



NEWS NOTES

December 2004

NewsNotes is a monthly email update of goings-on at ECAAR. In it you will find information on current projects, announcements of upcoming events and publications, and an action corner. We would like to include information on what our members are doing. If you would like to submit information about an event or publication that you are involved with, please send an email to theaharvey@ecaar.org. (The fine print - we reserve the right to edit submissions for space or content.)

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ECAAR NEWS

* As those of you who have received your newsletters will know by now, there are **big changes going on at ECAAR**. As of the first of the year, we will be changing our name to Economists for Peace and Security. We feel that the new name more adequately, and succinctly, expresses our mission. Along with our new name comes a new logo, a stylized dove forms a falling line on graph paper. We have kept the dove as a hopeful symbol of the lasting peace toward which we work. The graph indicates our reliance on scientific analysis to further our cause. Also, as of the first of the year, we will have a new website, with a new look and easier navigation, at <http://www.epsusa.org>.

Kate Cell is stepping down as Director as of the middle of January, and moving to a more advisory role, primarily in the areas of our publications and website. Thea Harvey will be moving from Development Manager, a role she has held for over two years, to Director when Kate leaves. And, we will be moving our office to the Levy Economic Institute at Bard College, in Annandale-on-Hudson, NY.

All of these changes, while creating a bit of whirlwind in the short term, we expect to be good for the organization. The new name, look and location will make communicating the mission of Economists for Peace and Security easier and more efficient. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call (845-620-1542) or email us (thea@epsusa.org; kate@epsusa.org), stop by our exhibit booth at the ASSA/AEA meetings, or come to our annual membership meeting, Saturday, January 8th, at 5:30pm - 6:30pm at the Philadelphia Marriott Hotel Room 307.

* **Housekeeping note:** next month's NewsNotes will come from newsnotes@epsusa.org. If you need to change your permissions so that it gets past your spam filter, please don't forget to do so.

* ECAAR is **expanding our presence at the ASSA/AEA meetings** this year.

In addition to our two regular sessions, we are cosponsoring a session with URPE and the AEA:

Panel Session 1 - *The Abuse of Power* Friday, January 7, 10:15am. Marriott Grand Ballroom-Salon K

- Presiding - James K. Galbraith, University of Texas at Austin. "*The Corruption of Economics and Policy*"
- Bill Black, University of Texas at Austin. "*Control Fraud and the Corporation*"
- Robert Prasch, Middlebury College. "*Shifting Risk: The Divorce of Risk from Reward in American Capitalism*"
- Janine Wedel, George Mason University. "*Corruption and Transition in Russia and Eastern Europe*"
- Jack Blum, Esq., Lovel, Novings, Lamont. Discussant.

Panel Session 2 - *Economics of Space Weapons* Friday, January 7, 2:30pm. Marriott Room 402

- Presiding - John Steinbruner, University of Maryland. "*The Significance of Space Policy*"
- Nancy Gallagher, Center for International and Security Studies, University of Maryland. "*The Commercial Space Industry: Incentives for Cooperation and Competition*"
- Jeffrey Lewis, Center for International and Security Studies, University of Maryland. "*Space Weapons Spending in the FY05-06 Budget*"
- Martin Malin, American Academy of Arts and Sciences. "*Pathways to Cooperation in Space*"

Panel Session 3 - *The Political Economy of Military Spending*, Joint session sponsored by AEA/URPE/ECAAR. January 8th, 2005, 2:30pm. Lowes Hotel, Room Washington C

- Presiding: Gerald Epstein, University of Massachusetts at Amherst.
- Lloyd J. Dumas, University of Texas at Dallas. "*Bang for the Buck: The Real Effects of Military Spending on Security*"
- James K. Galbraith, University of Texas at Austin. "*The Costs of War*"
- David Gold, New School University. "*Does Military Spending Stimulate or Retard Economic Performance? Revisiting an Old Debate with New Data*"
- Ann Markusen, University of Minnesota. "*The Economic and Security Consequences of Privatizing National Security*"

For the past two years ECAAR has had an "association table" near the registration booths. This year we are adding a booth in the exhibit hall. Please stop by to find out more about our activities, to renew your membership, to find information about our sessions, or just to say hi. We will be in Booth B125

The ECAAR **annual dinner this year honors Trustee Robert M. Solow**. A stellar host committee chaired by Allen Sinai, and including: George Akerlof, Karen Arenson, Martin Baily, Olivier Blanchard, Alan Blinder, Peter Diamond, Ray C. Fair, Stanley Fischer, Barney Frank, Robert J. Gordon, Robert E. Hall, Paul Krugman, Cathy Minehan, Sylvia Nasar, George Perry, Paul Samuelson, and Paul Sarbanes, invite you to join us on Saturday, January 8, 2005 in the Philadelphia Marriott, Liberty A Ballroom. The evening will begin with a reception at 7:00pm, followed by dinner at 7:30pm. Dr. Solow will speak on, "Last Thoughts on Investment and Growth."

