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From Left: Board Members met with Founder Li-Pei Wu (fourth from right) in Los Angeles. International Conference held in Taipei, December 13, 2005.

For more information or to submit suggestions, contact:

Amy Lin amylin@formosafoundation.org

213.625.1991 (office phone)

213.625.1941 (office fax)

Formosa Foundation

350 S. Figueroa St., # 505

Los Angeles, CA 90071

www.formosafoundation.org



Chairman's Corner

Since our last newsletter, we at the Formosa Foundation have been very busy. On December 13, 2004, we hosted the first international conference in Taipei, Taiwan in conjunction with the Legislative Yuan elections, titled "The Post Election Era-- the Implications on U.S., Taiwan and China Relations". Our panelists from both Taiwan and the U.S. considered the implications of the recent elections in Taiwan and the U.S. and the change in leadership in the China on the relationship between the three countries. All of the panelists as well as our keynote speakers, Dr. Peng Ming-min and Dr. Edward Friedman, were excellent. The attendance was outstanding -- we originally expected 200 people at the conference, but more than 500 people attended, exceeding the room capacity.

The Foundation also hosted a dinner banquet following the conference, which was attended by more than 600 people. Dr. June Teufel Dryer and Dr. Peng Ming-min were the keynote speakers at the banquet. President Chen was scheduled to give a keynote address, but unfortunately had to cancel as he was meeting with senior leaders of the DPP following the legislative elections. The conference and the banquet were both great successes, and they established not only the breadth of support for Taiwan's democracy and self-determination, but also the depth and passion with which those values are felt, by both Americans and Taiwanese.

Many people helped to make the conference, the banquet and other related events successful. We are fortunate to have our founder and Honorary Chairman Li-Pei Wu and his team of volunteers in Taiwan, who physically tended to every single detail in the process. We are most grateful to all of the esteemed panelists and keynote speakers, many of whom traveled great distances, and all of whom contributed tremendous amounts of their time to make this conference possible. We at the Foundation feel very fortunate and privileged to be able to associate with people of such high caliber.

In January, the Board held a brainstorming session to re-evaluate the mission and direction of the organization. As part of our self-examination, we revisited all of our short-term and long-term goals and spent considerable time discussing programs to execute to help achieve those goals. Our long term goals include increasing the awareness of mainstream Americans of Taiwan's democracy and encouraging the Taiwanese people's understanding of their own identity, democracy and right to self-determination. In the short term, the Foundation will work to increase contacts between young Americans and Taiwanese and to find prominent American and Taiwanese advocates who can communicate Taiwan's success story in an articulate and persuasive way. The Board members are deeply committed to strengthening the bridge between the United States and Taiwan by emphasizing our common values of democracy, personal liberties and free market economies. The democratic evolution in, and economic prosperity of, Taiwan is an unparalleled success story, one that ought to be universally embraced by American policy makers and the general public.

We will also be making changes to our third annual Ambassador Program, which will be held from June 19 through July 1, 2005. This year, for the first time, we will select up to 10 young Taiwanese to participate in the program alongside our American Ambassadors. This will be a tremendous opportunity for our American Ambassadors to gain a better understanding of how their Taiwanese counterparts view Taiwan, while our Taiwanese Ambassadors get a close-up, first-hand look at the American political system.

As we look forward to 2005, we at the Formosa Foundation will work extremely hard to present more programs to promote awareness of Taiwan's success story. We thank all of you for your continued support and wish you a Happy New Year!

Donald S. Lee
Chairman, Formosa Foundation

Focusing on Our Mission

As we enter our fourth year, we re-examined our mission and our goals to ensure that the Formosa Foundation remains a vibrant organization for Taiwanese and Americans. The result of this soul-searching has drawn us to the conclusion that to fulfill our mission of encouraging the self-determination of the Taiwanese people, we must focus on the highest impact activities in a short amount of time. With Taiwan presidential elections fast approaching, we believe there is a three-year window to make maximum impact.

