ACTUALITÉ DU RENSEIGNEMENT

Réorienter le renseignement en Afghanistan – Général Michel Masson – Tribune libre n°6, janvier 2010, CF2R

Les médias américains et français et le traitement des questions de renseignement – Éric Denécé – Éditorial, janvier 2010, CF2R

Quand les radioamateurs écoutent le Mossad et les communications diplomatiques – Alain Charret – Note d’Actualité n° 202, CF2R

Intelligence.gov – le nouveau site du renseignement américain
The U.S. Intelligence Community (IC) is a coalition of 17 agencies and organizations within the executive branch that work both independently and collaboratively to gather the intelligence necessary to conduct foreign relations and national security activities. Our primary mission is to collect and convey the essential information the President and members of the policymaking, law enforcement, and military communities require to execute their appointed duties.

Rapport annuel de la Sûreté de l’État – Belgique
La Sûreté de l’État a, pour la première fois de son histoire, publié jeudi un rapport annuel destiné à ouvrir un peu plus sa communication vers le monde extérieur sans toutefois tomber dans la révélation d’informations sensibles. En une septantaine de pages accessibles sur internet (www.just.fgov.be), les services secrets belges -version civile- brossent un panorama des menaces en matière de terrorisme, extrémisme, espionnage, ingérence, prolifération, organisations sectaires nuisibles, organisations criminelles et atteintes au potentiel économique et scientifique.

Making Intelligence Agencies Accountable - B. Raman
Clearly, they need to have a legal existence first, along with needing a formal charter of their functions and responsibilities. R&AW still does not have a legal existence 42 years after its formation in 1968

KPA Journal – Joseph Bermudez
Joseph Bermudez, a military analyst for Jane’s Intelligence Review and author of The Armed Forces of North Korea, has launched a journal dedicated to the discussion of the DPRK military. The goals of this modest publication are to allow me to freely share with readers new, interesting or updated information concerning: all aspects of the Korean People’s Army (KPA, more commonly known as the North Korean Army) from its birth until present; ballistic missile development; intelligence operations (e.g., seaborne infiltration operations, etc.); and other defense and intelligence issues concerning the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK, more commonly known as North Korea).

Intelligence Reform: The Lessons and Implications of the Christmas Day Attack
Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee – 20 January 2010
Statement for the Record of Dennis C. Blair Director of National Intelligence
Michael E. Leiter Director of the National Counterterrorism Center

Right-wing AUC militia federation infiltrated the highest levels of Colombia’s DAS intelligence agency by 1990
The leaders of the right-wing AUC militia federation infiltrated the highest levels of Colombia’s DAS intelligence agency by the beginning of the 1990s, El Tiempo newspaper reported Monday, citing sources in the Inspector General’s Office
Military HUMINT in Iraq – May-June 2009

Original source comment, a CIA-trained SOF retired O-6: Article is loaded with some phrases and abbreviations that even I, who normally speaks that sort of thing with native fluency, had some problems with. Seems to me that the military has taken a tough job, particularly in a combat zone, and made it even tougher through organizational and bureaucratic complexity as well as fielding a workforce to address the problem that probably is not sufficiently senior or personally mature.

Retired CIA Case Officer (C/O) comment: There are two truth-tellers in this article. The first is that it deals with echelon above division, which confirms that the US military is simply not trained, equipped, nor organized to do tactical clandestine human intelligence or overt human intelligence collection and integration. The second is that doing “HUMINT” in full combat gear with tactical gloves, sunglasses and so on, is not HUMINT—we call it street-walking. Neither HUMINT nor OSINT are serious disciplines today in the USA, on either the military or the civilian side. The CIA does not do street-walking—they’re more upscale, and go directly to sleeping with local liaison. Take your pick, neither of these is righteous good stuff.

