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## LOW-INTENSITY CONFLICT: DOES AMERICA HAVE A CHOICE?

A symposium on US options  
regarding insurgencies,  
supporting nations facing external aggression,  
peacekeeping and counterterrorism operations

Change  
Engages  
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### Low-Intensity Conflict: Does America Have a Choice?

"I believe that low-intensity conflict is the most important strategic issue facing the U.S. If we don't learn to deal with it, we risk being isolated in an increasingly competitive world. . . ."

Gen. Wallace H. Nuting, USA

"The most active threat we face today is not high-intensity conflict, but low-intensity. . . . This threat is manifested in a stream of hostage crises, terrorist attacks, local conflicts and insurgencies. This is our most active threat for the remainder of the century."

George Bush

"Our first great challenge in the area of low-intensity conflict is, in the next 20 years, to invent a theory of law and a structure of behavior that allows us to survive and win 'small wars' within a framework that maintains certain basic rights for every human being."

Congressman Newt Gingrich  
U.S. House of Representatives

"Low-intensity conflict is the United States' response to those who could change the unjust global system that gives rise to poverty and social turmoil, particularly in the Third World."

Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer  
author, War Against the Poor:  
Low-Intensity Conflict and  
Christian Faith

Low-intensity conflict is a strategic issue, a fact of our lives today, and a challenge for which clear U.S. policy does not exist. This one day symposium will provide an informational baseline on the subject from which the participant can build a personal position.

Low-intensity conflict is a broad term used to characterize confrontations between contending states or groups at levels below conventional war, but above peaceful competition. Waged by a combination of political, economic, informational and military instruments, it involves protracted struggle of competing principles and ideologies. Major U.S. low intensity activities, at the lower end of the conflict spectrum, include providing support for nations facing insurgent threats or for groups resisting Communist aggression, peacekeeping operations, peacetime contingency operations, and counterterrorism efforts. Military applications in low-intensity conflicts often need to be subordinated to economic and political actions. This requires an interdisciplinary approach, an approach difficult to achieve by the American foreign policy establishment.

Low-intensity conflict is a controversial foreign policy issue which needs to be examined and debated by concerned citizens. We expect a diverse audience for this symposium whose participation will be encouraged. Please join us and add your input to this critical issue.

12 May 1989  
Cowles Auditorium  
Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of  
Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis



**SYMPOSIUM AGENDA**  
Friday, May 12, 1989

- 8:30-9:00 am **REGISTRATION**
- 9:00-9:15 am **INTRODUCTION**  
MODERATOR  
**Steven Young**, Former Dean, Hamline Law School; Partner, Winthrop & Weistatine
- G. Edward Schubb**  
Dean, Humphrey Institute
- 9:15-10:00 am *"Low-Intensity Conflict: Overview, Definitions, Policy Concerns"*  
**Col. H. Lee Dixon**  
Army-Air Force Center for Low-Intensity Conflict
- 10:00-10:15 am Break
- 10:15-11:15 am *"Soviet Policy and Strategy for Low-Intensity Conflict"*  
**Dr. Richard Shultz**  
Tufts University
- 11:30 am-1 pm **LUNCHEON**  
*"Low-Intensity Conflict: A View from the Senate"*  
**Senator Dave Durenberger** (R-Minn)  
**Dr. Caesar Sereseres**  
University of California, Irvine
- 1:00-2:00 pm *"El Salvador: A Case Study on Low-Intensity Conflict Policy Options"*  
**Dr. Caesar Sereseres**  
University of California, Irvine
- 2:00-3:00 pm *"Low-Intensity Conflict and Liberation Theology: A Nicaraguan View"*  
**Dr. Antonio Ybarra**  
University of Dubuque
- 3:00-3:15 pm Break
- 3:15-4:00 pm *"Why Americans Oppose Low-Intensity Conflict"*  
**Herb London**  
Dean, New York University
- 4:00-4:30 pm **SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION**  
**Steven Young**

Audience Discussion will be allowed after each speaker.

**LOCATION AND PARKING**

The symposium will be held at the Humphrey Center, 301 19th Ave South, Minneapolis, on the West Bank of the University of Minnesota. We recommend parking in the West Bank Ramp, (public entrance is on 21st Ave at 4th Street) or the 7-Corners Municipal Ramp, 1 block north and 1 block west of the Humphrey Center, at Cedar and Washington Avenues (between the Holiday Inn-Metrodome and Grandma's).

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**ABOUT THE SPEAKERS**

**Herbert I. London** is Dean of the Gallatin Division, New York University and a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute. He is the author of *Military Doctrine and the American Character* and is a frequent lecturer on US national security policy and international relations.

**Caesar D. Sereseres** is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Irvine. He is the author of *Arms Transfers to Latin America: Toward a Policy of Mutual Respect*, the *Central American*

*Policy Conundrum and US Policy for Central America*. Professor Sereseres has also served in the Bureau for Inter-American Affairs, Department of State.

**Col. H. Lee Dixon** is the Reserve Component Advisor to the Commander, Army-Air Force Center for Low-Intensity Conflict, Langley AFB, Virginia. He is the author of numerous articles on low-intensity conflict including "Operational Art and Low-Intensity Conflict," and "A Framework for Competitive Strategies Analysis in Low-Intensity Conflict." Col. Dixon has also served with Air Force Project Checkmate, a warfighting analysis organization.

**Antonio Ybarra** is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa. His areas of academic concentration include the sociology of religion, technology, and social change; peasant studies, and the role of women in sociological development. Dr. Ybarra's latest book is *Liberation Theology and the Marxist Sociology of Religion*.

**Richard Shultz** is Associate Professor of International Politics at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. His special interests are US-Soviet intelligence and national security, international terrorism, low-intensity conflict, and arms control. His many publications include *The Soviet Union and Revolutionary Warfare*, *Hydra of Carthage: The International Linkages of Terrorism*, and *Guerrilla Warfare and Counterinsurgency*.

**Senator David Durenberger** (R-Minn) is the author of *Neither Madmen nor Messiahs: A Policy of National Security for America* and a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

**Symposium on Low-Intensity Conflict**  
**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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I (We) will attend this seminar at the Humphrey Center on 12 May 1989. Enclosed is \$20/person (non-student) or \$10/person (student), which includes the symposium luncheon. Mail check and registration form to:

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