We will continue in our efforts to influence the U.S. through Congress, media, scholars and opinion shapers to raise awareness in the American mainstream of the question of Taiwanese self-determination. Our message will be that Taiwan's commitment to democracy, liberty and free markets in and of itself makes Taiwan important to the United States. As President Bush stated in his recent inaugural address: "Our goal instead is to help others find their own voice, attain their own freedom, and make their own way..." and "When you stand for your liberty, we will stand with you." We have got to make sure that American policymaking community and general public understand that this ideal applies to Taiwan just as much as to any other existing or developing democracy.

At the same time, we see a growing need to focus on the people of Taiwan as well. While the United States will have a major role in the future of Taiwan, ultimately, Taiwan's future is in the hands of the Taiwanese people. And the right of the Taiwanese people to make their own choices is an empty one if such choices are dictated by outside coercion and duress. The Formosa Foundation will work to build bridges between the people of Taiwan and the U.S., particularly the younger generation voters in Taiwan in 20-35 year-old age demographic. It is critical to encourage Taiwanese in this age group to participate in their electoral process and to take ownership of Taiwan's future.

As a result, our focused mission and theme are as follows:

"To promote greater understanding and foster deeper relationships between the peoples of Taiwan and the United States, and to encourage the people of Taiwan to assert their right to determine their own future, free of coercion and without threat to their security."

Goals for 2005 and Beyond

In the next three years, our goal is to encourage the awareness of younger generation Taiwanese of their right to self-determination and to increase voter participation in future Taiwanese elections. At the same time, we will continue to develop a network of mainstream American advocates of Taiwanese self-determination and work to improve the understanding and awareness of mainstream Americans of Taiwan and issues relating to the relationship between Taiwan, the U.S. and China.

Goals for 2005

In support of our focused mission, we have three main goals for 2005:

- Build greater Formosa Foundation name recognition among our three main target constituents:
 - Taiwanese American community;
 - Mainstream American opinion and policy shapers in politics, media, and academia;
 - Taiwanese voters ages 20-35
- Execute and measure 2-3 high impact programs annually that are consistent with our mission;
- Raise enough funds to achieve our goals in the next 3 years.

Proposed Programs and Activities for 2005

Below are several proposed programs and activities for 2005:

- Promote an email acquisition program to significantly expand our email database of donors, mainstream influencers, Taiwanese Americans, and Taiwanese from Taiwan.
- Utilize email as a regular medium to communicate and promote Formosa Foundation activities
- Create a more interactive Formosa Foundation website with links to other organizations.
- Set up affiliate or satellite office with staff in Taipei
- 2005 Programs under review:
 - Ambassador program that includes Ambassadors from Taiwan
 - Concert tour of Taiwan universities and venues with US performers
 - Develop a network of prominent mainstream American advocates for Taiwan's self-determination in the U.S.
- Hire an executive director who is well-connected with strong public relations, fundraising, and public speaking credentials.
- Increase size of Formosa Foundation Board to include complementary members
- Put together targeted Formosa Foundation business plan to raise funds from prominent Taiwanese leaders.
- Build greater cooperation with other Taiwanese organizations.

International Conference--Taiwan, December 2004

The Formosa Foundation hosted an international conference in Taipei, Taiwan on Monday, December 13, 2004, titled “**The Post-Election Era – The Impact on U.S., Taiwan and China Relations**”. The conference featured four different panels with participants from both the United States and Taiwan. The panelists assessed the effects of executive and legislative branch elections in both Taiwan and the United States and a leadership transition in the People’s Republic of China, all of which occurred within several months of each other during 2004. To our knowledge, this was the first international conference held after the Taiwanese Legislative Yuan elections.

Eight American scholars and experts on Taiwan issues traveled to Taipei under Formosa Foundation sponsorship to participate in the conference. In addition to the conference, the American panelists also took part in election observation activities (sponsored by the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy) prior to and on the day of the election. With the help of Mr. Li-Pei Wu, a senior advisor to President Chen Shui-bian and the Founder and Honorary Chairman of the Formosa Foundation, the American visitors met with high-ranking members of the Taiwanese government, with whom they held candid and informative discussions about economic, security and political developments in Taiwan. They also met with several prominent Taiwanese businessmen, with whom they discussed business trends in and economic prospects for Taiwan. The panelists also engaged in several organized events with Taiwanese media. Finally, the Americans met with former Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui to hear his insights on the state of Taiwan’s democratic evolution and relationship with China.

