

**GLOBAL REALITY: THE WEEK IN REVIEW**

*Destabilizing Threats, Stabilizing Policies, and Global Powers at a Glance*

**Threat Summary**

	<p><b>Environment.</b> Climate change accelerates waves, inspiring genocide, South Asia at risk. Wood theft.  <b>Inter-State Conflict.</b> Asymmetric crude weapons winning. 40% Baghdad is safe. Afghanistan down.  <b>Proliferation.</b> Quiet in the news, but non-nuclear radiological and city contamination worrisome.</p>
	<p><b>Poverty.</b> Brazil and India aligning against fat cats of history. Red Cross/Crescent cutting red tape.  <b>Infectious Disease.</b> Climate change spreads disease. More resistant diseases. Muslims organizing.  <b>Civil War.</b> Ethiopia's hidden war. India losing Sri Lanka. Serbia adamant on Kosovo. Somalia down.  <b>Genocide.</b> More books and papers finding UK and US guilty of 80 years of genocide/war crimes.  <b>Transnational Crime.</b> Albania a major center. US general equates tattoos with crime. Cartel thugs.</p>
	<p><b>Other Atrocities.</b> US CIA and state terrorism in Latin America. Human trafficking &gt;100M slaves.  <b>Terrorism.</b> CIA active in Horn of Africa, Arabic-speaking Sudanese will all die. Schools are the key.</p>

**Policy Summary**

	<p><b>Diplomacy.</b> Sudan helps CIA in return for see no evil in Darfur. French Ambassador on US as terrorist.  <b>Security.</b> US is half of global military spending. Counterterror center has gift shop, still no watchlist.  <b>Society.</b> Survey of think tanks worth a look—most ideological op-ed shops, not fact-based analysis.</p>
	<p><b>Education.</b> See links.  <b>Health.</b> See links, Infectious Disease.  <b>Immigration.</b> Latino countries beginning to control undocumented migrants. Guardsmen smuggling.  <b>Water.</b> China has 20% world population, 7% of the water. Diverting water destined for India.</p>
	<p><b>Agriculture.</b> See links.  <b>Economy.</b> See links. Books, not media, documenting cost to taxpayer of US loans to Iraq &amp; others.  <b>Energy.</b> Latrine turns feces into gas that heats/purifies water. Corn ethanol is nonsense. Energy wars.  <b>Family.</b> See links, Other Atrocities.  <b>Justice.</b> Nuremberg prosecutor: Guantanamo trials beneath that (low) standard. Powell says close it.</p>

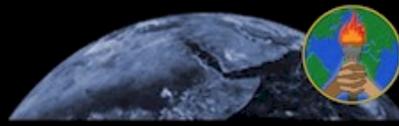
**Major Player Summary**

	<p><b>Iran.</b> World worries about US/Israel lunacy in attacking Iran. Iran said to be arming Taliban.</p>
	<p><b>Venezuela.</b> Submarines could neutralize US Navy. Cold War with Colombia. Using oil to lead region.</p>
	<p><b>Brazil.</b> Returning lands to historical indigenous owners. Landless questioning energy impact on land.  <b>China.</b> Focus on dominating electromagnetic spectrum. Fragile in many ways. Massive drug fraud.  <b>India.</b> China claims 90K sq k. New aircraft carrier. Missile race with Pakistan.  <b>Indonesia.</b> Showing extraordinary vision, discipline, and morality on human rights, holocaust, terror.  <b>Russia.</b> Putin's power unlikely to lessen. Offer to share missile defense radar.  <b>Wild Cards.</b> Pakistan's southern rebels could explode. Russia-Iran-Turkey alliance to strangle EU/US.</p>

