



Middle East Study, Part Two, Focuses on Forms of Terrorism

We kick off our 2009-10 program year by continuing to “encourage public conversation” about the Middle East with the second of three Rand Corporation /LWVUS collaborations. “Terrorism Past and Present” looks at the forms terrorism has taken over three centuries and why current developments are especially alarming.

Save this article as we have a panel discussion in October and discussion of the third article in March 2010. The first article appeared in April 2009 and can be found on our website as can this one (www.lwv-fairfax.org).



Calendar

August

- 19 **Board Mtg**/Sept. UC Letter Deadline
- 21 Ramadan begins (ends Sept. 20)
- 26 Women’s Equality Day – 19th Amend Ratified
- 29 LWV-VA Fall Wkshps - Charlottesville
- 31 October *Fairfax VOTER* deadline

September

- 04 NCA Board meeting
- 05 **Units Kickoff** & Briefing for Mid-east II
- 07 Labor Day
- 08 School Begins
- 08-10, 14 **Unit meetings** – Mid-east II
- 12-13 *Burke Centre Festival -Conservancy Grounds*
- 16 **Board Meeting**/Oct. UC Letter Deadline
- 19 Rosh Hashana (*begins evening of 18th*)
- 20 Ramadan ends
- 26 “*Super Saturday*” – *Voter Reg. in Fairfax*
- 26 *Kingstowne Library Outreach-10A-noon*
- 27 Fairfax Cable Election, 1:00 pm -Merrifield
- 28 Yom Kippur (*begins evening of 27th*)
- 30 November VOTER deadline

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The President's Message

So, how important is my first message to LWVFA? Will people base their first impression on this or will it hopefully set the tone for the next two years? I have been going over and over ideas about the content of this, the first! Should I talk about how serious everything is, should I only be upbeat – a regular Pollyanna? Then I decided to do what I usually do when presented with a problem, start thinking of solutions. As I said at the Annual Meeting in May, this is not one person's job to attract more members, nor is it solely the Board's job; it is all our "job." Let's toot our horns; we deserve it.

What other organization covers studies on aging, immigration, justice/jury system, school schedules? Coming up this year is a continuation of the Mid-East study, proffers, Tysons' Corner, Elementary School schedules, Chesapeake Bay and we will hear some from NCA's water and/or electricity study, as well as the LWV-VA study of election laws. Add the work we do in registration, educating the public with debates/forums/fairs as well as our Voter's Guide and you have an organization that has something for everyone's interest. So, dear people, let's spread the word we are a one stop community interest shop!

Janey George

Spaces Still Available For State LWV-VA Workshops

LWV-VA will have great Workshops on Saturday, August 29th in Charlottesville. Training and information will be provided about how the League works and what you can do to help, not only the League, but to improve personal skills. The workshops will include Membership: after the Ask the Follow-up; and Technology Tools: Social Networking Platforms – blogs, Facebook, MySpace, twitter, video. More information and a registration form can be found in the Virginia Voter at www.LWV-VA.org. The cost is \$25 including lunch but LWVFA will offset this expense. Check with our Treasurer, Therese Martin tbmartin4@verizon.net about LWVFA paying your fee. The registration deadline is August 21st.

HELP WANTED

Voters Service Outreach Director

Enjoy the challenge and satisfaction of managing public forums, informing the public and making democracy work.

Call Janey George to apply 703-631-2293

[PayPal Now Available . . .](#)

We've Made It Easy To Give To The League

Take a look at the donate page on our web site: www.lwv-fairfax.org. LWVFA has set up accounts with PayPal to enable potential donors to both the LWVFA and the LWVFA Education Fund to make secure payments online using credit cards. Both donors and the LWVFA receive an immediate acknowledgement of the donations. Membership renewals can be handled through PayPal as well. Questions? Contact LWVFA Treasurer, Therese Martin at 703-471-6364 or tbmartin4@verizon.net.

LWVFA Fairfax VOTER 2009 - 2010

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or call 703-658-9150

Your Help is Needed . . .

LWV Helping to Count Everyone in 2010 US Census Effort

By O. G. Harper, 2010 Census Project Director

The League of Women Voters has taken on the 2010 Census as a central project for the upcoming year. Leagues across the country have already begun establishing partnerships with their local census offices in efforts to ensure every resident is counted. Nationally, we have officially partnered with the Census Bureau and have joined the national Ya Es Hora, Hagase Contar! ("It is Time, Make Yourself Count!") Campaign along with NALEO, Service Employees International Union, and others.

General Description of the U.S. Census:

Article I, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution mandates a headcount of everyone residing in the United States. The first Census was conducted in 1790 and has been carried out every 10 years since then.

The 2010 Census will be mailed to all households in March, consisting of a short-form, with 10 questions that will take 10 minutes to complete. The census will count all residents living in the United States as well as ask for name, sex, age, date of birth, race, ethnicity, relationship and housing tenure

– taking just minutes to complete. Census data is important because it:

- impacts how more than \$300 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and more.
- determines how data is also used to apportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and to redistrict state legislatures and;
- determines how Census data are used to define legislature districts, school district assignment areas and other important functional areas of government.

The census is like a snapshot that helps define who we are as a nation. Data about changes in your community are crucial to many planning decisions, such as where to provide services for the elderly, where to build new roads and schools, or where to locate job training centers.

If you would like to work with other Fairfax Area League members, together to make the census right, contact Olga Garcia (O.G.) Harper at 571-283-9425 or by e-mail ogharper@verizon.net

In Honor of Connie Houston, 1945 - 2009



When I received Jim's call Monday morning that Connie had passed away, saying I was stunned is an understatement. She was the first one I called for advice when I became President. I lost a friend and mentor on all things League.

