

By Robert S. Dudley

## Through the Looking Glass

"For 20 years, three presidents of both major parties proclaimed that an Iranian nuclear weapon was contrary to American and global interests—and that they were prepared to use force to prevent it. Yet negotiations that began 12 years ago as an international effort to prevent an Iranian capability to develop a nuclear arsenal are ending with an agreement that concedes this very capability."—*Former Secretaries of State Henry A. Kissinger and George P. Shultz, essay on the Obama Administration's "framework" nuclear deal with Iran, Wall Street Journal, April 7.*

## High Standard

"[USAF] is trying to get back [to] taking a leading role in the nuclear debate in this country. We lead and execute two thirds of the nuclear triad, for Christ's sake. We should be in the middle of the policy debates on this issue. ... So the idea, as I told [USAF Gen.] Robin Rand, was go become the next Curtis LeMay. Bring this nuclear mission, no kidding, back to the front edge of Air Force attention every single day."—*Gen. Mark A. Welsh III, USAF Chief of Staff, on the mission of the new head of Air Force Global Strike Command, remarks at an Air Force Association breakfast, April 2.*

## Big Cat of Baghdad

"Saddam Hussein, though a Sunni, ruled the predominantly Shia and partly Kurd nation of Iraq with a ruthless hand. ... He may not have been a savoury character but ... he was the cat that kept the rats of Islamism at bay. ... In the absence of the cat, the rats ran riot."—*Nobel Prize-winning novelist V. S. Naipaul, writing in the Daily Mail, London, March 21.*

## What We Don't Need Right Now

"MARINE SNIPER IN URINATION SCANDAL TO PUBLISH A MEMOIR."—*Actual headline in Marine Corps Times, April 5.*

## That's One Scenario ...

"The US and China are not allies, but we don't have to be adversaries. I reject the zero-sum thinking that China's gain is our loss. There is another scenario in which everyone wins."—*Secretary of De-*

*fense Ashton B. Carter, speech at Arizona State University, April 6.*

## ... And Here's Another One

"I would say that he doesn't want to build a navy that's equivalent to the US. He wants to build a navy that surpasses the US."—*Retired Adm. Gary Roughead, former US Chief of Naval Operations, on the ambition of Adm. Wu Shengli, China's top naval leader, Wall Street Journal, March 30.*

## Table Talk

"It was on the table. It's still on the table. It's going to remain on the table. Israel should be able to defend itself, by itself, against any threat."—*Yuval Steinitz, Israeli minister for finance, remarks to reporters about Israel's option to strike Iran's nuclear facilities, April 6.*

## Nonlinear Warfare

"In Crimea and Ukraine ... the Russians have unleashed what their Chief of the General Staff called 'nonlinear warfare,' which evolves from covert actions by special operations forces, to sustained unconventional combat waged under an umbrella of denial. And then ultimately escalating to high-end force-on-force proxy warfare. ... Separatist forces use advanced counter-battery radar to accurately pinpoint Ukrainian fires capability and ... use UAVs to identify targets. ... Russian-backed separatists [are also using] advanced electronic warfare equipment, ... jamming GPS frequencies, command and control networks. [Our troops] are going to have to fight on a battlefield swept by precision guided munitions, but also one that is swept by persistent and effective electronic warfare attacks."—*Deputy Secretary of Defense Robert O. Work, address to the US Army War College, April 8.*

## Back to the Future

"I am what you could call a seasoned Cold Warrior. ... It is more or less the same as when I started. ... The signal they [Russians] are sending is that the situation in the 1990s was an exception."—*Norwegian Air Force Lt. Gen. Morten Haga Lunde, on the re-appearance of Russia air activity around Norway, New York Times, April 2.*

## Army Wants to Join You

"Society is changing its view of tattoos, and we have to change along with that. It makes sense. Soldiers have grown up in an era when tattoos are much more acceptable and we have to change along with that."—*Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, Army Chief of Staff, announcing a new and more liberal policy on soldiers' tattoos, Army Times, April 1.*

## Slow—Very Slow—to Anger

"Greece's deputy finance minister said on Monday [that] Germany owes Greece nearly 279 billion Euros (\$305.17 billion) in reparations for the Nazi occupation of the country."—*Reuters dispatch, April 6.*

## Hypersonic Promise

"Hypersonic technology offers the potential for dramatic increases in speed, altitude, and range for our aircraft. The simplest class of hypersonic vehicle could travel as fast as Mach 8. This technology has the potential to advance intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance and improve the execution of any Air Force mission around the world. ... It is not difficult to imagine the value that such speed could bring in a future fight with advanced enemies or in our efforts to strike remote terrorist hideouts on extremely short notice."—*Gen. Larry O. Spencer, USAF Vice Chief of Staff, op-ed in Defense One, March 31.*

## Eyes of the Aircraft

"When the helmet's tuned correctly to the pilot's eyes, you almost step into this other world where all this information comes in. You can look through the jet's eyeballs to see the world as the jet sees the world."—*AI Norman, Lockheed Martin test pilot, referring to an advanced helmet worn by F-35 pilots, Washington Post, April 1.*

## We Didn't Start the Fire

"I wouldn't have believed that I would be involved in as much foreign policy as I am today. And it certainly isn't by choice. It's just that the world is on fire."—*Speaker of the House John Boehner (R-Ohio), interview with Politico, April 2.*