

Observer

In Asia, Changing Attitudes Toward U.S. Military Presence

The United States needs to “change the lens” through which it has viewed the Korean peninsula for the last half century, advised Korea specialist Katharine Moon at an East-West Center conference in February. “As Americans, we need to acknowledge we’re looking at South Koreans first as democrats, second as

allies,” she said, “in contrast to what we’ve been doing for most of the past 50 years, which is military ally first almost to the exclusion of other things.”

At the same time, she acknowledged East Asians also need to take into regard what U.S. interests are in the region. “Adjustments will be necessary in perception and practice for a while,” she said.

Moon, a political science professor at Wellesley College, was among the regional analysts who attended a conference to discuss common patterns emerging in Asian public opinion toward the U.S. military presence in the Asia Pacific region. As a result of rapid democratization over the past decade, South Koreans are intent on being politically active, engaged in foreign policy issues and exercising a new democratic muscle, she said.

“World attitudes are shifting in response to American power and the way that America exercises that power,” agreed Sheila Smith, an EWC analyst and organizer of the meeting. “We’re at a moment not only of global change but also at a very fragile moment in terms of the way we discuss our common future with our allies in the region.”

While the United States focuses on North Korea as a nuclear threat, its allies in Northeast Asia are concerned about a wider range of issues on the Korean peninsula, Moon said. Because of this

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Participants in a briefing for news media.

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Challenges for an Aging Population in Asia Pacific Region

Efforts to control population have been enormously successful in Asia, with fertility dropping much faster than anticipated. But as its population ages, that good news is accompanied by a challenge, says Robert Retherford, coordinator of the East-West Center’s Population and Health Studies. With many countries in Asia “getting old before they get rich,” research indicates a new problem for policymakers will be how to afford to adequately care for elderly populations.

Retherford discussed this emerging population problem at an AsiaPacific Breakfast Briefing, sponsored by Bank of Hawaii in January. His presentation

focused on research reported in “The Future of Population in Asia,” a 150-page publication by EWC staff and colleagues in Asia and the United States. A grant by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation funded the book project.

Research revealed fertility rates are falling throughout Asia, with eight countries achieving desirable fertility rates of 2.1 children per woman or

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Robert Retherford

In Asia, Changing Attitudes Toward U.S. Military Presence

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difference in perspectives, she predicted U.S.-South Korea interests will go through a “rough patch” over the next decade.

“If North Korea didn’t have nuclear weapons, we might not care very much what happens to North Korea,” Moon said, of U.S. foreign policy. “For South Koreans, North Korea means much more than nuclear weapons.” What South Korea fears most is “an imminent collapse” of the North Korean regime, which would result in having to shoulder a burden economically, socially, politically and possibly militarily. Such a collapse would create a major refugee crisis that no one is prepared for in East Asia and fallout that neither the United States or East Asia have contingency plans for, she said.

In Japan, the public in general is much less concerned about U.S. tensions with Iraq and more concerned about the crisis with North Korea, said

Naoki Kamimura, on the faculty of International Studies at Hiroshima City University.

After last year’s summit meeting between Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi and North Korean President Kim Jong Il, the Japanese public was “hopeful” about resolving problems on the Korean peninsula, Kamimura said. That summit and the recent threat of nuclear escalation have raised the level of interest about North Korea.

In the broadcast media, he said, there has been “saturation coverage” for the past several weeks not just on nightly news programs but daytime TV talk shows. “The Japanese public is very puzzled about the change of events,” he said.

Historically, the Japanese public has felt secure because of the U.S.-Japan Alliance, explained Smith. “They’re now feeling less secure about the Korean peninsula.”

The East-West Center Observer

is a quarterly newsletter published by the East-West Center, a public non-profit institution established in 1960 to foster mutual understanding and cooperation among the governments and peoples of the Asia Pacific region, including the United States.

Volume 7, Number 1 Winter 2003

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Design: Kennedy & Preiss

Challenges for an Aging Population in Asia Pacific Region

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lower. These countries include Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan, Thailand, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Kazakhstan.

Although population in Asia — already the most densely populated area in the world — will grow by 500 million between 2025 and 2050, population programs have been immensely successful in the region. Initially, public health technology imported from industrial countries and vaccination programs produced a significant drop in mortality in the 1950s, Retherford said. That was followed by modern means of population control imported from the West, including United Nations, U.S. and European assistance in family planning. Asian governments also were encouraged to institute policies and programs to reduce fertility.

