



The Passport

World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area

December 2021/January 2022

A Postmortem on US Involvement in Afghanistan

Professor Thomas H. Johnson

Department of National Security Affairs

Naval Postgraduate School

Friday, January 7, 2022

11:00 am: Registration 11:50 am: Luncheon 12:50 pm: Program

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

The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area is delighted to announce the return of in-person luncheons! Our speaker for the first luncheon since February 2020 will be Professor Thomas Johnson of the Naval Postgraduate School.

After the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979 to prop up the communist government in Kabul, the United States provided support to Afghan insurgents in their fight against the Soviets. In 2001, following the attacks of September 11, the United States and NATO invaded Afghanistan to evict the Taliban regime, which had given al-Qaeda safe haven in which to plan and train for 9/11. The war that was triggered by that invasion lasted for two decades, costing over \$1 trillion and the lives of more than 3,500 US and allied soldiers. The spectacle of the hasty withdrawal of US troops this past summer, and the Taliban's rapid return to power, have raised many questions about what went wrong with US policies toward Afghanistan.

In his talk, Professor Johnson will focus on a variety of



cultural, political, governmental, and ethnic reasons to address why the United States was not successful in Afghanistan. He will discuss the lack of a coherent strategy and the poor choice of tactics that were used to fight this type of insurgency.

Thomas H. Johnson is a research professor in the National Security Affairs department at NPS, and the Director of the Program for Culture & Conflict Studies. For three decades, he has conducted research and written about Afghanistan and South Asia. He is the author of the best-selling book, *Taliban Narratives: The Use and Power of Stories in the Afghanistan Conflict* (Oxford University Press, 2018), and has recently updated and expanded Ludwig Adamec's seminal book *The Historical Dictionary of Afghanistan*. He has published numerous scholarly articles, and has contributed to many news outlets, from National Public Radio to the Wall Street Journal. Professor Johnson holds an MA from USC, and was awarded the Charles E. Merriam Award for Outstanding Public Policy Research from the University of Illinois.

Note: All Luncheon Attendees Must Provide Proof of Full Vaccination!

See inside for further information.

WACMB in Profile: Judith Glickman

“WACMB in Profile” is a series of occasional articles that profile the people who make our organization tick.

There’s one thing you should know about Judith Glickman: the story of her life is “a life lived fully.” A quick look at just her volunteer service for WACMB demonstrates this clearly: she’s on the Board of Directors, chairs the Nominating Committee, and facilitates our popular discussion groups. The rest of her resume bears this out as well.

Judith was born and raised a New Yorker, living in Manhattan, Queens, and Westchester County (with high school in Sparks, NV), but came to California in the 1960s. She earned her bachelor’s degree at UC Berkeley, where she studied mammalian physiology. Several years after graduating, she returned to Cal for a master’s degree in education, curriculum, and instruction. During her time at Berkeley, she met Bud, her soulmate, whom she married in 1969. They settled in San Francisco, where they raised their two children while Bud ran a recruiting business. Judith quickly demonstrated a propensity for multi-tasking: while working at the Mt. Diablo School District (first as a teacher and then as the principal), she also earned a PhD in educational psychology/learning theory at USC. As if her degrees weren’t enough, she’s also attended executive education programs and earned certificates from Stanford, Columbia, The Aspen Institute, and Fielding Graduate University. She moved from the principal’s office to work first as the Director of Special Services, and then as the district superintendent.

Once the kids left the nest, Judith took on jobs in ever-more far-flung places, which meant that she and Bud moved around quite a bit. Over the course of 14 years, she was the Head of School for independent schools in London, UK; Princeton, NJ; La Jolla, CA; and Newport Beach, CA. She then took a break from school administration to be a Scholar-in-Residence at Mills College in Oakland, and then dove into a new career as a partner in an educational search firm, finding and mentoring/coaching heads of school. Along with her career, Judith has been an active volunteer, serving as the Board Chair of San Francisco’s Fort Mason Arts and Culture Center, and as a trustee for the French American International School, the Julia Morgan School for Girls, and several other independent schools. She has also served as a volunteer at A Gathering for Women in Monterey, which she will tell you has been a real privilege. In both her career and her volunteer work, Judith has particularly enjoyed being of service to young people, their

families, and their teachers. She says, “there is nothing more rewarding than furthering their interests and well-being and working collaboratively to expand the academic vision of what is possible.”

