



AFIO NEW MEXICO CHAPTER

Co-Presidents

Pete Bostwick (505) 898-2649

foreigndevil@yahoo.com

Mike Ford (505) 294-6133

Secpro39@yahoo.com

JANUARY MEETING -- WED 13 JAN 13, 2016

"The Egg & I" Restaurant -- 6909 Menaul Blvd (East of Louisiana)

1100: Sign-In and Order Lunch

1130: Pledge of Allegiance and Call to Order

SPEAKER: Mr. Robert Hull, Los Alamos Labs

TOPIC: Training the Inspectors for Chem-Bio Weapons Surveys in Iraq

WELCOME...

To a new year, and some changes. Chapter elections are upon us, giving us the opportunity to infuse the chapter with new ideas, new outlooks and new members. Our challenge to both old and new members is not to be shy about stepping up to the plate. The chapter can only thrive through the active participation and involvement of the membership, and we have benefited from every changing of the guard. You are all professionals, and don't require direction or regimentation. The chapter, however, does benefit from the input of ideas, the sharing of backgrounds, nudging by the membership to challenge us not to become complacent, and bringing to bear the diverse (and extraordinary) talents of our members to focus on the burgeoning array of challenges to the Intelligence Community, and to internal and external threats to our national security.

Each one of you has something distinctive and/or unique to offer AFIO and to keep this chapter vibrant, so do not hesitate to offer whatever leadership and support you can.

We note there may be some potential for retired personnel from a 3-letter agency to become involved in a partnership with our chapter, and an additional opportunity to become more involved with the University of New Mexico's National Security Studies Program. Moreover, if we can attract more of the Intelligence professionals lurking in the community to join us, we will be able to continue providing scholarships that encourage young people to pursue studies and careers focused on—or at least influenced by—Intelligence and national security concerns. Okay, that's our pitch for 2016....

INTELLIGENCE ISSUES

No shortage of fodder for this topic.

- ISIS, and the politically/culturally charged issue of how to engage our resident U.S. Muslim population in a dialogue to mitigate the threat posed by home-grown, radicalized individuals within their community;
- Destabilization of the Arab world, including the problem children of Iran, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen, etc., etc. almost *ad nauseam*. Anyone who thinks he or she can bring stability, let alone peace, to the Sunni-Shiite divide must be on something stronger than recreational drugs.
- China's military expansion into the South China Sea, possibly posing the greatest threat in a generation to Asia-Pacific security and trade;
- Putin's in-your (rather, our)-face moves on Crimea, the Ukraine, and NATO;
- Implications of economic implosions in the European Union, the immigrant tide sweeping over Europe, and shifting political winds throughout the EU;
- North Korea, the "bad boy" of Asia...one more nuclear wanna-be that cannot be allowed.

The list goes on and, since it is mostly gobbledygook to the public at large, it begs more attention by those who have a proven capacity for critical thinking...that's you, in case you missed it.

CLOSING COMMENTS

We are indebted to the AFIO National Headquarters for their unstinting support and encouragement, and for their professional publications, the WINS and The Intelligencer. Special mention goes to Elizabeth Bancroft for her cheerful, always timely response to communications, and to C. Emerson Cooper for his tireless efforts on the "how-to" points of living up to the organization's operating protocols, and for the highly professional graphics. Our thanks to all.