If you would like to receive an invitation, please e-mail catcohen@ecaar.org.

* The **Fall issue of ECAAR NewsNetwork** is now in the mail, and available on our website. This issue includes the following articles, as well as announcements about our sessions and events at the ASSA meetings in January. You can read individual articles at the links below.

- *Boom Times for War Inc.* by James K. Galbraith <http://www.ecaar.org/Newsletter/Nov04/galbraith.htm>
- *Letter from the Director - What's in a Name?* by Kate Cell <http://www.ecaar.org/Newsletter/Nov04/cell.htm>
- *An Economist at the Wall* by Sam Perlo-Freeman <http://www.ecaar.org/Newsletter/Nov04/perlo.htm>
- *Understanding Civil Wars: We Need Better Data* by Juan F. Vargas <http://www.ecaar.org/Newsletter/Nov04/vargas.htm>

- *Palestinian Suicide Bombers* by Sean Yom and Basel Saleh <http://www.ecaar.org/Newsletter/Nov04/saleh.htm>
- *Combined Action Platoons for Iraq* by Marcus Corbin <http://www.ecaar.org/Newsletter/Nov04/corbin.htm>
- *Security Policy Working Group: Recent Successes* <http://www.ecaar.org/Newsletter/Nov04/spwg.htm>
- *ECAAR at the EAEPE Conference* <http://www.ecaar.org/Newsletter/Nov04/aepe.htm>

* ECAAR-South Africa announced in a press release December 7th, that the Constitutional Court has dismissed ECAAR-SA's application that offsets fail the section 217 requirement that government procurements must be conducted in a manner that is "fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective". The Court has done so without explanation, also declining to investigate the complaint that the Minister of Finance committed perjury when he affirmed under oath that the foreign loan agreements are independent of the arms deal. These loan agreements extend until the year 2019, and give effect to the arms deal.

While the Court's ducking of this politically controversial matter is disappointing, it confirms Archbishop Desmond Tutu's recent comments. The judiciary now joins parliamentarians and chapter nine institutions in failing their obligations to protect and enhance South Africa's constitutional democracy. Yet in having led civil opposition to the arms deal, ECAAR-SA is already fully vindicated by:

- the evidence led at the Schabir Shaik trial, including President Thabo Mbeki's interventions in favor of the French and the German naval contracts,
- acknowledgment by the department of Defense that the SANDF is in financial crisis because of the costs of the arms deal, and that the equipment being purchased is unsuited to the SANDF's peacekeeping roles, and
- confirmation by the CEO of Denel that the Defense Industrial Participation (DIP) offset programme is an utter fiasco.

* ECAAR Board of Directors member, Amartya Sen, gave a lecture on two contrasting concepts of India entitled '*India: Large and Small*' with passion and panache in New Dehli recently. During the lecture, organised by the Planning Commission and Delhi School of Economics, Sen spoke about the two contrapuntal ideas of India -- the "broader integrationist idea of India celebrating argument, plurality and heterodoxy opposed to the small exclusivist idea of India promoted by a narrowly Hindu view of India" as espoused by Hindutva activists. He went so far as to say that a narrow view can lead to violence. "The Godhra riots in 2004 showed the neglect of secularism by the BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party)," Sen said referring to the violence in Gujarat two years ago. <http://www.eians.net/2004/12/17/17sen.html>

* Security Policy Working Group partner, Winslow Wheeler's new book "**WASTRELS OF DEFENSE: How Congress Sabotages US Security**" can be ordered directly from the publisher, US Naval Institute, <http://www.usni.org/webstore/shopexd.asp?id=41059> for \$28.50, or from Amazon, for \$19.11. <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/159114938X/103-4231520-0115803?v=glance>

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LINKS

* War has killed two million children in the last decade alone. Four million children have become disabled and hundreds of thousands serve as child soldiers. Nearly half of all refugees worldwide are under 18, and across the globe, an estimated 25 million children have been uprooted from their homes as a result of war. <http://www.itvs.org/beyondthefire>