**World Crises - from monthly assessments by *International Crisis Group* - JUNE 2007**

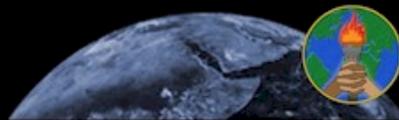
↗	<b>Alert:</b> Pakistan
↓	<b>Deteriorated:</b> Ethiopia, Israel/Occupied Territories, Lebanon, Pakistan
↑	<b>Improved:</b> Northern Ireland (UK)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Unchanged:</b> Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Basque Country (Spain), Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chechnya (Russia), Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia/Eritrea, Fiji, Georgia, Guinea, Haiti, India (non-Kashmir), Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kashmir, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Macedonia, Mali, Mauritania, Moldova, Morocco, Myanmar/Burma, Nagorno-Karabakh (Azerbaijan), Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, North Caucasus (non-Chechnya), North Korea, Philippines, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Somaliland, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Syria, Taiwan Strait, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Western Sahara, Yemen, Zimbabwe</li> </ul>

↓ deteriorated	• steady	↑ improved	↗ ALERT
----------------	----------	------------	---------



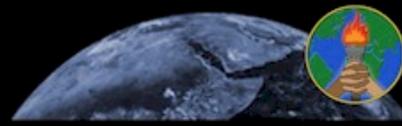
<b>Threats</b>	<i>see daily items with links to full stories on the web at <a href="#">PDB-Threats</a></i>
<b>Poverty</b> <a href="#">news list</a> <a href="#">forecast</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Red Cross</b> and <b>Red Crescent</b> societies have developed a new <i>disaster response framework</i> that may bring a more "real-time" ability to help -- <a href="#">Cutting Red Tape in Disaster Response</a>.</li> <li><b>India</b> and <b>Brazil</b> continue to lead a global majority that is increasingly impatient with the fat cats of history -- <a href="#">No pleasing the rich, say India and Brazil</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>Infectious Disease</b> <a href="#">news list</a> <a href="#">forecast</a>	<p>↓ Even more obscure diseases are showing signs of <i>drug resistance</i> -- <a href="#">New drug resistance found in river blindness</a>.</p> <p>Health ministers of the <i>Organisation of the Islamic Conference</i> (OIC) in <b>Kuala Lumpur</b> consider a common plan against <i>pandemics</i>, including <b>H5N1</b>, <b>polio</b>, <b>malaria</b> -- <a href="#">Some Muslim states not ready to fight bird flu: WHO</a>.</p> <p>Sometimes fatal <i>dengue fever</i> is sweeping across <i>southeast Asia</i> -- "<a href="#">Climate change is armed with little surprises up its sleeves; one of which is a surge in dengue cases in Southeast Asia</a>."</p>
<b>Environment</b> <a href="#">news list</a> <a href="#">forecast</a>	<p>↓ Researchers from the <i>University of Victoria</i>, BC say "We were really surprised at how quickly the <i>ocean</i> responded to <i>temperature change</i>" -- <a href="#">Global Warming Spurring Ocean Waves' Speed</a>.</p> <p><a href="#">98% of orangutan habitat gone in next 15 years</a> -- "<a href="#">illegal loggers operate in 37 of Indonesia's 41 national parks and that up to 88 percent of all Indonesian timber is illegally harvested</a>."</p> <p>"<i>Earth Mother is fighting back</i> -- not only from the four winds but also from underneath" -- <a href="#">Native American tribes speak out about climate change</a>.</p> <p><b>Al Gore</b> says G8 has nothing to be proud of; <a href="#">G8 agreement on climate change a "disgrace" - Al Gore</a> -- "a disgrace disguised as an achievement".</p> <p>As smarter observers have said for some time, <b>Darfur's</b> genocide is about <i>water</i> and other <i>resources</i> and similar conflicts may become common -- <a href="#">Climate change behind Darfur killing: UN's Ban</a>.</p> <p>"<i>South Asia, and within it the region of Ganga, is among the regions facing greatest security risk resulting from climate change ...</i>" -- "<a href="#">Climate change will result in security threat</a>".</p>
<b>Inter-State Conflict</b> <a href="#">news list</a> <a href="#">forecast</a>	<p>↓ <i>The International Crisis Group</i> releases two reports on the "unknown" conflict between <b>Western Sahara</b> and <b>Algeria</b> -- <a href="#">Western Sahara: Out of the Impasse</a>.</p> <p>New <b>Israeli</b> Defense Minister <b>Barak</b> promises to crush the <b>Hamas</b> domination of <b>Gaza</b> -- "the question is not if, but how and when." [The "how" would also be making the <b>Merkavah</b>-heavy Israeli Defense Force nervous.] <b>Israel</b> says it has a secret "back-channel" to <b>Syria</b> but Syria says it is not sure of the message -- <a href="#">Syria accuses Israel of placing irrelevant pre-conditions on peace</a>.</p> <p>The <b>Baghdad curfew</b> following the bombing of the <b>Askariya</b> shrine in <b>Samarra</b> has been lifted, but a U.S. general says only <u>40%</u> of the city is under control -- "40 % is really very safe on a routine basis — with about 30% lacking control and a further 30% suffering a high level of violence." The <b>US</b> military is now <i>arming</i> some <b>Sunni</b> groups, a risky gamble that they are ready to rid themselves of [<b>al Qaeda</b>] foreign militants.</p> <p>Meanwhile, it's not all progress in <b>Afghanistan</b> -- <a href="#">Afghanistan hit by deadliest bomb since 2001</a>.</p>

