

The Briefing

A Newsletter of The Alabama World Affairs Council / Fall 2013

This Fall: Timberman on Nation Building, McTigue on U.S. Competitiveness, Adams on Worldwide Financial Conditions

Tom Timberman will speak to us on September 24. He is a former foreign service officer who is deeply experienced in reconstruction in Iraq and Afghanistan and other hotspots from Vietnam to Bosnia. His professional experience has focused on diplomacy, national security, and political-economic development in conflict and post-conflict environments. Tom is a U.S. attorney, published author, small business proprietor and adjunct professor at the Elliot School of Government at George Washington University.



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He currently is a principal at the Metisien Group LLC (Washington consulting firm) and is the chair of the Graham & Perry Foundation, assisting families of wounded Army enlisted personnel. He is also an independent contractor to IDS International and other defense related firms. He lectures frequently at US and European Universities and local community groups.

With Deloitte Consulting, LLP, he served as advisor and trainer to mid-level Afghan government ministers (2010-2012), traveling extensively throughout Afghanistan. He scripted and managed the first multi-agency simulation in Afghan government history. He was also associated with Tiger Swan International, an international security firm.

While serving with the U.S. Department of State in Iraq in 2005, when President George Bush directed the establishment of provincial teams to provide oversight to the country's reconstruction, Timberman was chosen as

one of the ten team chiefs. He embedded his reconstruction team, which was located 40 miles South of Baghdad, with an Army combat brigade. He wrote and implemented the first integrated civilian-military development program in Iraq, which became the model for other military units. Previously, Timberman served with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) as Regional Director responsible for overseeing all development programs in Herzegovina (Southern Bosnia) and was a department head responsible for coordinating/monitoring all development programs in Croatia.

He received his BS at the Georgetown University Foreign Service School, his Masters of Public Administration from Harvard, and his JD from the Georgetown University Law Center.

On October 22, the speaker will be the **Honorable Maurice P. McTigue**, QSO, a former member of Parliament (1985 to 1993) in his native New Zealand and a Cabinet Minister (1990-1993), serving as the Minister of Employment, the Associate Minister of Finances, and the Minister of State Owned Enterprises, among other portfolios. He is currently the Vice President for Outreach at the Mercatus Center, a conservative-oriented think tank at George Mason University in Washington. He originally joined Mercatus in 1997 as a distinguished visiting scholar.



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McTigue has advised the Office of Management and

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Budget and most federal agencies in the Clinton and Bush administrations on a wide range of management issues and has consulted with legislators and governors in more than 30 states. He was a special advisor to Louisiana's Commission on Streamlining Government and was named to Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell's Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring.

As director of the Government Accountability Project at the Mercatus Center, McTigue shares the lessons of his practical experience with policy makers in the United States. In 2003, he was appointed to the Office of Personnel Management Senior Review Committee, formed to make recommendations for new Human Resources systems at the then newly created Department of Homeland Security.

McTigue has testified on Capitol Hill and published articles in many major media outlets, including the *New York Times*, the *Atlantic*, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, *US News & World Report*, and the *Chicago Tribune*.

McTigue was one of the architects of the "New Zealand miracle," which dramatically reformed the country's government and improved the economy by implementing market-driven,

progrowth policies. From 1994 to 1997 he served as New Zealand's High Commissioner, or ambassador, to Canada and received the prestigious Queen's Service Order from Queen Elizabeth II in recognition of his public service.

Rex Adams, who will speak to the World Affairs Council on November 12, became chairman of Invesco Ltd on April 27, 2006. Invesco is a worldwide investment company serving clients in over 150 countries with on-the-ground presence in 20 countries. He is the chairman, director, chairman of Nominating Committee, chairman of Corporate Governance Committee, and member of Compensation Committee of Invesco. He has served as a non-executive director of Invesco since



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November 2001 and as chairman of the Nomination and Corporate Governance Committees since January 2007.

Mr. Adams was dean of the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University from 1996 to 2001 following a 30-year career with Mobil Corporation. He joined Mobil International in London in 1965 and served as executive vice president of administration for Mobil Corporation from 1988 to 1996. Mr. Adams was previously a director and member of the audit committee at Vintage Petroleum.

Mr. Adams received a BA degree magna cum laude from Duke University. He was selected as a Rhodes Scholar in 1962 and studied at Merton College, Oxford University. Mr. Adams currently serves on the Board of Directors of Alleghany Corporation and formerly served as chairman of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) and as a trustee of Duke University.



Executive Director Jim Nathan and Board member Jeremy Lewis have a good laugh at reception.



Board member Thornton Clark and wife, Pat, enjoy the food line at the reception.

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Board Member Profile

Julian McPhillips is one of the original AWAC board members, appointed in 1980. His interest in international affairs is deeply rooted.

Born in Birmingham 1946 on his father's birthday, young Julian was raised in Cullman from 1946-59, was a cadet at Sewanee Military Academy from 1959-64, attended Princeton University from 1964-68, graduating cum laude in history, and Columbia University Law School from 1968-71, where he was twice student body president. He also was twice Ivy League wrestling champion, and twice Eastern AAU heavyweight wrestling champion.

At Princeton, Julian spent the summers of 1965, 1967, and 1968 in France, and wrote his thesis on the Role of the French Communist Party against the Nazis during World War II. Julian was also a member of the Columbia international law moot court debate team. Upon graduation, Julian practiced international law on Wall Street with Davis, Polk & Wardell for two years and American Express Company for two years.

