49 billion unexpected revenue shortfall. In a year in which state lawmakers faced \$63 billion in midyear budget gaps, coming atop \$47 billion they had already closed when crafting their budgets, the missed forecasts contributed to the need for tough and unexpected choices to cut spending, increase taxes, draw from reserves and borrow money. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.rockinst.org/pdf/government_finance/2011-03-01-States_Revenue_Estimating_Report.pdf [PDF format, 56 pages].

2011 Trade Policy Agenda and 2010 Annual Report of the President of the United States on the Trade Agreements Program. Office of the United States Trade Representative. Ambassador Ronald Kirk. March 2011.

Two-way trade is essential to American economic growth and success. Ninety-five percent of consumers reside beyond our borders, and the International Monetary Fund forecasts that nearly 83 percent of world growth over the next five years will take place outside of the U.S. To

reach full potential for employment and economic growth, America must engage globally to sell more goods and services abroad, according to the report.

http://www.ustr.gov/webfm_send/2597 [PDF format, 443 pages].

Rising Oil Prices Big News for Public. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. March 2, 2011.

Both the public and the media focused last week on the increasing violence in Libya, but Americans also closely tracked news about a related concern, the impact the crisis in the Middle East is having on oil prices at home. About two-in-ten (21%) say they followed news about the rising price of oil more closely than any other major story, according to the latest News Interest Index survey conducted Feb. 24-27 among 1,009 adults. Comparable numbers say they most closely followed news about the situation in Libya (19%) or the budget disputes in Wisconsin and other states between state governments and public employee unions (18%). [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1912/public-news-interest-rising-oil-prices-libya-wisconsin-budget-protests> [HTML format, various paging].

FAO Food Price Index. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. March 3, 2011.

Food Price Index rose for the eighth consecutive month, averaging 236 points in February 2011, up 2.2 percent from January and the highest (in both real and nominal terms) since January 1990, the inception date of the index. Except for sugar, prices of all other commodity groups monitored registered gains in February with dairy products and cereals climbing the most. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/wfs-home/foodpricesindex/en/> [HTML format, various paging].

The Case for UN Peacekeeping. Council on Foreign Relations. Micah Zenko and Rebecca R. Friedman. March 2, 2011.

UN peacekeeping is a crucial U.S. partner in maintaining stability, but the current administration must take a more vigorous role in promoting it or risk losing support in Congress, write Micah Zenko and Rebecca Friedman. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/peacekeeping/case-un-peacekeeping/p24277> [HTML format, various paging].

Côte d'Ivoire: Is War the Only Option? International Crisis Group. March 3, 2011.

Côte d'Ivoire is on the verge of a new civil war. This tragedy can only be avoided if Africans and the wider international community stand firm behind the democratically elected president, Alassane Ouattara, and he launches an initiative for reconciliation and a transitional government of national unity, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/africa/west-africa/cote-divoire/171-cote-divoire-is-war-the-only-option.aspx> Summary in English [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/fr/regions/afrique/afrique-de-louest/cote-divoire/171-cote-divoire-is-war-the-only-option.aspx> Summary in French [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/africa/west-africa/cote-divoire/171%20Cote%20dIvoire%20-%20faut-il%20se%20resoudre%20a%20la%20guerre.ashx> Full Text in French [PDF format, 41 pages].

Fewer Are Angry at Government, But Discontent Remains High. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. March 3, 2011.

The public remains deeply frustrated with the federal government, but fewer Americans say they are angry at government than did so last fall. Overall, the percentage saying they are angry with the federal government has fallen from 23% last September to 14% today, with much of the decline coming among Republicans and Tea Party supporters. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/711.pdf> [PDF format, 35 pages].

Women in America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being. U.S. Department of Commerce. March 2011.

The report, prepared for the White House Council on Women and Girls, presents selected indicators of women's social and economic well-being currently and over time. It is intended for a general audience, with the hope that it will be useful to policymakers, policy analysts, journalists, policy advocates, and all those interested in women's issues. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://blogs.suntimes.com/sweet/Women_in_America.pdf [PDF format, 97 pages].

Continuing Challenges and Potential for Collaborative Approaches to Education Reform. RAND Corporation. Susan J. Bodilly et al. March 3, 2011.

The Ford Foundation's Collaborating for Education Reform Initiative (CERI) provided grantees with funds, guidance, and technical assistance to develop collaboratives and carry out activities to improve teaching and learning. A second effort, CERI 2, laid down a new set of goals for grantees. The report evaluates the initiative. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/MG1051.html> [HTML format with links].

Europe Confronts Mediterranean Mayhem - Part II. YaleGlobal. Shada Islam. March 2, 2011.

In October, Angela Merkel pronounced that Germany's multiculturalism has failed. Months later, amid massive protests against autocratic North African leaders whose policies long provided a bulwark for Europe, UK's David Cameron and France's Nicolas Sarkozy echoed her assessment. The report suggests that Europe cannot bury its head in the sand, and instead must work with Muslim Mediterranean neighbors and improve its own prospects at the same time. Immigrants and host nations share blame for multiculturalism's failure, argues Shada Islam. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/europe-confronts-mayhem-part-ii> [HTML format, various paging].

Terrorist Threat to the U.S. Homeland - Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Christopher Boucek. March 2, 2011.

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), the organization behind the attempted Christmas Day 2009 attack and last October's cargo bomb plot, has repeatedly attempted to strike American interests. In testimony before the House Homeland Security Committee, Christopher Boucek warns that AQAP is now the greatest single terrorist threat to the United States, a greater danger even than al-Qaeda's senior leadership. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://carnegieendowment.org/files/0302_testimony_boucek.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

Iran's Secret Network. American Enterprise Institute. Ali Alfoneh. March 3, 2011.

On January 24, 2011, Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei promoted Qassem Suleimani, chief of the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), to major general, the highest rank in the IRGC since the end of the Iran/Iraq war in 1988.[2] As discussed in the first Outlook in this series, Suleimani's rise to prominence in the IRGC has been gradual rather than meteoric. His personal and professional background and the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan in the late 1990s helped advance his career. However, Suleimani's network matters, too. The Outlook identifies members of Suleimani's network within and outside the IRGC. It also argues that fluctuations in their careers could serve as indicators of Suleimani's authority in the Islamic Republic. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/MEO-2011-03-No-2-g.pdf> [PDF format, 10 pages].

Al Qaeda's Operating Environments: A New Approach to the War on Terror. American Enterprise Institute. Charlie Szrom and Chris Harnisch. March 2011.

The environment in which an al Qaeda affiliate operates is one of the most important factors in assessing the threat it poses to U.S. interests, says the report. Defeating the militant Islamist network led by al Qaeda requires a nuanced strategy that supports the appropriate combination and prioritization of policies and approaches for each environment in which an al Qaeda affiliate or franchise operates. The U.S. government has not articulated such a strategy, a deficiency that acquires urgency because terrorist groups based abroad have been linked to three attacks against the American homeland in the past year. A comprehensive strategy should deny the al Qaeda network access to operating environments from which it can pose a major threat to the U.S. and the West. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/AQAM-final.pdf> [PDF format, 42 pages].

