



The Passport

World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area

Double Issue: November/December 2018

Chemical Weapons and Their Horrible, But Also Hopeful, Past, Present, and Future

Dr. Philipp C. Bleek

Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey

Friday, November 16, 2019

11:30 am: Registration ~Noon: Luncheon ~12:50 pm: Program

**** Hilton Garden Inn, 1000 Aguajito Road, Monterey ****

Chemical weapons are back in the news, based on Syria's repeated, indiscriminate use in the past few years, as well as targeted attacks by both North Korea (on Kim Jung-Un's brother) and Russia (on former Russian spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia). How worrisome are these developments? And what implications do they have for the future use of chemical weapons?

Professor Philipp Bleek will discuss the past, present, and potential future of chemical weapons. He will argue that, while the use of chemical weapons in the past has been horrifying, there is also good news in the way that the international community has managed to progressively marginalize them. He will explore some reasons to be optimistic about the future of chemical weapons, although he will warn that the progress we've seen may be more fragile than anticipated.

Philipp Bleek is an Associate Professor and Acting Program Chair of the Nonproliferation and Terrorism Studies Program at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey. His research and teaching focus on the causes, consequences, and



amelioration of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons threats at the intersection of academia, non-governmental organizations, and government. From 2012 to 2013, he served as Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs. In that capacity, he staffed the then-secret Syria Chemical Weapons Senior Integration Group, a Pentagon-based interagency effort to prepare for various chemical weapons-related contingencies. He previously

worked on a project that involved questioning the Japanese Aum Shinrikyo terrorists about their chemical and biological weapons programs that culminated in the 1995 sarin attacks on the Tokyo subway.

Professor Bleek has a Master's in Public Policy from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in Government from Georgetown University.

(Reservation information can be found inside the back cover of this Passport)

September Program Report

Summary of “From Cold War to Hot Peace”

Dr. Michael McFaul, Stanford University

September 28, 2018

The World Affairs Council was honored to host Dr. Michael McFaul at our September luncheon. McFaul previously served as the U.S. Ambassador to Russia, and is currently a professor at Stanford University in Palo Alto. McFaul is also the author of the new book *From Cold War to Hot Peace*, which recounts his time as U.S. ambassador in Putin’s Russia.

In his presentation, McFaul struck a balance between analyzing U.S. - Russia relations and relating often-harrowing personal stories of incidents that occurred during his time as ambassador in Moscow. Those stories included how he became a proxy target of Putin’s enmity against the U.S., leading to public disinformation

that was put out by the regime to undermine McFaul’s standing and threaten him personally.

2011 was a key year in Russia’s turn against the West under Putin, and McFaul pointed to two critical events. The first involved the events of the ‘Arab Spring’ that year and specifically what happened in Libya. Putin felt he had been duped by the West: that a humanitarian intervention to prevent a slaughter in the eastern city of Benghazi turned into full-on regime change, which Russia did not support. Second, later in 2011, Russia held parliamentary elections, which were widely seen as fraudulent. Secretary of State Clinton called out Putin over these rigged elections, an action that set in motion Putin’s later subterfuge to undermine her presidential bid in 2016.

McFaul painted a dire picture of Putin, and the thuggish and kleptocratic regime he has established in Moscow. Putin was, and is, very much the byproduct of the KGB, where he worked for many years.

Summary by Glenn E. Robinson

Calendar of Events

Thursday, November 1	4:30 pm
Board Meeting: McCone Building Conference Room, MIIS. Open to members.	
Monday, November 5	4:00 - 5:30 pm
Discussion Group: MPC Social Science Building Room 101. Parking \$3.00 in Lot D.	
Friday, November 16 at the Hilton Garden Inn	11:30 - 2:00 pm
Luncheon and Presentation: <i>Chemical Weapons</i> by Philipp Bleek	
Monday, November 19	4:00 - 5:30 pm
OLLI Discussion Group: CSUMB at Ryan Ranch, 8 Upper Ragsdale Dr.	
Thursday, December 6 at Palo Corona HQ (Rancho Canada)	11:30 - 2:00 pm
Luncheon and Presentation: <i>Japan, America, and the New Nationalism</i> by Bill Clifford	
Thursday, December 6	4:30 pm
Board Meeting: McCone Building Conference Room, MIIS. Open to members.	
Monday, December 10	4:00 - 5:30 pm
Discussion Group: MPC Social Science Building Room 101. Parking \$3.00 in Lot D.	
Monday, December 17	4:00 - 5:30 pm
OLLI Discussion Group: CSUMB at Ryan Ranch, 8 Upper Ragsdale Dr.	

Japan, America, and the New Nationalism

Bill Clifford

President and CEO, World Affairs Councils of America
Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy Institute, Johns Hopkins University

Thursday, December 6, 2018

11:30 am: Registration ~11:50 am: Luncheon ~1:00 pm: Program

**** Palo Corona Regional Park Headquarters ****
(formerly Rancho Canada Golf Club)

The alliance between the U.S. and Japan has long been the cornerstone of American security interests in Asia, and is fundamental to regional stability and prosperity. But while the partnership is based on shared vital interests and values, it now faces major challenges. How will the administrations of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and President Donald Trump chart the next phase of the relationship?



Bill Clifford, who was a Tokyo-based journalist for more than a decade, will discuss how recent political, economic, and social trends in our two countries are changing the dynamics of U.S.-Japan relations. He will highlight how North Korea's nuclear and cyber threats and China's growing military might have profoundly affected Japan's foreign policy.