Connie first joined the League in '86.

She was immediately identified as a leader. Boy were they right! Barbara Shanahan was Fairfax president then and she was so excited she shared with other members that she had "found" someone special for the League who was going to be a terrific asset. That, of course, was Connie.

She was so quiet that she often was under-estimated, but with true grit and a wry sense of humor, she tackled whatever came into her path, and made us all feel so lucky to have her around. She took on the issues in the League's non-partisan way. Having served on the Fairfax League

board and as their President from 1991 to 95, she was later elected to the state League presidency in 1997 and served two terms.

She approached her duties with passion and knowledge. Her organizational skills and determination served her well. It's a special skill to lead a diverse group of Type A volunteers to do the professional work of the League, which she believed in so completely. Jim made sure she is still wearing her League pin.

Elected officials and the community knew she, and the League, were watching. We are better for all her work. She will be greatly missed by her family, friends and Leaguers, but she left her mark and that will never be forgotten. Good bye Connie, we'll miss you.

Remarks delivered by Olga Hernandez at Connie's memorial service at the Mclean Baptist Church July 3, 2009.

LWVNCA Announces Studies For Next Two Years

Since 1963, the Leagues of the Washington metropolitan area have worked together on regional issues as members of the LWV of the National Capital Area (NCA). Over the next two years, the NCA will be conducting two studies:

1. Water Resources Update: “The Reality of the Drinking Water Supply in the Metro Area in the 21st Century.”

In February 1999, NCA issued a comprehensive report titled “Drinking Water Supply in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area: Prospects and Options for the 21st Century.” Many changes have occurred in the region since then. Thus, the task of the current study is to evaluate the situation today and update or expand the report as necessary. Norma Merritt, a member at large of the LWV of Maryland from Prince George’s County, is chair. She has a long-time interest in water issues. (contact info: proper_bostonian.1@juno.com [underline between “proper” and “bostonian”] or 301-292-3233)

2. New Study: Adequacy and Reliability of Electricity in the National Capital Area

With today’s focus on energy issues, this timely study will help us become knowledgeable about the relevant issues pertaining to electricity as they impact residents of the Washington area. Melpi Jeffries, immediate past president of NCA from Montgomery County, is the chair. (contact info: melpijeffries@msn.com or 301-530-5452)

Additional volunteers are needed to work on both studies. Please contact the appropriate chairperson if you are interested; the committees will be organizing over the summer. They will follow the usual League practice of studying the first year and reaching consensus in the second year.

Think Green . . .

At most, 35 percent of coal’s energy in a power plant converts to electricity. The remaining two thirds is lost as waste heat, benefiting no one and often harming surrounding ecosystems. (Worldwatch Institute, 2007)

Bits and Pieces . . .

LWVFA Super Saturday Returns September 26

We are partnering with the Fairfax County Public Libraries to have a Super Saturday on 26 September, a voter registration drive shortly before the registration deadline, October 3. LWVFA will have a table in front of every regional library as well as the Oakton Library from 10:00AM to 2:00PM. Every unit is responsible for covering the regional library in their area. Some member’s comments after last year’s Super Saturday were – “I forgot how much fun this was, it was good to feel like a Leaguer again.” This is one of the events the League is known for and a service we are expected to provide. So, let’s put on our “League hats” and have a super time on our Super Saturday. A list of the regional libraries are as follows: Centreville, Chantilly, Fairfax City, Reston, Tysons-Pimmit, George Mason, Pohick and Sherwood.

September Sees Kick-off of a New League Year

UNITS KICK-OFF – is Saturday, September 5 at the Franconia Government Center. Representatives from every unit are requested to participate in the Kick-Off. Board Directors will talk and give out material regarding their portfolios. Overall plans for the coming year will be discussed as well as outreach activities. Don’t be the unit left out in the cold. The time is 10:00 to 12:00 with the briefing on September’s program starting as soon as the Kick-Off is over.

Directions To Kick Off at 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria 22310

From the West: Take Fairfax County Parkway east, stay straight onto Franconia Springfield Parkway; use the Frontier Drive exit; turn left on Frontier Dr; after 0.6 miles turn left onto Franconia Road (Rt 644); center is 1.6 miles on the right.

From The South: Take I-95 north exiting at Springfield 644 Franconia; go straight ahead at end of ramp and turn left onto Frontier Drive; after 0.5 miles turn left onto Franconia Road (Rt 644); center is 1.6 miles on the right.

From the North: Take I-395 or I-495 to I-95 and exit at 644 east Franconia Road; proceed 1.3 miles after Frontier Drive to the Center on the right.

Terrorism Past and Present

The RAND Corporation prepared three papers, of which this is the second, in a series for the League of Women Voters. The other two papers are entitled “The Middle East: A Brief Historical Sketch” (discussed in April 2009) and “Strategies for a Secure World.”

This educational project is directed towards encouraging public conversation about how to achieve a secure world and promoting public understanding of the critical issues surrounding terrorism and the threats it poses to our security. It is possible that such conversations will lead to greater public engagement and involvement in encouraging our policymakers to explore the uncertainty, to apply new skills in their efforts to reduce it, and to take risks where necessary.

A Brief Overview of Terrorism

Depending on how it is defined, terrorism, both in practice and in name, dates back hundreds, even thousands, of years. In the realm of political action, the word terrorism was a product of the French Revolution’s régime de la terreur (1793-94). Ironically, terror initially had a positive connotation because it was associated with a struggle for democracy and a more virtuous society. That was not to last in the face of the generalized fear induced by the everpresent guillotine, and terrorism came to be associated with abuse of power, especially by the state.

