

National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations  
16th Annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference

**“REVISITING ARAB-U.S. STRATEGIC RELATIONS:  
GEOPOLITICAL, ENERGY, DEFENSE COOPERATION,  
AND DEVELOPMENTAL DYNAMICS”**

Thursday-Friday, October 25-26, 2007  
Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center  
Atrium Hall, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C.

**Thursday, October 25, 2007**

**8:15-8:50 a.m.: REFRESHMENTS, REGISTRATION, AND BOOK SIGNING BY GENERAL  
WESLEY K. CLARK (USA, Ret.)**

**8:50-9:00: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**Dr. John Duke Anthony** - President and CEO, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations; Adjunct Professor, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Graduate School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University; author, *Arab States of the Lower Gulf: People, Politics, Petroleum; The Sultanate of Oman and the Emirates of Eastern Arabia; The United Arab Emirates: Dynamics of State Formation*; editor and co-author, *The Middle East: Oil, Politics, and Development*; and other books, articles, and essays on the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf States, the Gulf Cooperation Council, and the six GCC countries

**Rear Admiral Harold J. Bernsen (USN, Ret.)** - Chairman, Board of Directors, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations; President, Board of Trustees of Physicians for Peace; Director, American-Bahraini Friendship Society; former Commander, U.S. Middle East Force; and Director Emeritus, National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce

**Ms. Ann Everett**, Deputy Regional Administrator, U.S. General Services Administration

**9:00-9:20: "REVISITING ARAB-U.S. STRATEGIC RELATIONS: AN OVERVIEW AND PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE"**

**General Wesley K. Clark (USA, Ret.)** - Former NATO Supreme Allied Commander, Europe; author, *A Time to Lead, Waging Modern War, and Winning Modern Wars*

**9:20-10:30: "GEO-POLITICAL DYNAMICS (I): LEBANON AND SYRIA"**

**Chair: Dr. Michael C. Hudson**, Saif Ghobash Professor of Arab Studies, and Director, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.; and author, *inter alia*, of *The Precarious Republic: Political Modernization in Lebanon*, *The World Handbook of Political and Social Indicators*, *Arab Politics: The Search for Legitimacy*, *The Palestinians: New Directions*, and *Middle East Dilemma: The Politics and Economics of Arab Integration*

**Speakers: H.E. Dr. Imad Moustapha**, Ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United States

**Dr. Daoud Khairallah, Esq.**, Adjunct Professor of International Law at Georgetown University Law Center, and School of Advanced International Studies, The Johns Hopkins University, Washington, D.C.

**Ms. Martha Kessler**, Senior Advisor to the National Intelligence Directorate, United States Government; and author, *Syria: Fragile Mosaic of Power*

**10:30-11:00: REFRESHMENTS BREAK AND NETWORKING**

**11:00-12:30 p.m.: "GEO-POLITICAL DYNAMICS (II): ISRAEL AND PALESTINE"**

**Chair: Dr. Peter Gubser**, Immediate Past President, American Near East Refugee Aid, Inc.

**Speakers: H.E. Afif Safieh**, Ambassador of the Palestine Liberation Organization Mission to the United States

**Mr. Daniel Levy**, Senior Fellow, New American Foundation, Washington, D.C.

**Mr. Mark Perry**, Co-Chair, Conflicts Forum; and author, *Four Stars: The Inside Story of the Forty-Year Battle Between the Joint Chiefs of Staff and America's Civilian Leaders*; *Eclipse: The Last Days of the CIA*; *A Fire In Zion: Inside the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process*; *Conceived In Liberty, Lift Up Thy Voice: The Grimke Family's Journey from Slaveholders to Civil Rights Leaders*; and *Twain and Grant*

## **12:30-2:00: LUNCHEON AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**Remarks by: H.E. Ali Suleiman Aujali**, Chargé d'Affaires at The People's Bureau of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Washington, D.C. - **“The Turning of a New Chapter in U.S.-Libyan Relations”**

**Speaker: The Hon. Chuck Hagel** (Republican-Nebraska), Member, United States Senate Committees on: Foreign Relations; Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; Intelligence and Rules

## **2:00-3:30: “GEO-POLITICAL DYNAMICS (III): IRAN AND IRAQ”**

**Chair: The Hon. Ronald Neumann**, former U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, Algeria, and Bahrain; Political Advisor, Coalition Provisional Authority/United States Embassy in Baghdad, United States Department of State; and President, The American Academy of Diplomacy

**Speakers: Dr. Judith Yaphe**, Distinguished Research Fellow, Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University; and author, *inter alia*, of *Government and Politics of the Middle East*; *Reassessing the Implications of a Nuclear-Armed Iran*; *Turbulent Transition in Iraq: Can It Succeed?*; *Political Reconstruction in Iraq: A Reality Check*; *U.S. Policy in Post-Saddam Iraq: Lessons from the British Experience*; *Iraq at the Crossroads: State and Society in the Shadow of Regime Change*; and *The Middle East in 2015: The Impact of Regional Trends on U.S. Strategic Planning*

**Dr. Trita Parsi**, President, National American Iranian Affairs Council; author, *The Treacherous Alliance: The Secret Dealings of Israel, Iran, and the U.S.*; and Adjunct Professor, School of Advanced International Studies, The Johns Hopkins University, Washington, D.C.