Libya as a Multilateral Moment. Center for Strategic and International Studies. Mark Quarterman. March 3, 2011.

The extraordinary violence carried out by Muammar el-Qaddafi's regime in Libya has captured the world's attention and created a multilateral moment. Despite shocking acts, such as the aerial bombardment of civilians, it has been clear that for the time being, no individual government would or could take responsibility to resolve the situation. Hence, the task of upholding the international community's norms fell to international organizations. A multilateral moment is a situation in which action is required on a particular problem that cannot be solved by any single country, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://csis.org/publication/libya-multilateral-moment> [HTML format, various paging].

Food Demand Elasticities in Ethiopia. International Food Policy Research Institute. Kibrom Tafere et al. March 2011.

How households adjust their consumption in response to changes in prices and income is crucial determinant of the effects of various shocks to market prices and commodity supplies. These adjustments in demand are particularly significant in Ethiopia, where many households consume inadequate quantities of calories, protein and other nutrients. Household consumption behaviour in the country is also rather complex. Regional consumption patterns differ considerably with no single staple dominating. Instead, four different cereals (teff, wheat, maize and sorghum) are major staples in parts of the country and even within most regions, two or more food staples account for relatively large shares of total calories and food expenditures. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/esswp11.pdf> [PDF format, 47 pages].

Diffusing Egypt's Demographic Time Bomb. U.S. Institute of Peace. Raymond Gilpin et al. March 2011.

In the wake of the January/February upheavals, U.S. Institute of Peace convened a working group to examine the multifaceted challenges facing Egypt's new government and its people. The Brief discusses the groups analysis of the situation. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/Diffusing_Egypt's_Demographic_Time_Bomb.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

The Arab Democracy Paradox. Brookings Institution. Mwangi S. Kimenyi. March 4, 2011.

The unprecedented spread of pro-democracy protests across the Arab world in the past few weeks has taken almost everyone by surprise. As the protests have spread, pundits around the world are scrambling to make sense of them. Roughly speaking, the explanations for the protests can be summarized by discontent around three basic issues: a lack of accountability, a lack of democracy and a lack of jobs, according to the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0304_arab_democracy_kimenyi.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Electronic Government: National Archives and Records Administration's Fiscal Year 2011 Expenditure Plan. U.S. Government Accountability Office. March 2011.

NARA's fiscal year 2011 expenditure plan satisfies four of the six legislative conditions and partially satisfies two. Specifically, it partially satisfies the condition that NARA meet requirements for reviewing the progress of capital investments, such as ERA. While NARA has held regular meetings with senior-level agency management to review ERA progress, these groups did not document approval of important schedule and scope changes, and NARA did not validate the estimated benefits and costs of deployed ERA capabilities. Further, NARA partially satisfies the condition that the expenditure plan be approved by NARA and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11299.pdf> [PDF format, 66 pages].

Ascendance by Descendants? On Intergenerational Education Mobility in Latin America. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Christian Daude. March 2011.

Persistence in educational achievements across generations in Latin America arises from high returns to education, low progressivity in public investment in human capital and lack of access to

proper financing. Education and other social policies to boost upward mobility are discussed. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/11/20/47237039.pdf> [PDF format, 45 pages].

India Needs a Sputnik Moment. YaleGlobal. David J. Karl. March 4, 2011.

Competition is a great motivating force for individuals and nations. In the global battle to innovate, the preferred weapon of choice is education. Warning his nation that India and China produce more engineers and scientists, President Obama calls for a Sputnik moment, harkening back to the 1950s when the Soviet satellite launch spurred new investments in education and technology. But David J. Karl points out that India's education system is also in dire need of a Sputnik moment: Half of India's children drop out in primary school; government scrimps on outlays for research and technology in higher education; the nation annually produces more than 600,000 engineers, yet most are poorly prepared for world-class jobs. Innovation is essential for meeting global challenges. The most competitive nations will fund and respect science and math educators, expecting high quality along the way. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/india-needs-sputnik-moment> [HTML format, various paging].

Civilian Skills for African Military Officers to Resolve the Infrastructure, Economic Development, and Stability Crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa. Strategic Studies Institute. Diane E. Chido. March 2011.

For decades, a lack of economic opportunity has caused instability and violence in Sub-Saharan Africa. Fortunately, U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) is in a unique position to increase stability and reduce the causes of violence and extremism through new partnerships and military-to-military training. The current training approach is very likely to be beneficial to African military officers currently on active duty; however, proficiency in military science alone will not provide the necessary skills for those separating from service and facing an uncertain future in societies that do not pay pensions on time, if at all, and do not offer economic opportunities, especially to those without the right expertise, according to the report.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=1047> [HTML format with links].

International Women's Day: Celebrating Quality and Equality. Brookings Institution. Rebecca Winthrop and Lauren Greubel. March 7, 2011.

March 8th marks the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day. This year's theme centers on equal access to education, training and science and technology. Access to a quality education that prepares girls and young women to enter the labor market with critical skills and valuable knowledge is essential - it is also a luxury, according to the authors. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0307_womens_day_winthrop_greubel.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

China's Military Build-up: Implications for U.S. Defense Spending. American Enterprise Institute. Thomas Donnelly and Gary Schmitt. March 7, 2011.

Over the past year, actions by the People's Republic of China (PRC) have called into question its previous assertions that its rise to great-power status would be peaceful. Whether it was scolding countries around the world about the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Chinese dissident Liu Xiabo, declaring that its core interests now included some 1.3 million square miles of the South China Sea, dismissing complaints of neighbors as failing to recognize that "China is a big country," ignoring North Korean acts of terror, challenging U.S. naval ships on the high seas, creating new confrontations with Japan over disputed islands, slashing its export of rare earth elements, continuing cyber attacks on American defense and commercial entities, or testing a new stealth fighter during the visit of the American secretary of defense, the picture that emerges is of a China that believes it can now throw its considerable economic and military weight around. It's a challenge that the U.S. has been slow to meet and, as a result, led to considerable uncertainty among friends and allies about whether the U.S. is up to that challenge, uncertainty fed in no small measure by prospects of a declining American defense budget, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/DefendingDefenseChina.pdf> [PDF format, 10 pages].

As Gaddafi Clings to Power, Media Keep Focus on Middle East. Pew Project for Excellence in Journalism. March 8, 2011.

From January 24, when Egyptian protests erupted, through March 6, Mideast turmoil (34%) and the U.S. economy (18%) have made up more than half of the coverage in the mainstream media studied by the Pew Research Center's Project for excellence in Journalism. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.journalism.org/index_report/pej_news_coverage_index_february_28_march_6_2011 [HTML format, various paging].