During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, there was an increase in both Europe and America of the use of terror-inducing violence to promote anti-state outcomes or to achieve independent statehood. Anarchists carried out a series of bombings and assassinations, the best known of which were the murders of Czar Alexander II in Russia (1881), President William McKinley in the United States (1901), and Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo (1914). Irish, Armenian, and Bosnian insurrectionists were among the ethno-separatist groups fighting against alien regimes. Labor uprisings in many countries were bitter and often bloody.

Beginning in about the 1930s, terrorism was turned on its head when “revolutionary” violence directed against heads of state and other persons in authority began to be replaced by “repressive” violence applied by dictators such as Adolph Hitler, Benito Mussolini, and Joseph Stalin against their own citizenry. This kind of state-directed terror, used by those in power against their own citizens, later had many counterparts in Third World countries, especially in Central and South America.

Following World War II, terrorism again assumed its revolutionary connotation, most notably through the nationalist or anti-colonial revolts carried out in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East in opposition to European rule. In the 1980s, there was a further expansion of the concept of terrorism in the form of state-sponsored, covert violence



against other nations—such as that sponsored by Iran, Iraq, Libya, and Syria—which allowed weaker regimes to confront more powerful countries without risking large-scale retaliation.

It was primarily the activities of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) that put terrorism in the international spotlight. Although the PLO’s 1968 hijacking of an Israeli El Al commercial aircraft and the 1972 attack on the Israeli Olympic team in Munich did not achieve their objectives, they did succeed in drawing world attention to their cause, which was the plight of Palestinian refugees who had either voluntarily left or had been driven from Israel and were living in overcrowded camps in neighboring countries. The PLO served as an example to other aggrieved groups, and “within the decade, the number of terrorist groups either operating internationally or committing attacks against foreign targets in their own country in order to attract international attention had more than quadrupled.”¹

Given the substantial changes that have occurred over time in the notion of what constitutes terrorism, it is important to try to pin down a definition that can act as an anchor. Bruce Hoffman, an internationally recognized authority on the subject of terrorism suggests the following:

[Terrorism is] the deliberate creation and exploitation of fear through violence or the threat of violence in the pursuit of political change. All terrorist acts

involve violence or the threat of violence. Terrorism is specifically designed to have far-reaching psychological effects beyond the immediate victim(s) or object of the terrorist attack. It is meant to instill fear within, and thereby intimidate, a wider “target audience” that might include a rival ethnic or religious group, an entire country, a national government or political party, or public opinion in general. Terrorism is designed to create power where there is none or to consolidate power where there is very little. Through the publicity generated by their violence, terrorists seek to obtain the leverage, influence and power they otherwise lack to effect political change on either a local or an international scale.²

Terrorism as a Religious Imperative

Terrorism motivated by religious belief is a centuries-old phenomenon, and scores of examples can be found in all major religions in all parts of the world. However, in the modern consciousness, the resurgence of religious terrorism is often linked to the 1979 revolution that transformed Iran into an Islamic republic. The Ayatollah Khomeini had long condemned the growing influence of the West under the government of Mohammad Reza Shah, and had called on Muslims to reject secular government in favor of the restoration of fundamental Islamic law. Moreover, Khomeini sought to extend the revolution to other Muslim countries. Violence in the service of this goal was promoted not as a tactic but, under certain conditions, as an obligation.

One of the central tenets of Islam is the duty of Muslims to engage in jihad. As Rudolph Peters, an expert on the Middle East, has explained,

The Arabic word jihad means to strive, to exert oneself, to struggle. The word has a basic connotation of an endeavour towards a praiseworthy aim. In a religious context it may express a struggle against one’s evil inclinations or an exertion for the sake of Islam and the umma [Muslim community], e.g., trying to convert unbelievers or working for the moral betterment of Islamic society (“jihad of the tongue” and “jihad of the sword”). In the books on Islamic law, the word means armed struggle against the unbelievers, which is also a common meaning in the Koran.³

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan further stimulated jihad and was critical to the later formation of Al Qaeda. Its leader, Osama bin Laden, has been clear and consistent in his condemnation of the West—the new Crusaders—and his desire to protect Islam from Christian aggression. Although his overarching goal is to create a world-wide, totalitarian theocracy, he has turned jihadis against the United States in particular by exploiting resentments over its military presence in the Arabian Peninsula, the war in Iraq, and American support of Israel. Bin Laden has been extremely skillful in capitalizing on the belief that engaging in defensive jihad is an individual obligation when Islam is under assault, and he has succeeded in building a broad base of support that assures a steady flow of recruits to his cause.

One of the things that make religious terrorists so formidable is their willingness to carry out operations that are far more deadly and destructive than those conducted by their secular counterparts.⁴ The attacks by nineteen Al Qaeda airplane hijackers on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon are the most dramatic case in point. Including the deaths on the fourth aircraft that crashed in Pennsylvania, nearly three thousand people were killed. Until that time, no terrorist operation had killed more than five hundred.⁵

Suicide terrorism is a particularly effective and lethal form of attack. It has advantages in timing, access, and flexibility if plans have to be changed at the last minute. It is inexpensive to carry out. It results in higher death and casualty rates than other methods.⁶ Since the perpetrator is not expected to survive, there is no need for a complicated getaway plan. Broad media coverage is assured; thus, the psychological, fear-inducing effects are widespread and profound.