Bill Clifford is President and CEO of the World Affairs Councils of America (WACA) in Washington, D.C., where he leads our national office and represents its

network of more than 90 World Affairs Councils across the United States. In March 2017, he was appointed a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Foreign Policy Institute of Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). He also serves on the editorial board of the SAIS Review. Before joining WACA five years ago, Clifford was president of WorldBoston, a WACA member council known for its innovative programming.

Previously, he served as Asia Bureau Chief for the pioneering multimedia venture CBS MarketWatch, where he launched and directed news bureaus in Japan and Hong Kong. He holds an M.A. from Johns Hopkins SAIS, a B.A. summa cum laude in International Relations and French Literature from Tufts University, and a C.E.P. from Sciences Po in Paris.

(Reservation information can be found inside the back cover of this Passport)

Discussion Groups: Topics for November

MPC: *Patriots for Profit? America's Experience with Private Military Contractors.*

Is the practice of relying on the private sector to wage war a strategic liability or a trend toward efficiency and cost-effectiveness? What is the impact of private contractors on U.S. troops and relations with host governments?

The MPC Discussion Group will meet on Monday, November 5 at 4:00 pm in the Social Science Building, Room 101, Monterey Peninsula College, 980 Fremont Street, Monterey. Parking is available in Lot D for \$3.00. *(Note: this meeting will be on the first Monday of the month to avoid a conflict with Veteran's Day.)*

OLLI/CSUMB: *The Effect of the National Mid-Term Elections.*

The OLLI Discussion Group will meet on Monday, November 19 at 4:00 on the second floor of the CSUMB building at Ryan Ranch, 8 Upper Ragsdale Drive, Monterey. Free parking is available in front of the building.

Scholarships!

At the October luncheon, Scholarship Committee Chair Naomi Terman announced the 2018-2019 recipients of the World Affairs Scholarships. They will each receive \$1000 to use toward their studies.

- **Marantha Croomes** is a B.A. candidate at CSUMB, majoring in World Languages and Culture. She has studied abroad in Germany, Australia, and Japan.
- **Nicholas De Golla** is a Dean's Fellow and a dual degree candidate at MIIS, working toward a Fisher M.B.A. in Global Impact Management and an M.A. in International Environmental Policy.
- **Brianna V. Hartley** is an M.A. candidate at MIIS, with a focus on Nonproliferation and Terrorism Studies. She is also a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS).
- **Sandy Her** is a B.A. candidate at CSUMB, majoring in Global Studies and Human Communications, with a focus on Asian Studies. This spring, she studied abroad in South Korea.
- **Paul S. Warnke** is an M.A. candidate at MIIS, where he is studying Nonproliferation and Terrorism Studies. He is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, and has competency in French.

Those in attendance at the October luncheon had the opportunity to meet some of these impressive young scholars. Many thanks to Naomi and the other members of the Scholarship Committee, Barbara Zellmer and Michelle Amirkhanian, for all their good work in selecting the winners!

LUNCHEON MENU for NOVEMBER

- Classic Green Salad
- Lemon and Garlic Herb Chicken with a White Bean Spinach Sauce
 - Classic Rice Pilaf
 - Sautéed Vegetables
 - Rolls and Butter
 - Coffee and Decaf
- Chocolate Mousse Cake with Seasonal Berries

VEGETARIAN CHOICE

- Stuffed Peppers with a Harvest Apple Stuffing

LUNCHEON MENU for DECEMBER

- Hearts of Romaine Salad
 - Chicken Marsala
- Roasted Red Potatoes
 - Vegetable Medley
 - Rolls and Butter
 - Coffee and Decaf
- Chef's Choice Dessert

VEGETARIAN CHOICE

- Tortellini in Pesto Cream Sauce

Special Holiday Treat:
Champagne or Sparkling Cider

NOVEMBER RESERVATION FORM

Reservations due November 10 for November 16 presentation

Registration 11:00 am

Mail form and check or credit information to:

Members @ \$29 _____

Luncheon 11:50 am

WACMB, PO Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942

Guests @ \$35 _____

Program 12:45 pm

or fax reservation form to (831) 643-1846

Total \$ _____

Chemical Weapons

at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1000 Aguajito Road, Monterey

Name/s _____ Card Holder Name _____

Address _____ Card Number _____

Email _____ Phone _____ Exp Date _____ Visa _____ MC _____

Vegetarian? (Requires 72 hours notice) _____ Signature _____

Questions? Call the office at (831) 643-1855

Did you know that you can make your luncheon reservations online?
Go to www.wacmb.org and find the News and Events list on the right sidebar.
Click on the link to the next luncheon, then scroll down to Registration.
In the first paragraph, you'll find options to register by phone, mail or fax.
In the second paragraph, you'll find a link to register online.

DECEMBER RESERVATION FORM

Reservations due December 1 for December 6 presentation

Registration 11:00 am

Mail form and check or credit information to:

Members @ \$29 _____

Luncheon 11:50 am

WACMB, PO Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942

Guests @ \$35 _____

Program 12:45 pm

or fax reservation form to (831) 643-1846

Total \$ _____

Japan, America, and the New Nationalism

at Palo Corona Park Headquarters (formerly Rancho Canada)

Name/s _____ Card Holder Name _____

Address _____ Card Number _____

Email _____ Phone _____ Exp Date _____ Visa _____ MC _____

Vegetarian? (Requires 72 hours notice) _____ Signature _____

Questions? Call the office at (831) 643-1855

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This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB). 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-770301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups, and student scholarships.

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*Student memberships are limited to full-time students matriculating at an accredited college or graduate school. This also includes a special military membership for enlisted personnel, grades E-1 to E-4 only.

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