Perpetual Fear: Impunity and Cycles of Violence in Zimbabwe. Human Rights Watch. March 8, 2011.

The failure of Zimbabwe's government to investigate and prosecute killings, torture, and politically motivated violence since the 2008 elections is fueling further human rights violations, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://hrw.org/node/96946> [HTML format with links].

How Efficient Are Banks in Hungary? Organisation for Economic Co-operation Development. Margit Molnar and Daniel Hollo. March 7, 2011.

Apparent characteristics of the Hungarian banking market such as large profits and high margins suggest weak competitive pressures. Weak competition in turn, may reduce efficiency in a lack of pressures to converge to marginal cost and to stimulate managerial efforts to reduce X-inefficiency. Such conditions call for a gauging of efficiency of banks to better assess what is needed for a competitive and well-functioning banking system. Although level of efficiency is only an indirect measure of competitive pressures, it may be superior to other ones available for international comparison. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economies/how-efficient-are-banks-in-hungary_5kggj1d677wk-en [HTML format with links].

On the Ground with the Global Health Initiative: Examining Progress and Challenges in Kenya. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Suzanne C. Brundage and Christopher J. Elias. March 8, 2011.

In December 2010, the Global Health Policy Center at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) organized a trip to Kenya to examine progress in implementing the U.S. government's Global Health Initiative (GHI). The report presents a view that a close analysis of GHI's evolution since 2009, through the prism of how it is unfolding in Kenya, would be highly valuable and timely to broader discussions in Washington on GHI's future in this era of austerity. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110302_Brundage_OnTheGround_Web.pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

The Real Military Options in Libya. Brookings Institution. Kenneth M. Pollack. March 9, 2011.

The revolt in Libya was always likely to play out very differently from what has transpired in Egypt. Libya lacked Egypt's homogeneity, the strength of its institutions, particularly in the armed forces, and even a reasonably mature and extensive opposition. Where Mubarak was harsh and sclerotic but prudent, Qaddafi has been erratic, fanciful and manipulative. The result has been civil war, with Cyrenaica pitted against Tripolitania, with some tribes rallying to Qaddafi and others going over to the opposition. Ultimately, there are six basic military options to ponder, but each is specific to a particular goal, according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0309_libya_pollack.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Significant Cyber Incidents Since 2006. Center for Strategic & International Studies. James Andrew Lewis. March 9, 2011.

The paper includes a chart documenting cyber-attacks against the U.S. government. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110309_Significant_Cyber_Incidents_Since_2006.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

Latin America: Terrorism Issues. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Mark P. Sullivan. February 23, 2011.

U.S. attention to terrorism in Latin America intensified in the aftermath of the September 2001 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, with an increase in bilateral and regional cooperation. In 2009, the State Department maintained that terrorism in the region was primarily perpetrated by terrorist organizations in Colombia and by the remnants of radical leftist Andean groups. Overall, however, the report maintained that the threat of a transnational terrorist attack remained low for most countries in the hemisphere. Both Cuba and Venezuela are on the State Department's annual list of countries determined to be not cooperating fully with U.S. antiterrorism efforts pursuant to Section 40A of the Arms Export Control Act. U.S. officials have expressed concerns over the past several years about Venezuela's lack of cooperation on antiterrorism efforts, its relations with Iran, and potential support for Colombian terrorist groups.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/terror/RS21049.pdf> [PDF format, 19 pages].

The World's Women and Girls 2011 Data Sheet. Population Reference Bureau. March 2011.

In developing countries, 35 percent of women ages 20 to 24 report having been married by age 18. And, in the poorest regions of the world, according to the report, the proportion is even higher, with levels ranging from 45 percent in South Central Asia to nearly 40 percent in sub-Saharan Africa. Nine countries have prevalence rates above 50 percent. Despite legal means, early marriage (before the age of 18) persists, along with the associated risks of adolescent childbearing. Early marriage can also curtail the opportunities girls may have for education. In countries and regions with the highest proportions of early marriage, girls' educational attainment is adversely affected. Literacy rates, primary school completion, and secondary school enrollment are all lower than that of boys. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.prb.org/pdf11/world-women-girls-2011-data-sheet.pdf> [PDF format, 15 pages].

Revolution Not Headed for Saudi Arabia. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Christopher Boucek. March 10, 2011.

The wave of popular protests roiling the Arab world has thus far spared Saudi Arabia. In an attempt to bring change to the country, activists in Saudi Arabia have set a "day of rage" for March 11 to demand a series of political reforms, including the creation of a constitutional monarchy. But of all the states in the region, Saudi Arabia is among the best equipped to handle the current unrest. The kingdom is utilizing multiple approaches, cooptation, religious persuasion, and implied threats of coercion, to neutralize potential disturbances, says the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=42973&prog=zgp&proj=zme> [HTML format, various paging].

Continuing Divide in Views of Islam and Violence. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. March 9, 2011.

The public remains divided over whether Islam is more likely than other religions to encourage violence among its believers. Currently, 40% say the Islamic religion is more likely than others to encourage violence while 42% say it is not. These opinions have changed little in recent years. But in March 2002, just 25% saw Islam as more likely to encourage violence while twice as many (51%) disagreed. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1921/poll-islam-violence-more-likely-other-religions-peter-king-congressional-hearings> [HTML format, various paging].

New Jobs in Recession and Recovery: Who Are Getting Them and Who Are Not. Pew Hispanic Center. Rakesh Kochnar. March 10, 2011.

In testimony before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement, Rakesh Kochhar explains why for the first time since the official end of the Great Recession in June 2009, native-born workers in the second half of 2010 joined foreign-born workers in experiencing the beginnings of a recovery in employment. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/138.pdf> [PDF format, 17 pages].

India in Africa: Implications of an Emerging Power for AFRICOM and U.S. Strategy. Strategic Studies Institute. J. Peter Pham. March 9, 2011.

Little attention has been given to the fact that India is fast becoming one of Africa's most important partners, not just in the economic realm but also in the political and security sectors. The author argues that, in the context of the broader U.S.-India strategic partnership as well as America's specific interests in Africa, the United States should welcome India's contributions to and engage with India on the African continent. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=1051> [HTML format with links].

The Potential Savings to Social Security from Means Testing. Center for Economic and Policy Research. Dean Baker and Hye Jin Rho. March 2011.

Many people in policy debates have argued that means testing, or reducing Social Security payments to affluent beneficiaries, can be an effective way to save money for the program and to reduce the federal budget deficit. The paper examines the feasibility of saving money through various types of means tests and suggests that is likely to be very limited unless the means test is applied to individuals who are very much middle class by any reasonable definition. The percentage of benefits that go to affluent seniors is too small to make very much difference to the program's finances. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/ss-2011-03.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

The J-20 Episode and Civil-Military Relations in China. RAND Corporation. Andrew Scobell. March 10, 2011.