Judith and Bud have had a home in Carmel since 1977, and they continue to split their time between the Monterey Peninsula and the Bay Area. WACMB has become a new home for her in retirement, providing camaraderie and continual learning. She particularly enjoys facilitating the discussion groups, with their robust dialogue and well-informed participants who wrestle with thorny issues in a productive and respectful way. She hopes that WAC can engage the wider community about the complexities and opportunities of internationalism and the importance of being engaged with the world beyond our borders.

In addition to WACMB, Judith is passionate about a number of other things. First, she is an avid cyclist. Recently, she completed the California Coastal Ride for the Arthritis Foundation from Santa Cruz to Ventura. Wow! She would have continued on to Pacific Palisades, but an injury required her to withdraw from the ride a day early. Second, prior to the pandemic, she and Bud traveled extensively. They have swum in the ocean from all seven continents (and we hope that they counted their fingers and toes after diving in from Antarctica). Finally, Judith has five happy and fulfilled almost-grown grandchildren, and she cherishes the time they spend together.

Judith, your life is full indeed, and we at WACMB are grateful that you’re sharing some of your time with us!

Discussion Group

On Monday, December 6, the WACMB Discussion Group will address Lebanon’s economic collapse, which was the subject of Anne Marie Baylouny’s November *Quick Take*. The discussion will be guided by the following question: Given the corruption, sectarian politics and violence, lack of basic services, and social inequality in Lebanon, what can be done in the short and medium term to resolve Lebanon’s economic collapse? The Discussion Group will meet on Zoom from 4:00-5:30 pm.

The WACMB Discussion Group is facilitated by Boyd Haight and Linda Dilger. If you are interested in participating in the group, please send an email to info@wacmb.org and let them know.

Come join the conversation!

Great Decisions 2022 is Coming!

WACMB is pleased to present the 2022 *Great Decisions* program. This weekly discussion series begins on Monday, January 31, and continues for eight or nine weeks. Produced by the Foreign Policy Association of America, *Great Decisions* is this country's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program provides background information and policy options for some of the most critical issues facing the United States right now, providing the focus for discussion groups across the country.

Our 2022 *Great Decisions* program will be offered entirely online. The program is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. WACMB will offer two groups this year: one solely through WACMB, and one in collaboration with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at CSUMB. Both groups will meet in their own Zoom rooms on Monday afternoons from 3:30 - 5:30 (with the first 30 minutes a Master Class lecture), and will follow the schedule listed below.

***** These programs fill up fast! Register early to avoid disappointment! *****

WACMB *Great Decisions* Group: This group will be moderated by Boyd Haight and Linda Dilger. Please register in advance by sending an email to WACMB at info@wacmb.org. Once registered, you will be sent Zoom links for each session.

WACMB/OLLI *Great Decisions* Group: This group will be moderated by John Hetz. Please register in advance online at <https://olli.csUMB.edu/courses/>. Registration opens on Thursday, January 20, at 10:00 am. Once registered, you will be sent Zoom links for each session.

The Foreign Policy Association produces a *Great Decisions* Briefing Booklet. The Booklet costs \$35 plus shipping, and is highly recommended for those in the program. It can be ordered online at https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/index.cfm?act=show_material&product_id=16874 or by calling the Foreign Policy Association at 1-800-477-5836. (Those registering for the WACMB group can receive the Booklet at a slightly reduced rate, but only while supplies last.)

2022 *Great Decisions* Schedule

Week 1, January 31: Changing Demographics

Week 5, March 7: Myanmar and ASEAN

Week 2, February 7: Outer Space

Week 6, March 14: The Quad Alliance

Week 3, February 14: Climate Change

Week 7, March 21: Industrial Policy

February 21: Presidents' Day: No Meeting

Week 8, March 28: Drug Policy in Latin America

Week 4, February 28: Russia

Week 9, April 4 (*WACMB group only*): Biden's Agenda

Reminder: Support WACMB's Big Idea Through MCGives!

It's not too late! You have until December 31, 2021, to donate to WACMB through the MCGives! program. For every dollar raised this way, MCGives! will add additional prorated funds to support our "Big Idea."

What's MCGives!? A fundraising program for nonprofit organizations in Monterey County. MCGives! began in 2009, and is sponsored by the *Monterey County Weekly*, the Monterey Peninsula Foundation, and the Community Foundation for Monterey County. Yes, that exclamation point is part of its name!

