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# NEW YORK MEETINGS PROGRAM

**W**ith new dangers rapidly replacing old ones, America faces more urgent security and foreign policy challenges than it has at any time in the last decade. Informed debate about America's proper role in the world and the security strategy needed to accompany that role was the central focus of the 2003–2004 New York Meetings Program.

Homeland security, terrorism, and gripping developments in Afghanistan, Iraq, and the greater Middle East have held the country's attention this year. More than forty Council meetings were organized in these areas, and nearly half of those were devoted to the situation in Iraq. Generals **Richard B. Myers** and **David H. Petraeus** spoke of military strategy and on-the-ground experience in Iraq.

Scholars, including **Fouad Ajami** and **Ian Buruma**, explored cultural and societal differences between East and West, and Council Senior Fellow **Stephen E. Flynn** focused attention on the very real frailties in our nation's homeland defense.

Policymakers from home and abroad, each with a unique perspective, enable us to see events in the world in a more nuanced way. This year the New York Meetings Program hosted more than twenty heads of state or ministers. Among the speakers were Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister **Saud Al-Faisal bin Abdul Aziz al-Saud**; Pakistan's President **Pervez Musharraf**; Afghanistan's President **Hamid Karzai**; the newly elected, American-educated president of Georgia, **Mikhail Saakashvili**; Brazil's leader **Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva**; and Prime Minister of Turkey **Recep Tayyip Erdogan**. In addition, numerous current U.S. government officials or those who have recently held key policy positions were asked to contribute to discussions in their areas of expertise. Former United States Trade Representatives **Carla A. Hills**, **Mickey Kantor**, and **Charlene Barshefsky** reviewed the cur-



*Martin S. Indyk, Council Senior Fellow Michael Scott Doran, and Council President Emeritus Leslie H. Gelb prepare for their debate on the future of Iraq.*

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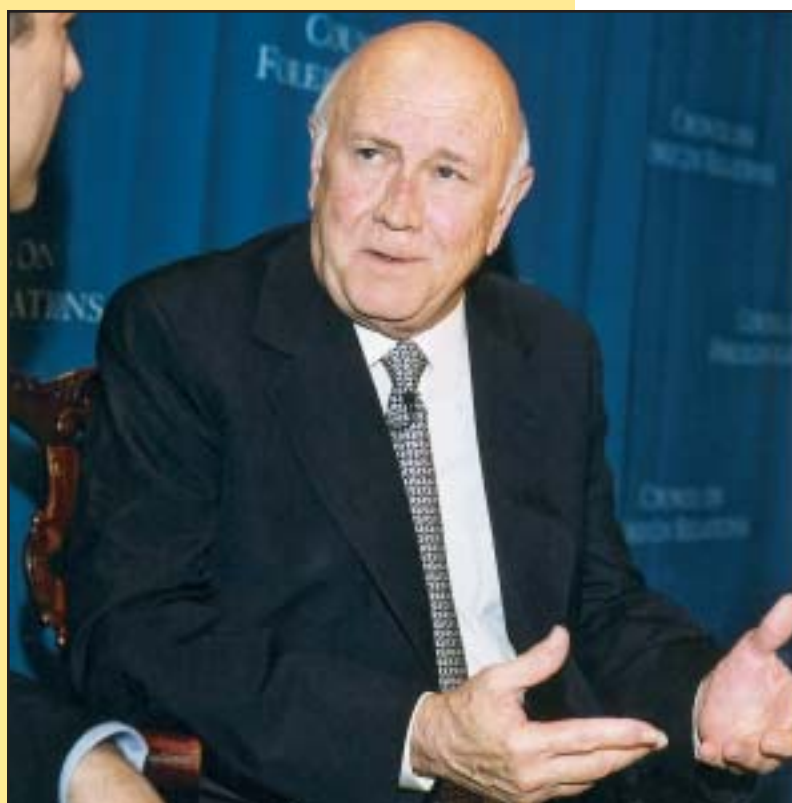
rent trade agenda and prospects for a new multilateral trade round. The need to address significant fault lines in the nation's intelligence apparatus was the subject of a lively discussion by former Directors of Central Intelligence **Stansfield Turner**, **William H. Webster**, and **R. James Woolsey**. Other speakers included Senator **Hillary Rodham Clinton** (D-NY); **Walter Kansteiner**, assistant secretary of state for Africa; **Kim Holmes**, assistant secretary of state for international organization affairs; **Christine Todd Whitman**, former administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; and **Rudolph W. Giuliani**, former mayor of New York City. World Bank President **James D. Wolfensohn** and UN Secretary-General **Kofi Annan** addressed the issues of poverty and the future of the United Nations, respectively.