However, this drop in fertility has outpaced economic development, posing a new challenge for countries facing aging populations. Japan, with the lowest fertility in Asia at 1.3 children, must cope with the most serious problem because of its rapidly aging population. In Japan, 17% of its population is 65 or older, making it one of the oldest populations in the world. In 2025, 27% of Japan’s population will be over 65. By 2050, that will increase to 36%, because of low mortality, low fertility and very little migration.

“This is a social security administrator’s nightmare,” Retherford said. He noted that in projections for 2050, the largest five-year age group is 75 to 79. Every year since 1975, the number of births has been smaller than the previous year, and this pattern is expected to continue with minor fluctuations.

“You can see why Japan is very worried about how they’re going to pay social security costs,” Retherford said, “because Japan has had universal social security coverage, including medical since 1962. They’re already going broke on this system.”

South Korea, Taiwan and China are watching as Japan deals with this population problem, he said, which is exacerbated by a social security system, which started as a true, properly funded insurance system but became pay as you go, with current workers paying for current retirees. These countries are “looking very carefully at what Japan is doing because they know they’re going to be in the same boat,” he said.

Retherford anticipates China “is going to have a tremendous problem. They cut fertility in half during the 1970s so the fertility decline in China has been as rapid as it was in Japan. That translates later down the line with rapid population aging.” He predicts the one-child family policy, which has already been relaxed, will be abandoned fairly soon.

He suggests several implications for policy in the region, including accelerating economic growth, planning ahead by putting sustainable pension and medical policies in place and international assistance if needed.

With the drop in fertility outpacing economic growth, he advises countries to pursue policies of economic growth. “It means getting integrated into the global economy,” he said. “Doing it carefully, of course, because we know from Asian economic shocks that it can be risky. It is incumbent on these countries to put their economic house in order to meet the challenges that are going to come down the road.”

P Former Defense Secretary William J. Perry, warning that North Korea's nuclear arms program poses an "imminent danger" beyond the region, encouraged the United States to begin direct talks with Pyongyang as soon as possible.

In remarks at the East-West Center in February, Perry, who serves on the EWC Board of Governors, said North Korea has the capability of producing five to six nuclear bombs by summer. It also is opening facilities that could process new fuel to produce many more bombs in the longer term, he said, adding he expects Pyongyang will resume missile testing over Japan.

"This is unacceptable, not only for U.S. security but for world security," he said. "With North Korea's desperate economic situation, the only thing it has to sell are missiles. Now they could sell nuclear weapons. If they get them, they

might sell to the highest bidder, including terrorists. Time is of the essence."

"Coercive diplomacy" backed up by military force is essential to negotiations and a "red line" must be drawn that cannot be crossed, he said. In 1994, when he served in the Clinton Administration, the line was drawn to freeze reprocessing of spent fuel to develop nuclear weapons in exchange for peaceful nuclear facilities and fuel, Perry said.

However, drawing that line will require the United States, South Korea and Japan to work together. "I've never seen the three countries so far apart," he said, noting U.S.-South Korea relations have not recovered since President Kim Dae Jung's visit to the United States two years ago.

Perry Urges U.S. to Begin Direct Talks With North Korea



William J. Perry

As a new South Korean government took office in February, Perry expressed concern that initial contacts between the United States and the new administration have not gone well. At the same time, he said, South Korea must shoulder some of the blame for not fully understanding U.S. security concerns.

Perry described two distinct factions in North Korea: One that favors opening up trade and relations with South Korea and the United States, and the military faction that believes opening up the country will cause the collapse of the Pyongyang regime. The military faction appears to be in control, and as long as that situation exists, the North will continue a nuclear weapons program "no matter what," he said.

"If the program is not frozen, there will be an irreparable situation," Perry said, possibly a nuclear arms race in the region. "This would be a profound security disaster. We have to do everything we can to keep this from happening."

A new vision for the U.S.-South Korea alliance must look beyond North Korea and the Cold War to define an alliance that stands "for something rather than simply against something," suggests Victor Cha, chair of Georgetown University's D.S. Song-Korea

Foundation.