* The Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers (<http://www.child-soldiers.org>) works to prevent the recruitment and use of children as soldiers, to secure their demobilization and to ensure their rehabilitation and reintegration into society. The Coalition recently released its Child Soldiers Global Report 2004. While the US is party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in

armed conflict, the report reveals that at least 62 Americans of 17 years of age have been used in operations in Afghanistan and Iraq during 2003 and 2004. <http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports.html>

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IN OTHER NEWS

* The White House kicked off a campaign to promote proposals to overhaul Social Security, extend tax cuts and overhaul the tax code at a **two-day economic conference at the White House** beginning Dec. 15. Cabinet secretaries and other administration officials plan to discuss an agenda that include taxes, Social Security, class-action lawsuits, education and health care. "The conference will be an opportunity to discuss what we must do to keep our economy growing and to make sure America remains the most competitive economy in the world," said White House spokesman Scott McClellan. See http://www.c-span.org/executive/ec_future.asp for more information.

* Eight soldiers in Iraq and Kuwait are **suing the Army over its stop loss policy**. Last spring, the Army instituted the policy for all troops headed to Iraq and Afghanistan, calling it a way to promote continuity within deployed units and to avoid bringing new soldiers in to fill gaps left in units by those who would otherwise have gone home when their enlistments ran out. If a soldier's unit is still in Iraq or Afghanistan, that soldier cannot leave even when his or her enlistment time runs out. David Qualls, the only one of the eight to release his name, says, "This is a matter of fairness. My job was to go over and perform my duties under the contract I signed. But my year is up and it's been up. Now I believe that they should honor their end of the contract." However, Gary Solis, who teaches law at the US Military Academy at West Point, says, "The courts have traditionally ceded to the military. Even if the gents win at the trial level, the government is not going to quit. They cannot afford to. There is a potential cascade effect here." http://www.truthout.org/docs_04/120704B.shtml

* The Liberian authorities have **run out of money to provide education and training** for over 100,000 people who have registered as former combatants in the country's 14-year civil war, a spokesman for the country's disarmament commission said recently. "Presently, the Trust Funds for the reintegration and rehabilitation of fighters have run out. There is need for additional funding...because the disarmed fighters have exceeded the target mark of 100,000," Molley Passaway, the official spokesman of the National Commission on Disarmament, Demobilization, Rehabilitation and Reintegration, told IRIN. "Out of those disarmed, only 26,000 are now benefiting from skills training and formal education, but the rest are of serious concern to the commission", he added. Gyude Bryant, the Chairman of Liberia's transitional government, said in September that US\$44 million was still needed to pay for the rehabilitation of former combatants. Full story at <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=44494>

* A recent report by Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., takes the Bush administration to task on the issue of secrecy. Yet this report should not be construed as a narrow partisan attack but rather as the latest salvo in a debate where advocates of open government span the ideological spectrum. And there's a good reason. Inordinate secrecy hampers the nonpartisan values of both national security and democracy. Critics left, right and nonaligned have all argued that government secrecy is escalating at a fever pitch. OpentheGovernment.org's "**Secrecy Report Card**" (http://www.openthegovernment.org/otg/secrecy_reportcard.pdf) notes that 14 million new classification decisions were made in 2003, up 60 percent from 2001.

Secrecy is expensive, too. Over the same period the amount of taxpayer dollars spent on classification increased nearly \$2 billion, to \$6.5 billion annually.

<http://www.gazettetimes.com/articles/2004/09/22/news/opinion/1comm.txt>

* In a related story, the Project on Government Oversight (POGO) has filed a suit against John Ashcroft for retroactively classifying missile defense criticisms, and other federal whistleblowers as secret.

<http://www.pogo.org/p/government/pogovashcroft.html>

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FUNDING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

* Each year, the **Managing the Atom Project** (MTA) invites applications for MTA Research Fellowships. The deadline for fellowships for the 2005-2006 academic year is February 1st, 2005. Additional information and an application form can be found at http://bcsia.ksg.harvard.edu/fellowships.cfm?program=CORE&pb_id=57&gma=3.

MTA offers both pre- and post-doctoral fellowships to graduate students, scholars, and government and other professionals interested in questions pertaining to civilian and/or military applications of nuclear technology. Fellowships are for one academic year, but are sometimes renewable for a second year.