Robert Pape argues in his study of suicide terrorism, *Dying to Win*, that contrary to what many Westerners believe, there is little connection between this phenomenon and Islamic fundamentalism or any other world religion. “Rather, what nearly all suicide terrorist attacks have in common is a specific secular and strategic goal: to compel modern democracies to withdraw military forces from territory that the terrorists consider to be their homeland.”⁷

However, many terrorism specialists acknowledge a link between religion and terrorism. For example, Bruce Hoffman points to the growth in the number of religious terrorist groups during the past two decades and asserts that a major challenge facing those charged with developing effective countermeasures is to understand “why mainstream religious traditions become radicalized and co-opted

by violent extremists and why “fringe” movements or hitherto peaceful religious cults suddenly embark on lethal campaigns of indiscriminate terrorism.”⁸

Trends in Terrorism

Just as the definitions of what constitutes terrorism have changed over time, so have the ways that terrorists operate. Several of the apparent trends are described below.⁹

- Terrorism has become bloodier, and suicide terrorism is now the most deadly form. In the period 1980-2003, suicide attacks comprised only 3 percent of all terrorist incidents but accounted for 48 percent of the fatalities.¹⁰
- Terrorists have evolved new models of organization. In place of the hierarchies of the past, terrorist groups now employ flat organizational structures and operate independent, scattered cells. They use modern communications techniques for networking across regions, and their compartmentalization makes it difficult for their enemies to penetrate their operations. Terrorists have developed financial resources that make them less dependent on state sponsors. Terrorists have become skilled in raising money, moving it, and blocking detection of their financial operations. They have direct contributors, and many groups receive financial contributions through the Internet as well. Islamic nongovernmental charity organizations are another source of funds, sometimes knowingly and sometimes not. Certain terrorist groups also engage in kidnapping for ransom, extortion, protection rackets, and drug trafficking. Others have very substantial legitimate investments that are difficult to trace.¹¹
- Terrorists have learned to effectively exploit modern communication technologies. To reach their target audiences, terrorists no longer need to rely on underground publications and radio stations. A full range of video equipment, computers, email, mass-marketed CDs and DVDs—all of the advances represented by the latest information revolution are available to them, and they are taking full advantage. They can now shape, produce, and disseminate sophisticated messages via the high-speed Internet and World Wide Web without concern for censorship and very little fear of discovery.¹²
- Terrorists have increased their mobility and expanded their operational theater. As a result of

widespread exodus from zones of conflict, terrorists are able, on their own and through networked contact with migrating populations, to operate more extensively and effectively across borders. In addition, modern communication has also enabled transnational connectivity among terrorist groups who may not share the same ideology but do share expertise, tactics, and even technology.

The Future Terrorist Threat

Most people in the United States were blindsided by the September 11 attacks. Being geographically distant from most of the places in the world that foster terrorism, we did not expect such a brutal and catastrophic assault on our homeland. Perhaps that was naïve. As Michael Scheuer emphasizes in *Through Our Enemies’ Eyes*, in its entire history America has rarely had an enemy that made his plans clearer or repeated them so often:

Osama bin Laden publicly declared war on the United States on 2 September 1996; for good measure, he did so again on 23 February 1998. Since 1996, bin Laden has repeatedly warned Americans—again always in public—that he would incrementally increase the lethality of his attacks on U. S. interests until we stopped supporting Israel, withdrew our military forces from Saudi Arabia, and ended the embargo on Iraq. During this period, he was true to his word; his forces and those he incited attacked us with steadily increasing skill, lethality, and audacity in Somalia, Saudi Arabia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Yemen. He warned that if the United States did not yield to his demands, he would bring the war he was waging into the continental United States.¹³

The fight against Al Qaeda has been called the defining conflict of the early twentyfirst century. How, then, should we respond as a nation? Scheuer suggests this for a start:

Until Americans begin to see that some of their values and goals are neither accepted or acceptable to all races, nations, and creeds, they will not begin to understand the appeal of a person like bin Laden or be able to defend their interests against him. Indeed, they will need to go another step and recognize that, for many Muslims,

U.S. foreign policy is seen as an attack on Islam...and is drawing an armed response as a matter of self-defense and scriptural requirement.¹⁴

It is also important to recognize that the rise of radical Islam is not confined to the Middle East. The phenomenon that we in the West associate with Al Qaeda has metastasized throughout the world. Muslim minorities in many countries consider themselves marginalized within their societies and their resentment is increasingly being directed against the United States and its allies. In *The Next Attack*, Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon observe that the “churn of local conflicts is providing soldiers for the global jihad. It may not be long before substantially more extremists from these five regions— Europe, Chechnya, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and Southeast Asia—are participating directly in the war against America.”¹⁵

Footnotes

¹Bruce Hoffman, *Inside Terrorism*, Second Edition (Revised and Expanded), New York: Columbia University Press, p. 70. Hoffman goes on to say that “According to the RAND Terrorism Incident Database, the number of organizations engaged in *international* terrorism grew from only eleven in 1968 to an astonishing fifty-five in 1978. Of this total, more than half (thirty, or 54 percent) were ethno-nationalist/separatist movements, all seeking to copy or capitalize on the PLO’s success.”

²Hoffman, pp. 40-41.

³Rudolph Peters, *Jihad in Classical and Modern Islam: A Reader*, New Jersey: Markus Wiener Publishers, Second+ Edition (Revised and Expanded), 2005, p.1.

⁴Although religious terrorists committed only 6 percent of recorded terrorist incidents between 1998 and 2004, their acts were responsible for 30 percent of the total number of fatalities recorded during that time period. While al Qaeda perpetrated only 0.1 percent of all terrorist attacks between 1998 and 2004, it was responsible for nearly 19 percent of total fatalities during that time period. Hoffman, p. 88.

