



Newsletter

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“As of this writing, the plans, processes and programs to execute strategic CI [counterintelligence] operations are not in place, and the NCIX office, which was moved under the DNI (Director of National Intelligence) has become little more than a fig leaf hiding the decay of our nation’s CI capabilities,” writes Michelle Van Cleave, former national counterintelligence executive.

National Security Experts to Speak at Sept. 29 Case Studies Conference

For the first time publicly, Michelle Van Cleave will discuss her three-year tenure as the nation’s first national counterintelligence executive and the difficulties she encountered trying to improve coordination among U.S. counterintelligence operations.

Van Cleave will discuss her study, “The NCIX and the National Counterintelligence Mission: What Has Worked, What Has Not and Why,” as part of a discussion hosted by PNSR to highlight the release of its first volume of case studies. The studies illustrate why America’s national security system needs to be restructured.

The event, “Making a Case for Restructuring U.S. National Security in the 21st Century,” will be held on Monday, Sept. 29 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Hudson Institute, 1015 15th St. N.W. in Washington.

Richard Weitz, senior fellow and director for Center for Political-Military Analysis at the Hudson Institute and director PNSR Case Study Working Group, will discuss his case study titled, “Managing U.S.-China Crises.” Relations with the People’s Republic of China is, and will probably remain for at least several more decades, one of the most important national security missions of the U.S. government. Weitz examines U.S. policies toward China in three critical crises: Tiananmen Square, the 1999 bombing by U.S. aircraft of China’s embassy in Belgrade during the Kosovo War, and the collision between an American EP-3 surveillance plane and a Chinese fighter aircraft off China’s coast in 2001.

Former Deputy Director of Central Intelligence [John McLaughlin](#) will discuss the recently released [PNSR Preliminary Findings Report](#). PNSR Executive Director [Jim Locher](#) will speak on the organization’s efforts to get PNSR’s upcoming recommendations for an improved national security system approved and implemented.

For more information and to register, please view this [invitation](#).

Guiding Coalition Adds New Members

Two veteran national security experts have joined the PNSR Guiding Coalition.

Retired Navy Admiral [Edmund Giambastiani](#) currently serves as chairman of the board of directors for Alenia North America, where he presides over strategic planning. He also serves as a consultant and director at SRA International Inc., Monster Worldwide Inc., and the QuinetiQ Group PLC in the United Kingdom.

Giambastiani retired from active duty in 2007, most recently as the nation's seventh vice chairman of the Joints Chiefs of Staff. He worked with the secretary and deputy secretary of defense as well as other defense leaders to draft and implement the 2006 Quadrennial Defense Review.

[Joel Bagnal](#) is the president of Detica Inc., a professional services company dedicated to solving complex analytical, policy and technology challenges confronting America's national security.

Previously, Bagnal served in the U.S. government as deputy assistant to the president and deputy homeland security advisor and senior director of response policy. He also served a three-month stint as the acting homeland security and counterterrorism adviser to the president.

PNSR Launches Blog on Web Site

PNSR launched several new features on its Web site this month, including a [blog](#) aimed at further promoting public awareness and discussions on the need to revamp the U.S. national security system.

Roger Carstens, a retired Special Forces officer and senior fellow at the Center for a New American Security, posted PNSR's first blog entry on Sept. 2, while he was attending the Republican National Convention in St. Paul.

Among other entries is an update on the recent activities of the House's bipartisan panel on the National Security Interagency Reform Group by [Charlie Stevenson](#), head of PNSR's Working Group on Congress and a teacher at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Relations of Johns Hopkins. [John Bordeaux](#), director of the PNSR Knowledge Management Working Group, penned an entry on the need for better collaboration between homeland security and national security.

PNSR encourages the submission of short items - anywhere from 200 to 400 words - from across the organization and its partners. Items should discuss problems in the national security system to show why reform is needed. Press Secretary David Egner and Carstens will be reviewing posts before they go up.

If you would like to submit an entry, please e-mail rcarstens@cnas.org. Carstens also is posting some links to news stories on other Web sites of interest to a national security audience, and will post items from our blog and Web site on other blogs.

PNSR News Alerts



Keeping up with PNSR news is now easier following the installation of an [RSS feed](#) that allows readers to receive all news releases, videos and upcoming events posted on the Web site. Please tell people you know outside of PNSR who might be interested in our work about this new way of getting information.

Political and Legal Affairs Spreads PNSR Message At Presidential Conventions

PNSR Director of Political and Legal Affairs [Job C. Henning](#) and Congressional Liaison [Steven J. Nider](#) held meetings and discussions with delegates, party officials and top campaign advisers at both the Republican and Democratic National Conventions.

The purpose of the trips was to educate delegates and top campaign advisers on the work of PNSR and the overall need to overhaul the U.S. national security system.

At the Republican Convention in St. Paul, Minn., PNSR and the American Security Project hosted a panel discussion with Rep. Geoff Davis (R-Ky.) and Hudson Institute CEO Ken Weinstein titled “Presidential Management of the National Security System in the 21st Century.” The Capitol Hill newspaper Roll Call carried a [story](#) about the session.

Among the many events Henning and Nider attended at the Democratic National Convention in Denver:

- A discussion sponsored by the National Democratic Institute and the Center for U.S. Global Engagement, which focused on how an Obama administration would tackle emerging 21st century challenges and opportunities. Nider and Henning also spoke with former Virginia Gov. Mark Warner at a luncheon hosted by former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.
- A Sea Change Ideas Forum, where Henning and Nider met with Ruben Brigety, director of Sustainable Security Program at the Center for American Progress and an advisor to the Obama campaign.
- A reception co-hosted by Human Rights First, former Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig, and former Defense Secretary William J. Perry. Lee Feinstein, the former Clinton campaign national security director who is now serving as an advisor to the Obama campaign, offered his praise of PNSR and the preliminary findings.

Ratner Joins Legal Staff

[Jeff Ratner](#) has joined PNSR Legal Working Group as a staff attorney. Ratner is a former legislative aide and special assistant to Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Ratner has worked in private practice focusing on commercial and media litigation, and has also worked on state and national political campaigns. He holds a B.A. with honors in Political Science from Yale University and a law degree from Fordham University School of Law.

PNSR is funded by Congress, foundations and corporations to carry out one of the most comprehensive studies of the U.S. national security system in American history. It is located within the Center for the Study of the Presidency, which is a nonpartisan and nonprofit organization that was a cosponsor of the Iraq Study Group.

