



THE TOM SMITH NEW MEXICO CHAPTER

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

May 2007

New Mexico Chapter

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Dick Callaghan

President

April Luncheon

Our April luncheon saw an excellent turnout of some 26 members and guests.

President Dick Callaghan opened the meeting by calling on Bill Young to lead the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and then asked Gerre Jones to follow with a prayer.

Chapter Election

President Callaghan next asked Dolph Saenz – the nominating committee chairman – to provide the names of individuals being considered for Chapter officer positions effective this June. The Following nominees received unanimous endorsement from the members present:

For President	=	Dick Callaghan
For 1 st Vice President	=	Ron Cuellar
For 2 nd Vice President/Public Relations	=	Jerry Monahan
For Secretary	=	Brendan O'Donovan
For Treasurer	=	Jean Yardumian

Public Relations

Following the Chapter elections, Vice President Jerry Monahan took the floor to outline steps that he would be taking to publicize our Chapter in the local Media:

- Arrange for free promotional announcements in the local Journal and Tribune newspapers.
- Request free public service ad space in the newspapers published at Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories and at Kirtland Air Force Base.

Jerry said he would include his name and telephone number in all of these newspaper ads so interested parties could contact him for additional information about the Chapter.

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS:

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF
INVESTIGATION

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMIN

US MARSHALS SERVICE

US POSTAL SERVICE

US COAST GUARD

NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE
OFFICE

NATIONAL IMAGERY
AND MAPPING AGENCY

MARINE CORPS INTELLIGENCE

AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE

NAVY INTELLIGENCE

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY

Richard Sullivan suggested that we might want to contact U.S. Air Force operational intelligence and contractor security personnel at the Air Base and invite them to one of our upcoming luncheons. Jerry thought that was an excellent suggestion; and he noted how that idea of bringing active duty personnel into the association is the direction that AFIO National is taking to increase membership and to be more relevant to the active intelligence community.

Continuing, Jerry said that sponsoring an annual banquet for the local intelligence community might also be a good way to put our Albuquerque AFIO Chapter on the map.

Monahan advised us that he would coordinate with Ron Cuellar to have a Chapter promotional table set up at the regional Homeland Security Conference scheduled to be held at the Marriott hotel here in Albuquerque from 15 thru 17 October.

University of New Mexico

Jean Yardumian described how the Chapter's previous relationship with the University of New Mexico (UNM) can be reestablished and would boost our visibility in the community. She reminded members that we voted last year to set aside \$500 for a scholarship to be awarded to a deserving UNM student planning a career in intelligence. Joe Cantergiani will be contacting UNM in the near future about this scholarship and could also query the faculty about whether or not they are continuing to offer a specialized undergraduate curriculum for students wanting to pursue an intelligence career.

Luncheon Speaker

With no additional Chapter business pending, Dick Callahan took the floor to introduce our distinguished luncheon speaker, Emile A. Nakhleh, Ph. D.

Dr. Nakhleh and his wife, Ilonka, are members of AFIO National and just recently joined our Chapter. They always knew they wanted to live here in New Mexico and as soon as Emile retired from the CIA, they drove directly here from Washington, D.C.

Our speaker had been a senior intelligence analyst and Scholar in Residence at CIA since 1993. Prior to his work at CIA, Dr. Nakhleh was a Department Chair and Professor of International Studies at Mount St. Mary's College in Maryland.

Dr Nakhleh noted that as a Senior Service Officer he was able to speak quite candidly when providing assessments about the Middle East to key American policymakers, including the White House. His responsibilities as Chief of Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis required numerous fact-finding trips to Islamic countries worldwide and he frequently was accompanied by his wife who provided him with the entrée whereby he could officially meet and consult comfortably with Islamic women.

Because of his fluency in Arabic, Dr. Nakhleh was able to provide policymakers in D.C. with highly accurate and nuanced analysis of what key Islamic government spokespersons, clergymen and radical leaders were really saying and thinking. It is interesting to note here that a westerner using an interpreter is frequently unable to have a truly substantive conversation with a Muslim and will sometimes receive only platitudes.

The speaker observed how the deep seated tensions between radical Islam and the West did not start with 9-11 and will not end at Guantanamo Bay. Long-term conditions of economic and social backwardness created this radicalism. In many of the Islamic states, one graduates with good grades from high school and then has a zero chance of finding a job – any job. The only recourse to this hopelessness is the local mosque and possible recruitment into radicalism.

Understanding the root causes of terrorism and alienation can help us create an effective political dialogue and a realistic policy of economic assistance to these troubled regions.

Reaching out and establishing a partnership with local moderate Islamic leaders that addresses the problem of disaffected youth would be a very positive approach for the West to take. Frequently the effort should take into account the wide diversity among Islamic nations and would be long-term and require real technical expertise and language fluency.

Giving the green light to USAID to develop such programs could go a long way in establishing a viable middle class in the region; and an educated Muslim with a job and family is highly unlikely to join the 1% who have been radicalized.

(For a detailed biography of Dr. Nakhleh and his wife, Ilonka, please see our Chapter newsletter for April)

Next Meeting / 23 May

We will again meet at 11:00 AM at the Calico Cafe / Vernon's Steakhouse located at 6855 4th Street NW, Rancho de Albuquerque, on the west side of 4th, about ½ mile north of Osuna and adjacent to the old El Camino Motel. We will again meet in the "Back Room".

In lieu of a speaker, Joe Cantergiani will lead a discussion about enticing young, local, active intelligence professionals into Chapter membership. He will discuss the potential of a Chapter website and a scholarship program.

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Dick Callaghan - President
Ron Cuellar – First Vice President
Jerry Monahan – Second Vice President/ Public Relations
Brendan O'Donovan – Secretary
Jean Yardumian – Treasurer