The conference itself was a huge success. Held in a large conference room at the Grand Hotel in Taipei, the attendance far surpassed all expectations. Original forecasts of 200 attendees were shattered when over 500 people appeared, exceeding the seating capacity in the conference hall. In addition to the eight American speakers, nine scholars and opinion-shapers from Taiwan took part in the conference. Each of the four panels consisted of two Americans and two Taiwanese. The format of the conference was to permit each of the participants on each of the panels to make short opening presentations, followed by question and answer with the respective panel moderator.

Following the fourth and final panel, audience question and answer took place. Finally, a press conference was held with all of the panelists, Dr. Peng and Mr. Wu.



(Next page...)

Taiwan Daily News 台灣日報 reported the event in Taipei



From Left: Lung-Chu Chen (陳隆志), Richard Kagan, Jacques deLisle & Ross H. Munro

International Conference--Taiwan, December 2004 (cont'd)

The conference commenced with opening remarks from the current chairman of the Formosa Foundation, Donald Lee, followed by remarks by Mr. Wu. Mr. Wu introduced Dr. Peng Ming-min (彭明敏), who made the opening keynote address. Dr. Peng, widely regarded as the father of Taiwanese democracy, made a compelling and forceful presentation on the need for the Taiwanese people to take its security and democracy into its own hands while maintaining close relations with the United States. Dr. Peng emphasized these points within the context of efforts by China to modify the status quo in the U.S.-Taiwan-China triangular relationship.

The first panel, "**The 2004 Elections in Taiwan**", provided a fresh and timely review of the results of the legislative yuan election and the impact that would have on the future of policy making in Taiwan the U.S. and China. The panelists were Dr. Shelley Rigger (Davidson College), Dr. Daniel Lynch (University of Southern California) and Dr. Yung-Ming Hsu (徐永明 Academia Sinica), with Dr. Michael Hsiao (蕭新煌 Academia Sinica) acting as moderator. The discussion centered on why the DPP fell short of pre-election expectations, the themes that motivated voters in the legislative elections as opposed to the prior presidential election, future strategies of the pan-Green and the pan-Blue coalitions and the interpretation of the election results by outsiders.

(Next page...)

Below: News Coverage by Liberty Times

John Tkacik



I-Chung Lai (賴怡忠)



中華民國九十三年十二月十四日 星期二

自由時報

政治新聞 第 4 頁

學者：台灣主體意識已確立

賴怡忠表示 大多數台灣人民都認為自己是「台灣人」主張聯合國應改變「一中政策」 上海公報內容已不適合兩岸現況

（記者黃... 事務部主... 勢及國際... 可清楚得... 多數的公... 一、上海... 兩岸現況... 美國福... 美中之一... 也認為... 民都認... 調顯示... 之百的... 中國人... 賴怡忠... 人民的想... 台灣在國... 國應該改... 被拿著... 中華民國... 年以來... 是有別... 武力威... 神、國際... 的方式... 國報復... 權，找到... 一個國民... 到北京... 出爐。... 院副院長... 會表示... 在朝野... 岸關係... 交換... 舉的結果... 新民意... 必站到... 台美關係... 不至於相...



From Left: Chih-Cheng Lo (羅致政), Daniel Lynch, Shelley Rigger & Edward Friedman

International Conference – Taiwan, December 2004 (cont'd)

The second panel was called **“Cross-Strait Relations & Taiwan’s Economic Future”**, which featured panelists Dr. Edward Friedman (Univ. of Wisconsin), Dr. Jacque deLisle (Univ. of Pennsylvania), Dr. Pochih Chen (陳博志 Taiwan Think Tank) and Dr. Jung-Feng Chang (張榮豐 Chung Hua Institute for Economic Research), and Dr. Lynch as moderator. Among other issues, the panelists analyzed the growth of China’s economic power and leverage, the trends of Taiwanese investment in China, the need for Taiwan to diversify its economy and encourage continuing economic reforms and the importance of avoiding political gridlock in the Taiwanese legislature that would slow down reforms.

