

THE FOREIGN SERVICE GROUP

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Robert J. Silverman

Tuesday 8 April 2014

“Opportunities and Challenges for U.S. Diplomacy in the Middle East”

Our speaker suggests:

Web and Other, Related Media Sites:

AFSA: <http://afsa.org/> & http://afsa.org/publications_and_resources.aspx and http://www.afsa.org/fs_reading_list.aspx and <http://afsa.org/president.aspx>

Articles/Interviews:

Robert J. Silverman, “An Arab Study of Jews,” *foreignpolicy.com*, October 2008, http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2008/10/15/an_arab_study_of_jews

Yaroslav Trofimov, “How Diplomat Won Allies in the Heart of Iraqi Resistance,” *The Wall Street Journal*, March 17, 2004, <http://afsa.org/Portals/0/hdwaitoir.pdf> (Note: This read is about Robert Silverman.)

Ali Salem, “My Drive to Israel,” *The Middle East Quarterly*, Winter 2002, pgs 45-52, 9.1, <http://www.meforum.org/130/my-drive-to-israel> (Notes: 1. This entry is 11 pages long when printed; pages 2-11 are translated from Arabic into English by Robert Silverman. 2. This entry was expanded into a book with a slightly amended title. [See the ‘Members’ Book section.]

Robert J. Silverman, President’s Views: “The Foreign Service at 90: Future-Oriented, with Traditional Strengths,” *afsa.org*, January/February 2014, <http://www.afsa.org/PublicationsResources/ForeignServiceJournal/FeaturedContent/JanFeb2014PresidentsViews.aspx> and (the following all by the same author and column:) <http://www.afsa.org/PublicationsResources/ForeignServiceJournal/FeaturedContent/Dec2013PresidentsViews.aspx> and <http://www.afsa.org/PublicationsResources/ForeignServiceJournal/FeaturedContent/Nov2013PresidentsViews.aspx> & <http://www.afsa.org/FSJ/1013/index.html#/6/> and <http://www.afsa.org/FSJ/0913/index.html#/6/>

Books:

Inside a U.S. Embassy: Diplomacy at Work, 3rd Edition, Shawn Dorman, ed., Foreign Service Books, Washington, D.C., 2011, 265 pgs (Note: Click on the following AFSA site book page, scroll down to the middle right and select free .pdf excerpts of the book to read and print: <http://www.afsa.org/OutreachPrograms/InsideaUSEmbassy.aspx>)

Career Diplomacy, Harry W. Kopp (ret. FSO) and Charles A. Gillespie, Georgetown University Press, Washington, DC, 2nd edition, 2011, 320 pgs

Our members suggest:

Web and Other, Related Media Sites:

Middle East Initiative, Harvard Belfer Center:

http://belfercenter.hks.harvard.edu/project/64/middle_east_initiative.html

Washington Institute for Near East Policy: <http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/about>

CCIS Middle East Program: <https://csis.org/program/middle-east-program>

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace: Middle East Program:

<http://carnegieendowment.org/regions/?fa=list&id=120>

Diplomatic Courier: A Global Affairs Magazine: <http://www.diplomaticcourier.com/>

Articles/ Interviews/ Journals:

P.J. Tobia, "Tongue Tied in Afghanistan," *pbs.org*, February 19, 2014,

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/tongue-tied-afghanistan/> (Note: This entry also includes videos inside of it.)

"Ambassador Ryan Crocker Speaks about the Middle East and US Diplomacy in the Region," Yale and the World, *world.yale.edu*, June 13, 2013, <http://world.yale.edu/news/ambassador-ryan-crocker-speaks-about-middle-east-and-us-diplomacy-region>

Philip Seib, "Economic Diplomacy for the Middle East," *huffingtonpost.com*, November 1, 2013,

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/philip-seib/economic-public-diplomacy_b_4195092.html

Jay Solomon and Carol E. Lee, "U.S. Focus on Middle East Renews Diplomatic Tests," *online.wsj.com*, September 25, 2013,

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304795804579097680650304264>

John R. Bolton, "The Coming Crash of American Diplomacy in the Middle East," *aei.org*, February 18, 2014, <http://www.aei.org/article/foreign-and-defense-policy/the-coming-crash-of-american-diplomacy-in-the-middle-east/>

