

January, 2018

Jack Ruina Nuclear Age Dinner 2017



Jake Sullivan was the guest speaker at the Jack Ruina Nuclear Age Dinner held November 8, 2017 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel, Cambridge, MA. Sullivan is a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and Brady-Johnson Distinguished Practitioner in Grand Strategy at Yale University. He served in the Obama administration as national security adviser to Vice President Joe Biden, Director of Policy Planning at the U.S. Department of States, as well as deputy chief of staff to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

During his time in the Obama Administration, Sullivan was one of the lead negotiators in the secret bilateral US-Iran talks that paved the way for the Iran nuclear deal.

His talk, “Lessons in Nuclear Diplomacy” was presented to approximately 50 assembled members of the SSP community, including faculty, fellows, and graduate students. The dinner series is endowed by MIT Professor Emeritus and former SSP Director, Jack Ruina. Prof. Ruina’s special interest was in strategic weapons policy.

January IAP

Every year, the military fellows at MIT organize presentations as a part of MIT's Independent Activities Period. These presentations are open to the public and MIT community. This year, three events were held with a record number in attendance.

January 23

Lieutenant Colonel, US Airforce, Randy "Laz" Gordon, PhD



TITLE: Of Starships and Tallships: Human Spaceflight Exploration in U.S. Grand Strategy

Why do states explore? The modern version of this question is, "Why send people to explore space?" Idealists answer, "Because humans are inspired by other humans exploring the unknown." In their view, the imperative to explore space is self-evident and self-sustaining because of the unquenchable curiosity of the human spirit to expand knowledge and tame the unknown. On the opposite side of the spectrum, pragmatists view sending humans to space as a useful endeavor only if the act tangibly addresses a competitive threat to some element of state national security. Absent this clearly defined purpose, human spaceflight is derided as an expensive state luxury with little public importance beyond trite references to Velcro, Tang breakfast drink, or thrilling science fiction media. Both of these views have merit, yet they are also incomplete. The previous 50 years of human spaceflight exists within the same family of strategic exploration campaigns such as the Ming Dynasty journeys of Admiral Zheng He, Vasco De Gama's Indian Ocean voyages for Portugal, or the trek of Norway's Roald Amundsen and Great Britain's Robert Scott across the Antarctic. Surveying these types of campaigns is necessary for building a unified Exploration Model; one that synthesizes the best perspectives of both pragmatist and idealists to produce a better analytic framework for strategists. Once constructed, this model becomes the lens to analyze key episodes in American, Russian, and Chinese human spaceflight exploration. The lessons from these case studies form the basis of a viable human spaceflight strategy to enhance overall American spacepower in the face of rising competition and dwindling resources.

January 25

Lieutenant Colonel, US Army Warren Sponsler
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army Doug Copeland



TITLE: The Implications of Future Warfare

Recent actions by U.S. competitors, the proliferation of advanced technology once only available to the U.S. military and the changing character of the future operational environment (OE) imply that the U.S. Army must adapt to anticipate the demands of future armed conflict. The U.S. Army, finds itself at an inflection point, where disparate, yet related elements of the OE are converging, creating a situation where fast moving trends are rapidly transforming the nature of all aspects of society and human life – including the character of warfare. These trends include significant advances in science and technology, where new discoveries and innovations are occurring at a breakneck pace; a dizzying pace of human interaction and an increasingly complex world. These trends must be considered in the military sphere, matched with advances in our adversaries' capabilities and operational concepts, and superimposed over a U.S. military that has been engaged in a non-stop state of all-consuming counter-insurgency warfare for the last 15-plus years. The result is a U.S. Army that may find itself with the very real potential of being out-gunned, out-ranged, out-protected, outdated, out of position, and out of balance against its adversaries. These potential foes have had time to refine their approaches to warfare, develop and integrate new capabilities, and in some cases, expedite growing changes in the character of warfare. Given the anticipated OE and drawing from recent observations of peer and near-peer threat activities, this seminar will discuss anticipated changes to future land warfare and implications for U.S. Army doctrinal, operational and technological innovation.

February 1

Lieutenant Colonel, US Marine Corps Shannon Brown
Captain, US Navy Peter T. Mirisola

TITLE: New and Emerging Technologies Impact On The Future Fleet Design of the United States Navy and Marine Corps in 2045

The Navy and Marine Corps need a strategic view of the future operating environment to guide a future fleet design and architecture that sustains U.S. maritime superiority through 2045. The future design and architecture of fleet operating forces is past the lifecycle of near entirety of current in-service Fleet assets, is beyond the horizon of existing Programs of Record, and well into the next-generation threat environment.

