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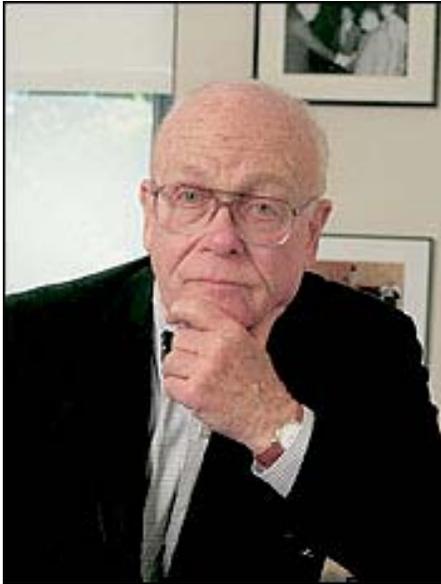
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The PCI News



Frank Gibney 1924-2006



Frank Gibney, 81, died April 8th at his home in Santa Barbara, California. The cause, as stated by his son, was heart failure. Mr. Gibney was president of the Pacific Basin Institute at Pomona College, Claremont, California, in addition to being a professor of politics. He wrote nearly a dozen books, among them "Five Gentlemen of Japan: The Portrait of a Nation's Character," "Japan, the Fragile Superpower," and "The Pacific Century: America and Asia in a Changing World." Frank Bray Gibney was born on Sept. 21, 1924, in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and grew up in New York City.

The Pacific Century Institute presented its 2002 Building Bridges Award to Frank Gibney at its annual dinner in February of 2002. Mr. Gibney was given the award for his distinguished service to America as a naval intelligence officer, news correspondent, author, editor, publisher, teacher, and steadfast advocate of better relations between Asians and Americans.

From the early days of World War II, Mr. Gibney rendered devoted service to the United States, beginning with the "Boulder Boys" who learned the Japanese language and served in the war with and occupation of Japan. Afterwards, Mr. Gibney became a celebrated writer who enlightened generations throughout the English-speaking world with news dispatches, magazine articles, books,

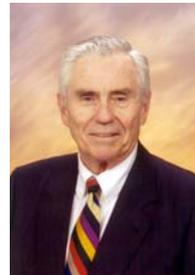
television scripts, edited works, and university courses, all delivered with erudition, coherence, and wonderfully lucid language. In 1979, Frank Gibney founded the Pacific Basin Institute in an effort to make people in the Asia-Pacific region aware of their shared values and responsibilities.

Rest in peace, Frank Gibney.



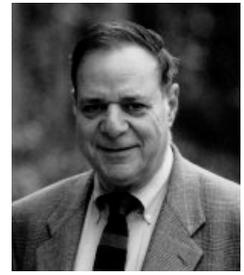
Wrong Path on North Korea

By Donald Gregg and Don Oberdorfer
Wednesday, September 6, 2006



Donald Gregg

The Bush administration is preparing to implement a new set of comprehensive sanctions against North Korea in response to its



Don Oberdorfer

recent ballistic missile tests. This would be a grave mistake, likely to lift the already dangerous situation on the Korean Peninsula to a new level of tension. Imposing such sanctions at this time could bring about more of the very actions the United States opposes. They should be reconsidered before lasting damage is done.

U.S. allies and friends in Northeast Asia, including South Korea, Japan, China and Russia, have been notified of the impending actions. These governments have participated along with Washington in the stalled regional talks with North Korea aimed at ending its nuclear weapons program. With the possible exception of Japan, these friendly governments believe that a major new drive to further isolate the Pyongyang regime would be a move in the wrong direction.

The only path to success with North Korea is negotiation, which President Bush and others have endorsed on many occasions. What is needed is sustained engagement to persuade Pyongyang to return to the regional talks and cease its confrontational actions -- not new sanctions that will make such a course even more difficult.

Pyongyang's ballistic missile tests of July 4 were a

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Wrong Path

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provocative mistake that led to unanimous condemnation by the U.N. Security Council and sharp cutbacks in aid from South Korea. The tests especially angered China because of Kim Jong Il's refusal to accept a high-level envoy who was to express China's unhappiness about them. Beijing took the remarkable step of voting to condemn its fraternal neighbor. It slowed down but did not stop its crucial food and energy assistance for fear of creating instability on its border. China is unsympathetic to further U.S. sanctions at this time and most unlikely to follow suit.

