February – March 2015

Capitol Club starts 2015 with a Bang!

Cyber Symposium with ADM Mike Rogers, Director of NSA, and Mr. Joseph Purser, Lead Strategic Planner for Army Cyber Command (ARCYBER).

With snow and freezing weather having played havoc with everyone's schedules so far this month, the Capitol Club was collectively sweating bullets over the January Cyber Symposium featuring ADM Mike Rogers, the Director of the National Security Agency and Mr. Joseph Purser, Senior Strategic Planner for ARCYBER's Strategic Initiatives Group. Uncharacteristically for the DC area, the weather on 29 January cooperated and about 60 AOC Capitol Chapter members and guests got a chance to hear the well informed perspectives of two of the most senior government officials in the Cyber domain.

The venue was the Sheraton Pentagon City, which I still call the Sheraton National, having had lunch there after numerous visits to the Navy Annex, which is now a lawn next door to the Air Force Memorial. Fortunately AOC Capitol Club members are a flexible lot, and no one got lost.

Mr. Bill reed, Vice President of the Capitol Club Chapter introduced Mr. Joseph Purser, Senior Strategic Planner for Army Cyber Command's Strategic Initiatives Group. The Army Cyber Command and Second Army directs and conducts cyberspace operations ensuring freedom of action in and through cyberspace, and denying the same to our adversaries. It is the preeminent cyber force for the conduct of decisive cyberspace operations in support of joint and Army commands.

Mr. Purser began by talking about what the Army was doing vis a vis the cyber battlespace. He said they look at cyber space from the point of view of the commander. What does the commander need? In many cases those needs are very similar to other domains, but it is key to accept that cyber is a contested domain. ARCYBER must lead change in the way Army leaders think and train units to operate effectively. One example of that is by incorporating cyber into joint exercises. It's there where commanders get to see what works and what doesn't, and how the pieces and parts fit together. And it's there where units learn to work effectively together with new tools and technologies.

Mr. Purser went on to identify a critical issue facing ARCYBER- recruitment and retention of talent. He noted the presence of representatives from major defense contractors in the room, and acknowledged that there is a lot of competition for the kind of people that make up Army Cyber Command. The command puts a high priority on recruiting sharp individuals and keeping them, but demand currently outstrips supply!

Jim Taber, the Capitol Club's Secretary and Scholarship Chairman had the honor of introducing Admiral Michael Rogers. ADM Rogers' official title is Director of the NSA/CSS and Commander of USCYBERCOM. He took over these duties last April after the retirement of GEN Keith Alexander. In addition to being an alumnus of Auburn University, he is a distinguished graduate of the National War College and a graduate of highest distinction from the Naval War College.

Prior to his assignment as DIRNSA, he served as commander, U.S. Fleet Cyber Command/U.S. 10th Fleet.

Bill Reed, AOC Capitol Chapter Vice President, presents Mr. Joe Purser with a memento in appreciation of his contribution to the Cyber Symposium

Admiral Rogers began his remarks by giving a tip of the hat to the AOC's traditional strong suit, Electronic Warfare. He noted that while EW and IO are different, they are both necessary and complementary, and it is the EW charter to guarantee access to the spectrum. The problems we are facing now stem from the fact that cyber threats have a low cost of entry and a very fast ramp-up. With non-state actors factored into the equation, the threat is growing rapidly and attribution is difficult. Admiral Rogers spoke briefly on the recent Sony hack and its implications with respect to attribution and future incidents. He talked about the response to such incidents, and the necessity of being able to respond appropriately and effectively. You can't just shut your systems down until you have the remedy. You need to be able to remediate while the bad guys are still at work! Talk about a challenge!

In concluding his remarks, all of which were at the unclassified level, the Admiral noted that our goal has to be that of strong deterrence- make the job hard for our enemies, and make it so they have a low probability of success.

Admiral Rogers graciously answered questions from the audience, which was made up of AOC members and guests from both civilian and defense agencies as well as industry leaders such as Allen Vanguard, Boeing. Parsons, Rockwell Collins, Akamai, X-COM Systems, Lockheed, Raytheon and CACI.

Jim Taber, Capitol Club Secretary and Scholarship Chair, presents Admiral Michael Rogers with a memento in appreciation of his contribution to the Capital Chapter Cyber Symposium.

AOC Capitol Club members will remember the Sheraton Pentagon City as the location of previous fascinating chapter events, such as the luncheon celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first flight of the EA-6A Electric Intruder, which evolved into the ubiquitous EA-6B Prowler that many AOC members around the country fondly remember as their 'business office' while they served our country!

At another event at this venue, we were privileged to hear Ambassador Brian Carlson address the Capitol Club on the interplay of social media and the events in the Middle East that became known as the Arab Spring.

Do you know someone who shares our interests in electronic warfare, information operations and cyber security? Tell them about the AOC and the Capitol Chapter. They can join up on line by going to www.Crows.org and joining at the national level. If they're within the sound of my voice, the AOC will assign them to the Capitol Club. Even if they're not local, all AOC members are welcome at Capitol Club events! Just about everyone active in AOC visits the DC area at some point, and we love to meet new 'Crows.'

Amongst the attendees at this table were Bill Strandberg, Beckett Jackson, John O'Hara, Jim Taber and Harvey Dahljelm (not in that order).