The future fleet will need to operate as a balanced force that leverages scalable autonomy, net-optional C4-ISR, and efficient lethality. The operating environment for the future fleet will be categorized by complex competition that will include contested commons, commoditized high end weapons, network vulnerability and air & surface transparency. Many of the technologies that the future force requires do not exist today. To succeed, the Navy and Marine Corps team must find opportunities in innovation and shift focus away from today's Fleet centered on limited numbers of exquisite and expensive densely-manned capital platforms, toward a more balance Fleet that incorporates smaller, minimally-manned, risk-worthy assets that can deliver higher volume lethality and speed of maneuver at lower cost.

Where We Spoke

Dan Altman (Alum, '15)

"The Fait Accompli in the 21st Century International Security Landscape: From Crimea to Doklam to the Spratly Islands," Stimson Center, October 19, 2017.

Boaz Atzili (Alum, '06)

"Deterring to Protect: Fourth Waves Deterrence and the Protection of Civilians in UN Peacekeeping," Annual Conference of ISSS/ISAC, Washington, DC, October 2017.

Kevin Benson (Army War College Fellow, '01-02)

Presented on critical thinking and the art and science of war gaming at US Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, December 8, 2017.

Jonathan Caverley (Research Associate)

"War and Society Working Group," Northwestern University, November 17, 2017.

"International Security Studies," Yale University, October 10, 2017.

Podcast, "Slowing the Proliferation of Major Conventional Weapons," Carnegie Council for Ethics & International Affairs, December 5, 2017.

M. Taylor Fravel (Faculty)

with Laura Bosco, "China and the U.S.-China-Russia Nuclear Relationship," New Nuclear Age Initiative, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, December 2017.
"Active Defense: China's Military Strategy Since 1949," Brown University, November 2017; Georgetown University, October 2017.
"China and North Korea," Starr Forum, MIT, October 2017.

Eugene Gholz (Affiliate)

with Harvey Sapolsky (SSP Faculty Emeritus), "The Self-Licking Ice Cream Cone: The Defense Innovation and Threat Assessment Machine," at Applying Lessons Learned from China to Understand How Other Countries Become Military Technological and Industrial Powers, University of California, San Diego, December 12, 2017.

"The Changing Role of America's Military: A Debate," Public Debate with Michael Desch, Mara Karlin, and General John Allen organized by the Brookings Institution and the Charles Koch Institute, Las Vegas, NV, December 11, 2017.

"Answering China's Rise: How Technology Gives America Strategic Options," Presentation to the University of Alabama John Quincy Adams Society, Tuscaloosa, AL, December 1, 2017.

"U.S. A2/AD Capability: Creating 'No Man's Sea'," Presentation at the Rethinking Defense Working Group, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, DC, November 13, 2017.

"Oil, Hegemonic Stability Theory, and U.S. Grand Strategy," Paper presented at the Conference of International Security Studies and International Security and Arms Control Sections of ISA and APSA, Washington, DC, October, 13, 2017.

Kelly M. Greenhill (Affiliate, Alum, '04)

"Influence Operations and Society," Swedish National Defence University, Stockholm, Sweden, October, 2017.

"Understanding the Psychology of Disinformation," as part of a meeting on Strategic Communications and Digital Disinformation, The Atlantic Council, Washington, DC.

"Three Tweets to Midnight: Global Information Revolution and Nuclear Stability," Stanley Foundations' 58th Strategy for Peace Conference, Airlie House, Warrenton, VA.

Jeanne Guillemin (Senior Advisor)

Presentations resulting from Guillemin's book, *Hidden Atrocities: Japanese Germ Warfare and American Obstruction of Justice at the Tokyo Trial*, have been given at Spotlight Seminar at the National Defense University (December 12), a workshop on Chemical and Biological weapons co-sponsored by the Monterey Institute's James Martin Center and the NDU Center for the study of Weapons of Mass Destruction (December 13). Her book is currently being translated into Chinese.

Gregory Koblentz (Affiliate, Alum, '04)

“Horsepox and Its Implications for National Security,” presentation at the Jonathan B. Tucker CBW Symposium, Center for the Study of Weapons of Mass Destruction at National Defense University and the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Washington, DC, December 13, 2017.

“Syria and Nonproliferation Sanctions,” presentation for Security in the New Era of Targeted Sanctions, National Security Institute, Anton Scalia Law School, George Mason University, Arlington, VA, November 13, 2017.