Military Intelligence Professional Bulletin – 2008 Oct-Dec Intelligence Enterprise

Le décryptage d’Enigma et son rôle dans la Seconde Guerre mondiale – Zdzislaw Jan KAPERA

The Venona Story – Robert L. Benson

On 1 February 1943 the U.S. Army’s Signal Intelligence Service, a forerunner of the National Security Agency, began a small, very secret program, later codenamed VENONA. The original object of the VENONA program was to examine, and possibly exploit, encrypted Soviet diplomatic communications. These messages had been accumulated by the Signal Intelligence Service (later renamed the U.S. Army Signal Security Agency and commonly called Arlington Hall after the Virginia location of its headquarters) since 1939 but had not been studied previously. American analysts discovered that these Soviet communications dealt not only with diplomatic subjects but also espionage matters. Six public releases of VENONA translations and related documents have been made. These releases covered the following topics and are all discussed in this monograph.

1. Soviet atomic bomb espionage
2. New York KGB messages of 1942 and 1943
3. New York and Washington KGB messages of 1944 and 1945
4. San Francisco and Mexico City KGB messages; GRU New York and Washington messages; Washington Naval GRU messages

VENONA document

It contains the extensive 66 page VENONA document and other previously top secret documents, related to the Korean war and Vietnam.

Angleton in Literature and Film – Studies in Intelligence Vol. 53, No. 4 (December 2009)

Finally, David Robarge, the Chief of the CIA’s History Staff, has a fine review article carefully weighing the various books, films, etc. that have grappled with the enigma/hero/walking disaster that was James Angleton.

“Of Revelatory Histories and Hatchet Jobs: Propaganda and Method in Intelligence History”


Security Sector Reform in Challenging Environments - The Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces

Following an overview of ‘ideal’ SSR requirements, contrasted with typical obstacles inhibiting SSR efforts, the main body of this volume offers evidence-based analyses of positive and negative SSR records in barely enabling environments, drawing on the experiences of specific national and international SSR programmes and experiences in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe. Lessons learned from these experiences are intended to feed into theoretical re-thinking of SSR policy frameworks as well as to help practitioners in designing and implementing effective and sustainable SSR in challenging environments. This book is the latest in DCAF’s Yearbook series, which focuses on particular topics of current research and analytical work of DCAF experts and our broader circle of collaborators.

Lowest-priced security not good enough for war-zone embassies - 10/01/09

The Commission issued its second Special Report to urge that Congress change a statutory restriction on the State Department’s ability to choose security contractors for its Foreign Service buildings based on any considerations other than lowest price and technical acceptability. The Commission believes that the unintended consequences of the mandate were illustrated in poor contract performance and widely publicized misconduct by guards for the embassy in Kabul. The State Department is on record saying contractor performance endangered the embassy and its personnel. The report urges allowing use of the «best-value» standard for evaluating contract offers.
Irak, terre mercenaire – Georges Henri Bricet des Vallons – éditions Favres
L'un de ses constats : le renfort de civils dans les conflits armés ne date pas d'hier. On a observé un tel phénomène durant la Seconde Guerre mondiale, celle des Balkans ou du Vietnam. Si ces «renforts» civils dans les guerres ne sont pas nouveaux, leur part est de plus en plus importante. Il y a plus de civils que de militaires actuellement en Irak, occupés à des tâches armées ou paramilitaires. Autant d'éléments abordés par l'auteur dans son enquête, qui décrit précisément la situation en Irak.

At WHAT Cost? Contingency Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan – Interim Report, June 2009
Commission on Wartime Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan

FORCES ET OPÉRATIONS SPÉCIALES

The Green Berets Who Saved Karzai – Eric Blehm
In an exclusive excerpt from his new book, Eric Blehm recounts the untold story of the 11 Green Berets who secretly helped the Afghan president fight the Taliban and take back his country. On a moonless November night in 2001, five Blackhawk helicopters infiltrate southern Afghanistan, dropping a Special Forces A-Team—ODA 574—deep behind enemy lines in the mountains of Uruzgan Province. Captain Jason Amerine and the 10 men under his command are on a seemingly impossible mission: to destroy the Taliban from within and prevent a civil war from consuming the country. This lone team of Green Berets has just one ally in the south: Hamid Karzai, a little-known Pashtun statesman who has returned from exile and is being hunted by the Taliban as he roams the countryside raising a militia.