Julian married Brazilian native Leslie Burton in 1973. Together they have traveled much of the world. Julian's father, the Rev. Julian L. McPhillips, Sr. served as director of the American Peace Corps in India in the late 1960s, giving Julian ample opportunity to discover India, the Middle East, and East Asia.

Julian returned to Alabama in 1975, first as Alabama assistant attorney general. In 1978, he ran a strong

race for Alabama attorney general, in a nine-man field. Since then, Julian has built up a reputation as a civil rights attorney and trial lawyer, and is the subject of a twice-published book *The People's Lawyer*. In 1985 Julian was named Public Watchdog by the Associated Press; in 1984, he was titled the Private Attorney General by the *Montgomery Advertiser*, and in 1997 voted Best Attorney in Montgomery by *Montgomery Advertiser* readers. In 2002, Julian ran a strong race for the U.S. Senate. He also received five awards from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and in 2011 was named the NAACP Alabama Attorney of the Year.

Julian and Leslie, co-founders of the Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum, also have two married daughters, Rachel and Grace, a college-aged son, David, and two grandchildren.



Board member Mark Conversino with wife, Mary, and son, Nick, at reception.

Membership Steady, Finances Satisfactory

At the end of last Fiscal Year, June 30, 2013, our membership stood at over 400 and has been relatively stable for several years. Last year, our finances were bolstered by two things: by many of our faithful members contributing more than the minimum in annual dues, and by several firms and foundations, plus the World Affairs Councils of America, serving as sponsors or making direct contributions. We are still a long way from having a sufficient reserve or rainy day fund, but as of June 30, we had \$24,859, as yet unreconciled, in the bank, an increase from the previous year.

Three New Board Members Elected

In 2012, the Alabama World Affairs Council suffered the untimely deaths of two long-time members, Jon Beans and Mildred Horton. At a Board of Directors meeting in January 2013, three strong new Board members were elected: **Eddie Crowell**, senior vice president of Miltope, Inc.; **Richard Gill**, president and partner, Copeland, Franco, Screws, and Gill; and **Vanzetta McPherson**, distinguished retired Federal Judge. We are fortunate indeed to add these three great new members.

Our web site is maintained by Prof. Jeremy Lewis at Huntingdon College.

awac.us

Executive Director's Corner: Dr. James Nathan

Editor's Note: The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the board of directors of the Alabama World Affairs Council

One of America's finest Foreign Service officers, Tom Timberman, is coming to speak to the Alabama World Affairs Council the 24th of September.

Tom Timberman's story rivals Hollywood's Forest Gump. Over the course of the last 45 years, Tom has hardly missed a conflict.

His journey seems untypical for a diplomat. Tom started in Vietnam. His mission was country building and counter-insurgency. It became a familiar billet.

In the Cold War, Tom managed European arms issues. But when War in the Gulf loomed, Tom was with the State Department's joint Iraq task force.

For the wars for the former Yugoslavia, Timberman was in the Balkans doing nation building.

In this century, Timberman pulled multiple tours in Iraq, nation building, again.

Now, Tom's just back from his third deployment in Afghanistan. And, yes, he was tasked with still more nation building.

Tom will talk about his experience in the last two wars and the prospect for the region.

Tom's upcoming visit comes at a time that the U.S. seems to be preparing for yet another significant military operation. Not that there'd be much hope that a "limited strike" would change events on the ground.

The use of force, large or small, is not likely to have much of an impact on the course of the war. But I think a decision to do nothing at all is not a good option, either.

In fact, a show of controlled fury was about all that was possible the last time America and Syria faced off.

A generation ago, Syrian, Hezbollah, and Iranian forces connived to murder 241 Marines asleep in their barracks. Retaliation was slow in coming. Secretary of State Schultz argued for a swift response. The Joint Chiefs and Secretary of Defense Weinberger protested that an armed response would not change the course of the Lebanon war. Secretary Weinberger began talking about a "redeployment" "two and half miles west."

Once most America forces were safely offshore, a U.S. battleship mounted a nine-hour barrage. Purported Hezbollah, Iran and Syrian positions were shelled. The rain of Volkswagen-sized shells was "expressive" in that it did make some feel there was a heavy price to be paid for killing Americans. But the withdrawal from Beirut and Somalia, according to the 9/11 Commission Report, emboldened Osama bin Laden. The Americans had, when pressed, simply left. That was the terrorists' "lesson."

The slaughter of 1400 civilians by gas on the outskirts of Damascus on the 21st of August now raises the issues of limited military expressive rage.

The bureaucratic inside story seems timeless. The military lobbies against the use of force. The State Department the CIA weigh in for some kind of strong "demonstrative" act.

Nobody in policy has come up with any strategy to confront the issue: what can be done to impede the spreading regional mayhem?

The "shot across the bow" Mr. Obama spoke about has traditionally meant a small explosion in front of a ship in order to force the ship to stop. But what happens if the Syrians do not stop? One hopes the Congress helps in forming something of an answer. Few think an expression of military piqué is enough. But what else? It may be that there's no stomach at the moment for a serious national effort. But in time the larger issues of regional civil war will need to be confronted.

Meanwhile, one wonders why the criminality of mass Syrian civilian deaths has not been taken to the relevant courts. Even U.S. courts may have jurisdiction under the Alien Tort Claims Act of 1789.

There's time to figure out if more force against Syria has a purpose. The timeless admonition of the great theorist of war, Clausewitz obtains: "nobody starts a war—or rather, no one in his senses ought to do so—without first being clear in his mind how he intends to conduct it." The use of expressive force is not war. But war may be in the offing.