“Pandemics: Where Public Health Meets Public Policy,” presentation for the panel on Global Pandemics and Crisis Management in the 2018 NASPAA-Batten Simulation Competition, Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Annual Conference, Washington, DC, October 12, 2017.

“Cyberbiosecurity: Policy Concerns, Priorities, and Opportunities,” presentation at the Securing the Bioeconomy—Cyberbiosecurity Workshop, Virginia Tech, Arlington, VA, October 4, 2017.

Peter Krause (Affiliate, Alum, '11)

Book Talks on *Rebel Power, Why National Movements Compete, Fight, and Win* at American University (November 2017), University of Maryland, START Center (November, 2017), Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Center for International Studies (November, 2017), University of Connecticut (November, 2017), Naval Postgraduate School, Global Connections Speaker Series (October, 2017), Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar (October, 2017), University College London (October, 2017), and the University of St. Andrews, Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence (October, 2017).

Alan Kuperman (Alum, '02)

“Reduced Enrichment for Naval Propulsion Reactors,” 38th International Meeting on Reduced Enrichment for Research and Test Reactors (RERTR), Chicago, IL, November 12-15, 2017.

“What if Trump ‘Decertifies’ Iran Nuclear Deal?” *KCBS radio*, October 6, 2017.

Rachel Esplin Odell (Graduate Student)

“U.S. Freedom of Navigation Operations as Strategic Norm-Shaping: Theory Development and Preliminary Empirical Analysis,” International Security Studies Section (ISSS) and APSA’s International Security and Arms Control Section (ISAC), American University, October, 2017.

Barry Posen (Faculty)

“How to use Waltz to Explain International Conflicts,” Conference on the US and Transatlantic Relations, Norwegian Institute for Defense Studies, Oslo, Norway, October 9, 2017.

“Restraint: A New Foundation for U.S. Grand Strategy,” Book Talk, CSIC, Washington DC, October 25, 2017.

Panelist for Charles Koch Institute/Charles Koch Foundation roll out of their new grant making program in Security Studies, Washington DC, November 17, 2017.

“Future of Nato,” Debate, America’s Public Square, Truman Library, Kansas City, MO, December, 2017.

Jeremy Pressman (Alum, '02)

“The Long Struggle for Israel-Palestine,” Skidmore College Jacob Perlow Event Series, October 2, 2017.

Joshua Rovner (Alum, '08)

“Strategy and Grand Strategy,” University of Chicago, Program on International Security Policy, October, 2017.

“Comments on Rose McDermott and Uri Bar Joseph, *Intelligence Success and Failure: The Human Dimension*,” Brown University, Watson Institute, December, 2017.

Apichai Shipper (Alum, '01)

“Two Conceptualizations of Personhood: Citizenship and Minority Policies in Asia,” University of British Columbia, Vancouver, October, 2017.

Joel Sokolsky (Senior Advisor)

“Unpacking Canada’s New Defence Policy: The Path to Strong, Secure, Engaged,” Canadian Global Affairs Council, Ottawa, October, 2017.

What We Wrote

Dan Altman (Alum, '15)

Dan Altman, “By Fait Accompli, Not Coercion: How States Wrest Territory from Their Adversaries,” *International Studies Quarterly*, vol. 61, no. 4 (2017), pp. 881-891.

Boaz Atzili (Alum, '06)

Boaz Atzili, *Territorial Designs and International Politics: Inside-out and Outside-in*, Boaz Atzili and Burak Kadercan ed. (New Routledge, 2017).

Kevin Benson (Army War College Fellow, '01-02)

Kevin Benson, "V Corps Command Decisions," *Essential to Success: Case Studies in the Art of Command at Echelons Above Brigade*, with GEN (ret) William S. Wallace (The Army University Press, 2017)

Kevin Benson, "First Dragoons' Tales are Brought to Life," Book review for *Kearney's Dragoons Out West: The Birth of the U.S. Cavalry* by Will Gorenfeld and John Gorenfeld," *Army Magazine*, November 2017

Matthew Cancian (Graduate Student)

Matthew Cancian and Mark Cancian, "Redouble Our Whole of Government Efforts to Fix Perfect Storm Of Strategy Goobledygook!" *Breaking Defense*, December, 2017.

Jonathan Caverley (Research Associate)

Jonathan Caverley, "Military Technology and the Duration of Civil Conflict," with Todd Sechser, *International Studies Quarterly*, forthcoming.