This is the written testimony submitted to the U.S. China Economic and Security Review Commission on March 10, 2011, in reference to the test flight of the J-20 stealth fighter aircraft during the Secretary of Defense Robert Gates' visit to China. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/testimonies/2011/RAND_CT357.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

Rebuilding America: The Role of Foreign Capital and Global Public Investors. Brookings Institution. Darrell M. West et al. March 11, 2011.

Sovereign wealth funds, foreign state managed social security plans, foreign currency reserve funds, foreign government employee pension funds, state-controlled operating companies and other foreign investing vehicles today collectively control trillions of dollars in assets and are projected to maintain significant growth over the next decade. These disparate foreign government entities are becoming increasingly influential players in the world economy. In the volatile contemporary global financial environment, the investment strategies of these foreign entities will impact capital flows and affect markets around the world, according to the authors. *Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0311_sovereign_wealth_funds/0311_sov_eign_wealth_funds.pdf [PDF format, 27 pages].

"You Dress According to Their Rules": Enforcement of an Islamic Dress Code for Women in Chechnya. Human Rights Watch. March 10, 2011.

This report documents acts of violence, harassment, and threats against women in Chechnya to intimidate them into wearing a headscarf or dressing more "modestly," in long skirts and sleeves

to cover their limbs. The documented attacks by unidentified men believed to be law enforcement officials took place from June through September 2010 in the center of Grozny, the Chechen capital. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2011/03/10/you-dress-according-their-rules-0> [HTML format with links].

Reducing the Deficit: Spending and Revenue Option. Congressional Budget Office. March 10, 2011.

Federal budget deficits will total \$7 trillion over the next decade if current laws remain unchanged, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projects. If certain policies that are scheduled to expire under current law are extended instead, deficits may be much larger. Beyond the coming decade, the aging of the U.S. population and rising health care costs will put increasing pressure on the budget. If federal debt continues to expand faster than the economy, as it has since 2007, the growth of people's income will slow, the share of federal spending devoted to paying interest on the debt will rise, and the risk of a fiscal crisis will increase.

<http://cbo.gov/ftpdocs/120xx/doc12085/03-10-ReducingTheDeficit.pdf> [PDF format, 256 pages].

Religion May Not Dominate Post-Revolutionary Middle East. YaleGlobal. Endy M. Bayuni. March 11, 2011.

Arabs throughout the Middle East and North Africa long for the basic freedoms taken for granted in the West. With governments overthrown in Tunisia and Egypt, and unrest raging elsewhere in the region, analysts worry about religious motivations and how these might influence governance. Such a narrow focus is misdirected, explains the author. He postulates that the battles over governance will be waged between liberal and autocratic styles. Analysts who argue that liberal democracy is unsuitable for Arab states, risking fundamentalist takeovers, overlook recent experiences of Indonesia, the world's largest predominately Muslim nation. The Asian financial crisis and pro-democracy protests forced Indonesia's President Suharto, who served for thirty-two years, to resign in May 1998, and afterward the nation swiftly embarked on political reforms. The protests in Tunisia, Egypt and Indonesia follow a close trajectory with their demands for basic freedoms. Bayuni concludes that citizens who risk their lives for protest will be wary of restrictive political platforms. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/religion-may-not-dominate-middle-east> [HTML format, various paging].

Trade Winds: Which Way Is Public Opinion Blowing? American Enterprise Institute. Karlyn Bowman. March 2011.

Plagued by slow economic growth and high unemployment, the Obama administration has been rethinking its stance on trade. Administration officials are trying to move the South Korea free trade agreement forward, and Republicans in Congress see an opportunity to push for agreements with Colombia and Panama as well. Does this enthusiasm from policymakers match the public mood? In tough economic times, Americans are less disposed to favor free trade, but they recognize the benefits of an integrated global economy. The brief offers a comprehensive new look at American attitudes toward trade. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/IEO-2011-01-g.pdf> [PDF format, 10 pages].

Water, Electricity, and Transportation: Preparing for the Population Boom. Harvard Business School. Carment Nobel. March 14, 2011.

By 2050, the world's cities will have to support 3 billion more inhabitants, mostly in developing countries, with crucial investments needed in three areas: water, energy, and transportation. Several of the planet's top city planning and environmental business experts gathered at Harvard Business School to discuss available options. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://hbswk.hbs.edu/pdf/item/6655.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

Fukushima and the Global "Nuclear Renaissance" Brookings Institution. Nathan Hultman. March 14, 2011.

In addition to the massive rescue and humanitarian operation in response to Japan's catastrophic earthquake and tsunami, the country and the rest of the world continue an anxious vigil in hope that several of its nuclear reactors will not become a third major disaster. Thus far, plant redundancies and emergency operations have kept the integrity of the reactors intact, but the situation remains unclear and three reactors remain unstable. The events constitute a major nuclear accident in the history of nuclear power that will be measured against Three Mile Island and Chernobyl. Because of this fact, the consequences of Japan's earthquake will extend far beyond disaster relief and response. For, since its inception, civilian nuclear power has held an uneasy and unstable relationship with the people who use its electricity, and the serious and disconcerting problems in Japan's nuclear reactors have struck the core sensitivity of nuclear power: safety. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0314_japan_nuclear_hultman.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Japan's Impact on U.S. Nuclear Power. Council on Foreign Relations. Michael L. Levi. March 14, 2011.

U.S. nuclear power faces renewed scrutiny amid Japan's crisis, but it is far too early to gauge the damage suffered by Japan's industry and the effect on U.S. atomic energy's future, says Michael Levi. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.cfr.org/japan/japans-impact-us-nuclear-power/p24370> [HTML format, various paging].

Shattering Hopes: Post-Election Crackdown in Belarus. Human Rights Watch. March 14, 2011.

The report documents the human rights violations that have occurred since the election, including persecution of opposition candidates and activists, abuse of detainees, trials behind closed doors, and raids on human rights organizations. The report also details allegations of extremely poor conditions in detention, denial of access to defense counsel, and government pressure on lawyers representing those facing criminal charges related to the post-election protest. These and other abuses contribute to a serious deterioration of the already poor state of human rights in Belarus, according to the report. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2011/03/14/shattering-hopes-0> [HTML format with links].

Achieving a Shared Goal: Free Universal Health Care in Ghana. Oxfam International. March 9, 2011.

The current health system in Ghana is unfair and inefficient, according to the report. It doesn't have to be. The government can and should move fast to implement free health care for all citizens. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/rr-achieving-shared-goal-healthcare-ghana-090311-en.pdf> [PDF format, 68 pages].

How Mobile Devices are Changing Community Information Environments. Pew Project for Excellence in Journalism. Kristen Purcell et al. March 14, 2011.