At an East-West Center conference of leading Korean and U.S. experts

in January, he spoke of the opportunity to work toward a new kind of alliance, more akin to relationships the United States has developed with European allies.

Changes in U.S. military forces stationed in South Korea are inevitable, if not imminent, Cha said. Yet there has been little discussion of such change and what is discussed focuses on details rather than a mutually agreed upon, long-term strategy and vision that addresses U.S.-Korea interests in the region.

Cha: A New Vision for U.S.-South Korea Alliance

Alliances that may start out as purely utilitarian military relationships can expand to embody certain values and extra-regional views that its partners share, Cha said. "At the far end of the spectrum, these things become relationships that you accept in and of themselves. They're not directed at a specific threat. The U.S.-British alliance is not directed at anyone in particular. It's a permanent relationship. Maintaining it becomes a good in and of itself.

"Admittedly the U.S.-Korea alliance may never get to that point," he acknowledged, "but that's the sort of discussion I'm interested in investigating. Does it have the potential (to move) in that direction? It's a different way of thinking about alliances in Asia. In Europe, we've thought about alliances as being not simply military alliances, but about permanent political relationships."

History shows most resilient alliances are those that share common ideological grounding that runs deeper than the initial adversarial threat that brought the alliance into being, Cha said. "Is it possible," he asked, "to get the U.S.-Korea alliance to stand for something rather than simply against something?"

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News in Brief

Supporting the Center

RECENT GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Research/ Politics & Security

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan

\$61,202
Ship & Ocean Foundation

Research/ Population & Health

\$75,000
The David & Lucile Packard Foundation

Research/Environment

\$40,000
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

\$30,000
Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Pacific Islands Development

\$159,930
Territorial Emergency Management Coordinating Office, Government of American Samoa

Education

\$40,000
Korea Foundation

External Affairs

\$39,600
EWC Foundation/
Hawaii Pacific Rim Society

International Graduate Students Meet at EWC

A joint conference of East-West Center graduate students and University of Hawaii graduate students was held at the East-West Center, February 20-22. Theme for the forum was "A Sense of Place in the Pacific and Asia: Socioeconomic, Cultural, Political and Environmental Identities," with public presentations by graduate students from Hawaii, the U.S. Mainland, Europe, Australia, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, China, the Philippines and Singapore.

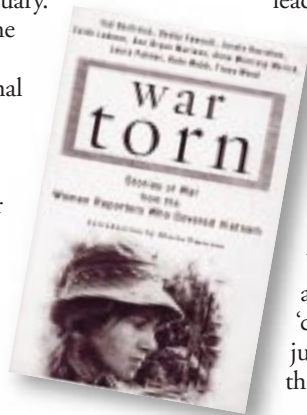
The 2003 East-West Center International Graduate Student Conference and the 14th Annual Graduate Student Conference of the University of Hawaii School of Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific Studies featured a keynote address by Craig Calhoun, president of the Social Science Research Council and professor of sociology and history at New York University.

Women Journalists on Vietnam War

"War Torn: Stories of War From the Women Reporters Who Covered Vietnam," a public program featuring two women journalists who reside in Hawaii, was presented in Honolulu in January.

The event was co-sponsored by the East-West Center, Friends of the East-West Center, Wo International Center at Punahou School and Pacific and Asian Affairs Council.

Journalists Denby Fawcett and Tad Bartimus discussed their chapters in "War Torn," recently published by Random House, a collection of personal stories from women journalists about their experiences covering the Vietnam War.



Chaplin, Longtime EWC Supporter, Dies at 88



George Chaplin

George Chaplin, editor-in-chief of The Honolulu Advertiser from 1959-1986 and a past president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, died in February in Virginia at the age of 88.

An early advocate of international business and cultural exchanges, Chaplin served on the EWC Board of Governors for nine years, including five years as chairman. He also was co-founder of the East-West Center Jefferson Fellowships for journalists from Asia, the Pacific and the United States.

The George Chaplin Fellowship in Distinguished Journalism, one of the most prestigious EWC awards, was established in 1986 by DFS-Hawaii to honor the leadership and ideals of Chaplin. Chaplin Fellows are chosen because of their significant contributions to journalism.

