

# The Communiqué

## Ship ahoy, members

### *SDWAC hosts National Board for dinner on a private yacht*

SDWAC invites members to cruise the San Diego Bay with the best of company! Each year the World Affairs Council hosts a board meeting in one of the Nation's most interesting places. On July 29th, the board meeting is in San Diego, followed by a dinner cruise in the evening.

Aboard a private Hornblower yacht, SDWAC members and guests will have the opportunity to dine with such prominent figures as National Board Chairman, Ambassador James R. Jones.

Ambassador Jones is a former US Ambassador to Mexico, served as Chief of Staff to President Johnson, and was once an Oklahoma Congressman....continued on page 3.



See you on this yacht Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> July

**Saturday, July 29, 2006**

Bottom of Broadway San Diego Waterfront  
7-10 PM

Boarding at 6:45 PM

\$80, including dinner

**Please call for reservations: 619.325.8200**

Deadline is July, 25<sup>th</sup> (no refunds after that date)

### *Von Ber's writings win accolades, audiences*



In Europe to be honored for paper focusing on the inner personas of some of history's most odious leaders, World Affairs President Dr. Ina Von Ber was notified of a second upcoming honor last week -- this one from an American business institution that will open its "virtual forum," electronically, in October in Cleveland to an expected 3,000 "virtual delegates" gathered around the world.

Von Ber's proposed paper, one of only a few chosen from among 400 proposed papers, stories and workshops. Von Ber's work will be entitled "The San Diego World Affairs Council." Presented in outline, more details will be available later...continued page 2

### *Jimmy Carter says Blankfort knows best*



At one point during an almost hour-long chit-chat last month when seated next to each other at a dinner, former President Jimmy Carter turned to Lowell Blankfort and told the San Diego World Affairs Council vice-president:

"I've never met anyone like you."

Blankfort replied he felt honored.

Somewhat later, during a break, Carter rose and told the gathering at the Rancho Santa Fe home of Padres owner John Moores and his wife, Becky.: "I have just been talking with a man who has more knowledge of foreign affairs and foreign policy than any person I have ever met." ..cont page 2



## Views from the President

Dr. Ina von Ber

I will be traveling until the end of the month. Looking forward to seeing you in August. — Dr. Ina von Ber.

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## Von Ber

*continued from page 1*

The proposal was described by officials of the Center for B-A-W-B (Center for Business as an Agent of World Benefit), the sponsoring organization, as “excellent” and “offering a worldwide perspective that will greatly add to the worldwide dialogue” of the Oct.22-25 event.

Von Ber, a psychologist, is in Europe to give an oral presentation on the psychological makeup of dictators at the 13<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Personality in Athens, Greece, on Saturday, July 23. Selected by judges from among thousands of entries, it is entitled, “Noir and Dangerous, the Narcissistic Leader.” She cites “self-inflating super-heros” like Nero, Napoleon, Franco, Hitler, Iran’s Shah and Bin Laden as examples.

Under stress, it says, noir leaders will invest in the only person over which they feel power – themselves. Faced with a threat to their sense of omnipotence, they may turn to character assassination against those who threaten their objectives. But they have an uncanny ability, Von Ber says, to see the big picture and enlist masses of followers to promote their vision. She said narcissistic leaders promote their vision because it is their own.

Von Ber will return to San Diego July 26.

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Don't let your opportunity sail away!

## New acting executive director

Hello everybody. I’m Farrah Moore, acting executive director for the San Diego World Affairs Council, and I would like to introduce myself.

I recently graduated from Community College, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average.



Farrah

At Grossmont, I served as president of the Associated Students of Grossmont College, Inc. In addition, I was station manager and news director for the college radio station, KGFN.

I was also member of Grossmont’s Forensic Team and won a Silver Award at this year’s National Forensic tournament, Phi Rho Pi; in addition, I received Grossmont’s highest honor, “Woman of Distinction.” I plan on applying to the University of Southern California this fall to continue studying political science and journalism.

