

**MIE Meeting
March 14, 2013
Bethany Lutheran College**

Agenda

8:30-9:00 Check-in / Breakfast with Colleagues

Kathy Hawks, MIE Chair Elect opened meeting. Announcements

9:00-9:10 Welcome from Bethany Lutheran College: Don Westphal, Dean of Admissions

9:10-9:20 Introductions & Updates: Samba Dieng, MIE Chair

9:20-11:00 United States foreign policy update

Tom Hanson, Diplomat in Residence, University of Minnesota-Duluth

Recommends Financial Times of London Newspaper – deeper than the Economist magazine which is more like a menu.

Michael Bloomberg wants to buy the Financial Times. NYTimes is too long, wordy, most important things are in two columns/pages in.

REFDesk.com – Google site of the year. Amazing information. All the newspapers of the world into English language.

Has been 25 years in State Department; Political Officer from Embassy to Embassy

Witnessed the old bipartisan spirit in the Senate.

Diplomat in Residence

Oslo Center for Peace and Human Rights

Business Lecturing – Political/economic analysis because political events have significant impact on markets

Position of our country is changing fundamentally – this generation is going to need to understand that

Helping International Students

Great Decisions run by MIC in Mpls – program that is being used in many colleges

President Obama's policies are going to have time in his second turn. He has announced a greater focus on the East. "Pivot East"

Middle East Turning into a regional war. Proxy . Borders established after WWI are up for grabs.

Mexico, Canada – changes in

Somalia shows signs of having a functioning government - Hassan Sheik Mohammed

Inderpinings of our Policies to understand what is happening. Media is not providing this. Cuts on journalists.

Main Characteristics of this Changing World

16 Intelligence agencies got together: National Intelligence Estimate (next 15 years)

7 Tectonic Shifts taking place – students need to know where to plug in in this market

Political Demands/Growing Inequality

Stirrings – potentially a good thing, but taking place in growing inequality in the world.

Unstable situation. China in a nutshell. #1 consumer of luxury goods in the world. Larger population upset in what is going on. Main results of colonization: growing inequality

50% Urban now, to 60-65% Urban.

Implications for basic supplies

Population Boom

6.3 billion 7.1 now to 10 billion by end of century

Declining or stable populations in the West

OECD concluding – aging is going to lead to declining growth in the economy

Here – 25 to 30% over 65

Japan – losing much of population

Russia – losing a million population per year due to cardiovascular disease. Big issue for military strength

China to under a billion, will be almost matched by Nigeria. Big shifts in world demographics.

Wider access to technologies.

Technologies

- A threat
- Cyberwarfare – all these systems are vulnerable. Quickly trying to regroup

Growing demand for Food and Water

Not so much in States, by 2040 there will be 40% more demand than supply. Large percentage of world will live in water stressed areas.

US Energy Dependence

To the extent that we are willing to put up with fracking, we could become energy independent and will change relationships with East, and with Canada

Pax-Americana is waning quickly.

World is shifting and becoming Multi-polar. Paradigm shift for next generation.

As the World Shifts towards Asia – there are no multilateral security institutions.

Potentially an unstable area – and we are pivoting into that situation.

1914 – 1989: Post-Communist

- Eurasia had withdrawn from the world trading system
- In 1948 we had over 50% GDP, now 20% and falling
- US joined an alliance system surrounded by two oceans, with Naval power: NATO, SIETO (?)
- Great mass of Eurasia out of the game

In 1980: 90 percent of trade between only 17 countries. Free trade was not disrupted.

Change: Deng Xiao Peng – It's glorious to be rich, and its okay for some people to get rich before others. It has been extremely effective.

Opened up 11 Time Zones

Russia opened, Indian opened: 3 Billion new capitalists

= As never before in history, capital free to seek out cheapest labor worldwide. Supply chains transcend nation states and have implications for people in every country. I-Phone totally developed in China - profits going to Apple executives. 87 million surplus for China, only 3% went to China, all rest went to supply chains, and to execs. There should be no more products saying "Made in China." Should say, "Made Globally"

Emerging countries: Turkey right in the heart of this expansion. We are extraneous to this region. We are at the periphery, no longer in the center. A huge adjustment to make. We've had it very good, and there is no incentive to remake it.

Things that haven't changed yet, but going to change: Opium wars – achieving bitterness
Status Quo Power – Rising Power

Peloponesian war: And the rise of Athens alarmed the other Greeks. How alarmed are we? How alarmed should we be? How do we respond to a rising power that we are very slow to give a name to?

His thesis is that as we approach this new situation there is heightened tension between two traditions of foreign policy: Realist and Idealist with the backdrop of deficit. Dichotomy:

John Quincy Adams: 6th – 1829; Minister in St Petersburg during Napoleonic War. Warned US against entangling alliances. Moralistic approach. Quote from : Wherever the standard of freedom and independence shall be, but America goes not abroad for monsters to destroy. Champion and victim only of her own. Default tradition of our foreign policy. Monroe doctrine. Our backyard.