What's our Big Idea? To bring the Academic WorldQuest (AWQ) program to Monterey County High Schools. AWQ is the flagship youth education program of the World Affairs Councils of America, our umbrella organization. A fun, fast-paced team competition, AWQ tests players' knowledge of current international politics, geography, global economics, history, and world cultures. WACMB will use funds raised through MCGives! to put on a county-wide high school AWQ competition and then send the winning team to Washington, DC, to compete in the national championships.

Sounds great! How do I donate? Go to www.montereycountygives.com and follow the directions there to make a donation online in support of WACMB's Big Idea. If you'd rather send a check, make it payable to Community Foundation for Monterey County and write WACMB in the Memo line or on an attached note. (Please do NOT make your check out to WACMB.) Mail your check to CFMC, Attn. MCGives!, 2354 Garden Road, Monterey, CA, 93940.

A Look Back, With Thanks

In March 2020, as the Covid-19 pandemic rampaged across the country, shutting down organizations both large and small, your WACMB board began a series of virtual discussions about ways that our organization could fulfill its mission while under lockdown. Many people worked hard to help WACMB meet the challenge.

Since in-person luncheons were no longer possible, the *Quick Takes* video series was born. Between June 15, 2020, and November 15, 2021, 31 presentations were prepared and posted to YouTube, where they can be accessed at any time.

The Discussion Groups pivoted from in-person meetings to Zoom meetings, and moved forward with their usual monthly schedule. The number of participants actually went up during this time. The 2021 *Great Decisions* program also went virtual.

To accomplish this pivot, we relied heavily on our Information Management team. Special note must be taken of the extraordinary work of our Information Czar, David Thon, who worked tirelessly to move our programs online and keep everything running smoothly. David, all of us are deeply indebted to you for your mad tech skills, your immense hard work, and your unfailing good cheer as you guided WACMB online through this brave new world!

New Board Member

The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area is pleased to welcome Linda Dilger to the Board of Directors. With a 34-year career in education from the elementary to the college level, a pair of master's degrees (one in Technology in Education, and one in Educational Administration), and extensive volunteer experience, Linda brings a plethora of skills to our organization. Welcome aboard, Linda!

RESERVATION FORM

Reservations due January 3. Luncheon is at the Hilton Garden Inn in Monterey.

Registration: 11:00 am

Luncheon: 11:50 am

Program: 12:50 pm

Mail form and check or credit information to:

WACMB, PO Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942

or fax reservation form to (831) 643-1846

or register online at www.wacmb.org

Members @ \$36 _____

Guests @ \$42 _____

Total \$ _____

A Postmortem on Afghanistan

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Note: No refunds or credit will be given for cancellations received after the due date

Important: You Must Provide Proof of Full Covid-19 Vaccination in Order to Attend Luncheons

Your WACMB Board is delighted to restart in-person luncheons in January. In order to maximize health precautions and protect our members, all those attending the luncheon in January (and future luncheons, at least for the time being) must show proof of full Covid-19 vaccination.

Please come prepared to show either your vaccination card, a picture of your vaccination card, or your State of California QR code that proves vaccination status. We recommend arriving at least fifteen minutes earlier than you normally would so that we may seamlessly carry out the task of verifying vaccination status and checking you in at the reception table.

There will be no exceptions to the proof-of-vaccination rule. Thank you for your patience and consideration as we break bread together for the first time in nearly two years. We look forward to seeing you there!

LUNCHEON MENU

- Asian Salad with Oranges, Almonds, and Sesame Dressing
- Teriyaki Glazed Salmon with Mango Cucumber Salsa
- Coconut Rice
- Seasonal Vegetables
- Fresh Bread and Butter
- Sweet Mango Cheesecake
- Coffee

VEGETARIAN OPTION

- Grilled Sweet Potato "Steaks" with Mango Cucumber Salsa

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This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB). WACMB is a nonprofit, 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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- *California State University Monterey Bay
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Benefactor	\$1,000
Patron	\$600
Sponsor	\$300
Contributing	\$150
Sustaining	\$75
Family/Couple.	\$50
Individual	\$30
Student *	\$15

**Make checks payable to WACMB and mail to
WACMB, PO Box 83, Monterey, CA, 93942
(Couples, please include both names)
OR join online at www.wacmb.org**

Names/s: _____
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*** Student rates are for full-time students at accredited colleges, universities, or graduate schools, as well as for enlisted military personnel in Grades E1 to E4.**

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