Jonathan Caverley, "The Economics of War and Peace," *Oxford University Press Handbook of International Security*, eds. Alexandra Gheciu and William Wohlforth (London: Oxford University Press, 2018)

Jonathan Caverley, "A Good Cartel? Slowing the Proliferation of Major Conventional Weapons," *Ethics & International Affairs*, vol. 31, no. 4 (Winter, 2017)

Kelly M. Greenhill (Affiliate, Alum, '04)

Kelly M. Greenhill, "Rumor Has It: The Adoption of Unverified Information in Conflict Zones" with B. Oppenheim, *International Studies Quarterly*, vol. 61, no. 3 (Fall 2017).

"Rumor Has It" was also the subject of a *Poynter Institute for Media Studies* feature piece, "Where there is a rumor, there is an audience. This study sheds light on why some take off."

Gregory Koblentz (Affiliate, Alum, '04)

Mary T. Sproull, Keven A. Camphausen, and Gregory D. Koblentz, "Biodosimetry: A Future Tool for Medical Management of Radiological Emergencies." *Health Security*, Vol. 15, No. 6 (2017), pp. 1-12.

Gregory D. Koblentz, "Smallpox Could Again Be a Serious Threat." *Slate*, October 19, 2017.

Mary Sproull, Keven Camphausen, and Gregory D. Koblentz, "Measuring Radiation Doses in Mass-casualty Emergencies." *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, October 4, 2017.

Alan Kuperman (Alum, '02)

Alan Kuperman, "Why the R2P Backfires (And How to Fix It)," in *Last Lectures on the Prevention and Intervention of Genocide*, ed. Samuel Totten (Routledge, 2018).

Peter Krause (Affiliate, Alum, '11)

Peter Krause, *Coercion: The Power to Hurt in International Politics*, co-edited with Kelly M. Greenhill (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018).

Jennifer M. Lind (Alum, '04)

Jennifer M. Lind, "Saving the Liberal Order from Itself," *Politique étrangère* (Winter, 2017-2018)

Reid Pauly (Graduate Student)

Reid Pauly, Sahar Nowrouzadeh and Mahsa Rouhi, "[This is Why Trump's Strategy for Iran Will Fail](#)," *The National Interest*, December 21, 2017.

Sara Plana (Graduate Student)

Sara Plana, "[Civil-military relations under President Trump](#)," *Précis*, Newsletter for MIT's Center for International Studies, December 19, 2017.

Sara Plana, "[What Political Science Tells Us About the Risk of Civil War in Spain](#)," *War on the Rocks*, October 25, 2017.

Barry Posen (Faculty)

Barry Posen, "Civil Wars and the Structure of World Power," *Civil Wars and Global Disorder: Threats and Opportunities*, Special Issue of *Daedalus*, Journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Fall, 2017.

Barry Posen, "[The Price of War with North Korea](#)," Op-Ed, New York Times, December 6, 2017.

Jeremy Pressman (Alum, '02)

Jeremy Pressman, "[Trump's Rhetoric on Jerusalem tells us a lot about what kind of Israeli-Palestinian proposal he'll deliver](#)," *Washington Post: Monkey Cage*, December 8, 2017.

Joshua Rovner (Alum, '08)

Joshua Rovner, "Intelligence and National Security Decision Making," in Derek Reveron, Nicholas Gvosdev, and John Cloud, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of U.S. National Security*(Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017).

Joshua Rovner, "[Thucydides and the Long War Problem](#)," *War on the Rocks*, December 4, 2017.

Joshua Rovner, "[The War on Terrorism as Imperial Policing](#)," *War on the Rocks*, November 2, 2017.

Joshua Rovner, “No One Loves Deterrence, but We’ll Keep Doing it Anyway,” *War on the Rocks*, October 9, 2017.

David N. Schwartz (Alum '80)

David N. Schwartz, *The Last Man Who Knew Everything: The Life and Times of Enrico Fermi, Father of the Nuclear Age* (Basic Books, 2017).

This book has been reviewed by Foreign Affairs and The Economist. Dr. Schwartz has been interviewed by NPR affiliates in Oregon, Ohio, and Utah, the MIT alumni association’s podcast, Science Talk, and Grok Science podcast. He has further given a colloquia at Columbia’s physics department and FermiLab, and will be presenting on his book at Amherst College’s history/history of science programs and as a panelist at the Italian Cultural Institute in New York in February, at the Tucson Festival of Books in March, and at the University of Maryland’s physics department in April.

