

# APSNet Semi-Weekly Bulletin, September 28, 2006

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## APSNet for 20060928

### Austral Peace and Security Network (APSNet)

Twice weekly report from the Nautilus Institute at RMIT, Australia.

#### Thursday 28 September 2006

1. [The Bush Administration is Running Out of Troops, Money and Ideas](#)
  2. [It May Take 10 Years, But Afghan War Winnable: Defence Chief](#)
  3. [The ADF Rejects the Allegations Made By the Taliban](#)
  4. [Pakistan on Edge](#)
  5. [China Now Route of Choice for Traffickers](#)
  6. [Solomon Islands: Pacific: Tangled Webs](#)
  7. [East Timor Drama Had No Hidden Agenda](#)
  8. [Indonesia Proposes Joint Sea Patrols to Prevent Illegal Fishing in PNG](#)
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1. [The Bush Administration is Running Out of Troops, Money and Ideas](#), Andrew Bacevich, Australian, 2006-09-27The Iraq war's long-awaited turning point has arrived. After the innumerable events touted as decisive that turned out to be anything but that - the capture of Saddam Hussein, the killing of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the various milestones related to the creation of a new Iraqi political order - the end game now becomes clear. And the outcome points ineluctably towards an American failure of immense proportions.
    - o [Declassified Key Judgments of the National Intelligence Estimate "Trends in Global Terrorism:](#)

- [Implications for the United States](#)", Press release, US Office of the Director of National Intelligence, April 2006 [PDF]
- [Partially Declassified NIE](#), Juan Cole, Informed Comment, 2006-09-27
  - [Hasegawa On the NIE, the Right and the Left are Both Wrong](#), William M. Arkin, Washington Post, September 2006 [Blog]
- 2.
  3. [It May Take 10 Years, But Afghan War Winnable: Defence Chief](#), Mark Dodd, Australian, 2006-09-28 Australia's military presence in Afghanistan is needed for at least another 10 years to eradicate the forces of terror, but the nation's senior defence commander says the war is winnable. In likening the scale of the war to Vietnam, Chief of the Defence Force Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston said yesterday the Howard Government should start planning for a long mission.
    - [Still Ours to Lose: Afghanistan on the Brink](#), Barnett R. Rubin, Prepared Testimony, Council on Foreign Relations, 2006-09-21
    - [The Woman Who Defied the Taliban, and Paid With Her Life](#), Kim Sengupta, Independent, 2006-09-26
    - [Afghanistan, 5 years later: U.S. Confront Taliban's Return](#), Jonathan S. Landay, McClatchy Newspapers, 2006-09-25
  - 4.
  5. [The ADF Rejects the Allegations Made By the Taliban](#), DoD Media Release CPA 262/06, 2006-0-28 There is an established process in Afghanistan that allows Afghan nationals to make representations if they believe they have been attacked or have suffered a loss of life, injury or damage to property due to a military engagement. The ADF will always investigate any allegation that is made through this established process. No representations have been made to coalition authorities.
    - [Taliban Accuses SAS of Killing Civilians](#), AAP, Age, 2006-09-28
  - 6.
  7. [Pakistan on Edge](#), Shaun Gregory, Open Democracy, 2006-09-25 Pakistan's military government is no longer prepared even to contest the tribal areas, and has in effect accepted peace on the Taliban's terms, and thus is permitting within Pakistan a de facto sanctuary for al-Qaida. It is little wonder that intelligence officers both sides of the Atlantic mutter that "Pakistan is the new Afghanistan".
  8. [China Now Route of Choice for Traffickers](#), Mary-Anne Toy, SMH, 2006-09-27 China has become the most important trafficking route for illegal drugs in the Asia-Pacific region and may have up to 12 million drug addicts. A report by the ANCD says Burma is the region's main producer of opium, heroin and amphetamines. The Burma-China route has been joined by new routes from Afghanistan into western China, particularly through the Xinjiang autonomous region.
    - [A Situational Analysis of Illicit Drug Issues and Responses in the Asia-Pacific Region](#), Madonna Devaney, Gary Reid, and Simon Baldwin, Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) Research Paper no.12, 2006 [PDF]
  - 9.
  10. [Pacific: Tangled Webs](#), Ashley Wickham, New Matilda, 2006-09-27 In the Solomon Islands, apart from the appearance of calm and the absence of gun-toting crooks and militants, there is little to show but continued political instability, corruption and ruptured relations. MPs are still wallowing in millions of dollars courtesy of Taiwan ROC. There is still money in the loggers' war

chest. It looks like PM Manasseh Sogavare might soon be headed back to political obscurity.

- [High Degree of Caution, Travel Advice, Solomons Islands](#), Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), 2006-09-27 [regularly updated]

11.

12. [East Timor Drama Had No Hidden Agenda](#), Mark Aarons, Australian, 2006-09-26 Stop the conspiracy theories: Alkatiri was not the victim of some malign US-Australian defence cabal. While we must await the report of the international Special Inquiry Commission on the causes of the violence, there seems no reason to doubt that Gusmao was simply carrying out his duties as President to calm the situation, not using the rebels against Alkatiri, as implied by John Martinkus.
- [Toeing the Line on Timor](#), Editorial [reply to Mark Aarons], New Matilda, 2006-09-27
  - [East Timor: Evidence Mounts against Gusmão](#), John Martinkus, New Matilda, 2006-09-20
  - [East Timor: The Story We Weren't Told](#), John Martinkus, Age, 2006-07-10

13.

14. [Indonesia Proposes Joint Sea Patrols to Prevent Illegal Fishing in PNG](#), RNZI, 2006-09-27 Indonesia is proposing joint sea patrols along the PNG border to prevent further incidences of illegal fishing. Pratito Soeharyo, spokesman from the Indonesian Embassy in Port Moresby said he will arrange a meeting between Indonesian and PNG government officials to discuss the matter. He said the Indonesians have been caught in PNG waters because it is the fish season, and they may have crossed over unintentionally.

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