Helene Cooper, "Many U.S. Diplomats Refuse to Work in Iraq – Africa & Middle East – International Herald Tribune," *nytimes.com*, February 7, 2007,

http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/08/world/africa/08iht-web.0208diplo.4516120.html?_r=0

Christopher Bolan, "Is Diplomacy, Not War, Finally on the March in the Middle East?," *fpif.org*, October 28, 2013, <http://fpif.org/diplomacy-war-finally-march-middle-east/>

Josh Rogin, "State Department's New Middle East Fund in Trouble on Capitol Hill,"

thecable.foreignpolicy.com, May 18, 2012,

http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2012/05/18/state_department_s_new_middle_east_fund_in_trouble_on_capitol_hill

Joe Davidson, "Government Has Foreign Language Deficit," *washingtonpost.com*, May 21, 2012,

http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/government-has-foreign-language-deficit/2012/05/21/gIQAzjgVgU_story.html

Helena Kane Finn, "A Career in Diplomacy," United Nations Speech, St. John's University Press, *cfr.org*, April 25, 2003, <http://www.cfr.org/world/career-diplomacy/p5928>

Robert Hutchings and Jeremi Suri, "Operation Diplomacy," *alcalde.texasexes.org*, January/ February, 2014, <http://alcalde.texasexes.org/2014/01/operation-diplomacy/> (Note: Both professors are past TFSG speakers and Robert Hutchings is a TFSG member.)

Walter A. McDougall, "Nightmares of an I.R. Professor," *fpri.org*, September 2012, https://www.fpri.org/docs/McDougall_-_Nightmares_of_an_IR_Professor.pdf

John Mearsheimer, "America Unhinged," *The National Interest*, 129, January/ February, 2014, pgs 9-30, <http://mearsheimer.uchicago.edu/pdfs/America%20Unhinged.pdf>

Ed Morrissey, "WaPo vs WaPo on Ambassadorial Appointments," *hotair.com*, February 14, 2014, <http://hotair.com/archives/2014/02/14/wapo-vs-wapo-on-ambassadorial-appointments/> (Note: This article mentions what AFSA says in both *WaPo* reads.)

Michael Beckel and Chris Zubak-Skees, "Wanna Be Ambassador to Argentina?," *slate.com*, February 7, 2014, http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/politics/2014/02/map_of_ambassador_posts_given_to_obama_s_top_fundraisers_noah_bryson_mamet.html

Henry J. Barkey, "Obama's Ambassador Nominees Are a Disservice to Diplomacy," *washingtonpost.com*, February 6, 2014, http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/obamas-ambassador-nominees-are-a-disservice-to-diplomacy/2014/02/06/2273ef9e-8e86-11e3-b227-12a45d109e03_story.html

Michele Kelemen, "More Ambassador Posts Are Going to Political Appointees," *npr.org*, February 13, 2014, <http://www.npr.org/2014/02/12/275897092/more-ambassador-posts-are-going-to-political-appointees>

Lara Jakes, "Career Diplomats Eye Credentials for Ambassadors," *yahoo.com*, no date given but retrieved on February 15, 2014, <http://news.yahoo.com/career-diplomats-eye-credentials-ambassadors-220057110--politics.html> (Notes: 1. This article mentions Bob Silverman at AFSA and also talks about the AFSA credential Guidelines released in late February. [See the Dan Roberts entry, below.]

Dan Roberts, "US Ambassador Nominees Face More Backlash over Appointments," *the guardian.com*, February 25, 2014, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/feb/25/us-ambassadors-confidence-vote-amid-firestorm> (Notes: Access the Guidelines: https://www.afsa.org/Portals/0/com_guidelines.pdf . For a related link: <http://diplopondit.net/2014/02/26/afsa-releases-underwhelming-ambassador-guidelines-for-successful-performance/> .)

James L. Bruno, "The American Diplomatic Spoils System, Part IV: The Ambassadorial Marketplace," *jamesbruni.blogspot.com*, December 4, 2013, <http://jamesbruni.blogspot.com/2013/12/the-american-diplomatic-spoils-system.html>

Books:

The Jewish Component in Western Civilization, Saad Al-Bazei, The Arab Cultural Center, Beirut, Lebanon, 2007 (in Arabic), 423 pgs (Note: The author is a professor who graduated from Purdue University. This entry is listed in Bob Silverman's FP read.)