Local news is going mobile. Nearly half of all American adults (47%) report that they get at least some local news and information on their cellphone or tablet computer. The information they seek out on mobile platforms is practical and real time: 42% of mobile device owners report getting weather updates and 37% get material about restaurants or other local businesses on their phones or tablets. Fewer get news about local traffic and transportation, general news alerts or other local topics. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP-Local%20mobile%20survey.pdf> [PDF format, 23 pages].

The World's Responsibility to Protect Libyans. YaleGlobal. Ramesh Thakur. March 14, 2011.

The Gaddafi family unleashes fierce firepower on citizens who could no longer endure a corrupt, brutal reign. The international community is obligated to act swiftly under the responsibility to protect principle, argues Ramesh Thakur. In 2005, world leaders reached unanimous agreement that the United Nations would honor the collective responsibility to protect citizens against crimes of atrocity by their government. R2P was devised for military abuses, such as those employed in Libya. Thakur argues that "Both for its own credibility and for the sake of Libyans, the Security Council must determine the appropriate protective measures, authorize them and urge those with the capacity to implement them." International leaders must move beyond verbal condemnation of atrocities and wield firm protective measures. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/worlds-responsibility-protect-libyans> [HTML format, various paging].

How Mobile Devices are Changing Community Information Environments. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Kristen Purcell et al. March 14, 2011.

Local news is going mobile. Nearly half of all American adults (47%) report that they get at least some local news and information on their cellphone or tablet computer. The information they seek out on mobile platforms is practical and real time: 42% of mobile device owners report getting weather updates and 37% get material about restaurants or other local businesses on their phones or tablets. Fewer get news about local traffic and transportation, general news alerts or other local topics. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP-Local%20mobile%20survey.pdf> [PDF format, 23 pages].

Public Wary of Military Intervention in Libya. Pew Center for the People & the Press. March 14, 2011.

By a wide margin, Americans say the United States does not have a responsibility to do something about the fighting between government forces and anti-government groups in Libya.

Divided support for a no-fly zone is undercut by overwhelming opposition to bombing Libyan military air defenses. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1927/strong-opposition-us-involvement-libya-military-overcommitted> [HTML format, various paging].

Understanding Japan's Nuclear Crisis. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. James A. Acton. March 14, 2011.

In the aftermath of last week's devastating earthquake and tsunami, Japan is trying to prevent a nuclear crisis from escalating. James Acton, who visited a Japanese nuclear plant after a 2007 earthquake, details what happened and what needs to be done as Japan scrambles to avert further problems at damaged nuclear plants. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

<http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=43042&prog=zgp&proj=znpp> [HTML format, various paging].

Stability in the Middle East and North Africa: the Other Side of Security. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Anthony H. Cordesman. March 14, 2011.

National security is normally seen in terms of military strength and internal security operations against extremists and insurgents. The upheavals that began in Tunis have highlighted the fact that national security is measured in terms of the politics, economics, and social tensions that shape national stability as well. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110309_MENA_Stability.pdf [PDF format, 121 pages].

The Nongovernmental Sector in Disaster Resilience: Conference Recommendations for a Policy Agenda. RAND Corporation. Joie Acosta et al. March 14, 2011.

The report summarizes sessions that RAND researchers convened during the 2010 Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations conference to generate a national policy agenda addressing challenges to effectively engaging nongovernmental organizations in disaster response and recovery and to identify potential policy and program recommendations to address these challenges. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/conf_proceedings/2011/RAND_CF282.pdf [PDF format, 52 pages].

Learning from Japan: Promoting Education on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction. Brookings Institution. Allison Anderson. March 14, 2011.

Over the years, Japan has spent billions of dollars developing advanced technology against earthquakes and tsunamis and designing buildings to withstand the impact of waves. These proactive precautions by development and contingency planners in Japan have reduced disaster risk, minimizing material damage and loss of life. The Japanese are also prepared to quickly react to quakes and tsunamis due to a highly-developed public education program. It is important to emphasize here how education and schooling can play such a significant role in preparing citizens for such catastrophic natural disasters. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0314_japan_disaster_education_anderson.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

North Kosovo: Dual Sovereignty in Practice. International Crisis Group. March 14, 2011.

The dispute between Kosovo and Serbia, which keeps the Western Balkans divided and insecure, is most acute in Kosovo's northern municipalities. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

[http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/europe/balkans/kosovo/211%20North%20Kosovo%20---%20Dual%20Sovereignty%20in%20Practice.ashx](http://www.crisisgroup.org/~/media/Files/europe/balkans/kosovo/211%20North%20Kosovo%20---%20Dual%20Sovereignty%20in%20Practice.ashx) [PDF format, 31 pages].

International Criminal Court Cases in Africa: Status and Policy Issues. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Alexis Arieff et al. March 7, 2011.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has, to date, opened cases exclusively in Sub-Saharan Africa. Twenty-two cases are currently before the ICC, all of them pertaining to crimes allegedly committed in five African states: Kenya, Sudan (Darfur), Uganda (the Lord's Resistance Army, LRA), the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the Central African Republic. The ICC Prosecutor has yet to secure any convictions. In addition, the Prosecutor has opened an investigation in Libya as well as preliminary examinations in Guinea, Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, and several countries outside of Africa, such as Afghanistan, Colombia, Georgia, Honduras, and the Republic of Korea. Although ICC prosecutions have been praised by human rights advocates, the perception that the Court has focused on Africa and the ICC Prosecutor's choice of cases have been controversial among leaders and commentators on the continent.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/158489.pdf> [PDF format, 34 pages].

Terrorist Use of the Internet: Information Operations in Cyberspace. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Catherine A. Theohary and John Rollins. March 8, 2011.

The Internet is used by international insurgents, jihadists, and terrorist organizations as a tool for radicalization and recruitment, a method of propaganda distribution, a means of communication, and ground for training. Although there are no known reported incidents of cyberattacks on critical infrastructure as acts of terror, this could potentially become a tactic in the future. There are several methods for countering terrorist and insurgent information operations on the Internet. The federal government has organizations that conduct strategic communications, counterpropaganda, and public diplomacy activities. The National Framework for Strategic Communication guides how interagency components are to integrate their activities. However, these organizations may be stovepiped within agencies, and competing agendas may be at stake.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/158490.pdf> [PDF format, 19 pages].

Border Security: Preliminary Observations on the Status of Key Southwest Border Technology Programs. U.S. Government Accountability Office.

Securing the nation's borders from illegal entry of aliens, contraband, terrorists and weapons of mass destruction, is a long-term challenge. In November 2005, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) launched the Secure Border Initiative network (SBI*net*)--a program which was to provide the Border Patrol, within DHS's U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), with the tools to detect breaches and make agent deployment decisions by installing surveillance systems along the border. Alternative (Southwest) Border Technology is DHS's new plan to deploy a mix of technology to protect the border. The testimony is based on GAO's ongoing work conducted for the House Committee on Homeland Security and provides preliminary observations on (1) the status of SBI*net* and user views on its usefulness, and (2) the Alternative (Southwest) Border Technology plan and associated costs. GAO reviewed planning, budget, and system documents, observed operations along the southwest border, and interviewed DHS officials.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11448t.pdf> [PDF format, 15 pages].