↓ deteriorated	• steady	↑ improved	↗ ALERT
----------------	----------	------------	---------



	<p>It's called <b>Asymmetric Conflict</b> ... "An army with unimaginable firepower is being driven out by guerrillas armed with a crude arsenal of explosives and blasting caps, triggered by cell phones and garage-door openers." -- <a href="#">Low-tech bombs pose worst threat.</a></p>
<p><b>Civil War</b>  <a href="#">news list forecast</a></p>	<p>↓ "The trial of former <b>Liberian</b> president and warlord <b>Charles Taylor</b> is likely to hinder efforts to coax <b>Ugandan</b> rebels out of their jungle hideouts to peace talks ..." - <a href="#">Ugandan rebels fear fate of Liberia's Taylor.</a></p> <p>Another in several hundred threats, pledges, or assurances on <b>Darfur</b> -- <a href="#">Sudan's leader pledges efforts for Darfur peace.</a> Already eons too late, another inch of glacial progress is made on Sudan's emergency -- <a href="#">Sudan and U.N. Reach New Peacekeeping Deal for Darfur.</a></p> <p>The killing of a <i>Medecins Sans Frontieres</i> worker confirms the "catastrophic" conditions in rebel-torn <b>Central African Republic</b> bordering Sudan's <b>Darfur</b>.</p> <p>A further nine people were killed in a <b>Somalia</b> bombing, "in an increasingly turbulent <b>Iraq-style</b> insurgency." <b>Somali</b> authorities have come to an understanding with three <b>Islamist broadcasters</b> who were closed twice in the last six months -- <a href="#">Somalia drafts media law, broadcasters back on air.</a></p> <p><b>Ogaden</b> -- one of the world's other "unknown" wars; "a <b>separatist</b> war in which impoverished nomads are fighting <u>one of the biggest armies in Africa</u>" -- <a href="#">In Ethiopian desert, horrors of a hidden war.</a></p> <p>In <b>Zimbabwe</b>, a visiting team from the <i>International Commission of Jurists</i> says "I was frankly personally shocked that lawyers could be beaten in police stations".</p> <p>In the pressure-cooker <b>Israel</b> has made of <b>Palestinian</b> territories, <b>Hamas</b> and <b>Fatah</b> fought out a new balance giving dominance to Hamas, the winners of the most recent election -- <a href="#">Palestinian leader dissolves government amid infighting.</a> Israel and the <b>US</b> see this a "serious blow"; <u>two distinct Palestinian states</u>, one more moderate than the other, may complicate the issue even more [or may provide some surprising opportunities] -- <a href="#">'Hamas coup is a serious blow'</a>. Despite election results and <i>de facto</i> authority, the US will continue to back Fatah, possibly yet another bad US bet - <a href="#">US tells Abbas sanctions will be lifted on new gov't.</a> [<i>The Shah, Saddam, the Taliban, ...</i>]</p> <p>"We don't want the <b>Sri Lankan</b> government to go to <b>Pakistan</b> or <b>China</b> . Whatever be their requirements, they should come to us " -- <a href="#">Former Indian army chief charges India has failed to meet its Srilankan obligations while paying lip service.</a> "The <b>abductions</b> have got to cease, the <b>human rights abuses</b> have got to cease... The kind of tactics that were used to clear Tamil people out of Colombo suburbs must never happen again" -- <a href="#">Sri Lanka risks isolation over human rights [Analysis].</a></p> <p>A <b>Sri Lankan</b> analyst puts the <b>Tamil</b> insurgency in context of other world conflicts - <a href="#">Military Force as an Effective Means of Conflict Resolution.</a></p> <p><a href="#">Serbia says it won't trade Kosovo for EU or NATO</a> -- now all stake-holders have declared their intransigence over <b>Kosovo</b> separatism.</p>
<p><b>Genocide</b>  <a href="#">news list forecast</a></p>	<p>• "Behind all of the civil wars, big wars and small wars in the past 60 years are special interests in <b>Britain</b> and the <b>U.S.</b>" - and <b>depleted uranium</b> is part of it says a provocative paper -- <a href="#">From Hiroshima to Iraq, 61 years of uranium wars.</a></p> <p>In vandalism reminiscent of the <b>Taliban</b>, <b>China</b> shows it is at base a vicious, hegemonic power -- <a href="#">China admits demolishing the giant Buddhist statue in Tibet.</a> [By their deeds ye shall know them.] Also; <i>Human Rights Watch</i> say tens of thousands,</p>