“The Implications of the Elections on Political and Strategic Relations between the U.S. and Taiwan” was the next panel, with panelists Mr. Ross H. Munro (Center for Strategic Studies), Dr. Robert Lai (賴義雄 National Applied Research Laboratories), Dr. Bi-Jao Lin (林碧炤 National Chengchi University) and Dr. Chih-Cheng Lo (羅致政 Institute for National Policy Research) moderated by Dr. Friedman. These panelists examined the electorate trend favoring pan-Green ideals and separate national identity, the impact on Taiwan’s short term interests of the U.S.’s strong desire to avoid confrontation with China, the need for clear communication and good relations between the U.S. and Taiwan, the importance of Taiwan following through on arms purchases commitments with the U.S. and the need for the Taiwan legislature to speak with one voice on such arms purchases.

At the conclusion of the third panel, Dr. Friedman gave a lunch-time keynote speech on the achievements of Taiwan in evolving from an authoritarian military dictatorship to a transparent democracy and his own views and comments on Taiwan’s future.

The fourth and final panel, called **“Revisiting the One China Policy”**, examined the One-China policy’s encouragement of Chinese aggressiveness towards Taiwan, the history of Taiwan’s growing nationalism and claims of sovereignty and potential changes in the strategic balance in Asia. The participants on this panel were Mr. John Tkacik (Heritage Foundation), Dr. Richard Kagan (Hamline University), Dr. Lung-Chu Chen (陳隆志 Taiwan New Century Foundation) and Dr. I-Chung Lai (賴怡忠 Taiwan Think Tank), moderated by Dr. June Teufel Dreyer (University of Miami).

(Next page...)

Taiwan Daily News (台灣日報) reported the event in Taipei:



From Left: Dr. Ming-min Peng (彭明敏), Li-Pei Wu (吳禮培), Robert Lai (賴義雄) & Bi-Jao Lin (林碧炤)

International Conference – Taiwan, December 2004 (*cont'd*)

On the same evening as the conference, the Formosa Foundation hosted a dinner banquet, which was attended by over 600 people. President Chen was scheduled to speak at this dinner, but could not attend because he met with senior leaders of his government and his party in the aftermath of the legislative elections. Keynote speeches were delivered by Dr. Peng, Mr. Wu and Dr. Dreyer, who in addition to being a faculty member at the University of Miami is a congressional appointee to the U.S.-China Security and Economic Review Commission. Dr. Dreyer discussed the need to re-visit the One-China policy to reflect the realities of the current relationship between Taiwan, the U.S. and China and the importance of maintaining a close relationship between Taiwan and the U.S.

We at the Formosa Foundation are absolutely delighted by the results of the international conference. We delivered a substantive, informative and candid conference which provided attendees with expert insight on the status and future of Taiwan-U.S.-China relations. Press coverage was quite extensive, ensuring that the ideas discussed in the conference were widely published for the general public's consumption. The conference succeeded in getting out the message that domestic elected leaders in Taiwan must balance short-term political motivations with the long-term strategic needs of Taiwan, and that Taiwanese voters must carefully weigh their choices as their votes for their leaders will truly dictate the ultimate destiny of Taiwan.

The members of the Board of Directors of the Foundation are extremely grateful for the involvement and the assistance of each and every one of the distinguished panelists and keynote speakers from both Taiwan and the U.S. Special thanks go to Dr. Tsai Ing-wen and Dr. Peng for all of their help in organizing the panelists and the programs on the Taiwanese side, as well as to Dr. Lynch from the United States for helping to conceive the idea of the conference.

We also want to give our heartfelt thanks to all of the volunteers in Taiwan and in the U.S. who worked extremely hard to make sure the conference was a success. We wish to recognize in particular Echo Lin in Taiwan and Julie Lee and Amy Lin in the United States for their efforts. Finally, the Formosa Foundation gives its utmost thanks to

Liberty Times (自由時報)
Dec. 14, 2004



Mr. Wu for his tireless efforts to promote the success of both the conference and the Formosa Foundation. Mr. Wu is a great inspiration whose work on Taiwanese self-determination is unending.

From Left: Dr. June Teufel Dreyer spoke on the need to change the One China policy. Dr. Peng Ming-min challenged the Taiwanese people to stand up for Taiwan.