GUERRE DE L'INFORMATION

DoD “Clarifies” Doctrine on Psychological Operations
The Department of Defense has issued a new publication (pdf) to update and clarify its doctrine on “psychological operations.” Psychological operations, or PSYOP, are intended to “convey selected information and indicators to foreign audiences to influence their emotions, motives, objective reasoning, and ultimately the behavior of foreign governments, organizations, groups, and individuals. The purpose of psychological operations is to induce or reinforce foreign attitudes and behavior favorable to the originator’s objectives.”


Soviet Bloc Intelligence and Its AIDS Disinformation Campaign

CYBERMENACES

Information Security and Cybercrime – Ian Brown, Lilian Edwards, Christopher Marsden
Information systems are increasingly important to the efficient operation of government, corporations and society in general. With that importance has come an increasing risk of information security breaches, compounded by systems’ networked nature. That makes effective information security a public policy issue of far broader impact than technical information technology policy. This chapter examines the tools used by cybercriminals to breach information system security; the impact of cybercrime; and the legal responses of the UK, European Union and Council of Europe. Law and The Internet, 3rd Ed., L. Edwards, C. Waelde, eds., Oxford: Hart, 2009

As the Internet has become a mainstream communications mechanism, law enforcement and intelligence agencies have developed new surveillance capabilities and been given new legal powers to monitor its users. These capabilities have been particularly targeted toward terrorism suspects and organisations, which have been observed to use the Internet for communication, propaganda, research, planning, publicity, fundraising and creating a distributed sense of community. Policing has become increasingly pre-emptive, with a range of activities criminalised as «supporting» or «apologising for» terrorism. The privacy and non-discrimination rights that are core to the European legal framework are being challenged by the increased surveillance and profiling of terrorism suspects. We argue that their disproportionate nature is problematic for democracy and the rule of law, and will lead to practical difficulties for cross-border cooperation between law enforcement agencies.

Panorama de la cybercriminalité - Bilan de l’année 2009 – CLUSIF
Dr Ian Brown, Oxford University

**Asking the right questions about cybersecurity** – Cyber Security and Global Affairs, Oxford, August 2009

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**TERRORISME**

**Le soutien de l'Iran au terrorisme international** – Alain Rodier – Note d’Actualité n° 203, CF2R

**La Somalie renforce son rôle au sein de la mouvance terroriste internationale** – Alain Charret – Note d’Actualité n° 200, CF2R

**In the Shadows of the Koran – Qutb’s Views on Jews and Christians as Reflected in His Koran Commentary**  
Michael Ebstein – November 2009

**Contemporary Polemics between Neo-Wahhabis and Post-Khomeinist Shites**  
Isaac Hasson – October 2009

**Mumbai Terror Attacks: Dossier of Evidence** – Government of India – July 6, 2009  
The 69-page dossier of evidence linking Pakistan to the Mumbai terror attacks of Nov 26-28, 2008, was handed to Pakistan by the Indian government Jan 5, 2009. The dossier includes transcripts of phone calls made between terrorists and their alleged handlers in Pakistan during the attacks. According to the dossier, the commanders in Pakistan were following events on television and issuing instructions to gunmen to target certain nationalities and religions, maximize casualties, and not to kill Muslims. The commands included orders to cold-bloodedly murder six Jews at the Nariman Chabad House, an orthodox Jewish outreach center in Mumbai. Senior members of Laskar-e-Taiba (LeT), a Pakistan-based terrorist group, are alleged to be involved in the attacks that claimed more than 170 lives. The dossier was originally posted on the online edition of The Hindu.

