

Association For Intelligence Officers

The Tom Smith New Mexico Chapter

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President

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JANUARY MEETING

Wednesday, 11 January 2012

Marcello's Chophouse, Albuquerque Uptown

11:15 AM: Arrive, Sign in, Order Lunch **11:45 AM:** Call To Order

SPEAKER FOR THE JANUARY MEETING

I am happy to say that Rich Sullivan, one of our members and a retired NCIS Special Agent, is going to talk to us about the Horton spy case...one in which he was personally involved. That's something to look forward to.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – LOOKING FOR IMPROVEMENT IN 2012

First and foremost, I wish all our members and their families good health, prosperity and happiness in the coming year. I recognize the first two of these can be hard to come by, but at least the third owes itself largely to our own attitudes and perceptions of where we are in our lives. Still, I earnestly hope that all three will be positive for you in 2012.

I also want to acknowledge our troops who remain overseas—especially those in harm's way—and their families, who struggle to maintain stability in their lives while waiting for their loved ones to come home. And, as I watch the struggles of members of a veterans' group to which I belong, and see how they maintain optimism and a sense of humor in the face of chronic, and sometimes staggering, injuries and diseases, I am very appreciative of the services provided by the numerous groups and non-profit agencies working to support them.

On a professional level, I remain concerned by the array of threats aligned against our way of life, both at home and abroad. Iran is of particular concern, followed closely by North Korea, but they are only the tip of an iceberg. The Turks are bashing the Kurds, Iraq can't get its act together (it wasn't rocket science to predict the resumption of sectarian warfare as soon as we departed), and the future composition of Egypt's government. It seems increasingly uncertain as the Salafists gain ground against the Muslim Brotherhood, who are a problem in their own right; And these are just a few of the highlights....

As an organization of Intelligence professionals, I believe we not only have a dog in this fight, but have an obligation to try for a more public image, and to develop more outreach. What are your thoughts?

REPRISE OF THE DECEMBER MEETING

Many thanks to Dolph Saenz for his in-depth discussion about the kidnapping and assassination of the man who replaced him as head of a Police advisory mission in Uruguay. It's an ugly story, and highlighted the dangers to people who work for us abroad, and who often cannot choose in whom they place their trust.

I look forward to seeing all of you on January 11 at Marcello's.

Respectfully yours, Pete Bostwick