Changed: Woodrow Wilson associated with the Idealistic approach – right of nations to nationhood. US would actively promote these. Be involved in promoting these ideals outside our borders. Versailles conference. Shocked other nations. God gave us his 10 commandments and we broke them all. Wilson gave us his 14 points, we shall see.

Vladimir Putin between the Two Bushes: Senior George Bush ultimate realist. Favored stability over freedom.

George W – High water mark of Idealist: US reserved the right to intervene anywhere in the world in the name of human freedom. To protect ourselves from terrorism we have to be transformational. Barack Obama inherited 8 years of politics.

He is a complex individual – but right from the start, he wanted to rebuild strength at home. The biggest threat to US, is our deficit. Moving in a more Realist direction. Last campaign showed that the Republicans are not in line with this. Mitt Romney: 21st Century should be an American century, otherwise it is a belief in decline that leads to decline. Peace through strength. Shown in proposals on defense budget. ½ of cuts in sequester are to the military. He had proposed a trillion dollar increase on the military budget. BASIC disagreement between two schools of thought.

Foreign Policy Now:

Obama said previous administrations made 2 basic mistakes: We no longer use the War on Terror. Terror is an instrument that dragged us into land wars that got us into trying to make countries more democratic. Instead we need to focus on antiterrorism.

Rise of China: the U.S has been asleep at the switch for 10 years in the rise of China. In China at conference, his Chinese colleagues found us so interesting because they weren't even mentioned. To have the US bogged down in the Mid East during Chinas rise has been beneficial to him.

Center of war on terrorism: Djibouti – Drones are predator and reaper drones. CIA – Congress has no oversight over it.

Cutting back army, shifting to navy which is being built up.

Instead of two war strategy – we are going to a One War strategy.

Very reticent to send troops. Counter terrorism, not counter insurgency. Focusing on strength back at home.

Two Wars: Land forces strong in Russia, but with navy we are ready for problems in South Asia. NATO is now a staging area for troops into Europe. Now major shifting of troops out to Asia. Vietnam agreements, opening bases. Alliances shifting out to SE Asia.

John Miersheimer, The Israel Lobby: Document the history of the Israel support lobby. Saying we are focused on the wrong area. The area we need to worry about is China. Miersheimer acolytes in the Obama Administration. Common view among Sinologists (how to rise without alarming their neighbors). Economically soft power, etc. Miersheimer says this is a danger and we don't know what will happen later on. Allies in the region don't see the danger.

2009: China pushing a free trade 800 million people in surrounding area/neighbors. There is a NAFTA, an EU, let's create the third great Trade Block – without the US—frozen out of its one

ocean trade block. The mantra is that we are responding to new China aggression. No – they had been all along. We are shaking our allies awake

1. Attended ASEAN: July 2010, Hilary Clinton meeting in Vietnam. Much oil in that sea, and China claims much of it. Historical claims on that – different lines between how Vietnam sees it, and how China sees it. At conference Clinton says US has vital interests in that ocean. It split ASEAN down the middle. Divided the ASEAN. Heated up the area. Everyone's overreacted.
2. Proposed a Trade Block of our Own to counter this
A Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) – trade proposal that excludes China (Mexico is interested) and Trans Atlantic Partnership (TAP)
3. Announced a Military Pivot
Republicans love it. How do we hedge against the rise of a country like China. People in China believing that US is trying to blunt the edge of their control.
Reasserting Island Claims: China, Japan and Korea. Mayor of Tokyo, undecided dispute between China and Japan. They've had agreements to co-develop but really put it off to decide. US is agnostic as to who owns them. Japan says they own them. Prime Minister of Japan said we will purchase the lands. Chinese did not like that.
Confrontations. We are bound to protect Japan. They are trying to renegotiate those agreements with them .
Shinzo Abe, grandfather considered a war criminal. He said in Washington, Japan is back, and I am back (second term). Asked to come to DC, and Obama said no. We opened a can of worms, and now trying to shove it back in. Rise of military influence in China. He is head of the military and head of the party. He could be a reformer. In Japan and China, two leaders prepared to take these tensions further if conditions right. Trade relationship with China is so strong. N. Korea made third nuclear test in the midst of this.

Much of US diplomatic and military strategy have been focused on Mid East nation building. They are being pulled out of that. And directed at China.

Military pivot is at cross-purposes with the diplomatic efforts.

General public in China believes that US put Japan up to this conflict. Young Chinese tend to be more nationalistic than the government. Find FORA to discuss these things. The students study here, but fester about what the US is doing.

360 people in Russia control 60% of the economy.

Cycle of violence against Japan. A bunch of people came into a nightclub and beat everyone up because it was frequented by Japanese.

Mark Kito: Respected China Watchers. He wrote a story about China, saying it is time to leave China. The China today is different: Pollution, Corruption to a huge level and overt. Social

Tensions growing. Anti West Tensions. = I'm leaving the country I love. Speaker thinks he is being hyperbolic. But students may be perceiving it this way too.