**Dr. Edmund Ghareeb**, Mustafa Barzani Scholar of Global Kurdish Studies, American University; author, *The Kurdish Nationalist Movement*, *The Kurdish Question in Iraq*, and *War in the Gulf* (co-author); and editor, *Split Vision: The Portrayal of Arabs in the American Media*

**Dr. Kenneth Katzman**, Senior Middle East Affairs Specialist, Congressional Research Service; and author, *The Warriors of Islam: Iran's Revolutionary Guard*

**3:30 -5:15: “ENERGY”**

**Chair: Dr. Frank Verrastro**, Director and Senior Fellow, Energy Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies

**Speakers: The Hon. Clay Sell**, Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer, United States Department of Energy

**Dr. Mohammed Y. Al-Qahtani**, President, and CEO, Aramco Services Company

**Mr. Michael J. Dolan**, President, ExxonMobil Chemical Company and Vice-President, ExxonMobil Corporation

**Mr. John D. Hofmeister**, President, Shell Oil Company

**Mr. Gary R. Heminger**, Executive Vice President, Marathon Oil Corporation, and President, Marathon Petroleum Company, LLC

**Mr. Sigmund L. Cornelius**, Senior Vice President, ConocoPhillips

**5:15- 6:15: RECEPTION: THE ATRIUM HALL, RONALD REAGAN BUILDING**

**6:30-8:00: RECEPTION: HOSTED BY H.E. SAQR GHOBASH, AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TO THE UNITED STATES, EMBASSY OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, 3522 INTERNATIONAL CT. NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.**

[VALET PARKING AVAILABLE AT EMBASSY ENTRANCE; NEAREST METRO: REDLINE-VAN NESS/UDC (a 5-minute walk)]

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2007

### 8:15-8:50 a.m.: REFRESHMENTS AND REGISTRATION

### 9:20-10:15: "DEFENSE COOPERATION"

**Chair: Major General William Nash (USA, Ret.)**, Adjunct Senior Fellow for Conflict Prevention and Director of the Military Fellows Program, Council on Foreign Relations; former Director of Operations, U.S. Advisory Mission to the Modernization Program of the Saudi Arabian National Guard

**Speakers: Lieutenant General Martin E. Dempsey**, Deputy Commander, U.S. Central Command; former Director of Operations, U.S. Advisory Mission to the Modernization Program of the Saudi Arabian National Guard

**Dr. Anthony H. Cordesman**, Arleigh A. Burke Chair in Strategy, Center for Strategic and International Studies; and author, *inter alia*, of *The Iraq War, Saudi Arabia Enters the 21st Century; The Lessons of Afghanistan; Terrorism, Asymmetric Warfare, and Weapons of Mass Destruction; Cyberthreats, Information Warfare, and Critical Infrastructure Protection; Strategic Threats and National Missile Defenses*; and *The Lessons and Non-Lessons of the Air and Missile Campaign in Kosovo*

**Dr. J.E. Peterson**, Writer and Specialist on the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf Affairs, and author, *inter alia*, of *Defending Arabia; Defense and Regional Security in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf Region, 1973-2004: An Annotated Bibliography; Oman's Insurgencies: The Sultanate's Struggle for Supremacy; Historical Dictionary of Saudi Arabia. 2nd ed.; Saudi Arabia and the Illusion of Security*; and *The Arab Gulf States: Steps Towards Political Participation*

### 10:30-11:00: REFRESHMENTS AND NETWORKING

### 11:00-12:30pm: "DEVELOPMENTAL DYNAMICS"

**Chair: Dr. Joseph C. Moynihan**, Regional Vice President for the Middle East and Africa, Northrop Grumman

**Speakers: Ambassador Shaun Donnelly**, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Europe and the Middle East, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President

**Mr. Jeremy Jones**, Senior Strategic Fellow, Oxford Center for Islamic Studies; Senior Fellow, Harvard Belfer Center for International Affairs; Senior International Affairs Fellow, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations; and author, *Negotiating Change: The New Politics of the Middle East*

**Dr. Odeh Aburdene**, President, OAI Advisors; Adviser, Capital Partners Holding; Member of the Board, AMIDEAST, Search for Common Ground, the Rand Center for Middle East Public Policy, the Bethlehem Foundation, Seeds of Peace, and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University

**Dr. Abdelrahim Foukara**, Washington Bureau Chief, *Al-Jazeera International* and former longtime *BBC* Correspondent

#### **12:30-1:30: LUNCHEON AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**Remarks by: H.E. Dr. Hussein Hassouna**, Ambassador of the League of Arab States to the United States - “**Revisiting Arab-U.S. Strategic Relations: The Way Forward**”

**Speaker: Ambassador Lawrence E. Butler**, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, United States Department of State

#### **1:45: CONCLUDING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT**

**Dr. John Duke Anthony**

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