Maritime Security: Updating U.S. Counterpiracy *Action Plan* Gain Urgency as Piracy Escalates off the Horn of Africa. U.S. Government Accountability Office. March 15, 2011.

Somali pirates have attacked 640 ships and taken more than 3,150 hostages since 2007. A few U.S.-flagged vessels have been affected - most recently the SV Quest, a private yacht on which four Americans were killed in February 2011. The growing frequency and severity of attacks renew the urgency to address the piracy threat. As Somalia is unable to repress piracy, the U.S. National Security Council (NSC) developed the interagency *Countering Piracy off the Horn of Africa: Partnership and Action Plan* in December 2008 to prevent, disrupt, and prosecute piracy in collaboration with international and industry partners. In September 2010, GAO issued a report evaluating the extent to which U.S. agencies (1) have implemented the plan, and the challenges they face, and (2) have collaborated with partners. This testimony is based on the September 2010 report and its objectives, and work GAO conducted in March 2011.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11449t.pdf> [PDF format, 25 pages].

ARTICLES

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Caryl, Christian UNVEILING HIDDEN CHINA (New York Review of Books, December 9, 2010)

Seven new books on China prompt this examination of the changes that country is undergoing domestically and in relation to the rest of the world. China's transition from communism to a capitalistic society is difficult and far from over. China is being shaped not only by the Communist legacy and commercial markets, but powerful ancient forces such as Taoism and Confucianism. Even if it is not "on the road to Jeffersonian democracy," China has much adaptation ahead, within itself and in the growing effect it is having on the world. Currently available online at <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2010/dec/09/unveiling-hidden-china/>

Kunzig, Robert POPULATION 7 BILLION (National Geographic, vol. 219, no. 1, January 2011, pp. 32/69)

Kunzig notes that the world's population will soon reach seven billion, with more than 95% of that population growth occurring in developing countries. While wealthy nations are currently using the most resources, emerging economies are catching up fast. This is the first in a series of in-depth stories that National Geographic will run in 2011 on population. In this first segment, the author, environment editor for the magazine, sketches out a natural history of population. The challenges associated with population growth seem endless: poverty, food and water supply, world health, climate change, deforestation, and fertility rates. Kunzig notes that there has been concern about population pressures, since the first papers on demography were written in the 17th century. Over 300 years later, says Kunzig, "we are still grappling with the outcome of People v. Planet", but the real problem is not overpopulation but poverty. Currently available online at <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2011/01/seven-billion/kunzig-text>

Martel, Sara LESSONS FROM ANOTHER OIL SPILL (National Wildlife, December/January 2011)

Ten years ago, a spill of 1300 tons of oil off the South African coast threatened two principal African penguin breeding colonies. Quick work to remove nearly 20,000 penguins and rehabilitation of victims at a Cape Town facility where more than 90 percent survived was a victory for wildlife experts. But the habitat of the birds remains threatened not only by frequent oil spills, but by scarcity of food that experts believe is a consequence of global warming. Currently available online at <http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Birds/Archives/2010/African-Penguins-Oil-Spill.aspx>

Petersen, Charles GOOGLE AND MONEY! (New York Review of Books, December 9, 2010)

In his review of two new books about the impact of the Google search engine, GOOGLED, by Ken Auletta, and THE SHALLOWS, by Nicholas Carr, the author discusses Google's history, Internet "neutrality" that gives data equal priority, and the threat to individual privacy posed by increasingly sophisticated online advertising techniques that compromise Net neutrality. Remedies suggested to protect users include "Do Not Track" options and an effective wall between data collected to provide services and that for targeted commercial purposes. Currently available online at <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2010/dec/09/google-and-money/>

Stevens, John Paul ON THE DEATH SENTENCE (New York Review of Books, December 23, 2010)

Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stevens reviews a new book by sociologist and legal scholar David Garland, THE PECULIAR INSTITUTION: AMERICA'S DEATH PENALTY IN THE AGE OF ABOLITION, which argues that the death penalty is unwise and unjust. Garland's historical and contemporary evidence supports the idea that deterrence and retribution are not well served by the death penalty. Stevens, personally knowledgeable about the ruling during his 35-year court tenure, and who has agreed in his opinions on "the pointless and needless extinction of life" that has marginal impact, notes important omissions in the book, while recommending it for those involved in the political process. Currently available online at <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2010/dec/23/death-sentence/>

Wohlers, Anton DIGITAL GOVERNANCE (Choice, vol. 48, no. 4, December 2010, pp. 627-635)

The author, a research director and professor at Cameron University, discusses the Internet as the most visible representative of all the innovations in information and communication technologies (ICTs). Wohlers notes that the Internet has had a profound effect on political practices in most societies, and ICTs have played an increasingly influential role in shaping social relationships, political power, democratic government, and public services sector across the globe. However, given that the Internet continues to give rise to new forms of interaction between citizens and governments, this new field of study remains in flux. The essay first goes into a brief discussion of the governance of the Internet and society, followed by a second section that focuses on works that address the impact of the Internet and politics on each other, with a special focus on how the Internet affects the democratic process. The final section includes several comparative studies and books that examine the use of the Internet, generally by governments, to provide public services.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

IF THE CHINESE BUBBLE BURST ... WHO GLOBALLY WOULD BE MOST AFFECTED?
(International Economy, Fall 2010, pp. 9-35)

The Chinese government may succeed in slowing the pace of rising asset values. In this issue, the editors of International Economy asked thirty experts for their views on what would happen if

China's real-estate and productive-capacity asset bubble finally burst. In this symposium of views, respondents wrote that the effects would be widespread; Asian countries, developing economies, members of the Eurozone, the bond markets and the Chinese public themselves would be hard hit. One respondent notes that the asset bubble has its roots in the confiscation and collectivization of all land in 1949; a whole generation of Chinese policymakers had little concept of the value of land, so when a real-estate market started in the early 1990s, the power to sell or lease land was left to local governments. Land sales became a primary source of revenue to local governments and a major contributor to GDP growth; local authorities therefore have a vested interest in perpetuating the property bubble. Available online at http://www.international-economy.com/TIE_F10_ChinaBubbleSymp.pdf

Indiviglio, Daniel WOULD MORE EDUCATION REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT AND INCOME INEQUALITY? (Atlantic Monthly, January 17, 2011)

Would more education reduce unemployment and income inequality in the United States? The author, associate editor at Atlantic and former investment banker, does not agree; he believes that the unemployment problem is cyclical, not structural. The current situation is simply that there aren't enough job openings; but most of today's unemployed will eventually find jobs with their current skills once the economy recovers. As for wage inequality, most of that can be attributed to a small handful of people who have become wealthy, thanks to modern communications, marketing and technology. But for everyone else, incomes have not changed much. Education has little to do with this, as a college degree, or even an advanced degree, does not guarantee a high income. Currently available online at <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2011/01/would-more-education-reduce-unemployment-and-income-inequality/69632/>

Morgan, Tim et al. ENDGAME: THE DENOUEMENT OF EXPONENTIALS (Tullett Prebon Strategy Insights, no. 6, November 2010, 80pp.)