I enjoy theater and traveling. I have been to Europe many times, and in 2000, I traveled to Germany to see Oberammergau’s famous passion play.. *Cont. Page 4*

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## Blankfort

*continued from page 1*

Carter’s encomium to Blankfort came at a fund-raising dinner for Carter’s son Jack who is running for United Senator from Nevada. Carter and Blankfort, both very well traveled, talked almost entirely about foreign affairs and foreign policy, including obscure countries they’d both visited like Botswana and Nicaragua. In some cases, Blankfort said, he was able to brief the former president on internal political situations in such places with which Carter was not familiar.

Blankfort said he thought Carter’s comment reflected the president’s great enthusiasm for the conversations they had and the great personal rapport, rather than an actual weighing of the facts.

“I confess to knowing a lot about the world,” he said, “but I doubt if I could compete with some of his secretaries of state.”

Among those at the 16-person small and informal dinner party at the Moors were Carter’s wife Rosalyn, Jack Carter and his wife, Blankfort’s wife April, and former state Senator Steve Peace, a director of the Padres.

## Spotlight on Tunisia

To celebrate Tunisia's 50th year of independence, Tunisian Ambassador Mohamed Nejb Hachana, accompanied by aide, Maroud BelHassan, addressed the San Diego World Affairs Council.

In his July 11th address, Hachana discussed the harmonious relations between Tunisia and the United States. He spoke heartily of the financial support the US has provided the newly-independent nation.

The USA was the first country to provide aid to Tunisia in 1957; however, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) ceased in 1994. Although Tunisia has become self-sufficient, Hachana regrets the cutback.

Hachana also highlighted the emancipation of Tunisian women. In 1956, Tunisia passed a Personal Status code, which empowered women by giving them full legal status....*continued on page 4*

## Cruise

from page 1

Currently, Jones is the CEO ManattJones Global Strategies and is a chairman of many elite organizations.



Jones

Guests will also meet National Board President, Barbara Propes, who also serves as the executive director of the Alaska World Affairs Council. WACA board members Ambassador Mark Johnson and Ambassador Marilyn MacAfee will also be on board.

All 30 board members plan on attending the dinner cruise. Hornblower has made special arrangements for this once-in-a-lifetime event, by allotting three hours to cruise the beautiful San Diego Bay! Don't let your opportunity sail away---make your reservation now.

\$80 inclusive. August 29<sup>th</sup> 7-10PM. Boarding at 6:45 PM. Call 619-325-8200 for reservations. Reserve by August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Did you know that you can book events online?

Visit our Website at <http://sdwac.com>

## How the Internet changed American politics forever

### *Winograd speaks to SDWAC*

In a presidential election you cannot vote for Apple, Dell or Hewlett Packard; however, according to Morley Winograd, technology has influenced many of our political decisions over the years.



Winograd

On August 9th, Winograd, technology expert and former advisor to Vice President Al Gore, will discuss technology's influence and "How the Internet Changed American Politics Forever."

Winograd served as chairman of the Michigan Democratic Party in the 70s, and also developed a Democratic campaign compatible with the information age of the late 80s.

In 1997, Winograd was appointed as Al Gore's Senior Policy Advisor in the National Partnership for Reinventing Government. Over the years, Winograd has assisted governments of Italy, Mexico, Israel and Argentina with their reform efforts.

Winograd has also worked for technology giant AT & T for over 18 years and served as the vice president of sales for AT&T's Western Regions Commercial Markets.

Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>  
Tom Ham's Lighthouse  
noon- 2 p.m.  
\$30 Members; \$35 Non-Members  
Please call for reservations:  
619.325.8200

Currently, Winograd serves as executive director of the University of Southern California's Center for Telecom Management. He has received praise from Harvard's JFK School of Government, and Bologna University's John Hopkins School of International Affairs. They were both impressed with his lectures concerning technology's influence in reshaping American politics.

## Tunisia

from page 3

In addition, Tunisia made the practice of polygamy illegal. Tunisian women are encouraged to own businesses and attend school. Hachana noted that over 50 percent of college students are female.

During the Q & A session, Hachana referred to the current crisis in the Middle East, stating "the crux of the Middle East problems is not Iraq...the crux is the crisis in Palestine." Hachana emphasized the important bond between the U.S. and Tunisia as a model of peace in the Muslim world.