"His professional experience in wartime journalism made George Chaplin acutely aware of the need for international understanding," said EWC President Charles E. Morrison. "He brought to his chairmanship a patented combination of skills: grandiose vision, enthusiasm, consensus-building and the ability to interact with the staff at all levels. Chaplin was larger than life and his 'community' was appropriately grand – not limited to just his newsroom, temple or city — it consisted of the whole world."

Rich: A Hinge Moment for 24/7 News Media in the U.S.

Today's "mediathon atmosphere" of 24 hours a day/7 days a week news coverage limits the media's ability to keep the American public informed about not just one story but all stories and how they fit together, says journalist Frank Rich, who spoke at a public program in January.

"If you have one strong narrative that's at a high pitch all the time," he said, "then you can't hear a narrative about the economy or a narrative about dissent of the war or even a narrative about North Korea to some extent." Rich, associate editor and columnist at The New York Times, was the featured speaker at a program co-sponsored by the East-West Center and Honolulu Community-Media Council.

Americans have to be concerned about this mediathon atmosphere because — besides whipping up hysteria, falsifying information or having no sense of tone — news of terrorism and a congressman's sex life are reported at the same decibel level without regard to significance, Rich said. "It may be funny in a black humor sort



Frank Rich

of way, but it is not so funny for a nation that may be rolling the dice in a big way."

This tremendous change in American news culture began with the Persian Gulf war in 1991. "It is remarkable to look back and see how much the news media changed in a very short period of time," he said, "and to look at the implications of that for our society and the behavior as a nation, particularly at a time of tremendous international stress and domestic stress."

The advent of the Gulf War put CNN on the map and created a whole new form of news that has grown and shaped our lives, he said. CNN figured out that

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The United States needs to address a broad range of issues beyond terrorism to help countries in Southeast Asia develop viable political systems, suggests Muthiah Alagappa, a specialist on political and security issues and director of the East-West Center Washington office.

“I tend to see good political development not so much in terms of capable individuals but in terms of capable political parties and institutions,” he said. The region still relies too much on strong personalities as leaders, “a reflection of the weakness of political development. Some of the leadership changes are important, but our attention should really go toward strengthening political institutions.”

Alagappa spoke about political challenges facing Southeast Asia at a public program, co-sponsored by the Japan America Society, East-West Center, Friends of the East-West Center and the Pacific and Asian

Affairs Council, in Honolulu in February.

Although Southeast Asia faces a series of major challenges, including to its political units and viable political

systems, Alagappa is “reasonably optimistic about the future.” National identity is stronger today than in earlier days, he said, although the nature and strength of political systems vary in different countries.

Movements to secede in Indonesia and the Philippines are reminders of the fragility of some of the countries in the region, whose national boundaries are the result of colonial domination, he said. But in response to a question about any advantage to the splintering of countries with secessionist movements, Alagappa warned of the costs of partition historically as in India and Pakistan.

“The question is how do you integrate minorities,” he said. “The whole issue of sovereignty has to be rethought. What we have is the sovereignty of the 19th century where the central government controls everything.”

There “has to be evolution of power such that there is a federal structure,” provinces like Aceh in Indonesia able to address issues on a local level and have access to revenue-sharing, he advised. “Minorities can have respect and protection within this larger state called Indonesia, just as any state in the United States feels it can do so.” Under the Suharto government this did not happen, he said, but it is beginning to happen now.

However, Alagappa acknowledged several issues could complicate the future:

■ **The role of Islam.** He predicted Islam will become a growing force in predominantly Muslim countries like Indonesia and Malaysia. And he cited a shift in attitudes within these countries so that what

was once considered radical is now considered mainstream.

“It raises two questions,” he said. “Whether the rise of Islam will undermine secular states in these countries and whether the rise of Islam will prevent integration of the southern Philippines and southern Thailand. In Thailand, this is much less of a problem but still an issue.”



Muthiah Alagappa

■ **The military.** Despite democratic transitions that have taken place in many Southeast Asian countries, the military remains a very powerful institution. He noted a tendency on the part of the United States, in some circles, to try to deal with the military. “There are advantages to doing that but you have to be careful not to re-empower the military and undermine open political systems,” he warned.

■ **Corruption.** During the boom days of economic growth in the region, corruption was overlooked. It still has not been addressed in a very satisfactory way, he said.