Open Doors Report (IIE) One of slides in report was on student exchange imbalance. Student mobility imbalance between students from the US, and those of Asia. Looked at in negative light in report. Many more students from Asia come here.

- Demographics: perception of availability here
- Language is a barrier: fully functional in written Chinese is RARE. Jobs in China at mid management and up levels, go to native Chinese speakers from Taiwan,

Plutocracy

- Very wealthy classes who are worried about what is going to happen to their countries and they are trying to get their kids out.
- Social situation in China not in control, incentive to get the kid out to study in the West.
- Chinese family bought 2 mill dollar house on lake Minnetonka, automatically get a green card because of their investment into our economy. They had never been to the US, but have a back-up plan if things go badly in China.

Middle East Basic Issues

Different religions. Shiah and Sunni. 3 Basic Ethnic groups in Mid East. Most problems have to do with the way they interact.

1. Semites: Arabs and Jews related by language, blood, by organization in religion-decentralized. Sharia Law, Rabbinic Law. Ironic that these people are at each others throats. State breakdown.
2. Turks
Originate in China. Migrated across the steppe. End Asians go all the way into Anatoly. Silk road went over the mountains to avoid. Mongols few in number, but big organization. Big group of Turkish assembled in Byzantium. For 500 years, they ruled the entire region: Ottoman Empire. HUGE area. In all these countries, the Turks ruled through the Sunni. Even in places like Iraq, where Sunnis minority, they led. Released the power of the Shiite. Breaking 500 year legacy of Sunni rule is showing up. Shiah Crescent Bahrain through Syria and Lebanon.
3. Indo-Europeans: Black and Caspian sea. Migrated down into India – Sanskrit civilization. Pushed Indus Valley Civilization down south. Pushed into Iran: Indo European, not Arab, not Turk. Biggest Shia country in the world is Iran and they are Indo-European. Persian culture has always had hierarchical. Imams in touch with the Hidden Imam, Ali, who is sleeping and is going to awaken one day.

TWO More GROUPS:

- Kurds: not Arab, always wanted their own State. Wilson supported a Kurdish state. With the upheaval in mid-east, that may get acted upon.
- The Pashtoons – The Taliban. The ancient Sythian people. Karzai is not Pashtoon, largely Turkik group. We got ourselves into a war with the Pashtoons. Pakistan freaked out. There will be a very messy void after US pulls out.

- Afghanistan: 90% of economy depends on US troops. 1/3 defection of Army every year. There will be a great VOID when the US military pulls out.

Arab Spring: - 40% increase in food prices, 60% of population below 20. 5 groups got together. Muslim Brotherhood, Salafist (Ancestor, go back to original Koran, quiet), Military party, Civilian party. Emergence of democratically elected government. Mohammed Morsi, 52 % of vote. Military trying to get back into the game. Egypt ranked most dangerous country to visit in the world (State Department).

Hu Gen Tao in China: Spoke to the Bricks. 5 Bricks: Brazil, S. Africa, China, India, Russia

Crucible of the Sunni and Shiah War: A proxy war fueled from the outside.

Map of Iraq: 60 percent Shiah, 25 percent Sunni, 5 percent Kurds

Day US pulled out of Iraq: President called for the arrest of Sunni, claimed that the VP was going to assassinate him. Fled into the Kurdish region. Shiah government cannot get at him there.

Alawite: Shiah, not Sunni. Big Sunni Glob between Syria and Iraq. Makes border irrelevant. Coming together under Sharia Law. Turkey is very concerned because a large Shiah population in east, so if Syria falls apart, Assad's people.

Israel is VERY concerned right now. Three countries around it are turning into foes instead of Allies. Egypt, Jordan and Syria. Israelis not interested in negotiating with Palestinians anymore. Big setback for Israel that the Palestinian statehood was acknowledged at the UN. Israelis said they would annex the West Bank. Hamas/PLO coming together as the state of Palestine. Boycott, Disinvestment (especially in the West Bank) Obama does not want to attack Iran.

AFRICA

Positive despite conflicts. Turkey investing greatly in Africa.

China is very active in S. Africa. Where are you, U.S.? We would rather be with you. Song, "I'd rather be dancing with the one I love, but I will love the one I'm with."

MEXICO

70,000 deaths in Drug Wars. New government is trying to negotiate with Drug Lords asking them not to cause trouble near Cancun or Monterey. President appointed a new defense minister. US says no, they withdrew him because he had been known to negotiate with the drug lords.

Q & A

What is important to students is needing to graduate, getting out of the education what their parents are putting in. Getting a job . Not taking risks with their time.

Great Decisions program. Foreign students in Ed dept at U of M have managed the program. Get 30 people discussing hot topics. The more there is a focus to the event, and have the Intl students involved in planning it, they are more successful.

Big groups of same nationality people stay together. Have places they hang out. Probably too idealistic to think we can break through it quickly.

Help students to be aware of these changes and position them for stepping off into them.

Engagement is not happening with students and other students because they don't have time. They have to get this done. All the social media takes attention away from face to face interactions.