On a lighter side, the ambassador and BelHassan presented plenty of gifts to the SDWAC. A stamp collection and a beautiful Tunisian artifact, along with plenty of Tunisian books and information pamphlets, can now be found in the office. SDWAC members are encouraged to stop by the office to pick up a



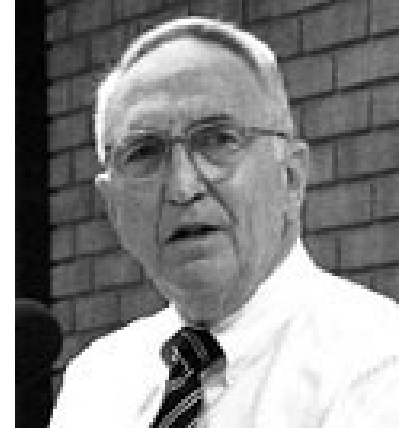
fr Hachana presenting Tunisian stamp collection to San Diego World Affairs Council vice president Lowell Blankfort

Keep an eye out for our new website.  
[www.sdwac.com](http://www.sdwac.com)  
 Coming Soon!

## The Middle East - today and tomorrow

by Farrah Moore

"One man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter." Ambassador Edward Peck emphasized the power of perception and its role in "The Middle East Today---and Tomorrow."



With humor and irony Peck took potshots at American foreign policy. A self-proclaimed, "licensed skeptic," the Ambassador urged listeners of the June 21 address to contemplate, rather than simply accept, the "ethnocentric, arrogant perception" of some U.S. government officials.

Peck also discussed hypocrisy within American politics. When referring to the war in Iraq, Ambassador Peck stated, "imposing democracy is not of democracy, it is of a dictatorship."

Peck's address generated many questions. During the Q & A portion, SDWAC members received insight from member, Farouk Al-Nasser. Born in Iraq, Al-Nasser said of his most recent visit to the war-torn nation, "[Iraqi's believe] democracy is an illusion."

Peck advocates perception as being more important than reality. He believes the new Iraqi government will not receive a lot of support.

### Farrah

from page 2

I began as an intern for SDWAC in June and have already participated in redesigning the council's website.

I replaced former executive director, Mark Maestroni, who resigned earlier in July for personal reasons.

## Events Calendar

### San Diego

**Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup>**- Hornblower Cruise with the National Board. 7-10 p.m. Board 6:45 p.m. \$80, including dinner.

**Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**- "How the Internet Changed the World Forever" by Morley Winograd. Tom Ham's Lighthouse. 12-2 p.m. \$30 members / \$35 non-members.

### North County

*The following meetings will be discussions, led by members and guests, with audience participation welcomed. The subjects are based upon the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions 2006 Series.*

**Thursday, July 27** "UN Reform." Fred & Caroline Nathan, Dan Conway.

**Thursday, Aug. 3** "Energy Resources." Bill Jordan, Cal Watson, Gerry Burstain.

**Thursday, Aug. 10** "China & India: Partners or Competitors" Cal Watson, Vince Garner, Mahdu Madhavan, Peg Bates.

**Thursday, Aug. 17** "Brazil." Richard Banister.

**Thursday, Aug. 24** "Global Health Pandemics & Security" Don Gragg, Betty Burt, Lois Ruble

**Thursday, Aug. 31** "Turkey" Murray Kuritsky, Gerry Burstain, Turkish Consul Engin Ansay

For confirmation and further information: SDWAC (619) 325 8200 or [vjoksimovich@aol.com](mailto:vjoksimovich@aol.com) or Vojin Joksimovich (760) 781 3887 or [cychad@cox.net](mailto:cychad@cox.net).

## Welcome new members.

*The following members have joined since April '06*

Elliot Albert  
Ali Amani  
John Bradshaw  
James & Robin Brady  
Lisa Byrne  
Nicole Colins  
Wayne Dernetz  
Lori Jones  
Peter Knobloch  
H. William Kumi  
John P. Leonard  
Julie McColl  
Selma Myers  
Jeremy Patashnik & family  
Donna Pinckney  
Daniel Rogers  
Joanne Synder  
Kevin Watt  
Ron Welsh

*We welcome and thank all of our new members and current members for your involvement with the San Diego World Affairs Council.*

The Communiqué is the quarterly newsletter of the San Diego World Affairs Council  
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**San Diego World Affairs Council**

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Areas of Interest \_\_\_\_\_

Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_