

Thanks for the opportunity to talk about Transnational Issues subject. It has certainly been in my recent past...

- Terrorism in South East Asia was a key focus of the Pacific Command.
- SARS and Avian flu had an impact on us all. I've had my temperature taken in many of your countries and seen all of the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurants converted to serve FISH & CHIPS in Vietnam.
- My views on Regional Maritime Security have been well understood, with the possible exception of wanting to send the Marines into the Straits of Malacca to deal with both piracy and terror.
- Most important, I had great pleasure to see the region come together effectively to deal with a natural disaster in Tsunami relief effort.

So let me talk to three points and then elaborate on each to the extent my time allows.

1. Largely because of Transnational issues, our security interests in the region are linked like never before. Regional cooperation has really been very good—Especially my standpoint.
2. Always lots of talk about unilateralism. The solutions to the security issues in our region—certainly in the 6 years I had close view—have been multi-lateral in character.
3. I would like to speak a few minutes on the reasons why the Tsunami relief efforts were successful. Model for the way we will deal with transnational issues in the future.

[First Point] We talk a lot about Globalization and its impact. One thing for sure.....

- Crisis really does affect more people faster.
 - It spreads instability without regard to borders and reduces the available time to respond.
 - Economic Crisis 1997
 - So, whether we're talking about the military or business, speed becomes an essential component of everything we do in the world today.

- Globalization also puts us in direct competition for precious natural resources.
 - China already imports more than half of the oil it consumes each year and we expect that volume to double by 2020.
 - Japan imports, as you all know, essentially all of the oil that it needs, and most of that oil flows through narrow straits in Southeast Asia.
 - The straits, like the oil, have to be both shared and protected.
- Geography doesn't provide a lot of protection either.
 - A single case of Mad Cow Disease in the state of Washington some time ago resulted in beef restrictions in both Japan and Korea.
 - We saw with SARS the enormous destructive potential of a biological threat.
 - Singapore, which handled this problem incredibly well, suffered a loss of one to two percent of their gross domestic product.
 - The hotels in Chiang Mai, Thailand didn't have a single tourist--didn't have a single SARS case either.
 - Avian flu is a very real and current concern.
- Lastly, the United States and its military forces of our friends and allies are significantly more capable than they were just a few years ago, both individually and in collective arrangements.
- So in this new threat context that I've just described with cyber and biological and terrorist threats, in addition to other Transnational concerns, our mutual security interests are linked like never before.
 - The instantaneous nature of the global economy and the global information network mean that all of us are going to collectively and quickly prosper or suffer together.
 - No nation alone can secure itself or improve the world for others.
 - Situation demands a more proactive, a more multilateral, and frankly a more courageous approach.

[Second Point] That brings me to my second point—the Multi-lateral character of our response. The Examples are numerous.

- The North East Asia 6 party talks is the most obvious—of course most serious.

- Certainly I think this is going to be a hard and tough negotiation. Nobody is going to walk out of a room anytime soon to declare victory.
- Place a great deal of strain on alliances and relationships. But I think they will bare up—in great measure because we appreciate their value. Ralph Cossa pointed out adjustments in positions taking place—reflect this fact.
- Significant progress has been made regarding terrorism in South East Asia.
 - On going effort for sure.
 - Impressed by cooperation and coordination
 - Investigations in Bali/Marriot bombings lead to immediate arrest. Indonesia and prosecutions.
 - Information and intelligence shared readily. Skip Boyce mentioned Hambali arrest.
 - Concept of capacity building is well accepted.
- Clearly, more work is to be done on Regional Maritime Security
 - Destabalizing effect—Governments. Most Transnational threats are facilitated by the ability to more freely access a challenging environment, overlapping jurisdictions. (Celebes Sea – Sulu Archipelago)
 - Gain awareness of Maritime Domain match that of International Airspace.
- The Tsunami is the most recent example. (Multi-national)
 - As was mentioned yesterday, this complex relief effort didn't just happen because we wanted it to.
 - It was possible because of a set of habitual relationships—really habits of cooperation that had been established over many years.
 - Exercises, exchanges, combined training visits.
 - The Thais said yes to our request to operate from Utapao immediately because we had exercised with them in the same manner year-in and year-out. **Cobra Gold**

- Malaysia provided support and access to their bases based on a phone call to their Chief of Defense. We were comfortable making that call because met half dozen times.
- Australia/Singapore/Indonesia coordinated their activities immediately and directly through both Government and especially military to military channels.

[Third Point] My third and final point, the reasons why the Tsunami relief efforts were so successful.

- We established a set of principles at the outset that would guide our effort.
- As I mentioned earlier, speed and tempo were essential. If we waited for assessments to be completed, lives would be lost. We had to provide relief simultaneously with the assessment.
- These are proud and sovereign countries. They had to remain in charge of the relief effort within their country. Our role was to support their directed needs.
- This had to be a unified effort. Our forces would be deployed at the direction of LtGen Blackman, but we would call his organization a Coordinated Support Force to make it inclusive and encourage participation by organizations not comfortable with a rigid command structure. Coordinate vice compel or command became the thrust of our arrangement.
- Would leverage our previous experience with respect to combined and multi-national operations to great advantage. We had developed Standing Operating Procedures on a multi-national level and now was the time to use them.
- Most important, we recognized that while there were things that we could do to at the outset, ultimately the sustained effort to feed and house the displaced and rebuild their nations would be provided by professional relief organizations and once again, the host nation itself.
 - That meant that the UN organizations would play a substantive role. This is something they are pretty good at.
- We invited all to work with us. Some 18 nations showed up and the majority established liaison offices with General Blackman in Thailand, plus the NGO's.
- The concept also took advantage of one of our key strengths. We could provide the vast majority of the relief from a sea base...once again recognizing sensitivities.

- Another key asset and really a national treasure was the hospital ship MERCY which we deployed from San Diego. (Lots more)
 - We have been reluctant to use MERCY in the past because it's normal manning drains over 1000 doctors and nurses from our key medical institutions. Designed for trauma care for war.
- Once again, we tried a different approach. With only a core active crew, we invited the NGOs, like Project Hope, to man the medical facilities on board and, of course, this ship did a world of good.
 - Plenty of volunteers.
- All this highlighted the necessity, ability, and complexity of the military working closely with our own interagency organizations, the nations of the region, as well as both International and Domestic Non-Governmental Organizations (UN).
- Finally—it demonstrated, once again, the tremendous humanity of not just American people—but the nations of the region. Over 1 billion in aid and American donations, ensured by the visit of Presidents Bush and Clinton, which really guaranteed the rehabilitation. And no doubt—democracy, good governance, and the stability of South East Asia will have been measurably strengthened.

In conclusion, whether combating terrorism, illegal drugs, or responding to a humanitarian crisis, we see these challenges as opportunities for nations of the Asia-Pacific region to work together to provide the peace and stability we all seek.