⁵Hoffman, pp. 18-19.

⁶Hoffman, pp. 132-133. “According to one estimate, the total cost of a typical Palestinian suicide operation, for example, is about one hundred fifty dollars. Yet this modest sum yields a very attractive return: on average, suicide operations worldwide kill about four times as many people as other kinds of terrorist attacks. In Israel the average is even higher, inflicting six times the number of deaths and roughly twenty-six times more casualties than other acts of terrorism” (p. 133).

⁷Robert A. Pape, *Dying to Win: The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism*, New York: Random House, p. 4. Pape’s study of all suicide bombings and attacks worldwide from 1980 through 2003 show that “the leading instigators of suicide attacks are the Tamil Tigers in Sri Lanka, a Marxist-Leninist group whose members are

from Hindu families but who are adamantly opposed to religion. This group committed 76 of the 315 incidents, more suicide attacks than Hamas [and] 301 could have their roots traced to large, coherent political or military campaigns.”

⁸Hoffman, p. 127. Hoffman points out that in 1994, a third (sixteen) of the forty-nine identifiable international terrorist groups active that year could be classified as religious in character and/or motivation. By 2004, that number had risen to nearly half (fifty-two, or 46 percent), while thirty-two (28 percent) were left-wing groups, and twenty-four (21 percent) were ethno-nationalist/separatist organizations (p. 86).

⁹Material for this discussion has been drawn primarily from four sources: Rohan Gunaratna, ed., *The Changing Face of Terrorism*, Singapore: Marshall Cavendish Academic, 2004, pp. 18-30; Bruce Hoffman, *Inside Terrorism*; Brian Michael Jenkins, “The New Age of Terrorism” in *Homeland Security Handbook*, New York: McGraw-Hill, 2006, pp. 117-128; and Michael Scheuer, *Through Our Enemies’ Eyes: Osama bin Laden, Radical Islam, and the Future of America*, Second Edition (Revised), Washington, D.C.: Potomac Books, 2006.

¹⁰Pape, p. 6.

¹¹Cindy Combs, *Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century*, Fourth Edition, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, p. 12. Combs states that “if the PLO [Palestinian Liberation Organization] were an American corporation, it would have been on the list of Fortune 500 companies.” In the mid 1980s the organization’s financial empire was estimated to be worth \$5 billion. Return on investments brought in about \$1 billion a year. Most of the PLO’s assets were held by private individuals or in numbered bank accounts. Its financial advisors invested money in the European market and on Wall Street. “The PLO also held large amounts of lucrative money certificates in the United States. These and other investments were said to provide as much as 20 percent of all of the group’s revenues.” Like many multinational corporations, the PLO was generally involved in business ventures designed to earn money, but in some cases their purpose was primarily to generate good will and political support (Combs, pp. 90-91).

¹²See “The New Media, Terrorism, and the Shaping of Global Opinion” in Hoffman, *Inside Terrorism*, pp. 197-228.

¹³Scheuer, p. xvi.

¹⁴Scheuer, p.29.

¹⁵Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simpson, *The Next Attack: The Failure of the War on Terror and a Strategy for getting It Right*, New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2005, p. 81.

Recommended Reading

- Cindy C. Combs, *Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century*, 4th edition, Prentice-Hall, 2006.
- Rohan Gunaratna, *The Changing Face of Terrorism*, Marshall Cavendish Institute, 2004.
- Bruce Hoffman, *Inside Terrorism*, 2nd edition, Columbia University Press, 2006.
- Michael C. Osterholm and John Schwartz, *Living Terrors: What America Needs to Know to Survive the Coming Bioterrorist Catastrophe*, Dell Publishing, 2000.

- Robert Pape, *Dying to Win: The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism*, Random House, 2006.
- Louise Richardson, *What Terrorists Want: Understanding the Enemy, Containing the Threat*, Random House, 2006.
- Michael Scheuer, *Through Our Enemies' Eyes: Osama bin Laden, Radical Islam and the Future of America*, 2nd edition, Potomac Books, 2006.
- Jessica Stern, *Terror in the Name of God: Why Religious Militants Kill*, Harper Collins Publishers, 2003.
- Lawrence Wright, *The Looming Tower: Al-Qaeda and the Road to 9/11*, Alfred A. Knopf, 2006.

Mark Your Calendar . . .

League Plans Discussion on Middle East in October

Since the purpose of the articles on the Middle East and terrorism was to “encourage public conversation about how to achieve a secure world,” LWVFA decided we should do just that. Consequently we announce the following upcoming event:

What: Panel discussion: “Peace in the Middle East: Does the U.S. Have an Effective Role to Play?”

When: Sunday, October 18, 2 p.m.

Where: Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Rd., Burke, VA 22015-4274

Who: Moderator, “Career Ambassador” **Thomas Pickering** with a 5 decade diplomatic career including ambassador to Israel and Jordan.

Panelists:

Dr. **Mohammed Abu-Nimer**, Professor of the International Peace and Conflict Resolution program at American University’s School of International Service who has written extensively on conflict resolution and dialogue for peace;

Ambassador **Warren Clark**, formerly a career foreign service officer with the State Department serving in the Middle East among other places who is now Executive Director of Churches for Middle East Peace;

Norman Howard, retired from government service after 23 years including serving as an intelligence research analyst for Commerce and Defense Departments, specializing in the Middle East, and writer and editor at the State Department who also lived for a number of years in Lebanon;

Dr. Christopher Mitchell, Professor Emeritus of the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University and author of the *Handbook of Conflict Resolution* and other works on the subject.