The authors write that, with the Western economies burdened with unprecedented amounts of debt, the economic debate "has become polarized between debt-cutters and fiscal stimulators." They argue that this debate misses the point; the free-market system is dead in the water, having been discredited by the financial collapse of 2008-2009. They believe that the "intellectual high ground is up for grabs" for the first time in decades; the solution could be something along the lines of what they term "exponential economics". Such an analysis would identify the key drivers of the economy. First, it would recognize that the modern economy could not exist without the extraneous fossil and nuclear energy that has allowed the earth to support a population of seven billion people. Second, it would acknowledge that the financial system that is superimposed on the global economy has become dangerously large and overextended, which was not fully appreciated until now. They believe that the recent financial crisis represents a tipping point, where the decreasing energy returns of lower-quality energy sources will no longer support the global economy. They argue that policymakers are ill-equipped to deal with this process, which will make "unprecedented social and economic change inevitable." Currently available online at http://www.tullettprebon.com/Documents/strategyinsights/tp0610d_tpsi_006.pdf

Walsh, Bryan THE NATURAL DEBT CRISIS: LEARNING TO LIVE WITHIN OUR PLANET'S MEANS (Time, February 22, 2011)

Ask any American politician, the author writes, what is the biggest problem facing the U.S., and they will invariably say that it is our staggering debt, which will cripple the economy and consign future generations to poverty. What amazes Walsh is that the same politicians who are so worried about financial debt, and want steep spending cuts to save our future, dismiss the idea of a natural debt crisis – a crisis of climate, environment and resources caused by too many people, too much consumption, pollution and carbon dioxide. Walsh notes that the "terms we use to describe our two debts are similar, as the language used in finance bleeds over into ecology;" conservationists talk about "natural capital", such as forests, clean air and water, fish, soil and

biodiversity, without which there would be no life, let alone business. Says Walsh, if we live within our means, as conservatives might say, our natural capital would sustain us, like a bank account generating interest, “but we’re not living within our means – not even close.” Whether we are talking about the financial crisis or the natural crisis, “either way, we’re broke – and it’s time we acted like it.” Currently available online at <http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,2052930,00.html>

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Dallek, Robert **POWER AND THE PRESIDENCY, FROM KENNEDY TO OBAMA** (Smithsonian, Vol. 41, No. 9, January 2011, pp. 36-43)

Dallek, a historian and John F. Kennedy biographer, notes that in spite of his short term, Kennedy presided over tense escalations in foreign affairs. He responded to a heightened arms race with the Soviet Union and the Cuban missile crisis by expanding the power of his office, and claiming for the presidency a broad autonomy in foreign-affairs decision-making. Dallek traces how Kennedy’s successors also faced crises during their terms, their responses to them and their interactions with Congress in charting U.S. policy. Approaching the issue in the context of current events, Dallek says even today’s leaders seem not to have grasped the dire political risks that may arise as a result of unilateral decision-making in foreign affairs. Currently available online at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history-archaeology/Power-and-the-Presidency-From-Kennedy-to-Obama.html>

Elliott, Kim A. **AMERICA CALLING: A 21ST-CENTURY MODEL** (Foreign Service Journal, October 2010, pp. 31-37)

The author, an audience research analyst for the U.S. International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB), believes that the Broadcasting Board of Governors, a bipartisan agency since 1995 that has been a “firewall” between the U.S. government and the international broadcasting entities it funds, should move to consolidate all U.S. government-funded international broadcasting into one multimedia organization. Under its present mandate, IBB selects the directors and presidents of these entities, and provides general supervision, such as proposing the addition or elimination of language services and investment in various media technologies. As a result, there is considerable duplication in the news coverage of VOA, the best known of the radio stations, and in the surrogate entities along with duplication in management and administrative structures. This hinders, at least in theory, a full-service broadcasting effort. To deal with these challenges, the BBG should look to its British counterpart, the BBC, as a useful benchmark to emulate. Currently available online at <http://www.foreignservicejournal-digital.com/foreignservicejournal/201010?pg=33#pg33>

Keller, Bill **THE BOY WHO KICKED THE HORNET’S NEST** (New York Times Magazine, January 31, 2011, pp. 32-39, 46-47)

Wikileaks, the group of anti-secrecy vigilantes, led by Julian Assange, a former computer hacker from Australia, came into possession of a large quantity of classified U.S. government communications in 2010. It was one of the biggest stories of the year and its repercussions continue. The author, executive editor of The New York Times, describes his dealings with Assange and the British newspaper, The Guardian, in their attempts to publish the documents, which were divided into military (the War Logs) and diplomatic. Keller recounts that the negotiations involved an air of intrigue verging on paranoia. Currently available online under a different title at <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/30/magazine/30Wikileaks-t.html>

Rashid, Ahmed **THE WAY OUT OF AFGHANISTAN** (New York Review of Books, January 13, 2011)

Journalist and Taliban expert Rashid puts the Afghan war in the perspective of possibilities in the light of inter-tribal and regional politics. Rashid writes that a number of factors must be addressed for a productive transition to occur, such as widespread poverty and illiteracy; once-dominant Pashtuns are now faced with more diverse tribes in important positions, creating friction; and Pakistan's and Iran's long record of interference in Afghanistan. He notes that the Taliban also want to talk in neutral territory. Rashid offers a 10-point approach to peace that involves international, regional and Afghan participants. Currently available online at <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2011/jan/13/way-out-afghanistan/>

Waxman, Matthew **TERRORISM: WHY CATEGORIES MATTER** (Terrorism and Political Violence, vol. 23, no. 1, January 2011, pp. 19-22)

Legal scholars have been grappling with the classification of terrorist acts as a result of the 2001 attacks on the U.S. and others across the globe since then. On the question of whether terrorist attacks a crime or an act of war, the answers often depend on how a nation defines terrorism, which defines how terrorists will be dealt with. Waxman, Columbia Law School professor, warns that, before nations attempt to rush into redesigning their legal architecture, a number of difficult questions need to be addressed. The first, he argues, is to determine why it matters so much. Categorization influences the way we think about terrorism in terms of strategy, law and institutions. From a legal perspective, categorization is important because it helps to determine if the law of armed conflict applies, or if criminal law and due process applies. From an institutional perspective, categorization helps in figuring out which rules apply and who is ultimately responsible for managing the problem – legal authorities or military authorities, for example. Waxman also says that categorization, carefully developed, establishes presumptive positions or relative weight of different options. Ultimately, how a terrorist suspect is handled must also fit into an effective counterterrorism strategy, and new legal rules are essential to define detention systems.