N.B. Thanks to Daryl Jacobs for allowing us to use his great picture of an F4G in its native environment for our masthead! pv

AOC Capitol Club Kicks off January with
Highly Rated IO Seminar

The strategically placed headquarters building of the AOC served as the locus for the Capitol Club's eagerly awaited and well attended Information Operations (IO) seminar on 20 January 2015. It began promptly at 8 am with coffee and doughnuts and networking among the capacity crowd of 25 attendees who snapped up seminar slots as soon as they were made available. The seminar attendees were introduced to the AOC and the Capitol Club Chapter by Donya He, a board member of the Cap Club. While nobody had their arms twisted to join the AOC, many expressed interest in learning more about an organization whose interests encompassed Electronic Warfare, Information Operations and Cyber!

Joel Harding, a board member of the Cap Club, organized the event. Mr. Harding has been a proponent of IO ever since he heard his mentor, Sun Tzu, say:

> *"All warfare is based on deception… To subdue the enemy without fighting is the acme of skill."*

Joel also introduced the speakers and encouraged the free flow of ideas, which contributed to the seminar getting rave reviews from the participants.

The first class, an "Introduction to Information Operations" was presented by Dr. Leigh Armistead. "Fighting a War of Information like a Real War" was presented by Dr. J. Michael Waller. "Russian Information Warfare" and "Ukrainian Information Warfare Initiatives" was presented by Joel Harding, and "Cultures and Values" was taught by Christine MacNulty. All 25 seats were reserved and filled, the class started on time and the students included many senior IO personnel. The discussions were lively and energetic. Everybody, including the instructors, learned much more than expected.

In addition to being a world class educational opportunity, this turned out to be an incredible networking event. Quite a few of the students were working in Information Operations positions, some very senior, some fairly junior. Quite a few of the students just had a very strong interest and when the AOC Capitol Club offered these classes, they jumped! The discussions were very animated and probing. Teachers prompted students, students questioned teachers, and everybody participated in the dialogue!

Special thanks goes to AOC HQ, for making their conference facility available to the Capitol Club, and especially Glorianne O'Neilin, who helped keep everything moving smoothly and dug up complimentary copies of the AOC magazine, "Journal of Electronic Defense" along with AOC pens for the attendees.

For those of you interested in hosting the next seminar, feel free to contact the Capitol Club, AOC! The intent of this seminar was to plumb the interest of AOC members in Information Operations and the successful end effect was to have attendees begging for more! If you have colleagues who could add to the IO discourse, let us know! For anyone interested in hosting the next seminar, please contact the Capitol Club, AOC!

If you want to keep up to date on what's going on in the world of Information Operations, check out Joel's website, www.toinformistoinfluence.com.

Previews of Coming Attractions!!

Mark your calendar!

Speaking of which, if you haven't gotten the new NCTC counter terrorism calendar, go to http://www.nctc.gov/calendar.html and get the latest 2015 calendar.

9 March 2015- Monday- The Association of Old Crows (AOC) Capitol Club invites you to a briefing by Dr. Charles Clancy, Director of the Hume Center for National Security and Technology at Virginia Tech. This event will be held at Schafer TMD in Ballston. This venue is conveniently accessible via METRO orange and silver lines.

Dr. Clancy is an associate professor of electrical engineering at Virginia Tech and directs the Hume Center for National Security and Technology. Prior to joining Virginia Tech in 2010, Clancy served as a senior researcher at the Laboratory for Telecommunications Sciences, leading a research portfolio in software-defined and cognitive radio. He received his BS from the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, MS from the University of Illinois, and PhD from the University of Maryland.

His current research focuses on spectrum sharing between incumbent federal communications systems, military radars, and commercial broadband technologies. Specific technical issues involve security and privacy, interference management, quality of service, and spatial coexistence.

The Hume Center is organized under Virginia Tech's Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Sciences, and leads Virginia Tech's research, education, and outreach programs focused on the **communication and computation challenges of the national security community**. Education programs provide mentorship, internships, scholarships, and seek to address key challenges in qualified US citizens entering federal service. Advanced research programs focus on signals intelligence, electronic warfare, cybersecurity and analytics, and aerospace systems.

In the offing…

GTRI- EW Symposium – Always a popular event with AOC Capitol Club members, this event will be coming in the April time frame. Stay Tuned!

NRL Symposium – Draconian rules limiting knowledge exchanges have been relaxed and we are once more working diligently on providing a classified symposium under the aegis of the NRL. This is currently scheduled for first week in May. The last NRL-Capitol Club symposium on EW Communications was widely praised. Make sure we have **your current email address** so we can keep you informed and allow you to sign up early!

**Organizers of the last NRL-AOC Capitol Chapter EW Symposium are
looking forward to seeing you at the next one!**
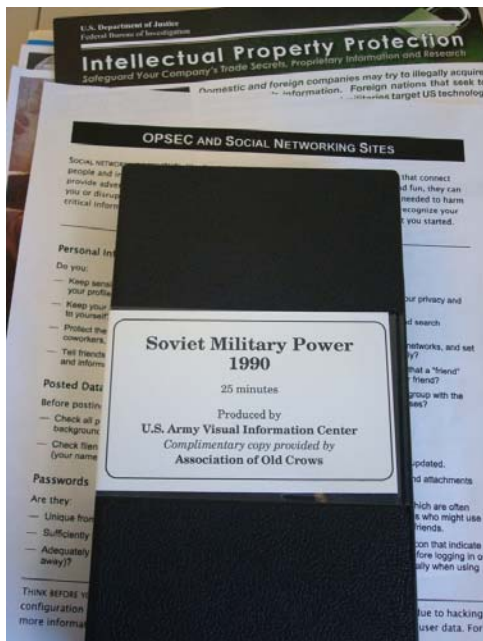
We gave away a copy of 'Soviet Military Power' to a lucky raffle winner at a recent luncheon.

The winner was excited until we mentioned it was a VHS Tape.

His response, "What's VHS?"