↓ deteriorated	• steady	↑ improved	↗ ALERT
----------------	----------	------------	---------



possibly hundreds of thousands, of traditional people have been affected by China's continued destruction of the **Tibetan** people -- *China forcing Tibetan nomads to settle in towns.*

*Oil for food* did deprive **Saddam** of 75% of *oil income*; '*Oil for food*' in *Sudan proposed* -- "The former war crimes prosecutor said his proposal was a peaceful means to put pressure on the Sudan government."

**Other Atrocities**  
[news list|forecast](#)

- In the **Philippines**, *extra-judicial killings* continue to be part of the political norm; "So far this year, 19 have been kidnapped by people suspected of being military agents, 10 of them in May, including Guerrero. Two turned up dead" -- *Rights groups warn of rise in abductions in Philippines.*

In China, a crackdown on *human trafficking* and *slave labor* "has laid bare a shocking underworld" -- *Outrage as Chinese slave scandal deepens.* ["Slave labor" here as elsewhere often involves *debt traps* and *indentures*, and the *sale of children.*]

The latest US report on *human trafficking* brought some protests: The US says **Iran, Algeria, Equatorial Guinea, North Korea, Sudan, Bahrain, Oman, Syria, Burma, Kuwait, Qatar, Uzbekistan, Cuba, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela** are the worse offenders -- *Iran ranks among worst human trafficking states – US.* The US says the **Philippines** remains a "source, transit, and destination" for men, women and children -- *Philippine gov't rejects U.S. report on human trafficking.* "**Malaysia** has been relegated to a list of countries with the worst records in dealing with human trafficking ..." -- *Malaysia on trafficking blacklist.* "**India**, which advocacy groups say may have as many as 65 million forced laborers, was spared the worst ranking on the State Department's new list ..." -- *India escapes U.S. list of worst human traffickers.*

Former head of the **Chile's Directorate of Army Intelligence (DINE)** **Sepúlveda** has been sentenced to 15-years prison for the 1973 murder of six labor unionists -- *Retired general gets 15 years for homicides.*

*Paraguayans Urged to Testify on Operation Condor* -- "**Operation Condor** plunged South American homes into mourning nearly three decades ago, when regional military governments, aided by the CIA, pursued a State terrorism policy."

