North Korea’s Weapons of Mass Destruction

Melissa Hanham
James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies
Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (MIIS)

Tuesday, March 27, 2018
11:30 a.m. Registration ~ 11:50 a.m. Luncheon ~ 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Program
Rancho Canada, Carmel Valley Road

North Korea’s Weapons of Mass Destruction

North Korea’s nuclear and missile tests are grabbing headlines and sending shockwaves throughout the world. The Olympics yielded an opportunity for détente, but tensions remain high.

Our guest, Melissa Hanham, will discuss how analysts right here in Monterey gather information about North Korea’s weapons of mass destruction (WMD) programs and make assessments of their true capabilities. Prepare to see satellite imagery and ground photos of North Korea in a whole new light.

Melissa Hanham is a Senior Research Associate at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, as well as the Mixed-Methods, Evaluation, Training and Analysis Lab. She studies East Asian security and the proliferation of WMD, with particular focus on North Korean WMD procurement and proliferation networks and China’s nuclear posture. She also studies Chinese, South Korean, and Japanese nuclear exports as well as East and Southeast Asian export control systems and proliferation finance activities. Ms. Hanham teaches “Geospatial Tools for Nonproliferation Analysis” at the Middlebury Institute and is a regular contributor to Arms Control Wonk.

Hanham earned her MA in International Security Policy and East Asia at Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs and her BA in International Studies from Johns Hopkins University. She has been teaching at the Middlebury Institute since 2012.

Please see page three for reservation information.

Calendar of Events

Thursday, March 1, Board Meeting, Conference Room, McCone building, MIIS. Open to members 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Great Decisions (please see page two):

WACMB/MPC, Social Science Room 101, Parking $3 in Lot D, Free Permits, 4-5:30 p.m.

OLLI/WACMB Great Decisions, Ryan Ranch. 4-5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 27, Luncheon and presentation 11:30-2 p.m. Rancho Canada, Carmel Valley Road
Summary of “Worlds Fall Apart: The Implosion of the Middle East”

Prof. James Russell, Naval Postgraduate School
January 25, 2018
By Philip Morgan

Russell describes the gradual disintegration of a regional political order of family elites, sustained for a generation by military and security services. Four failed states – Iraq, Libya, Syria, and Yemen - have been plagued for years by violent armed struggles involving outside proxies trying to influence the outcomes. The traditional outside powers exercising dominance in the 20th century are giving way to regional rivalries: Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Turkey, Iran, and the Gulf States. As the Arab Spring fades, all of these are now autocracies dependent on security sector arrangements.

What are the wars about? Struggle for political authority in states previously ruled by authoritarians where dissent was stifled by force and intimidation. There was no way to peacefully settle arguments about individual identity, state identity, relationship of the individual to the state, role of religion in the above matters, and over basic governing authority.

The results? Displaced populations, death and hardship, shattered economies and infrastructure add to the humanitarian catastrophe that will shape the landscape indefinitely. Whatever the eventual outcomes of these tragic conflicts, the Middle East will lag behind in human, economic social and political development.

U.S. policy choices? Ties to authoritarian regimes through arms sales, training, military bases and exercises limit flexibility. These same authoritarian regimes prevent peaceful, inclusive political liberalization that only helps fuel jihadi extremists. We endorse participative, open government; groups supported by the countries of the Gulf states mostly favor sharia law. “We cannot re-engineer the region’s politics”. Moreover, given the transformation of the energy sector and the rise of Asia, the Middle East is of decreasing strategic importance.
Luncheon Price increase

Due to rising labor and food costs, the price of our luncheons at Rancho Canada has increased to $29 for Members and stays at $35 for Guests. This is the first increase in many years. Payment deadline is 7 Days in advance.

LUNCHEON MENU

Hearts of Romaine Salad with Walnuts, Raspberry Vinaigrette

Chicken Fettuccini Alfredo
Fresh Rolls and Butter

Chef’s Choice Dessert

Vegetarian:
Pasta w/ Marinara sauce
This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area. Founded in 1951, the Council is a non-profit, non-partisan organization established to promote the presentation, discussion and study of international affairs. WACMB is a tax exempt 501(c)3 organization, EIN-0301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups and student scholarships.

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