Tense Straits - *Washington signals timidity toward Chinese bellicosity*

By Dan Blumenthal & Randy Scheunemann

January 27, 2005

Originally posted on <http://www.nationalreview.com/comment/blumenthal200501270741.asp>

As world attention has focused in the past weeks on continuing violence in Iraq and disaster relief in southeast Asia, decisions made in Beijing and Washington have quietly pushed both countries closer toward a confrontation in the Taiwan Strait. Avoiding military conflict over Taiwan has always required a strong deterrent posture from Washington so the People's Republic understands the costs of any precipitous action. Instead, while Beijing has been laying a pseudo-legal justification for war against Taipei, Washington has been signaling timidity.

On December 17, Beijing announced that it would "pass" an "anti-secession" law squarely aimed at Taiwan in a transparent move to lay the predicate for military attack. Of course, the Chinese government does not "pass" anything - it dictates. The puppet parliament obligingly scheduled the proposed law for final action in its March session.

The "anti-secession law" is the latest move in Beijing's dangerous new game: Realizing that democratic Taiwan will never voluntarily decide to become part of a dictatorial China, Beijing is moving to "reunify the motherland" with force. China's massive military buildup - including some 600 ballistic missiles aimed at Taiwan - is now augmented with a "law" designed to give a veneer of legitimacy to Beijing's martial intent.

What was needed from Washington was a firm response to this bellicosity. A statement of opposition to the law and a reaffirmation of our commitment to Taiwan's defense would have strengthened deterrence and affected calculations in Beijing.

Unfortunately, no such statement was forthcoming. The State Department spokesman meekly stated that the Bush administration did not have a response to the law because it had not "had a chance to study it." Yet, official Chinese statements describing the law lead to only one conclusion: Beijing is violating the central tenet of the Bush administration's cross-Strait policy by "unilaterally changing the status quo." The State Department is never as studious when it comes to democratic Taiwan's actions alleged to challenge the status quo.

More damaging, outgoing Deputy Secretary State Richard Armitage publicly weakened the decades-long U.S. commitment to Taiwan's defense. Appearing on PBS's *Charlie Rose Show*, Armitage was asked whether the U.S. would defend Taiwan if China attacked. He demurred that it is "not quite appropriate" for him to answer that question - notwithstanding President Bush's answer to the same question in 2001 that the U.S. would "do whatever it takes" to defend Taiwan.

The Taiwan Relations Act, Secretary Armitage continued, "requires us to keep sufficient force in the Pacific to be able to deter attack; we are not required to defend." But denying an intent to defend deals a fatal blow to any attempt at deterrence. Beijing was surely emboldened to hear a senior U.S. official claim President Bush's commitment to defend Taiwan is no more than a poker player's bluff. Armitage went on to do even more damage: "We all believe that there is one China and *Taiwan is part of China*," he said. This statement likewise undercuts years of U.S. diplomacy. The United States does not take a position on Taiwan's final status - independence, unification with the Mainland, or some other arrangement to which people on both sides of the Strait provide their assent. In other words, it is most definitely not the position of the U.S. that Taiwan is part of China.

Yet, for many seeking accommodation with Beijing's despots, Armitage's comments on China-Taiwan policy have a certain perverse logic. If Taiwan is indeed part of China, they argue, why should the U.S. be committed to defending it? In fact, why should we be selling Taiwan advanced weaponry at all if China is only going to get its hands on that weaponry eventually?

(Continued on Page 11)

"Partnership for Taiwan's Future"

2005 AMBASSADOR PROGRAM June 19 – July 1, 2005

Now Accepting Applications –

ENHANCE U.S.-TAIWAN RELATIONS

The Formosa Foundation seeks to increase advocacy in the United States for Taiwanese self-determination by teaching young people to highlight the values of democracy, human rights and free markets shared by Americans and Taiwanese people alike. Through the examination of U.S. foreign policy with respect to Taiwan and China, participants in the Ambassador Program have the opportunity to:

- understand the intricacies and impact of U.S. foreign policy making;
- gain insight from experienced professionals on the art of advocacy; and
- acquire the skills to effectively present views to policy makers, media and the public.

By selecting Ambassadors from both the United States and Taiwan, we will increase contacts between the young people of both countries and enhance the American and Taiwanese awareness and understanding of the complicated issues of U.S. – Taiwan relations from their counterpart's perspective.