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ECAAR PUBLICATIONS

* ECAAR is pleased to announce the release of the first in a series of Fact Sheets. This first issue presents an overview of *Military vs. Social Spending: Warfare or Human Welfare*. The fact sheet compares US and global military spending with the costs of achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals in an accessible, graphic format. The fact sheet, which was compiled and designed by ECAAR's Project Manager, Paul Burkholder, is available in PDF format at <http://www.ecaar.org/factsheets/milexMDG.pdf>

* **The ECAAR Review 2003**. Titled "*Conflict or Development?*" this edition has a regional focus on Africa, the site of most of the world's current armed conflicts. In its pages some of the leading economists of the day analyze and reflect on the relationships among military spending, domestic and foreign policy, security, and human welfare. Features include country studies and sections on business and conflict and "Trends in World Military Expenditure." Written in clear English, with informative maps, tables, and graphs, the series is designed to inform the debate among policymakers, activists, journalists, academics, students, and citizens worldwide.

You can order the Review at http://www.ecaar.org/Review_files/order.htm

We believe the Review can be a valuable teaching tool in economics, political science, and international relations courses. If you are interested in teaching this book, please contact Kate Cell (katecell@ecaar.org) for a copy to review.

* "**The Full Cost of Ballistic Missile Defense**" The study estimates that the total lifecycle cost for a layered missile defense system could reach \$1.2 trillion through 2035. You can order a copy of the report from the cosponsor of the study, <http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/nmd/fullcost.html>, or download the PDF file from <http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/nmd/fullcost.pdf>.

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ACTION CORNER

* Looking for **Holiday gifts with meaning**? This year, consider giving your loved ones a gift that will help create a better world – changing poverty into prosperity, despondency into hope, strangers into neighbors – and even war into peace:

- Donate to ECAAR in someone's name, or give a gift membership, and we will send them a beautiful gift card on your behalf. If you donate through our secure online donation site, please send an email letting us know what your donation is to go towards. <https://www.chi-cash-advance.com/sforms/appeal196/contribute.asp>
- Visit the Oxfam Holiday gift center, which offers opportunities to support rural communities when you purchase homemade food and crafts from Oxfam America's Network. http://www.oxfamamerica.org/whatyoucando/gift_center

- Heifer International fights poverty and hunger by giving families around the world the life-changing gifts of an animal and training that will provide a reliable source of income and hope for the future. There are specific projects that help heal communities from the ravages of war.
<http://www.heifer.org/peace/index.shtml>

* Up to 100,000 children are estimated to be involved in armed conflict in Africa. Some 85 states have already ratified or acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (OP-CRC-CAC), a key legal instrument to stop the use of children as soldiers. However, some members of the United Nations Security Council have not signed, ratified or acceded to it. To maintain the credibility and effectiveness of the United Nations Security Council's resolutions against the use of children as soldiers, it is essential that its members express an unequivocal commitment to end this practice in the world. To join the campaign to call on four members of the Security Council to **ratify or accede to the Optional Protocol** go to:

<http://www.child-soldiers.org/coalition/action-appeals.html>

* The **Whistleblower Protection Act** (WPA) is the nation's premier good government statute designed to protect federal workers who responsibly protect the public from government abuse, waste and fraud, but risk their jobs and sometimes their lives to do so. Congress passed the legislation unanimously in 1989 and strengthened it in 1994. However, a series of judicial decisions have undermined the effectiveness of the WPA, and the Act is in desperate need of reinforcement. If you would like to support this legislation, please take a moment to send a letter to your Members of Congress (http://www.democracyinaction.org/dia/organizations/pogo/action/campaign.jsp?campaign_KEY=197) or to the Editor of your local paper (http://www.democracyinaction.org/dia/organizations/pogo/action/pickMedia.jsp?letter_KEY=52).

* Anyone who would be willing to put an ECAAR flyer up on a departmental bulletin board or similar venue, please contact Thea Harvey, Development Manager at theaharvey@ecaar.org.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

* December 17-19, 2004. The Global Reconciliation Network hosts *Towards Harmony: Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation*, a meeting to address issues concerning the sources of conflict that arise out of the action of global processes, such the operation of the World Economic Forum and the World Social Forum, in New Delhi, India. Themes to be addressed at the meeting will include the following: local conditions of conflict and possibilities for cross-cultural dialogues within specific communities; local rights to the use of resources versus the conditions imposed by the globalized economy; community rights to environmental self determination as opposed to the sovereign rights of states; the concept of, and the possibilities for, "multiculturalism" in Western and non-Western societies; perceptions of the West from non-Western societies, and vice versa; the ethics of terrorism and responses to it; and the possibilities for civil society based movements for global cooperation and conflict resolution. Participants will address a range of issues relating to regional and international conflicts, and strategies based on action within local communities to promote reconciliation. Participants will include people working in India itself in this field, including representatives of academic institutions and community based organizations, and international contributors with experience in both theoretical and practical aspects of these issues. For more information visit <http://globalreconciliationnetwork.org>, or register online at <http://www.idealists.org/en/events/102917:48/87161:202>

* January 7-9, 2005. The annual meetings of the Allied Social Sciences Associations (ASSA) and the American Economics Association (AEA) in Philadelphia, PA. For more information, see <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/anmt.htm> See [above](#) for information about ECAAR activities at the meetings.