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

Beck, Sophie **IT'S A TERRIBLE IDEA, LET'S GET STARTED** (Poets & Writers, November/December 2010)

This thumbnail guide to launching a literary magazine and running it on a shoestring recounts the experience of the editors of *The Normal School*, a magazine based at California State University at Fresno. From the business plan to determining the audience to marketing to staffing, the author chronicles how hard work, networking and volunteers nurtured a seed idea into fruition. Coping with unexpected details and learning from mistakes, the team discovered exciting creative avenues as they offered dynamic, fresh conversation on the "front lines" of literature.

Ellis, Joseph J. **OUR FLAWED FOUNDERS** (New York Review of Books, December 23, 2010)

This review of three books of correspondence by the second U.S. president, John Adams, and his wife, Abigail Adams, highlights the personal insights into the personalities of these two important figures, and the overlapping challenges of politics and family that concerned them. Their struggles in the early days of the American republic evidenced in their correspondence is so normal, human, yet dignified, that, the author writes, "If there is an American pantheon, [Adams] will be one of the first to be admitted with his wife beside him ... not in spite of but because of his imperfections." Currently available online at <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2010/dec/23/our-flawed-founders/>

Foner, Eric **THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR STILL BEING FOUGHT** (The Guardian, December 20, 2010)

The author notes that a century and a half after the Civil War, many white Americans, especially in the South, seem to take the idea that slavery caused the war as a personal accusation. He

calls for all Americans to face candidly the central role of slavery in U.S. history in order to arrive at a deeper, more nuanced understanding of the past. Foner notes that, 150 years ago, abolitionists were a very small minority, in the North as well as the South. By 1860, however, two distinct societies had emerged within the United States, one resting on slave labor, the other free. This resulted in divergent conceptions of the role of slavery in the nation's future. Regional differences certainly existed over economic policy, political power and other matters; but in the absence of slavery, it is inconceivable that these differences would have led to war. Currently available online at <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2010/dec/20/american-civil-war-usa>

Margolick, David LIVERPOOL'S YANKEES (Newsweek, December 6, 2010, pp. 43-45)

Writer David Margolick takes a look at globalization in the world of sports in this piece about the recent acquisition of the Liverpool Football Club by John W. Henry and Tom Warner, the owners of American Major League Baseball's Boston Red Sox. "What makes more sense in an era of globalization than moguls snapping up another country's teams? And what sport makes more sense to buy into than the world's most popular one," he writes. Margolick says Henry and Warner are off to a friendly start with the team's fiercely loyal fans, whose relationship with previous American owners dissolved amid a miasma of odium and mistrust. The two, after all, are credited with bringing two world championships to Boston after decades of futility. And they have promised not to commit the ultimate sin, which in the minds of Liverpoolians would be siphoning money from the Reds, as the Liverpool footballers are known, to the Red Sox. Currently available online at <http://www.newsweek.com/2010/11/28/red-sox-owners-go-to-bat-for-liverpool-soccer.html>

McKevitt, Andrew 'YOU ARE NOT ALONE!': ANIME AND THE GLOBALIZING OF AMERICA (Diplomatic History, vol. 34, no. 5, November 2010, pp. 893-921)

The recent expansion of Japanese entertainment culture in the U.S. over the past three decades is remarkable. Japanese popular culture is widespread in the U.S., encompassing television shows, karaoke, character icons such as Hello Kitty and Pikachu, manga, and video games. Despite Japan's economic slump in the past two decades, America's ties to Japan have remained strong, partly because of the power of Japanese popular entertainment. The author examines what is possibly the most significant manifestation of this "new" Japanese culture -- the "reciprocity of global cultural exchange within the United States," or what he more specifically calls the "globalizing of America." However, even though diplomatic historians have begun to examine the power of ideas and consumer products, they have yet to fully understand the mechanism of cultural diffusion and consumption outside the parameters of official policymaking. Also, in marked contrast to the manner in which some U.S. cultural commodities, such as films, radio, newspapers and magazines, have expanded globally, due in no small part to the support of the U.S. government and military, Japanese popular culture has largely remained independent of state policy. Currently available online at <http://www.h-net.org/~diplo/reviews/PDF/AR281.pdf>

Moore, Lucinda SHOW TIME AT THE APOLLO (Smithsonian, vol. 41, no. 7, November 2010, pp. 70-75)

A stellar roster of African-American singers, dancers and comedians got their start at the landmark Harlem theater, the Apollo, which over the decades transformed popular entertainment. Notables included Billie Holiday, James Brown, Ella Fitzgerald, Ray Charles, Diana Ross, Nat "King" Cole, the Four Tops, Tina Turner, and Michael Jackson, who made his last public appearance there in 2002. Now it celebrates its 75th anniversary and it is the subject of a new exhibition of photographs, recordings, film footage and other memorabilia, entitled "Ain't Nothing Like the Real Thing," which was organized by the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) and the Apollo Theater Foundation. Currently available online at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/Show-Time-at-the-Apollo.html>

Pomeranz, Judy TELLING STORIES: NORMAN ROCKWELL AT THE AMERICAN ART MUSEUM (Elan Magazine, vol. 11, no. 3, December 2010, pp. 26-29)

One of America's best-known artists, who has become enormously popular for his renditions of common people and situations, Norman Rockwell was a natural storyteller who used images, rather than words, to create a fully imagined, fully articulated world within the frame of each of his canvases. He produced many of the most recognizable illustrations in modern America, such as his 1944 patriotic "We, Too, Have a Job to Do" and the 1973 "From Concord to Tranquility," in which Boy Scouts were highlighted with a Revolutionary War figure and with astronaut Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon. During World War II, the Saturday Evening Post published Rockwell's series, "The Four Freedoms," inspired by President Franklin Roosevelt's 1941 speech, and perhaps his best-known and most-reproduced work. Its heavy propaganda value promoted American virtues in an enormously successful government War Bond drive. Since his death, Rockwell has been reassessed in various books and exhibitions, and his work has attracted important Hollywood filmmakers like Steven Spielberg and George Lucas, whose collections are now on display in an exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution's American Art Museum.

Proulx, Annie A YEAR OF BIRDS: AT HOME ON THE NORTH PLATTE RIVER (Harper's, vol. 321, no. 1927, December 2010, pp. 47-58)

In this memoir, Proulx skillfully evokes the atmosphere of her isolated ranch near the Medicine Bow Mountains in Wyoming. Her focal point is a nesting bald eagle couple in a landscape populated by hundreds of migratory birds in an array of species. She is intrigued by possible new cliffside residents, a pair of rare golden eagles. The vagaries of weather and the activities of local wildlife, much of which can be seen from her dining room window, enriches this work by a master of American literature. [PUBS;LT]

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