MEET FACE TO FACE WITH U.S. LAW-MAKERS & GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

The Program provides Ambassadors with a rare opportunity to meet with United States Congressmen and Senators and their staffs to discuss U.S. policies toward Taiwan. In this way, Ambassadors receive an up-close, first-hand experience in issue advocacy in Washington, D.C.

SELECTION OF AMBASSADORS

The Program is designed primarily for college and/or graduate students who have either lived in Taiwan and/or are familiar with Taiwan. Selection criteria include academic achievements, extracurricular activities, participation in community affairs, and interest in promoting U.S.-Taiwan relationship. Involvement in the Taiwanese American community is a plus for U.S. applicants.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

- Leadership Development
- Effective Communication Skills
- Team Work
- Do's and Don'ts of Issue Advocacy
- Presenting your case to the Media and the Public
- Meetings with Expert policy analysts and scholars
- Current Events as They Relate to U.S. Policy on Taiwan/China
- How Congress Works
- The Making of U.S. Policy
- The Future of Taiwan with Respect to U.S. interests

2005 Ambassador Program APPLICATION

is now downloadable from www.formosafoundation.org



2005 Ambassador Program

APPLICATION INFORMATION

WHEN: The 2-week Program will begin on June 19, and end on July 1.

WHERE: Los Angeles – June 19 – June 24, 2005
Washington D.C. – June 25-July 1, 2005

WHO: Participation is limited to

- up to 20 college and graduate students of U.S. citizenship; and
- up to 10 graduate students of Taiwan citizenship, of political science, economics, government studies and/or related fields. Must be fluent in the spoken English.

HOW: To apply, please submit the following items for consideration:

1. Completed application form
2. A two-page typed and double-spaced statement describing your interest in and goals for the Program
3. A copy of your most recent transcript
4. Two (2) letters of recommendation
5. Optional supplementary material you believe will help the selection committee evaluate your application

DEADLINE: All applications must be received on or before **April 15, 2005**

U.S. Applicants - MAIL TO: Formosa Foundation Ambassador Program
350 S. Figueroa Street, Suite 505
Los Angeles, California 90071

Taiwan Applicants - Contact Formosa Foundation or visit website for specific instructions

The Selection Committee will announce its selection results by **May 2, 2005**.

COST

Formosa Foundation will cover expenses for tuition, meals and lodging for the duration of the program, and round-trip transportation from Los Angeles to Washington, D.C. Participants shall be responsible for transportation and any lodging expenses coming to and leaving from the Ambassador Program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Formosa Foundation
Tel: (213)625-1991 Fax (213)625-1941
eMail: formosa@formosafoundation.org
Website: www.FormosaFoundation.org

The Formosa Foundation is a nonpartisan, educational non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of human rights and democracy, the free exchange of ideas, and the betterment of understanding and friendship between the United States and Taiwan.



NEWSLETTER

February 2005

Volume IV

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"Tense Straits..." (Continued from Page 8)

The problem with that logic is that it misstates the TRA and U.S. policy. The TRA states that it is the policy of the United States "to consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means...a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States." Quite a contrast to Beijing's recently released defense white paper that pledges to "thoroughly crush at any cost" moves it perceives to be "a major incident of 'Taiwan independence.'"

The Bush administration wants nothing more than for cross-Strait tensions to disappear so that it can focus on other pressing foreign-policy matters. Unfortunately, a weak response to Beijing's provocations will only encourage more provocations.

Moreover, a rudimentary understanding of Taiwan's politics - vibrant democratic politics - should by now lead Washington to the conclusion that every time the U.S. casts doubt on its long-standing defense commitment to Taiwan or misstates U.S. policy on Taiwan's status, President Chen must respond. Since a majority of Taiwanese do not believe that Taiwan is part of China, President Chen will, in one way or another, say so. Not exactly the way to avoid a crisis, is it?

In his historic inauguration speech last week President Bush made clear that the expansion of democracy and freedom are the central tenets of his foreign policy. On Taiwan policy, the administration should put those inspirational words into action by protecting a democracy from the aggressive designs of a dictatorship.

Dan Blumenthal, resident fellow at the [American Enterprise Institute](#), was senior director for China and Taiwan in the office of the secretary of Defense. Randy Scheunemann is a director of the [Project for a New American Century](#).