* January 11- 21, 2005. Economists for Peace and Security-Spain have organized the *First Virtual International Meeting on Economía de la Paz y la Seguridad*. The meeting will be conducted via the internet, entirely in Spanish. Additional information and call for papers are at <http://www.eumed.net/eve/>.

* January 21, 2005. **The Study Group on the Economics of Security in the Post-9/11 World** at 66 W 12th Street, Room 510, New York City at 2:00pm. Study Group co-chairs Bill Hartung and David Gold will speak on the prospects for the defense budget in a second Bush Administration.

* February 25, 2005. **The Study Group on the Economics of Security in the Post-9/11 World** at 66 W 12th Street, Room 510, New York City at 2:00pm.

* March 4-6, 2005. The 31st annual **Eastern Economic Association Conference** will be held in New York, NY, at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers. ECAAR is will be hosting a session Saturday, March 5th, at 11:00am, on *The Costs of War*. The presenters will be:

- Jurgen Brauer, *US Military Expenditure: Data, Models, Coefficients*
- David Gold, *The Economics of Terrorism and Counterterrorism*
- Lawrence Klein, *The Macroeconomics of Preventive War: What Has Iraq Done to the US Economy*.

Conference program and other information is available at <http://www.iona.edu/eea>.

* March 18, 2005. **The Study Group on the Economics of Security in the Post-9/11 World** at 66 W 12th Street, Room 510, New York City at 2:00pm.

* April 22, 2005. **The Study Group on the Economics of Security in the Post-9/11 World** at 66 W 12th Street, Room 510, New York City at 2:00pm.

* May 20, 2005. **The Study Group on the Economics of Security in the Post-9/11 World** at 66 W 12th Street, Room 510, New York City at 2:00pm.

* June 9-14, 2005. Women In International Security 2005 **Summer Symposium for Graduate Students in International Affairs**, Washington, District of Columbia United States
<http://www.idealists.org/en/events/74966:78/87995:116>

June 27 - July 1, 2005. Week I of the **Peacebuilding and Development Summer Institute 2005** at American University, Washington, DC. The Peacebuilding and Development Institute provides knowledge, practical experience and skills for scholars and practitioners involved in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, humanitarian assistance and development. <http://www.american.edu/sis/peace/summer/>

July 5 - July 9, 2005. Week II of the **Peacebuilding and Development Summer Institute 2005** at American University, Washington, DC. The Peacebuilding and Development Institute provides knowledge, practical experience and skills for scholars and practitioners involved in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, humanitarian assistance and development. <http://www.american.edu/sis/peace/summer/>

July 11 - July 15, 2005. Week III of the **Peacebuilding and Development Summer Institute 2005** at American University, Washington, DC. The Peacebuilding and Development Institute provides knowledge, practical experience and skills for scholars and practitioners involved in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, humanitarian assistance and development. <http://www.american.edu/sis/peace/summer/>

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HOW CAN I HELP?

* If you are considering buying a book online, please take a look at WhatWeGive.com (<http://www.whatwegive.com/>). They have tens of thousands of titles available at a discount to you, and ECAAR receives twenty percent of your purchase price. After you check out, a pop up window will ask for information about the organization to which you wish your donation to go. Enter Organizational Account # 32 and "Economists Allied for Arms Reduction" in the organization field, and your purchase will be credited to our account.

* Please consider becoming a member of ECAAR. Your annual membership entitles you to discounts on publications, invitations to events, our informative newsletters, and more. Most importantly, by joining us you help to ensure that reasoned perspectives on essential economic issues will continue to be heard. Membership dues and other donations are fully tax-deductible. Visit <http://www.ecaar.org/Membership.htm> for more information.

* If you have enjoyed this issue of ECAAR NewsNotes, or if you wish to support our [mission](#), please consider making a donation to ECAAR. You can do so securely online through our website at <https://www.chi-cash-advance.com/sforms/appeal196/contribute.asp> or by sending a check to ECAAR, 39 E. Central Ave., Suite One, Pearl River, NY 10965. If you have any questions call (845) 620-1542, or email ecaar@ecaar.org.

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