**La psychanalyse à l’épreuve de l’islam**  
Texte de la rencontre avec Fethi Benslama – 29 novembre 2008, Lyon, dans le cadre du cycle «Psychanalyse et spiritualités»

**The Muslim Brotherhood in the United States** – April 06, 2009 – Steven Merley, Hudson Institute  
The leadership of the U.S. Muslim Brotherhood (MB, or Ikhwân) has said that its goal was and is jihad aimed at destroying the U.S. from within. The Brotherhood leadership has also said that the means of achieving this goal is to establish Islamic organizations in the U.S. under the control of the Muslim Brotherhood. Since the early 1960s, the Brotherhood has constructed an elaborate covert organizational infrastructure on which was built a set of public or “front” organizations. The current U.S. Brotherhood leadership has attempted to deny this history, both claiming that it is not accurate and at the same time that saying that it represents an older form of thought inside the Brotherhood. An examination of public and private Brotherhood documents, however, indicates that this history is both accurate and that the Brotherhood has taken no action to demonstrate change in its mode of thought and/or activity.

**The gun markets of Pakistan**  
Visit of Darra Adamkhel, the massive open-air market located deep in the tribal areas, where a frighteningly high percentage of Islamic holy warriors goes to buy their guns.

**The gun markets of Pakistan**  
2006. One week before that, I arrived in Pakistan to visit Darra Adamkhel, the massive open-air market located deep in the tribal areas, where a frighteningly high percentage of Islamic holy warriors goes to buy their guns. Gaining access to the tribal areas was next to impossible. It took months of pre-planning with the consul general of Pakistan in Montreal and top officials in Peshawar. They repeatedly denied us entry because, according to them, the Pakistani Army had too many «sensitive operations» going on in that region. Without my personal advantage (a family friendship with the governor of the Northwest Frontier Province), we never would have gotten in. This summer, I went back to Pakistan, and found that the fuse on this powder keg has become even shorter.

**Public perceptions of Pakistan’s war against the Tehreek-e-Taliban** – Mustafa Qadri  
10th December 2009 – Pakistan Security Research Unit (PSRU), Brief Number 54  
Support for Pakistan’s military operations against local Taliban insurgents has seen a dramatic rise this year. The critical reasons for the shift towards support for military operations in the tribal areas has been the public’s perception that Pakistan is fighting a war for its existence allied with the refusal to accept that militant, political Islam generally, and the Taliban movement in particular, is responsible for the insurgent violence that has rocked Pakistan. Perceived foreign enemies of Pakistan are directly or indirectly blamed both by state authorities and much of the population. This argument may rally the population behind the state’s war against the TTP, but it prevents Pakistani society from confronting the very real, and serious infiltration of militant, political Islam into mainstream society.
**Insurrection, Terrorism, and the Pakistan Army** – Brian Cloughley, Pakistan Security Research Unit (PSRU)

Brief Number 53 – This paper examines the Pakistan Army’s military operations in the FATA and NWFP since 2001 and discusses the internal and external constraints within which they operate. It argues that the Pakistan Army is serious about tackling militancy within the FATA/NWFP (and in Balochistan) but that there are limits to what military force alone can achieve. The key to long-term stability and security must come from the economic, political and social follow-up to military action, the responsibility for which lies with the civilian government of Pakistan.

**The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan: Ideology and Beliefs** – Simon Ross Valentine – September 2009, Brief Number 49

With the death of Baitullah Mehsud on 5 August 2009, and the capture of Mullah Umar twelve days later, it has been suggested that the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan is a broken and ineffective force. This paper examines the ideology and beliefs of the TTP, particularly its teaching on global jihad; a united ummah; the Pakistani government; American foreign policy; the Takfiri doctrine and the implementation of Shariah. Although the TTP’s institutional capacity has received a serious set-back, the author concludes that, under the leadership of Hakimullah Mehsud, its ideological capacity to influence is far from over.