Plan To Attend This Important Discussion

Services for Seniors: An Unfinished Story

by Lois Page, Program Director

(Ed. Note: The June 2009 units on services available locally for seniors raised almost as many new issues as it covered. Below are some of the unit responses. Our hope is that a study group will form this fall that will answer some of the questions raised and will take a look at our current position in order to decide if revisions or additions are needed or if some parts should be eliminated.)

Our current position reads: "The LWVFA is concerned that a wide range of services be available to the elderly of Fairfax County/City who are in need of the services. Fairfax County/City should provide information exchanges and publicity; collect facts and statistics about the elderly. The local government should encourage and coordinate proprietary and voluntary groups, offer technical assistance and set standards. When necessary, the government should directly operate and fund programs for the elderly. Services should be available to persons in need regardless of age, and charges should be assessed on a sliding scale reflecting ability to pay."

The June briefing/at large meeting and the unit meetings elicited a host of interesting observations and questions. Some members speculated on the seriousness of senior isolation and wondered if more seniors shouldn't be moving out of their separate houses and into retirement residences or apartments. Is it because so few low income residences are available? They pointed out that seniors who live with their family are isolated because of family absence during the day. They liked the section in the study about reintegrating the generations. The comments were wide-ranging and are topically grouped here.

Transportation

- Transportation options could be more widely disseminated. Unfortunately the neediest people tend to be the most isolated. Regarding organized volunteer drivers, the group wondered if the drivers can claim a tax deduction, if insurance is an issue, and if the organizations have liability issues worked out. Some wondered if the Independent Transportation Network (ITN) program mentioned in the study which involves a barter system (a driver can be awarded credit points for a future time when he/she needs to be driven) has worked out an agreement with the IRS
- The Mount Vernon Evening Unit mentioned another

source of transportation help; BOSS Transportation, listed in information from the Agency on Aging, will help with shopping and doctors' appointments. They felt that better regulation of taxi companies in terms of fares, safety, cleanliness and reliability would help seniors also. One of their members has had good luck with Metro Access, but another added that it does better with a regular schedule than occasional pickups. The service is tax deductible if one's expenses meet a certain percentage of their income. They felt it is a shame that people who are ineligible because of too high an income couldn't just pay an additional fee.

- The Springfield Unit noted that apparently Metro offers occasional information sessions at local libraries. The unit suggested a central point of contact for taxis, and even better, a central agency to handle transportation for seniors.
- Greenspring folks agreed that no one has been able to find out any information about taxi discounts. They would like to be able to use Fastran even though they would have to pay a fee.
- Fairfax Day Unit is a unit whose continued existence may depend on whether or not they can find a solution to their transportation problems, with four of its members not able to drive. They suggested that more cabs need to be equipped with the ability to handle wheel chairs. They have also noticed that while many seniors have a need to do business or travel on weekends, the buses cut back on service then
- Reston Day felt the ITN mentioned in the June article seems a good idea that should be expanded locally.

Services

- Regarding recent cuts in services such as raising the fees at senior centers, several urged the League to be vigilant regarding the next county budget as an intense lobbying effort for dwindling funds was already under way.
- Some wondered about Meals on Wheels: Who is eligible? Who provides the services?
- Regarding the need for seniors to get technical/computer help, apparently there is a program to recycle computers to the elderly. Geeks on Call (Best

Buy) will come for free to hook up the computers and also hook up the converter box for TVs. Some wondered if Scouts and students seeking IB service hours could help with this.

- Members wondered whether other sources of services for seniors—United Community Ministries, Red Cross, Meals on Wheels, Society for the Prevention of Blindness—have limits on the type or distance of the appointment.
- Other services needed for the elderly included visits to shut-ins, an easy connection to 911 called Lifeline, and additional respite support for caregivers, help with tax preparation (which can be found through AARP, ECHO and libraries), legal and financial help for a spouse whose mate is institutionalized, legal aid for the elderly to include help with disputes over inheritance and services that help people stay in their own homes such as maintenance and technology help.
- Large print books through the mail.
- Fairfax Station was very interested in the TIPS organization mentioned in the June study. Fran McWhorter, the chair of the organization, has said she would be willing to send a speaker to the League and would be happy to send us an information packet.
- More services are needed such as those provided by the Shepherd Centers (regular callers, handyman services), plus Pea Pod type services that can be accessed by telephone since many seniors are not comfortable with computers. Members felt the article should have covered the Senior Center offerings more fully and added ECHO in Springfield and Home In-Stead as also offering help.

Information

- The Golden Gazette that is published by the Agency on Aging is a very valuable source of information. It can be picked up at libraries or one can call 703 324-5633 to be added to the mailing list. It has a listing regarding affordable housing plus a section on home repair options. One member praised articles on trusts, taxes, and health care, trips, activities at senior centers, and long-term care. The County should publicize the Golden Gazette more. It can be obtained on-line monthly for free at [HYPERLINK http://www.fairfaxcvount.gov/aaa/goldengazette.htm](http://www.fairfaxcvount.gov/aaa/goldengazette.htm)