**Proliferation**  
[news list|forecast](#)

- [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]

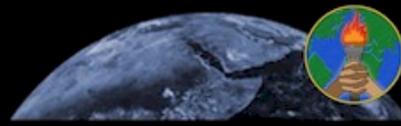
**Terrorism**  
[news list|forecast](#)

- Violent **G8** and **WTO** *protestors* have prompted calls for a European-wide database of *leftists* and *anarchists* managed by **Europol** -- *EU-wide database on far-left radicals?*

The *Jerusalem Post* thinks the West has lost the plot; "psychologically, it is natural to respond to a threat you think you can't do anything about by trying to ignore it" -- *Interesting Times: Quiet, America is sleeping.*

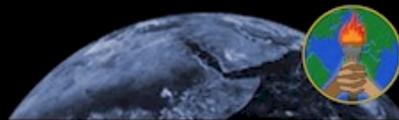
"Now, the CIA has set up shop on the **Horn of Africa**" -- *Taking the 'War on Terror' to Africa.* "'**Extraordinary renditions**' appears to have been extended to the **Horn of Africa**" -- *US Interrogates Terror Suspects in Ethiopian Jails.* "The CIA is recruiting **Arab-speaking Sudanese** citizens to infiltrate Middle Eastern radical groups ..." -- *US enlists Sudanese spies in war on terror. Deadly explosion hits Nairobi rush hour* - "The explosion was just two blocks away from the site of **Kenya's** worst terrorist attack - the 1998 bombing of the US embassy."

A profile of **Abu Dujana, JI** key actor arrested in **Indonesia** this week -- *Profile: Abu Dujana.*



	<p><i>Schools</i> not weapons are the real front line against the <i>Taliban</i> -- <i>The Taliban Lose One To The School Teachers</i>.</p> <p><i>Spain</i> has a unique status within the <i>Salafi jihadist</i> world-view -- <i>Catalonia: Europe's New Center of Global Jihad</i>.</p>
<p><b>Transnational Crime</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Eurojust and Europol co-ordinated action against organised criminal network in six countries</i> -- the target is an <i>Albanian criminal network</i> trafficking of <i>drugs</i> and <i>human beings</i>, <i>money laundering</i>, <i>illegal arms</i>, <i>stolen vehicles</i>, <i>document fraud</i> and <i>transnational burglary</i>.</li> </ul> <p>A US Army general has apologized to <i>New Mexico Guard</i> members who were stripped in a search for <i>gang tattoos</i> -- "No tattoos were found on the 58 members of Task Force Cobra, made up of soldiers from Guard units around New Mexico."</p> <p><i>Mexico</i> wants help, not doctrine; "But Mexico doesn't want another <i>Plan Colombia</i>, a mostly military anti-cocaine plan that has cost U.S. taxpayers more than \$5 billion since 2000" -- <i>Mexico asks U.S. for more help against drugs, denies seeking Colombia-style aid</i>.</p> <p>"<i>The Zetas</i> ... a group of highly trained military deserters ... have become so powerful that their old handlers are quickly losing control" -- <i>Cartel's enforcers overpower their boss</i>.</p>
<p><b>Policy</b></p>	
<p><b>Agriculture</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Diplomacy</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A former <i>French ambassador</i> discusses the <i>US</i> version of "Terrorism" [is it just a stalking-horse for <i>US</i> hegemony] -- <i>The 'Global War on Terror' and the New Imperialism</i>. The <i>US</i> dispense largesse and expectations -- <i>U.S. lawmakers restore aid to Pakistan, Indonesia, tell Egypt to improve its rights record</i>.</li> </ul> <p><i>Sudan</i> is better placed than the <i>CIA</i> to collect intelligence on <i>al Qaeda</i> -- <i>'Sudan helps US spying in Iraq'</i>. [Comment: This may explain some of the soft peddling on <i>Darfur</i>.]</p> <p>Again isolationist, <i>Japan</i> flouts the <i>Convention on Registration of Objects</i> launched into <i>Outer Space</i> -- <i>Japan ignores int'l treaty, avoids registering spy satellites</i>.</p>
<p><b>Economy</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Education</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Energy</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An example of solutions that can and will arrive: <i>Bio-latrine Cleans Up Kenyan Slum and the Environment</i> -- "the latrine that uses human waste to produce <i>gas</i> to burn to <i>heat up water</i> that can be purchased by slum dwellers."</li> </ul> <p>More nails in the coffin of the glib <i>corn ethanol</i> fix -- <i>Maize of Deception: How Corn-Based Ethanol Can Lead To Disaster</i>.</p> <p><i>Stockholm International Peace Research Institute</i> says the <i>Middle East</i>, <i>Africa</i>, <i>Central Asia</i>, <i>South America</i> and <i>SE Asia</i> will be areas of potential <i>energy conflict</i> - <i>SIPRI warns against oil shortage in Africa, Mideast</i>.</p>
<p><b>Family</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Health</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Immigration</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of <i>non-criminal immigration warrants</i> in national <i>police databases</i> is</li> </ul>