A Drive to Israel, An Egyptian Meets His Neighbors (Dayan Center Papers, 128), Ali Salem (author) and Robert Silverman (translator), Syracuse University Press, Syracuse, NY, 2003, 128 pgs

The Contemporary Middle East: With Special Contributions by Arthur Goldschmidt Jr. and Sibley Telhami, Westview Press, 1st ed., Boulder, CO/ NYC, 2005, 336 pgs (Note: This book mentions prominent academics, State Department people, such as Colbert Held [also a TFSG member] and others like Anthony Shadid.)

Encounters with Arabs: The Soft Power of U.S. Public Diplomacy in the Middle East, William A. Rugh, Praeger, Westport, CT, 2005, 240 pgs (Note: Rugh is a 31-year Career Officer in USIA.)

Talking to the Enemy: Track Two Diplomacy in the Middle East and South Asia, Dalia Dassa Kaye, Rand Corporation ([rand.org](http://www.rand.org)), Santa Monica, CA, 2007, 166 pgs (paperback) (Full document: .9 MB; Summary only: .2 MB), <http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/MG592.html>)

Forging a 21st-Century Diplomatic Service for the United States through Professional Education and Training, The Henry L. Stimson Center, American Foreign Service Association, and American Academy of Diplomacy, Washington, DC, 2011, 77 pgs,
<http://www.academyofdiplomacy.org/publications/Forging%20a%2021st%20Century%20Diplomatic%20Service%20-%20Full%20Content.pdf>

Public Diplomacy: Strengthening U.S. Engagement with the World: A Strategic Approach for the 21st Century, Office of the Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of State, 2011, 33 pgs
http://uscpublicdiplomacy.org/pdfs/PD_US_World_Engagement.pdf

U.S. Public Diplomacy: Background and Current Issues, Kennon H. Nakamura and Matthew C. Weed, CRS, Washington, DC, December 18, 2009, 70 pgs <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R40989.pdf>

Guide for Participants in Peace, Stability, and Relief Operations (Web Version), Robert M. Perito (ed.), U.S. Institute of Peace, Washington, D.C., June 1, 2007, TOC has 4 (clickable) pgs
<http://www.usip.org/publications/guide-participants-in-peace-stability-and-relief-operations-web-version> (Notes: 1. Each section is accessible by clicking its link. The entire Guide is a visual depiction of a U.S. Mission. 2. Click related link: <http://www.usip.org/node/5690> .)

Measuring the State of Muslim-West Relations: Assessing the New Beginning, Gallup, Inc., Abu Dhabi Gallup Center, Abu, Dhabi, UAE, November 28, 2012, 88 pgs,
<http://www.gallup.com/poll/144959/measuring-state-muslim-west-relations.aspx> (Note: The link is the launch page site to retrieve this 4.1 MB .pdf.)

Track-II Diplomacy: Lessons from the Middle East, Hassan Agha, Shai Feldman, Ahmad Kalidi, and Zeev Schiff (eds.), The MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 2004, 224 pgs

The Practice of Public Diplomacy: Confronting Challenges Abroad, William A. Rugh, Palgrave MacMillan, NYC, 2011, 280 pgs

E-Books, Foreign Policy Research Institute: <http://www.fpri.org/publications/e-books> (Note: This link provides a collection of various E-Book sub-links to download in .pdf format.)

Diplomacy in the Middle East: The International Relations of Regional and Outside Powers, L. Carl Brown (ed.), I.B. Tauris Publishing, NYC, 2004, 400 pgs

Burqas, Baseball, and Apple Pie, Ranya Tabari Iduby, Palgrave Macmillan, NYC, 2014, 256 pgs

Engaging the Muslim World: Public Diplomacy after 9/11 in the Arab Middle East, Walter Douglas with Jeanne Neal, CSIS, Washington, D.C., November 2013, 36 pgs,
http://csis.org/files/publication/131011_Douglas_EngagingMuslimWorld_Web.pdf

Ottolenghi: The Cookbook, Yotam Ottolenghi and Sami Tamimi, Ten Speed Press, 1st ed., NYC, 2013, 304 pgs (Notes: read the following related articles: Claire Sibonney, "Yotam Ottolenghi and Sami Tamimi Get 'Grilled' on Jerusalem Craze, Mideast Cuisine and Poutine," *huffingtonpost.ca*, October 25, 2013, http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2013/10/25/ottolenghi_n_4158731.html and Vered Guttman, "Modern Manna," *haaretz.com*, November 6, 2013, <http://www.haaretz.com/blogs/modern-manna/.premium-1.556581> .)