Economically, the challenge for Southeast Asia comes from a much more competitive global market. Education and human resources are key issues that have to be addressed in relation to economic growth and development, Alagappa said. “Education becomes very crucial and is a major problem in Southeast Asia,” which already faces huge population growth and an employment picture that is not as bright as it used to be.

Lastly, Southeast Asia needs to invigorate its regional and subregional institutions. Unfortunately, the Asian financial crisis in 1997 weakened the image of ASEAN and APEC, neither of which were meant to address that kind of crisis, Alagappa said.



Political and Strategic Challenges Facing U.S.-Southeast Asia Relations

Publications in Review

Living with a Climate in Transition: Pacific Communities Plan for Today and Tomorrow, by Eileen Shea. *AsiaPacific Issues*, No. 66, March 2003. Honolulu: East-West Center. 8 pp. Earth's climate is in a state of flux. Whether in terms of relatively short-term shifts, called climate variability, or long-term climate change associated with greenhouse gases, consequences of changing climate conditions appear unprecedented. Losses due to weather-related disasters have soared recently—especially in the Pacific, where island environments, societies, and infrastructures are particularly vulnerable. Now, a growing body of information about the

causes of climate events is enabling Pacific Islanders and others to anticipate events and move past being victims to become informed planners. Particularly promising is the emerging field of climate risk management, in which disaster management and climate science communities unite, forming model partnerships to plan for the inevitabilities linked with the planet's variable and changing climate. *Printed hard copy available for \$2.50 plus shipping/handling from the East-West Center, ewcbooks@EastWestCenter.org. Free downloadable PDF file accessible at http://www.EastWestCenter.org/res-rp-publicationdetails.asp?pub_ID=1368.*

Coast Guards: New Forces for Regional Order and Security, by Sam Bateman. *AsiaPacific Issues*, No. 65, January 2003. Honolulu: East-West Center. 8 pp.

The 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) created new maritime law and extended maritime jurisdiction that were expected to justify naval expansion. To some extent this has been so, but another trend is also apparent. Regional navies are concentrating on war-fighting capabilities while existing coast guards are being expanded and some countries are establishing coast guards for the first time. The protection of offshore areas and resources is a central element of national security for most regional countries and an important

consideration in nation building and governance. Coast Guards are emerging as important national institutions in Asia and the Pacific with the potential to make a major contribution to regional order and security. This development reflects a concern for cooperative and comprehensive security and will facilitate regional maritime cooperation and confidence building. It is a positive factor for regional order and security and may constitute a revolution in maritime strategic thinking. *Printed hard copy available for \$2.50 plus shipping/handling from the East-West Center, ewcbooks@EastWestCenter.org. Free downloadable PDF file accessible at http://www.EastWestCenter.org/res-rp-publicationdetails.asp?pub_ID=1328.*

People and the Environment: Approaches for Linking Household and Community Surveys to Remote Sensing and GIS., edited by Jefferson Fox, Ronald R. Rindfuss, Stephen J. Walsh, and Vinod Mishra. Boston: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2003. 344 pp. This book will appeal to a wide range of natural, social, and spatial scientists with interest in conducting population and environment research and thereby characterizing (a) land use and land cover dynamics through remote sensing, (b) demographic and socio-economic variables through household and

community surveys, and (c) local site and situation through resource endowments, geographical accessibility, and connections of people to place through GIS. Case studies are used to examine theories and practices useful in linking people and the environment. Also described are land use and land cover dynamics and the associated social, biophysical, and geographical drivers of change articulated through human-environment interactions. *Available from Kluwer Academic Publishers, (866)269-9527 / (781)871-6600.*

Asian Security Order: Instrumental and Normative Features, edited by Muthiah Alagappa. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2003. 656 pp.

More than a decade has passed since the end of the Cold War, but Asia still faces serious security challenges. These include the intractable conflicts in the Korean peninsula, across the Taiwan Strait, and over Kashmir, the danger of nuclear and missile proliferation, and the concern with the rising power of China and with American dominance. Indeed, some experts see Asia as a dangerous and unstable

place. Alagappa disagrees, maintaining that Asia is a far more stable, predictable, and prosperous region than it was in the post-independence period. With very few exceptions Asian states do not fear for their survival, most disputes are managed or adjusted in a peaceful manner, and, despite setbacks, international trade, investment, and production have flourished. Alagappa argues that in fact a relatively stable security order exists in Asia. *Available online from Stanford University Press, <http://www.sup.org> or from University of Chicago Press Distribution Center, (800)621-2736.*

The Asian Development Experience: Overcoming Crises and Adjusting to Change, by Seiji F. Naya. Manila: Asian Development Bank, 2002.