- The Agency on Aging will send out packets of valuable information if requested.
- The Senior Centers will provide speakers to various groups.
- Belinda Buescher of the Agency on Aging said that the best number to call is 703 324-7948. For answers to most questions related to senior services. She described this service as “one of the best.”
- Members wondered how the community can disseminate transportation information to those who have no computer access or mobility. One unit felt that The League needs to have an extra supply of the June Voter on hand to send to people who need more information. To increase access to information for seniors, it would be good to find ways to increase distribution of the Golden Gazette. It should somehow reach everyone in the County—or at least word of its existence.
- Reston Day members suggest a good web site: [HYPERLINK “http://www.retirementliving” www.retirementliving.com](http://www.retirementliving.com) or call 1-800-394-9990. The “Fairfax Weekly” in the Washington Post is also a good source of information. They were concerned, however, about how to reach low income and/or less educated people.
- One member suggested readers explore a web site called Everyday Health which includes personalized health information.
- Information about available services often comes by word of mouth. Members suggested that more should be available in the places where seniors go such as groceries, drug stores, and churches

For the Future

- Members suggested that a League committee could look at any services provided by civic associations, residential options for seniors, plus the services mentioned above.
- Members would like a good list of effective gerontologists.
- Members also would like to see a committee look into senior isolation, domestic violence, co-housing rules,

and various scams such as bogus money e-mails or cases where seniors are cheated or swindled.

- The League might focus on the elderly as a vital part of the community, using their wisdom and knowledge in a more effective way.

Where to Find Fairfax County Services

If you need help but are not sure where to find it, Fairfax County has two programs designed to help residents access the services available in our community. By dialing 2-1-1 on your telephone, you can speak with a trained professional who will listen to your situation and suggest sources of help. 2-1-1 has information drawn from a large database of health and human services organizations, ranging from non-profits to federal, state and local government agencies. 2-1-1 is available from 8 a.m. to midnight seven days a week and acts as a source of information during an emergency situation.

Fairfax County's Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) program is another excellent resource that works in tandem with 2-1-1 to connect residents with the services they need. CSP provides information, referrals, linkage and advocacy to human services in both the public and private sectors. CSP partners with county agencies and community organizations to provide basic needs services, financial assistance, healthcare services and referrals to other programs. When you call CSP at 703-222-0880 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays, a professional social worker will listen to your situation and provide you with the information or referrals you need. CSP is committed to working with residents to help them access all the services they need." Source: Supervisor Chair Sharon Bulova's Monthly Report, May, 2009.

Think Green . . .

Leaky faucets that drip at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons of water each year; A leaky toilet can waste about 200 gallons of water every day. If your fixtures have leaks, you should get them repaired! (EPA, 2008)

Program Selection In December . . .

LWVFA Looking for Your Program Study Ideas for 2010

December is just around the corner and December means--Program Planning Time! This year we have to make weighty decisions as to what we think should be studied on the national and local levels. So many times the one person who actually comes up with an idea prevails. So that you don't find yourself and your unit mates casting about for the best topic ideas at the last minute, we are asking you to start thinking and suggesting now. Take a few minutes at your unit meeting every month until December to throw out some ideas. Non-unit people may send ideas to by e-mail or phone to the League office. It would help to have copies of local and national positions, but don't let that stop you. We can sort that out later. Or you can identify local positions by going to our website, www.lwv-fairfax.org and LWVUS positions on www.LWV.org

LWVFA Assists With Voter Registration Sign-ups

LWVFA joined 56 other exhibitors at the VAA Festability 2009 held at The Expo Center in Chantilly on July 19. Virginia Ability Alliance (VAA) is an umbrella group whose mission "is dedicated to furthering the principals of building community opportunities for people with disabilities. The VAA supports investments of state, local and private resources in building access to the community – in all settings including housing, employment, recreation, transportation, medical and spiritual."



A "first time voter" gets ready to fill out a voter registration form at the League's booth. Looking on are Presedient George (right), Past President Zachry (center right), and State Senator George Barker (perhaps hoping for another vote in his next campaign.)

LWVFA BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2009-2010

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>
<u>On-Board Portfolios</u>			
Janey George	President	703-631-2293	janeyg16@verizon.net
Julia Jones	1 st VP/Unit Coord	703-476-8347	dave.julie.jones@verizon.net
Lois Page	2 nd VP/ Program Dir.	703-690-0908	loismpage@cox.net
Rona Ackerman	Secretary	703-476-5758	AckermanRona2@gmail.com
Therese Martin	Treasurer	703-471-6364	tbmartin4@verizon.net
Jane Hilder	Action Director	703-960-6820	jc.hilder@verizon.net
Baba Freeman	Administrations	703-437-1901	freeman@ecoisp.com
Anne Thomas	Public Relations/ Mbrshp Data Base	703-938-7304	AnneAThomas@verizon.net
Carol Hawn	Voters Service Pub.	703-266-6872	cahawn@verizon.net
<u>Off-Board Portfolios</u>			
Diane Hardcastle	Unit Co-Coordinator	703-476-8347	dianehardcastle@yahoo.com
Liz Brooke	Voter Coordinator	703-281-3380	lizbrooke@cox.net
Jane Pacelli	Membership	703-256-7834	patchwork1@verizon.net
Ron Page	<i>VOTER</i> Editor	703-690-0908	pagegolfer@cox.net
Barbara Nunes	Dom Violence C'ttee	703-451-7238	bnunes@juno.com
Mary Nightlinger	Evt (EQ) Cttee	703-323-8645	MaryN1@cox.net
Baba Freeman	Proffers C'ttee	703-437-1901	freeman@ecoisp.com
Marcia McDevitt	Proffers C'ttee	703-437-7020	memcdevitt@aol.com
Ginger Shea	Schools C'ttee	703-642-0075	ginger.shea@verizon.net
<u>Administration Off-Board</u>			
Sherry Zachry	Outreach/Speakers Bur	703-730-8118	Szachry@verizon.net
Una White	Elections Coordinator	703-922-8721	unawhite@gmail.com
Edith Appel	Message Retrieval	703-780-3343	djaea@cox.net
Pam Koger-Jesup	Website Administrator	703-765-4965	Breep@aol.com
Kay McQuie	LWVFA Office Mgr (Tues and Thurs)	703-765-7104 h 703-861-4131 c	kaymcquie@aol.com

LWVFA STANDING AND WORKING (AD HOC) COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

- Voters Service – year round
- Membership – year round
- Environmental – Chesapeake Bay this year
- Schools – Elementary School Schedules this year
- Justice

Working Committees

- Proffers
- Services for the Aging
- Mental Health – look to see if we need an update on State position
- Water Resources – LWVNCA Study
- Electricity in NCA Area – LWVNCA Study
- VA State Election Laws - update

We have Observation Corps that go to community/governmental meetings and report back to the board. We also appoint members to community advisory committees.