↓ deteriorated	• steady	↑ improved	↗ ALERT
----------------	----------	------------	---------



news list|forecast

patchy and highly controversial -- [Database Is Tool in Deporting Fugitives](#).

"*three National Guardsmen have been arrested and are charged with smuggling illegal immigrants over the border from Mexico into the United States*" -- [National Guardsmen Assigned To Border Charged With Smuggling Immigrants](#).

**Ecuador, Chile, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Peru** are planning tighter controls of **undocumented migrants** -- [Latin America also faces immigration issues](#).

**Justice**

news list|forecast

- "*The US war crimes tribunals at Guantanamo have betrayed the principles of fairness that made the Nazi war crimes trials at Nuremberg a judicial landmark*." -- [Guantanamo trials unfair, says Nuremberg prosecutor](#).

The US military is investigating a apparent **suicide** at **Guantánamo**; "*an apparent suicide in one of the most closely monitored detention camps for suspected al Qaeda and Taliban members ...*"

**Security**

news list|forecast

- One of the sources of the **Nigeria scam** may have been busted; "*Dutch police believe over 2,000 Internet fraudsters are active in the country*" -- [Dutch police arrest 111 over suspected Internet fraud](#).

"The **FBI** is in the process of locating and notifying the users of one million computers controlled by **hackers** ..." -- [Million computers infected by 'botnets'](#).

Unconventional candor puts Gen **Pace** at odds with Secretary **Gates**; "*he assured Gates that he was willing to go through even a contentious confirmation process*" -- [Pace says he refused to quit voluntarily](#).

[FBI Finds It Frequently Overstepped in Collecting Data](#) -- "*An internal FBI audit has found that the bureau potentially violated the law or agency rules more than 1,000 times ...*"

**MARFORPAC** (*Marine Corps Forces, Pacific*) is getting a new **command center**; "*this COC will be beyond anything in the PACOM and will surpass everything in the Corps*" -- [New technology to improve archaic command center](#).

Two "top secret" **National Reconnaissance Office/Navy ocean surveillance** spacecraft to "**track terrorist movements at sea**" were launched 14 Jun 2007.