The Asian Development Experience draws its inspiration from the themes, seminars, and discussions at the 34th Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Asian Development Bank held in Honolulu, Hawaii, in May 2001. It delves into such questions as: Was Asia's rapid economic growth really a miracle? Are there environmental and societal limits to growth? Can pro-poor

growth policies alleviate mass poverty? Can information and communications technology bridge the digital divide? What can be done to head off financial crises? Will regional cooperation calm macroeconomic turbulence? The author stresses that, now more than ever, Asia is a region largely integrated into the global economy. He concludes that Asia's regional uniqueness provides an opportunity for cooperative endeavors to deal expeditiously with problems that are closest to their source. *Cloth. Available from the Asian Development Bank, <http://www.adb.org>.*

Also published:

Population and Environmental Challenges in Asia, by Vinod Mishra. *Asia-Pacific Population & Policy*, No. 63, October 2002. Honolulu: East-West Center. 4 pp. *Single copies available free of charge from the East-West Center, ewcbooks@EastWestCenter.org. Free downloadable PDF file located at http://www.EastWestCenter.org/res-rp-publicationdetails.asp?pub_ID=1317.*

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Cha: A New Vision for U.S.-South Korea Alliance

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From left: Edward Shultz, director, Center for Korean Studies, University of Hawaii; Jang Jip Choi, director, the Asiatic Research Center, Korea University, and former chair of South Korea's Presidential Commission on Policy Planning; Hong Koo Lee, former South Korean prime minister and ambassador to the United States; and Victor Cha, chair of the D.S. Song-Korea Foundation at Georgetown University.

In his presentation, In-Taek Hyun, of the Department of Political Science and International Studies at Korea University, suggested a closer look be taken at “what options are desirable and feasible” for the future of United States Forces in Korea (USFK). He advised both the United States and South Korea to sit down for closer consultation. “It should not be pursued unilaterally by any one party of the alliance,” he said. “If it happens in that manner, it will be a disaster.”

At a press conference, Hong Koo Lee, former South Korean prime minister and ambassador to the United States, noted the Cold War has been over “except for one place, the Korean Peninsula.” “No final solution has been found,” he said, “so we’re entering a period in which all the parties in one way or another are trying to write a final chapter to the history of Korea, and it’s not easy.”

A new relationship will have to be engineered between North Korea and South Korea, between Northeast Asia and the United States, and also between North Korea and the United States, Lee said.

While pushing for change, Cha does not accept the argument that any change in USFK can only be contemplated after unification. He proposed incremental changes to the existing alliance and does not view changes to U.S. forces in Korea primarily as a tool for

tension reduction on the peninsula. “I think there are a number of things wrong with that view,” he said.

“It should not simply be a short-term expedient. Changes in USFK should not be the sacrificial lamb for peace on the peninsula, but should be integrated with a longer-term vision of what the United States and Korea want to do together in the region.”

In discussions of recent candlelight demonstrations in South Korea, several participants contended these were not anti-American demonstrations. “There is a huge gap between what the candlelight demonstrations mean,” said Jang Jip Choi, director of The Asiatic Research Center, Korea University. “The perception in the United States is different from reality. This kind of protest movement reflects some important changes in viewing the United States and Korea relationship.”

Rather than anti-American, the protests were aimed at reforming U.S. policy, which are regarded by the Korean people as unreasonable concerning the law and legal proceedings governing actions committed by U.S. Army personnel, Choi said.

Cha added that the candlelight demonstrations in downtown Seoul did not mean South Koreans want the United States to leave the Korean peninsula. “It’s an expression of a different view vis a vis how U.S. forces should be governed as they operate in a host nation.

“And it’s also (from) a new generation that is not a generation of the Korean War. It has no memory of the Korean War as its fathers and grandfathers and others have. This is an educated, affluent generation that is very concerned about certain political issues, quality of life issues ... that often clash with some of the negative aspects of the U.S. military footprint in a host nation.”