The Cooking of the Eastern Mediterranean: 215 Healthy, Vibrant, and Inspired Recipes, Paula Wolfert, Eco, 1st ed., Duffield, U.K., 1994, 448 pgs

Videos/ Podcasts/ Other:

"Middle East Peace Talks Resume: Why Now? What's Next?," Dennis Ross and David Makovsky, 6:42, July 27, 2013, <https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/view/middle-east-peace-talks-resume-why-now-whats-next> (Note: There is also a link for a .pdf transcript of this video.)

The Future of Diplomacy Project, Conversations in Diplomacy, Harvard University, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs,
http://belfercenter.hks.harvard.edu/project/61/future_of_diplomacy_project.html?page_id=395
(Note: This link contains 19 podcasts by various world diplomats and with differing time spans. Some links are videos.)

Robert Silverman Talks about New Ambassador Guidelines, WFED News Feed, 12:13, *Federal Drive Show Blog*, February 19, 2014, <http://www.federalnewsradio.com/1166/3565989/Federal-Drive-Show-Blog--February-19-2014>

Middle East Cartoons: <http://www.usnews.com/cartoons/middle-eastern-protest-cartoons>
US Policy in the Middle East: Analyzing Political Cartoons:
http://www.choices.edu/resources/twtn/twtn_middle_east_cartoons.php

A Cartoon History of the Middle East: <http://www.mideastcartoonhistory.com/>

Barnes & Noble – Arboretum (Austin, Texas) suggests:

- * This book is also available as an e-book.
- * *America's Challenges in the Greater Middle East: The Obama Administration's Policies*, Shahram Akbarzadeh (ed.), Palgrave Macmillan, NYC, 2013, 288 pgs
- * *The Turkey, Russia, Iran Nexus: Evolving Power Dynamics in the Middle East, The Caucasus, and Central Asia*, Samuel Brennen (ed.), Center for Strategic & International Studies, Washington, D.C., 2013, 48 pgs
- * *The Rise of Turkey: The Twenty-First Century's First Muslim Power*, Soner Cagaptay, Potomac Books Inc., Sterling, VA, 2014, 192 pgs
- * *Beyond America's Grasp: A Century of Failed Diplomacy in the Middle East*, Stephen P. Cohen, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, NYC, 2009, 304 pgs
- * *Danger and Opportunity: An American Ambassador's Journey Through the Middle East*, Edward P. Djerejian, Threshold Editions, NYC, 2008, 301 pgs
- * *A Choice of Enemies: America Confronts the Middle East*, Lawrence Freedman, Public Affairs, NYC, 2009, 640 pgs
- * *Duty: Memoirs of a Secretary of War*, Robert Gates, Knopf Doubleday, NYC, 2014, 640 pgs
- * *Magnificent Delusions: Pakistan, the United States, and an Epic History of Misunderstanding*, Husain Haggani, Public Affairs, NYC, 2013, 432 pgs
- * *Innocent Abroad: An Intimate Account of American Peace Diplomacy in the Middle East*, Martin Indyk, Simon & Schuster, NYC, 2009, 512 pgs
- * *Brokers of Deceit: How the U.S. Has Undermined Peace in the Middle East*, Rashid Khalidi, Beacon, Beacon Press, Boston, 2014, 208 pgs
- * *The Lost Spring: U.S. Policy in the Middle East and Catastrophes to Avoid*, Walid Phares, Palgrave Macmillan, NYC, 2014, 256 pgs
- * *Beyond War: Reimagining American Influence in a New Middle East*, David Rohde, Viking Adult, NYC, 2013, 240 pgs
- * *The Wars of Afghanistan: Messianic Terrorism, Tribal Conflicts, and the Failures of Great Powers*, Peter Tomsen, Public Affairs, NYC, 2013, 912 pgs
- * *Quicksand: America's Pursuit of Power in the Middle East*, Geoffrey Wawro, Penguin Group (USA) Inc., NYC, 2011, 720 pgs
- * *America's Great Game: The CIA's Secret Arabists and the Shaping of the Modern Middle East*, Hugh Wilford, Basic Books, NYC, 2013, 384 pgs