It's too early to know if the **National Counter Terrorism Center** (NCTC) -- "somewhere in north Virginia" -- will make the US safer but the gift shop is worth the visit -- [Spending a day at the National Counter Terrorism Center](#).

There is some reversal [by 10%] to the what many see as the "**privatization of intelligence**", a revolving door that has gutted the **CIA** of its brightest and best -- [CIA Plans Cutbacks, Limits on Contractor Staffing](#).

The **US** accounts for almost half of **global military spending**; "*the United States spent \$529 billion, slightly less than the entire GDP of the Netherlands, on military operations in 2006, up 5 percent over the previous year*" -- [Global military spending hits \\$1.2 trillion: study](#).

**Society**

news list|forecast

- A useful survey of the history and typology of think tanks -- [Think Tank in Global Perspective](#).

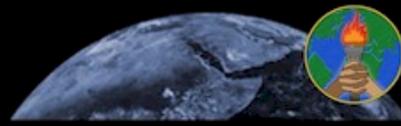
**Water**

news list|forecast

- ↓ China: 20% of the world's population, 7% of its water resources -- **neglect and pollution** by profiteers have turned a challenge into a crisis calling for expensive solutions -- [Polluted, drought-stricken China eyes sea water](#).

"**India** remains concerned about reports of **diversion of waters** from rivers which flow into India from **China's Qinghai** plateau ..." -- [Water-sharing clouds Indo-](#)

↓ deteriorated      • steady      ↑ improved      ✎ ALERT



*China ties.*

**Challengers**

**Brazil**

[news list](#)[forecast](#)

- Brazil's **Supreme Court** has established important precedent on *traditional ownership of lands* and has returned land to indigenous owners after separation of over 100 years -- *Brazil's highest court sides with Indians against rice farmers.*

Another *land-equity* issue: "*the largest ever gathering of landless workers, concerned about the effects of energy production on land ownership*" -- *Brazil's landless peasants to hold largest meeting in their history.*

**China**

[news list](#)[forecast](#)

- China has identified "*domination of the electromagnetic spectrum*" as one of five military goals -- *China probing U.S. military networks. China's army goes digital* -- "*information management has improved the quality of border patrol and also had an impact on logistics, rest and recuperation, and that eternal friend of the soldier - a square meal.*" [Chinese border guards order their meals on the **internet.**]

China again tries to intimidate other countries out of any contact with the **Dalai Lama** -- "*China warned Australia that the visit could damage relations between the two countries.*"

"*Police in China, where most of the 1.3 billion people share just 100 surnames, are considering rules which would combine both parents' family names to prevent so much duplication.*"

The depths of the Chinese *fakes* industry knows no limits -- "*Eighteen hospitals and 39 drug trading companies were found to be using the fake human albumin, which led to huge profits because of its low production cost.*"

The stakes are getting higher by the year -- will China achieve the "*harmonious society*" or will one of a range of failures intervene? -- *Is China headed for a 'car crash'?*

**India**

[news list](#)[forecast](#)

- **Pakistan** hastens with its '*Babur*' cruise missile as India prepares for commissioning of the *Indian-Russian 'BrahMos'* during June 2007.

"*Beijing* claims 90,000 sq km of land in the eastern Indian state of **Arunachal Pradesh**, which borders **Bhutan** and **Tibet**" -- *China raises tension in India border dispute.*

Detailed discussion of the significance of the new *aircraft carrier* for India -- *Indian Navy Aircraft Carrier INS Vikramaditya To Be Inducted By December 2008.*

**Indonesia**

[news list](#)[forecast](#)

- Over two days, Indonesia announced the arrest of **Jl's** regional leader **Zarkasih** and deputy leader **Dujana** -- *Indonesia Arrests Leading Terror Suspect* and *Indonesia Raids Net Terror Leaders.*

Indonesia is continuing to insist on the inclusion of articles on **human rights** and **democratic values** in the **ASEAN Charter** being drafted -- *Indonesia holds ground on ASEAN Charter.*

*Indonesia hosts Holocaust-affirming conference* -- "*Although I am a good friend of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, I have to say he is wrong,*" **Gus Dur** [Indonesia's first elected president] told the conference.