Both Cha and former Prime Minister Lee agreed that this year — the centennial of Korean immigration to the United States — comes at a good time to review the U.S.-Korea partnership. “It provides us with the opportunity to get the best minds in the world on Korean Studies together,” Cha said, “to talk about both the socio-economic dimensions, as well as the political, military dimensions of this changing relationship.”

Rich: A Hinge Moment for 24/7 News Media in the U.S.

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ongoing news could not only be presented 24 hours a day, 7 days a week but “souped up” with logos and journalists, experts and commentators as stars.

This form of journalism over the decade has been ratcheted up with experts brought in “by the dozens to fill time, to have opinions about everything,” Rich said. This is applied not just to significant news stories but to all kinds of stories, whether they are of importance or not.

He praised the media for responding to September 11 by reporting responsibly on events

and distinguishing rumor and false information from legitimate news. “There was surprisingly little bad reporting,” Rich said. “But since September 11, it’s amazing how much recidivism there’s been, particularly as we ramp up to what seems to be a war.”

Just as this period is being referred to as a hinge moment in American history, so it is a hinge moment for the news media that plays an important civic role, Rich said. “It is really going to be tested,” he suggested, “by the events in the coming year.”

Notes and Quotes

From
"Drawing a Line
in the Water"
By Mark J. Valencia
(EWC Senior Fellow),
and Jon Van Dyke
in The Washington Times
January 10, 2003

Another answer is for South Korea and North Korea to establish joint fishing zones in the Special Maritime Zones declared unilaterally by South Korea in seas offshore the DMZ. Fisheries issues in the East Sea/Japan Sea include shared stocks and lack of an agreed boundary, leading to inefficient use of the resource and potential conflict.

A joint fishing zone would allow North Korea to

catch squid, sardine, saury and mackerel on the South Korean side of a median line, while South Korea could fish the desirable and increasingly scarce Alaska pollack on the North Korean side of the line. The broader advantages of a joint fishing zone would be the rational use of resources, increased benefit to fishers, a stable fishing environment, and the building of trust and confidence between the two Koreas.

From
"Talk About Oil
and Iraq Is Just That:
A Lot of Talk"
By Trudy Rubin
in the
Philadelphia Inquirer
January 14, 2003

In a desperate bid for political support, Saddam promised the Russians and the French that he would offer them a chance to develop new oil fields. But if his dictatorship ends, any new oil arrangement will require the passage of new laws by a new, democratically elected parliament. This process will be time-consuming, but — if the Bush administration really means to support democracy — it must accept the results. And the results may not be to its liking.

"If the Baath Party survives, or some general makes a coup, it might be conceivable they would give the U.S. some oil contracts," says oil expert Fereidun Fesharaki of the East-West Center in Honolulu. "But if they have proper elections ... you can't predict. You might have a nationalist government which doesn't want equity sharing or to give the U.S. the oil."

Prime case in point: After the Gulf War, American companies expected to be invited to develop new Kuwaiti oil fields. Kuwait's government was willing, but the elected parliament refused.

From
"We Can Do Something
About Deadly Smoke"
By Vinod Mishra (EWC
Fellow), Robert D.
Retherford (EWC Coordinator
of Population and Health
Studies) and Kirk R. Smith
in International
Herald Tribune
February 14, 2003

NEW DELHI — Some of the world's worst air pollution takes place far from urban smokestacks and vehicle emissions. It's right inside the homes of countless rural dwellers, causing widespread health problems and well over a million deaths a year.

Nearly half of the world's households use unprocessed biomass fuels — wood, animal dung, crop residues and grasses — for cooking and heating.

Most is gathered from the countryside. Such fuels are an inefficient source of energy. Burning them in open fireplaces or in simple indoor stoves does not result in complete combustion. Instead it releases large amounts of air pollutants.

This indoor pollution is a quiet killer, hidden from public view, affecting mostly the poor, especially women and children.

From
"Threats From
North Korea
Lead Japanese to
Think Unthinkable"
By Shane Green
in the
Sydney Morning Herald
February 22, 2003

In the past week, nuclear Japan was raised by outgoing South Korean President Kim Dae Jung, Washington's top Asian envoy James Kelly, and U.S. Republican Senator John McCain.