**Talking to Terrorists: Making Peace in Northern Ireland and the Basque Country** (Crises in World Politics)

John Bew, Martyn Frampton, Inigo Gurruchaga

**Terrorisme et antitérrorisme au Canada** – sous la direction de Jean-Paul Brodeur et Stéphane Leman-Langlois

Presses de l’Université de Montréal

**In Central Asia, unofficial madrasahs raise official fears**

EU Counter-Terrorism Strategy – Gilles de Kerchove – November 2009

**Cracks in the Jihad** – Thomas Rid

One hundred and seventy years later, jihad is again a major threat—and Decker’s dire analysis more relevant than ever. War, in Clausewitz’s eminent theory, was a clash of collective wills, “a continuation of politics by other means.” When states went to war, the adversary was a political entity with the ability to act as one body, able to end hostilities by declaring victory or admitting defeat. Even Abd el-Kader eventually capitulated. But jihad in the 21st century, especially during the past few years, has fundamentally changed its anatomy: Al Qaeda is no longer a collective political actor. It is no longer an adversary that can articulate a will, capitulate, and be defeated. But the jihad’s new weakness is also its new strength: Because of its transformation, Islamist militancy is politically impaired yet fitter to survive its present crisis.

**My Cousin’s Enemy is My Friend: A Study of Pashtun “Tribes” in Afghanistan** – September 2009


**Recommended Data Sources for the Study of Terrorism**

**Al Qaïda / Hezbollah : la concurrence à distance entre deux logiques d’action jihadistes différentes pour la captation des cœurs et des esprits de l’Umma** – Rayan Haddad

Cet article a pour objet de montrer, à travers notamment un examen transversal des crises du 11 septembre, de l’Afghanistan, d’Irak, de Palestine et du Liban, que l’on peut relever dans certains cas l’existence d’une “concurrence idéologique” entre le Hezbollah et Al Qaïda s’agissant de la captation des cœurs et des esprits d’une “audience panislamique globale”. Cette rivalité tournant autour de l’identité du “meilleur jihadisme” en présence sur la “scène islamique mondiale” (étant entendu qu’il ne s’agit pas du même jihad dans les deux cas) conduit surtout à un déploiement de “stratégies de distinction” entre les deux parties...


Terrorism Monitor Volume: 8 Issue: 2

**The Radical Source for Non-Arabic Speaking Muslims: Anwar al-Awlaki**

Terrorism Monitor Volume: 8 Issue: 2

**Taliban Military Commander In Zabul Province Discusses Tactics And Strategy**

Terrorism Monitor Volume: 8 Issue: 2

The sparsely inhabited Afghan province of Zabul is nevertheless a strategic concern for U.S. and Coalition forces in Afghanistan, due to its location and majority Pashtun population. Zabul shares a border with Pakistan to the south and another with the unsettled Taliban hotbed of Kandahar to the west. Taliban activity is on the rise in Zabul and the Taliban publication Al-Sumud recently took the opportunity to interview a prominent military commander in Zabul province, Mullah Abd al-Qahhar (Al-Sumud, January 2010). The interview is dated December 23, 2009.

**East African Terrorism Comes to Scandinavia**

Terrorism Monitor Volume: 8 Issue: 2

**Indonesian Counter-Terrorism: The Great Leap Forward**

Terrorism Monitor Volume: 8 Issue: 2
‘Hizb ut-Tahrir obsessed with radicalising students’ – The Times

At universities across the country, Hizb ut-Tahrir operates freely behind a series of “front groups” holding events covertly and spreading its dangerous message of confrontation and separation. In recent years it has become more sophisticated in how it does this, circumventing attempts to clamp down on its activities.