**Iran**

[news list](#)[forecast](#)

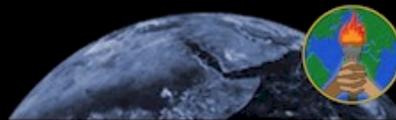
- Mohammed **ElBaradei** says he has nightmares about giving "*additional argument to the new crazies who say 'let's go and bomb Iran'.*" -- *IAEA chief declares any attack on Iran "an act of madness".* [He does not specify who he means by the "new crazies".] **Russian nuclear fuel** is ready to go to Iran ... when the bill is paid; "*Putin then ordered the cargo to be loaded at Astrakhan, but await delivery in port until*

↓ deteriorated

• steady

↑ improved

↗ ALERT



	<p><i>payment was made."</i></p> <p>Despite a multitude claiming to the contrary, <b>Afghan Defense Minister Wardak</b> <u>rejects</u> claims that Iran is arming the <b>Taliban</b> -- <i>Afghan Minister Rejects Claims Iran Is Arming Taliban</i>.</p>
<p><b>Russia</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Symbolically significant, President <b>Putin</b> has honored Alexander <b>Solzhenitsyn</b> for his links to "<i>the destiny of Russia</i>".</li> </ul> <p>Although President <b>Putin</b> is constitutionally unable to run again for <i>President</i>, his career is unlikely to be over; "<i>what he's proposing to do is walk out of the Kremlin and remain a very influential guy</i>" -- <i>Putin may run Russia from the sidelines</i>.</p> <p>President <b>Putin's</b> suggestion of a <u>joint</u> "missile shield" with the <b>US</b> is said to have caused some <i>shock and awe</i> in the US delegation; "<i>if Washington chooses to reject Moscow's proposal to share Azerbaijan's Gabala radar base, it will have to come with a good reason</i>" -- <i>Radar diplomacy</i>. <u>Also see</u>: <i>Le Figaro Antimissile Shield: Vladimir Putin's poker move</i>.</p>
<p><b>Venezuela</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Venezuela seems set to buy five pre-loved <b>Russian submarines</b> -- "<i>Venezuela is interested in examining within a strategic context the possibility that these submarines fit our defense plans.</i>"</li> </ul> <p>President <b>Chavez</b> says "<i>We're not copying Cuba, but Castro is a 'key influence'</i>" -- "<i>We're in the middle of building it, like an artist painting a picture. We aren't copying anything.</i>"</p> <p><i>Colombia, Venezuela inch toward Cold War</i> -- "<i>behind their smiles ... neither seems above the espionage and psychological operations that once characterized the Cold War.</i>"</p>
<p><b>Wild Cards</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group</b> has reminded President <b>Musharraf</b> of his own deadline of <u>2007</u> for separating the offices of <b>President</b> and <b>Army Chief</b>. <b>Balochi</b> rebels in expansive southern <b>Pakistan</b> pose perhaps a more daunting challenge than <b>Islamist militantism</b> in the <i>north-west</i> -- <i>Baloch rebels challenge Musharraf</i>.</li> </ul> <p>A significant <i>think-piece</i> on the possible consequences of a <b>Russia-Iran-Turkey</b> alliance that could strangle <b>Europe</b> and the <b>US</b> ... with the additional volatility of Turkish society precariously torn between <b>East</b> and <b>West</b> -- <i>The Turkish Threat to World Peace</i>.</p>

20070618w [113]

.oOo.

**This is a free public service.**

**Subscribe with the active link at**

**[http://meta2.com/PDB/pdb\\_WeeklySummaryList.htm](http://meta2.com/PDB/pdb_WeeklySummaryList.htm)**