This year the Council took a wide look at America's role in the world. The New York Meetings Program met that challenge through a dozen meetings on U.S. foreign policy and the history of the American experience. Among its guides were several of the Council's own scholars, such as **James M. Lindsay**, **Max Boot**, and **Walter Russell Mead**, along with **Robert E. Rubin**, **George Soros**, **Bob Woodward**, and other prominent thinkers, writers, and doers.

Regional experts were invited to explore trends in Asia, Latin America, and Africa through two dozen specially organized panels, and Europe was the topic for a discussion led by **Felix G. Rohatyn**, former U.S. ambassador to France, and featuring **Tony Judt** of New York University, **Lionel Barber** of the *Financial Times*, and **Karl Kaiser** of the German Council on Foreign Relations. A number of meetings focused on the world economy, this year's presidential campaign, and the implications of both for U.S. foreign policy. Many of the leading presidential contenders addressed Council members in New York, among them Democrats **John F. Kerry**, **Wesley K. Clark**, **Joseph I. Lieberman**,

### History Makers

Individuals who have made a unique contribution at a critical juncture in recent history are invited to reflect on the larger lessons to be drawn from their experiences in the Council's new History Makers series. An informal atmosphere encourages these prominent policymakers and leaders to recount interesting or pivotal moments, and provide first-hand accounts of the interplay between major actors. Mexico's former Foreign Minister **Jorge Castañeda**, former National Security Adviser **Zbigniew Brzezinski**, and **F. W. de Klerk**, South Africa's leader during the historic dismantling of apartheid, were New York's first featured History Makers. In Washington, members hosted President Bill Clinton's secretary of state, **Madeline K. Albright**. Home Box Office sponsors the series.



F. W. de Klerk



Council Honorary Vice Chairman and Board Director Maurice R. Greenberg with then CIA Deputy Director for Operations James L. Pavitt.



UN Secretary General Kofi Annan greets Mildred H. Morse at the David A. Morse Lecture, "The United Nations and Global Security in the 21st Century."

**Bob Graham**, and **Richard A. Gephardt**, and independent candidate **Ralph Nader**.

Twenty authors spoke about their books on topics ranging from the history of Brazil, to the British experience in Iraq a century ago, to the life of Josef Stalin. The 1953 CIA-sponsored overthrow of Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh was the subject of a talk by historian and *New York Times* reporter **Stephen Kinzer**. **Ron**

**Chernow's** biography of America's first treasury secretary and founder of the Bank of New York, Alexander Hamilton, was featured at another popular meeting.

In a new initiative, the New York Meetings Program invited expert speakers to lead conversations with members via telephone conference calls. These conference calls were organized to provide current information behind the day's headlines. As

the June deadline for the transition of authority in Iraq approached, members were able to participate in one or two conference calls each week throughout May and June. Speakers included General **William E. Odom**, USA (Ret.), nation-building expert **James E. Dobbins**, and governance scholar **Adeed Dawisha**. In a companion conference call series begun in September, *Foreign Affairs* editor



At a *Daughters & Sons* event moderated by Tom Brokaw (second from left), Charles Clover of the *Financial Times*, Catherine Wiesner of the *International Rescue Committee*, and Noah Feldman of *New York University* discuss their experiences in Iraq with members and their high school- and college-age children.

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James E Hoge Jr. interviewed authors of new articles in the magazine and then moderated questions from members participating by teleconference. Among the authors speaking were **Daniel L. Byman**, who discussed his article “Should Hezbollah Be Next?,” and **Daniel W. Drezner** on “The Outsourcing Bogeyman.”

The first New York meeting of the Council’s Book Club series, limited to twenty participants, brought members together for a discussion of **Michael Walzer’s** *Just and Unjust Wars*. The evening was facilitated by their fellow member **James C. Chace**. Experiencing a new model for the Council, members enjoyed the salon-like setting and intimate, informal exchange. The ongoing series will pick up in the fall with another selection from the foreign policy canon.

*President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan with Asia Society President Nicholas Platt (left) and Council President Richard N. Haass.*



## Council Classic Films

This year saw the launching of Council Classic Films, in which films are screened and followed by discussions about their relevance for contemporary foreign policy. The first film evening featured *Battle of Algiers*, the acclaimed chronicle of the struggle in colonial Algeria between the National Liberation Front and the French military in the mid-1950s. The next screening, *Seven Days in May*, was followed by a lively member exchange led by West Point’s Colonel Jay M. Parker. *Black Hawk Down* author Mark Bowden made an appearance for a conversation with Colonel Parker for the screening of the film by the same title. After the screening, Bowden talked about his experience researching and writing the book and described filming on location in Morocco.