Joshua Shifrinson (Alum, '13)

Joshua Shifrinson, “George H.W. Bush: Conservative Realist as President,” *Orbis*, vol. 62, no. 1 (January, 2018)

Joshua Shifrinson, *Rising Titans, Falling Giants: How Great Powers Respond to Power Shifts* (Cornell University Press, forthcoming, summer 2018).

Apichai Shipper (Alum, '01)

“Democratization,” Akihiro Ogawa, ed., *Routledge Handbook of Civil Society in Asia* (London: Routledge, 2017), pp. 327-343.

Joel Sokolsky (Senior Advisor)

with Christian Leuprecht, “Canada’s Enhanced Forward Presence in the Baltics: An Enduring Commitment to Transatlantic Security,” *Security in the Baltic Region: Realities and Prospects*, ed. Māris Andžāns (Riga: Latvian Institute of International Affairs, 2017).

Paul Staniland (Alum, '10)

Paul Staniland, “Whither ISIS? Insights from Insurgent Responses to Decline,” *The Washington Quarterly*, vol. 40, no. 3 (Fall, 2017), pp. 29-43.

David Weinberg (Alum, '12)

“Congress Must Act to End Incitement in Saudi Textbooks,” *Huffington Post*, December 5, 2017.

Notes From All Over

David Blum (Alum, '04)

In November, Blum resigned his position at the Department of Defense after 11 years in the civil service and began a new job as a senior data scientist at Next Tier Concepts, a

Google partner company. In this role Blum will tailor Google geospatial analytics and machine learning models for federal government clients.

Jason Eckberg (Military Fellow, '16-17)

Jason Eckberg will be promoted on March 24, 2018 at the High Water Mark, Gettysburg, PA and welcomes anyone who wishes to join him at the battlefield this day.

Jeanne Guillemin (Senior Advisor)

Guillemin's book *Hidden Atrocities: Japanese Germ Warfare and American Obstruction of Justice at the Tokyo Trial*, has been nominated for the Lemkin Award and the Columbia University Press Robert K. Merton Award from Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section of the American Sociological Association. The Lemkin Award is given in honor of Raphael Lemkin, inventor of the concept of genocide and first proponent of the UN Genocide Convention, by the Institute for the Study of Genocide. Presentations resulting from Guillemin's book have been given at Spotlight Seminar at the National Defense University (December 12), a workshop on Chemical and Biological weapons co-sponsored by the Monterey Institute's James Martin Center and the NDU Center for the study of Weapons of Mass Destruction (December 13). Her book is currently being translated into Chinese.

Jennifer M. Lind (Alum, '04)

Lind was visiting fellow at the School for Oriental and African Studies in London for Fall 2017. In December, she was featured on a Council on Foreign Relations podcast, discussing her research with Prof. Chikako Kawakatsu Ueki (SSP PhD) about nationalism in Japan.

Rachel Esplin Odell (Graduate Student)

In November, 2017, PhD candidate Rachel Esplin Odell was a Visiting Research Fellow at the Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies at Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan, where she conducted research for her dissertation case study of Japan's maritime jurisdictional claims and interpretations of the law of the sea.

Russell Rumbaugh (Alum, '04)

Rumbaugh has joined the Aerospace Corporations' new [Center for Space Policy and Strategy](#).

Richard Samuels (Faculty)

Featured in an interview with PHP Voice regarding the future of the US-Japan alliance appearing in their February issue. If you would like a PDF of this interview, please contact Elina Hamilton at elinah@mit.edu.

Joshua Shifrinson (Alum, '13)

Shifrinson will be joining the faculty of Boston University's Pardee School of Global studies in Fall, 2018.

Joel Sokolsky (Senior Advisor)

Co-organized the Symposium on the Future of NORAD at United States Northern Command/North American Aerospace Defence Command, Colorado Springs, December, 2017.

Awards and Scholarships

Kelly M. Greenhill (Affiliate, Alum, '04)

In October, Greenhill was selected as winner of the 2018 ISSS Emerging Scholar Award, which will be bestowed at the International Studies Association's April 2018 meeting. The award is given by the International Security Studies Section of the ISA to recognize scholars under the age of 45, or within 15 years of receiving their Ph.D., who are judged to have made, through the body of their publications, the most significant contribution to the field of security studies.

Andrew Miller (Graduate Student)

Andrew Miller was named a National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Graduate Research Fellow. He also received a grant from J-PAL's Crime and Violence Initiative for research on citizen-police cooperation in Lagos, Nigeria.

Tim Wolters (Alum, '04)

The Naval Submarine League awarded Tim Wolters a 2017 Literary Award for his article, "Reading Submarine History," published in the June issue of "The Submarine Review."