PROLIFÉRATION ET TRAFIC D’ARMES

Accélération du développement du programme nucléaire militaire iranien – Éric Denécé – Note d’Actualité n° 201, CF2R


The much-anticipated 149-page report issued late Friday by the Working Group on Strengthening the Biosecurity of the United States also calls for the government to take actions that would lead to changes in the rules governing the handling, storage and management of the 82 «select agents» -- pathogens and biological toxins such as anthrax declared to pose a severe threat to human or animal health by the U.S. Health and Human Services and Agriculture departments.

The Anthrax Attacks Remain Unsolved – January, 2010

The FBI disproved its main theory about how the spores were weaponized.

ECDC threat assessment: Anthrax outbreak among drug users, Scotland and Germany

Joint ECDC and EMCDDA threat assessment (update 15 January 2010)

The Global Forum on BioRisks – Toward Effective Management and Governance of Biological Risks

David Heyman, Gerald L. Epstein, Michael Moodie – Dec 1, 2009

Traditional institutions and measures appear less and less able to provide adequate governance for an increasingly unfamiliar issue characterized by novel dynamics and fostered by a convergence of recent global trends. This report addresses these concerns. It first considers the evolving challenges posed by naturally occurring disease as well as the potential misuse of the life sciences and related technology, including a number of trends whose convergence imbues biosecurity challenges with unfamiliar dimensions. It then considers the variety of professional communities that are stakeholders in managing biological risks, presenting their different perspectives. It goes on to assess factors that must be incorporated into an effective strategy for countering this evolving challenge, and it concludes by introducing the Global Forum on BioRisks—a comprehensive, integrated, international, and multisectoral approach to dissuading, mitigating, interdicting, countering, and responding to biological threats of natural, accidental, or intentional origin.

Last Two U.S. Chemical Weapons Disposal Sites Funded at $550M

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2010 – Rachel Oswald – Global Security Newswire

Funding for preparation of the last two U.S. installations set to begin destruction of their chemical weapon stockpiles received a significant boost in the fiscal 2010 budget -- roughly 30 percent over last year’s allowance.

Officials fear toxic ingredient in Botox could become terrorist tool

The Washington Post Monday, January 25, 2010

Self-Serving Leaks from the A.Q. Khan Circle

David Albright, Paul Brannan, and Andrea Scheel Stricker – ISIS Reports, December 2009

Burma: A Nuclear Wannabe; Suspicious Links to North Korea; High-Tech Procurements and Enigmatic Facilities

David Albright, Paul Brannan, Robert Kelley and Andrea Scheel Stricker – January 2010

The History of the Gas Centrifuge and Its Role in Nuclear Proliferation

Houston Wood, David Albright, Jeffrey Lewis – Wilson Center

The discovery of A.Q. Khan’s extensive nuclear proliferation network based upon gas centrifuge technology used to enrich uranium to weapons-grade has created a crisis of confidence in the non-proliferation regime. While the beginnings of gas-centrifuge experimentation date back to the 1930s, it was only in the 1970s that the technology advanced enough to become commercially viable. Widely considered an unlikely path to nuclear weapons proliferation until the 1990s, gas-centrifuge technology is now seen by some as a central threat to the non-proliferation regime.

The History of the Gas Centrifuge and Its Role in Nuclear Proliferation

Conference Held at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars:

David Albright - “Illicit Procurement of Centrifuge Materials and Technology”

Jeffrey Lewis - “Crisis of Confidence: Challenges to the Non-Proliferation Regime”

U.S. gets ‘F’ on bioterror response
Burma: If not nukes, what about missiles?  
Fears that Burma’s military government is secretly building a nuclear weapon, with North Korean help, seem to have subsided — at least for the time being.

Corruption in Afghanistan: Bribery As Reported by Victims – UN, 2010  
Based on interviews with 7,600 people in 12 provincial capitals and more than 1,600 villages around Afghanistan. It records the real experiences (rather than just perceptions) of urban as well as rural residents, men and women, between autumn 2008 and autumn 2009.