Recent U.S. financial sanctions based on North Korea's money-laundering and counterfeiting of U.S. currency have been painful for Pyongyang's free-spending leadership. But neither these sanctions nor the impending comprehensive sanctions are likely to lead to the demise of the 60-year-old North Korean regime or to a positive shift away from its militaristic actions. Instead, the predictable result of new sanctions now is new steps by Pyongyang to prove it will not be intimidated: additional tests of ballistic missiles or an underground nuclear explosion to validate its declaration early last year that it is "a full-fledged nuclear weapons state."

In June 2005 Kim Jong Il told a South Korean emissary that his country possesses nuclear weapons but that it does not need to test them. Semi-official U.S. estimates are that Pyongyang has sufficient nuclear material for six to 12 nuclear weapons, though the status of bomb assembly is unknown. Should Kim's regime be spurred to test such a device, the repercussions of a successful test for the global drive against the spread of nuclear weapons would be great, with especially powerful political and military impact in Northeast Asia. Such an event might prompt extensive new arms programs, possibly including nuclear weapons programs, by South Korea, Japan and Taiwan.

Why, at such a time, choose sanctions, a policy option whose historical record is overwhelmingly one of failure? One possible reason is that sanctions give vent to the visceral hostility that senior Bush administration officials feel toward North Korea. Another is that sanctions could be a defense, however inadequate, against political charges that the administration has done little or nothing to slow North Korea's nuclear programs. But a sanctions-based policy ignores the damage it would do to those in North Korea seeking transformational change and greater openness. Some longtime foreign observers believe such trends are gathering force.

Some high in the Bush administration have argued that dangerous actions by North Korea are likely whether or not the United States undertakes new sanctions against Pyongyang. Perhaps so, but they are much more likely if, instead of carrot-and-stick negotiations, the administration withdraws all previous carrots and multiplies the sticks. In this case a U.S. administration will have to share the blame with North Korea if a new international crisis erupts.

Donald Gregg is a former U.S. ambassador to South Korea and currently chairman of the Korea Society. Don

Oberdorfer is a former diplomatic correspondent for The Post and currently chairman of the U.S.-Korea Institute at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies.

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**Project Bridge Update**

Project Bridge is an annual collaboration between the Korea Society and PCI. Participants are high school juniors and seniors from New York and Los Angeles. The primary goal is to create relationships between Americans of diverse ethnic backgrounds and foster mutual understanding between different cultures. Activities during the

year-long program include: monthly workshops on multicultural youth leadership issues and relations; seminars covering history, language and culture; field trips; community service; and, for those who successfully complete the program, a ten day educational study tour of Korea.

The following article is by 2005-2006 Youth Ambassador Tracy Luong. In it Tracy reflects upon her experiences on recent study tour of Korea.

Walking down the street with bright city lights illuminating my pathway, masses of people in an array of flashy attire pass by me. The buildings are like those in downtown L.A yet the words along the walls consist of circles, miniature squares and lines. It feels like any other night, except this time the feeling hasn't sunk in that I was standing in the middle of the streets of Korea. Being part of Project Bridge and going on a 10 day study tour in South Korea has really changed many of my perspectives in life.

Through weekend group meetings in Los Angeles, numerous dinners with sponsors and countless other experiences in Korea it dawns on me how diverse people



2005-2006 PB Youth Ambassadors

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Project Bridge

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are and at the same time are still the same. To think that at one point I was ignorant and believed Korea to be a third world country but in actuality is flourishing with

technology. The atmosphere in Korea is filled with an amazing sense of unity and teamwork that inspires me to take more action within my own community.

The first day I ventured in the country, I had a home stay with a student that exposed me to the rich culture of Korea. We went out with her friends in the evening and stayed up until the wee hours of the morning talking to one another. The amazing thing was we were able to communicate without even knowing how to speak the same language. We resorted to different hand signals, common actions, and simple words. The night ended with us chatting endlessly through a translation site online. Once the communication barrier was overcome with simple efforts, it resulted with a lasting genuine friendship.