The international discussion of a nuclear Japan appears aimed at pushing China to become more active in pressuring North Korea, the state it has

mentored and supported. "What they are really talking about is the potential for the non-proliferation regime to come tumbling down, I think, as a result of North Korea's behavior and not being able to contain North Korea's nuclear ambitions," said Dr. Sheila Smith, a regional security expert from the East-West Center in Honolulu.



EAST-WEST CENTER

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An International Affair 2003



Dr. Genshitsu
(Soshitsu XV) Sen

Mark your calendar for *An International Affair*, the EWC Foundation's annual dinner, on Monday, July 14, 2003 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. The event was postponed from February.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of U.S. – Japan relations. Our annual dinner celebrates this event and the rich traditions and culture of Japan by honoring Dr. Genshitsu (Soshitsu XV) Sen, former Grand Master of the Urasenke chado tradition. Over the years, Dr. Sen has visited over fifty countries of the world to spread "Peacefulness through a Bowl of Tea," which is the motto of his life's work. The members of royalty and national and religious leaders with whom he has personally shared the spirit of Japan's Way of Tea number well over one hundred. In recognition of

his lifetime achievements, he will receive the East-West Center's Asia Pacific Community Building award.

The evening's festivities will feature a silent auction. Proceeds from the auction will benefit student scholarships to the East-West Center.

6:00 p.m. Cocktails and Silent Auction
7:00 p.m. Dinner and Program

Business Attire or International Dress
Validated Parking

RSVP by June 16, 2003

For more information, please call the East-West Center Foundation at (808) 944-7105.

Hawaii Pacific Rim Society

The Hawaii Pacific Rim Society has continued its generous support of the East-West Center Arts Program through its funding of the following projects in 2003: *Hidden Passion: the Innovation of Metalwork by Women Artists of Korea, Japan, and Taiwan* exhibition from January 15 to March 28; *Vietnam's Enduring Culture* exhibition and performances from April 10 to June 1; *The Cultural Legacy of the Orang Ulu of Sarawak, East Malaysia* exhibition, performances and symposium from June 19 to August 31; *Crossings: Korea* exhibition from September 14 to November 26; *The Art of Rice* performance and Artists-in-Residence from September 5-11; *Dance and Music of Thailand* performances from October 20-25; and *Yunan's Diverse Cultures* exhibition from December 9, 2003 to February 20, 2004.

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Hawaii Pacific Rim Society members and EWC students.

The Hawaii Pacific Rim Society also provided additional support to the George R. Ariyoshi Fund which provides financial support to EWC students who may need additional assistance.

EWC Foundation Programs

AsiaPacific Breakfast Briefing

Robert Retherford, East-West Center Senior Fellow and Coordinator of Population and Health Studies, spoke on "The Future of Population in Asia" on January 28, 2003 at the Bank of Hawaii's Executive Dining Room. This program is made possible by the support of Bank of Hawaii.

Neighbor Islands

Charles E. Morrison, East-West Center President, spoke on "Prospects for Asia Pacific in 2003" on February 18, 2003 at Nani Mau Gardens in Hilo on the island of Hawaii. This program is made possible by the support of Bank of Hawaii.

Your Contributions At Work

The East-West Center Foundation provided support of the following East-West Center programs in 2002:

- 2nd Annual Hawaii International Education Week
- Asian Studies Development Program — "Cultures of Authority in Asian Practice: A Seminar Series for Undergraduate Educators"
- East-West Center Performance Tour by the Kenny Endo Taiko Ensemble
- Blackout draperies in Hale Manoa to benefit student daytime video program
- EWC International Graduate Student Conference
- East-West Fest

Donations

On behalf of the East-West Center, we would like to thank those individuals, corporations, businesses, foundations, and organizations who have generously contributed to the East-West Center Foundation. Listed are gifts received between December 1, 2002 and February 28, 2003.

The East-West Center Foundation has made every effort to present an accurate listing of donors. If your name has been omitted or erroneously listed, please call Judy Masters at 808-944-7102.

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For the second year, the McInerny Foundation will match all first-time gifts from alumni to the East-West Center — up to \$100 per donor. Please take this opportunity to double the value of your contribution by sending your contribution of \$25, \$50, \$100 or more! You can help the East-West Center raise an additional \$20,000 from the McInerny Foundation. Your gift can really make a difference but it must be received by July 1, 2003.

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