We conduct and run community elections for condo, community and non-profit companies as well as for-profit companies as a year round funding activity. And we always need help with these. The elections are only held once a year during different months of the year.

2009-2010 PROGRAMS*

September – Middle East Study 2 – “Terrorism Past and Present”

October – Election Potpourri; Census Information

November – Proffers – possible consensus

December – National and Local Program Planning

January – General Meeting; Speaker on Tysons’ Corner Development – Saturday 23rd

February – Elementary School Schedules

March – Middle East Study 3 – “Strategies for a Secure World”

April – Annual Meeting – Speaker on Services for the Aging – brief talk on specific subject, Sat 24th

May – Part I from State League Election Study With Consensus

June – Overview of the Chesapeake Bay Report – Environmental Committee

*Notes:

- 1 This is our schedule as of 8-09. We may find that some programs/studies need a consensus/concurrence and should be held earlier in the program year. But no matter what order, these are the proposed programs for the 2009-2010 year.
- 2 The League year starts July of every year and ends June of the next year.

This Month's Unit Meeting Locations – Topic: Terrorism Past and Present

Members and visitors are encouraged to attend any meeting convenient for them, including the "At Large Meeting" and briefing on Saturdays. As of August 1, 2009 the locations were correct, please use phone numbers to verify sites and advise of your intent to attend. Some meetings at restaurants may need reservations.

Saturday, September 5th

11:00 am BRIEFING

Franconia Government Center
6121 Franconia Road,
Alexandria 22310

Contact: Lois, 703-690-0908

Tuesday, September 8th

12:30 pm McLean (MCL)

Star Nut Gourmet
1445 Laughlin Ave.
McLean 22101

Contact: Gail, 703-356-2851

7:45 pm Vienna Evening (VE)

9511 Rockport Road
Vienna, 22180

Contact: Anne, 703-938-73004

Wednesday, September 9th

9:30 am Fairfax Station (FXS)

7902 Bracksford Court
Fairfax Station 22039

Contact: Lois, 703-690-0908

9:30 am Mt. Vernon Day (MVD)

Mt. Vernon District Gov. Center
2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria
Contact: Gail, 703-360-6561

12:00 Noon Chantilly/Herndon (CHD)

Sully District Governmental Center
4900 Stonecroft Blvd.
Centreville 20151

Contact: Susan, 703-780-3902

6:15 pm Dinner Unit (DU)

Yen Cheng Restaurant
Main Street Center
9992 Main Street, Fairfax 22030
Contact: Tin, 703-207-4669

7:30 pm Reston Evening (RE)

Reston Art Gallery at Heron House
Lake Anne Village Center,
Reston 20190

Contact: Lucy, 703-757-5893

Thursday, September 10th

9:15 am Fairfax City Day

(FXD)
3136 Singleton Circle
Fairfax 22030

Contact: Jeanne, 703-591-4580

9:30 am Reston Day (RD)

2615 John Milton Drive
Herndon 20171

Contact: Rona 703-476-2545

9:30 am Springfield (SPF)

Packard Center (Lg. Conf. Rm)
4026 Hummer Rd, Annandale
Contact: Nancy, 703-256-6570

or Peg, 703-256-9420

6:45 pm Mt. Vernon Eve (MVE)

8305 Brewster Drive
Alexandria 22307

Contact: Anne, 703-780-1773

Monday, September 14th

1:30 pm Greenspring (GSP)

Hunters Crossing Classroom
Spring Village Drive
Springfield

Contact: Kay 703-644-2670

October Meetings:

Topic: Election Potpourri and Census Information



The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA)
 4026 Hummer Road, Suite #214 Annandale, VA 22003-2403
 703-658-9150. Web address: www.lwv-fairfax.org

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**The LWVFA Fairfax VOTER ©
 September, 2009**

**Jane E. George, President
 Ron Page, Editor
 Liz Brooke, Coordinator**

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the public to play an informed and active role in government. At the local, state, regional and national levels, the League works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Any citizen of voting age, male or female, may become a member.

LWVFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Dues year ends June 30, 2010.)

Membership Category: Individual \$65 ____; Household (2 persons–1 *VOTER*) \$90 __; Donation \$ ____
 Student \$32.50 ____; (Coll. Attending _____)

Membership is: New ____; Renewal ____; Reinstate ____; Subsidy Requested ____

We value membership. A subsidy fund is available, check block above and include whatever you can afford.

Dues are not tax deductible. Tax-deductible donations must be written on a separate check payable to LWVFA Ed. Fund.

Please Print Clearly!

Name _____ **Unit** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip + 4** _____

Phone (H) _____ **(W)** _____ **E-Mail** _____

Thank you for checking off your interests:

- | | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> County Govt | <input type="checkbox"/> Voting Procedures | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Libraries | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial Systems | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Problems | |