Project Bridge is an amazing program that has given me the opportunity to learn about many aspects of Korea, network with new people and gain insights into life. Passing through swarms of people in the hustle and bustle of daily life, I sometimes forget that I'm no longer in Korea but periodically look up at buildings expecting to see Hangeul written along the walls.



YAs visit the Getty



PB graduation at White Eagle Ranch



Ambassadors' Dialogue

On May 3rd, the Pacific Century Institute held a private and informal dinner honoring the Honorable Lee Tae-sik, South Korean Ambassador to the



WER gathering with ambassadors

United States, and the Honorable Alexander Vershbow, U.S. Ambassador to South Korea, at the White Eagle Ranch in Thousand Oaks, California. Ambassador Lee previously served as Korea's vice minister for foreign affairs and as deputy executive director of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization, the multilateral organization charged with implementing key areas of the 1994 U.S.-North Korea nuclear agreement. Ambassador Vershbow previously served as U.S. ambassador to Russia and to NATO.

This marked the beginning of a two-week journey by the ambassadors through major metropolitan areas of the United States, including, Los Angeles, CA, Seattle, WA, Minneapolis, MN, Kansas City, MO, St. Louis, MO, Detroit, MI, and Boston, MA.

The program in the Los Angeles area began with a breakfast event with Korean War veterans. Following this was a luncheon program jointly organized by the Pacific Council (www.pacificcouncil.org) and the Pacific Century Institute. The topic of the conversation was "Is the U.S.-ROK Alliance at a Turning Point". Former Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, chaired the luncheon exchange on the prospects for US.-Korean relations. Ambassadors Lee and Vershbow led the discussion which focused on, among other things, the North Korean issue and on the impending negotiations on a free trade agreement. Next was a conversation with the Korean American community sponsored by the Korean American Coalition. This was a first-of-its-kind historical event in which the ambassadors of these two allied nations came together to address the local community and media press. The day ended with an evening program at the University of Southern California, Korean Studies Institute.



Ambassadors' luncheon

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Ambassadors' Dialogue

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Other highlights from the program included visits to the Microsoft campus in Seattle, WA and to Boeing facilities in Seattle, WA and St. Louis, MO. The tour ended on May 11th with events at Harvard University in Boston, MA.



Amb. Alexander Vershbow



Amb. Lee Tae-sik,



Conversations with Kim Dae Joong



*Kim Dae Joong (left) and
Kenneth Paik (right)*

editor, director, and senior advisor to the Chosun Ilbo over the past thirty years. Three times he was named the most influential media personnel in Korea from the Korean journal Sisa Journal and was selected as the representative for Korean columnists by the British Financial Times. The event was chaired by Kenneth Paik, retired editor and journalist and founder of Paik Communications, and was held on July 25th.



"The Coming Korean Election and Korea Today" was the topic of discussion at a dinner and conversation with Kim Dae Joong held at the White Eagle Ranch in Thousand Oaks, California. Mr. Kim is currently senior advisor to the Chosun Ilbo.

He has served as reporter,

Save the Day: 2007 Annual Award Dinner



On February 22nd, 2007, the Pacific Century Institute will be honoring Ambassador Ton Nu Thi Ninh with the Building Bridges Award at our annual award dinner at the Park Hyatt Los Angeles.

Ambassador Ninh is a member of Vietnam's law-making body, the National Assembly, representing the southern coastal province of Ba Ria-Vung Tau. Her previous appointments have included positions in Vietnam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs as diplomat and advisor, specializing in multilateral institutions and global issues, and as Vietnam's Ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg and Head of Mission to the European Union in Brussels. In her current capacity as Vice-Chair of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee, her mission has been to develop and enhance Vietnam's relations with the countries of North America (particularly, the United States) and Western Europe.

This is the second year the Pacific Century Institute award dinner has focused on the country of Vietnam. Last year's Building Bridges honoree was former U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam Raymond Burghardt. These steps have been a concerted effort by PCI to eventually launch the Vietnam Society. Model after such established societies as the Korea Society, the Vietnam Society will be dedicated to "the promotion of greater awareness, understanding and cooperation" between the people of the United States and Vietnam.



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