A Congressional report issued last week details links between international terrorism and transnational crime and refers to fugitive Indian gangster Dawood Ibrahim. Ibrahim’s notorious D-Company, a criminal syndicate of 5,000 members operating in Pakistan, India, and the United Arab Emirates, is described as a prime example of the “criminal-terrorism fusion model.”

La mafia calabraise blanchit les milliards du crime en Suisse  
20 à 30 milliards: c’est la somme que la ‘Ndrangheta aurait investie ces cinq dernières années en achetant terrains, entreprises et restaurants. Elle rachète des restaurants et des entreprises au bord de la faillite. Elle investit dans l’immobilier et le négoce. Sans faire de bruit, la ‘Ndrangheta, la mafia calabraise, blanchit son argent en Suisse. «Elle y est une des organisations criminelles les plus actives», reconnaît l’Office fédéral de la police. En cinq ans, les différentes mafias italiennes auraient ainsi investi entre 20 et 30 milliards de francs dans notre pays, selon diverses estimations.

African connection: Al Qaeda linked to rogue aviation network  
EUROJUST News – Issue No. 1 - October 2009  
This issue is dedicated to the fight against terrorism, in line with the priorities set out for Eurojust by the European Council and the Commission. It features an article about our Counter-Terrorism Team and interviews with EU Counter Terrorism Coordinator Gilles de Kerchove and Deputy Chief Public Prosecutor Armando Spataro, who spoke to us about their crucial role in the fight against this ever-growing phenomenon. You will also read about the development of Eurojust and how it grew from 1999 to the present day.

La corruption dans l’histoire du droit grec – Sophie Adam-Magnisali  

Violence in the North Caucasus – 2009, A Bloody Year  
The year 2009 was especially violent in the North Caucasus. In those twelve months, CSIS tracked more than 1100 incidents of violence – compared to 795 in 2008 – many of which were deadly. Most alarming: the number of suicide bombings in the North Caucasus nearly quadrupled from 2008, with the majority occurring in Chechnya. In this report, we present our findings, all of which illustrate the scope and scale of instability in the region.

Thailand’s Southern Insurgency: Risks and Trends – Council on Asian Transnational Threat Research  
Thailand’s deep south remains embroiled in an Islamic insurgency that is the single most lethal conflict in Southeast Asia. It is also the single greatest security challenge to the Thai state. The conflict zone consists of the southernmost provinces of Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat and parts of Songkhla, which historically belonged to the Malay Kingdom of Patani until it was annexed by Thailand over a century ago. Since then, rebellion and insurgency have plagued the region, with the latest phase of the conflict beginning in 2004. The insurgents, while never publicly stating their demands or claiming responsibility for their attacks, are believed to be fighting for an independent Islamic state for southernmost Thailand, which is populated mainly by Ethnic Malay Muslims as opposed to Thai Buddhists. Violence in Southern Thailand has intensified in recent months. The month of Ramadan (21 August to 19 September) was particularly deadly, which saw over 40 people killed and the detonation of two truck-bombs. In June, at least 36 people were killed and more than 100 were wounded in 93 incidents, including one of the deadliest attacks of the conflict to date – a shooting attack on a mosque in Narathiwat province during evening prayers that killed 11 and injured 12.
Southeast Asia - Conflicts Without Borders - Sub-national and Transnational Conflict-Affected Areas
January 2008 - December 2009 – United States Department of State // Humanitarian Information Unit
This is the second in the series of regional Conflicts Without Borders maps that analyzes and visualizes conflict in Southeast Asia as sub-national and transnational areas of armed conflict and political violence that occurred in 2008 and 2009. Distinct conflict-affected areas have been drawn around locations of conflict incidents, as well as concentrations of internally displaced persons and cross border refugee camps. Selected targeted attacks and piracy incidents in 2008 and 2009 have also be included on the map.

