

Intelligence Failures and Cultural Misperceptions: Asia, 1945 till the present

Conference organised by the Netherlands Intelligence Studies Association (NISA) and the Centre for Terrorism and Counterterrorism (CTC), Leyden University, Campus The Hague

26-27 September 2008

Netherlands Defence College

Brasserskade 227a, 2497 NX The Hague

With the organisation of this conference, NISA and CTC wish to contribute to the discussion on intelligence failures and cultural misperceptions in Asia, with a focus on counterinsurgency and counterterrorism. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have clearly shown the shortcomings of intelligence collection and analysis on the part of the United States and its allies. Quite a few of these shortcomings are the result of cultural misperceptions.

For western intelligence agencies, Asia is a continent they often find difficult to understand, with in many cases serious consequences. Presentations at this conference will discuss the following topics, among others: counterinsurgency and counterterrorism campaigns in Asia during the Cold War; western perceptions of particular countries in the region and their influence on intelligence operations; the limitations of intelligence in the War on Terror in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Conference Fee:

Standard Fee: € 125

Student Fee: € 65 (proof of status required)

Fee covers registration and meals.

For registration, payment in advance is required by transferring the amount to:

bank account number 725980 of
Stichting Inlichtingenstudies Nederland
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IBAN: NL1 6PSTB0000725980

BIC: PSTBNL21

www.nisa-intelligence.nl

To Register:

For registration please use the electronic form at www.nisa-intelligence.nl

When unable to register electronically, download the form and send your application

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM - *update 17 September 2008*

Friday 26 September

Chairman: Joop van Reijn

09.30 Arrival, Coffee/Tea

10.00 Welcome by Joop van Reijn, Chairman, Netherlands Intelligence Studies Association

10.15 Keynote lecture by Pieter Cobelens, Director, Netherlands Defence Intelligence and Security Service

Part 1: Counterinsurgency

10.45 *Counterinsurgency, politics, culture and misperceptions* Isabelle Duyvesteyn (NL)

11.05 *The PKI and the Army in Indonesia in 1965* John Roosa (CAN)

11.25 Discussion

11.40 Coffee/Tea

11.55 *Political policing during the Malayan Emergency 1948 -1 957* Georgina Sinclair (UK)

12.15 *Intelligence failures, misperceptions and the Tet Offensive: A cognitive coping theory on governmental unpreparedness* Max Metselaar (NL)

12.35 *Perils of the Orient: U.S. intelligence failures in the Far East during the Cold War* Matthew M. Aid (USA)

12.55 Discussion

13.15 Lunch

Part 2: (Counter)intelligence

14.30 *Strategic culture and intelligence assessments: the Allied and Japanese experiences during the war in the Pacific (1941 -1 945)* Douglas Ford (UK)

14.50 *First Canadian Special Wireless Group: Canadian Sigint operations against Japan in Australia (1 944-1945)* Kurt Jensen (CAN)

15.10 Discussion

15.25 Coffee/Tea

15.40 *The Beginning of the "Golden Age" of the CIA?The 1953 coup against Mohammed Mossadegh in Iran,* Andreas Etges (GER)

16.00 *North Korea: A case study in Western intelligence perceptions* Stephan Blancke, Andreas Henneka (GER)

16.20 *Israeli intelligence challenges from the Arab world* Yoaz Hendel (ISR)

16.40 Discussion

17.15 Drinks

18.00 Dinner

Saturday 27 September

Chairman: Bob de Graaff

09.30 Coffee/Tea

Part 3: Experiences

10.00 *With the valor of ignorance: Fifty years of clashing with cultures and improvising intelligence* Timothy C. Brown (USA)

10.20 *Eyes and ears of the dragon. Chinese intelligence services: Organisation and activities* Peter Becker (GER)

10.40 Discussion

11.00 Coffee/Tea

11.15 *Cultural intelligence and Dutch civil-military operations in Northern Afghanistan* Allard Wagemaker (NL)

11.35 *Dutch military operations in Afghanistan* Albert Schoneveld (NL)

11.55 Discussion

12.15 Lunch

Part 4: Iraq/Afghanistan

13.45 *The BND in Afghanistan and Iraq* Erich Schmidt-Eenboom (GER)

14.05 *British intelligence failures in Iraq*, John Morrison (UK)
Morrison

14.25 Discussion

14.45 Coffee/Tea

15.00 *Saddam Hussein: The U.S. view* Jerrold Post (USA)

15.20 *American Intelligence Failures in the War on Terror* James Risen (USA)

15.40 Discussion

Part 5: Lessons for the future?

16.00 Panel and discussion: Bob de Graaff (chairman), Pieter Cobelens, James Risen, Kees Klompenhouwer et al.

17.25 Closing remarks by NISA Chairman Joop van Reijn

17.30 Drinks

18.30 End of conference