CONFLITS ARMÉS

ISAF Commander’s Counterinsurgency Guidance

The African Peace and Security Architecture needs a functioning Military Staff Committee – November 2009
The success and effective implementation of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) will determine the peace, stability and prosperity of the continent in the coming years. APSA consists of diverse yet harmonious mechanisms for conflict prevention, management and resolution, as well as post-conflict reconstruction and development. The strategy that has the African Union Peace and Security Council (PSC) as its core is indeed one of the great accomplishments witnessed as a result of the OAU-AU transition.

US troops issued with gun sights carrying coded references to Bible passages
US marines are being issued with rifle sights carrying thinly-veiled references to Bible passages, it has been disclosed. Troops deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan are firing weapons with coded inscriptions including 2COR4:6 and JN8:12, which relate to verses in the books of Second Corinthians and John respectively.

Profile: Al Houthi Movement – American Enterprise Institute – Critical Threats, Jan-2010
This factsheet focuses on describing the background and leadership of the al Houthi movement in Yemen. The movement traces its roots back to a political and paramilitary group called the Believing Youth established in the mid-1990s by Hussein Badr al Din al Houthi. The Believing Youth was aligned with the pro-government al Huqq party and sought to revive Zaydism, a Shi’ite sect whose tenets include the belief that only descendants of the Prophet Mohammad can be legitimate Muslim rulers. After Yemen President Ali Abdullah Saleh aligned himself with the U.S. in 2001, Hussein al Houthi increasingly spoke out against the state, and the group held mass anti-government and anti-American demonstrations. The government issued a reward for the capture of Hussein and security forces killed him in September 2004 during an attempt to arrest him. His death ignited an uprising by his followers, who became known as the al Houthis.

Regional Conflicts and International Engagement on the Horn of Africa – NUPI
This volume consists of three case studies and a synthesis report. The three case studies are entitled ‘Understanding the Gambella Conflict Formation’, ‘International Engagement to the Ethiopia–Eritrea Conflict’ and ‘IGAD and Regional Peace and Security’. The case studies seek to give an overview of the relevant conflict dynamics (for the first two cases) and of the structures for and experiences of addressing peace and security issues in the case of IGAD (case number three). In all the case studies, the role of international actors is an important part of the description and analysis. The synthesis report builds on the three case studies, and seeks to draw out general conclusions about the nature of conflicts in the region, as well as about international engagement and the potential for addressing conflicts in a manner that takes into account the regional or cross-border perspective.

From Predation to Production Post-conflict – Center for Global Development – Chand, Satish – Jan 2010
This paper builds an analytical framework that models predation (banditry) and production as part of the choice of a rational utility-maximising agent. Aggregating this choice up for society produces equilibrium outcomes ranging from Utopia (where no one predates) to Amorphy (where everyone does). The intermediate position constitutes Anarchy where a mix of predation and production prevail. This framework shows that (i) organized conflict can lower welfare relative to the level that prevails without such organization; and, (ii) peacekeeping raises welfare, but the equilibrium is self-enforcing only with the requisite level of peacekeeping technology. The last is then used to analyse conditions under which peacekeeping arises endogenously and the potential (and catalytic) role for external assistance in the above.

i_sources
Seléction d’articles et de documents sur le renseignement & la sécurité internationale publiée par le CF2R

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Créé en 2000, le Centre Français de Recherche sur le Renseignement (CF2R) est un Think Tank indépendant qui a pour objectifs :

– le développement de la recherche académique et des publications consacrées au renseignement et à la sécurité internationale,
– l’apport d’expertise au profit des parties prenantes aux politiques publiques (décideurs, administration, parlementaires, médias, etc.),
– la démystification du renseignement et l’explication de son rôle auprès du grand public,
– le développement de la recherche académique et des publications consacrées au renseignement et à la sécurité internationale,
– l’apport d’expertise au profit des parties prenantes aux politiques publiques (décideurs, administration, parlementaires, médias, etc.),
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