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Research that works, for work that matters



### NATIONAL SECURITY

AND THE THREAT OF

#### **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Paul G. Gaffney II President, Monmouth University Vice Admiral USN (Ret.)

> 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Global Carbon Dioxide Record: A Symposium and Celebration

> > 28 November 2007

### **Purpose of this Study**

#### **IF TRENDS CONTINUE....ADVERSE?**

#### **CAN TRENDS AFFECT SECURITY?**

#### WHAT CAN WE (NATIONAL SECURITY COMMUNITY) DO?



## **Study Structure**

- CNA Corporation study
  - Director: Ms. Sherri Goodman
     Counsel to CNA Corporation
     Former Deputy Undersecretary of Defense
     (Environmental Security)
  - Staff: CNA Corporation

- Advisory Board: II Retired Flag Officers

- Review Panel

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Briefings: Scientists, Government Officials (US, UN & UK), Industry

#### Military Advisory Board (II "Formers")

### GEN Gordon R. Sullivan (USA), MAB Chairman

Chief of Staff, Army

#### ADM Frank "Skip" Bowman (USN)

Director, Navy Nuclear Power

#### Lt Gen Lawrence P. Farrell Jr. (USAF)

Chief Planner HQ USAF

#### VADM Paul G. Gaffney II (USN)

ONR and NDU

#### **GEN Paul Kern (USA)**

Army Materiel Command

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#### Military Advisory Board II "Formers"

#### ADM T. Joseph Lopez (USN)

Commander, U.S. Navy Europe

#### ADM Donald "Don" L. Pilling (USN)

Vice Chief, U.S. Navy

#### **ADM Joseph W. Prueher (USN)**

Pacific Commander; U.S. Ambassador, China

#### VADM Richard H. Truly (USN)

NASA Administrator; Astronaut

#### Gen Charles "Chuck" Wald (USAF)

Deputy U.S. European Commander

#### Gen Anthony C. "Tony" Zinni (USMC)

Commander Central Command

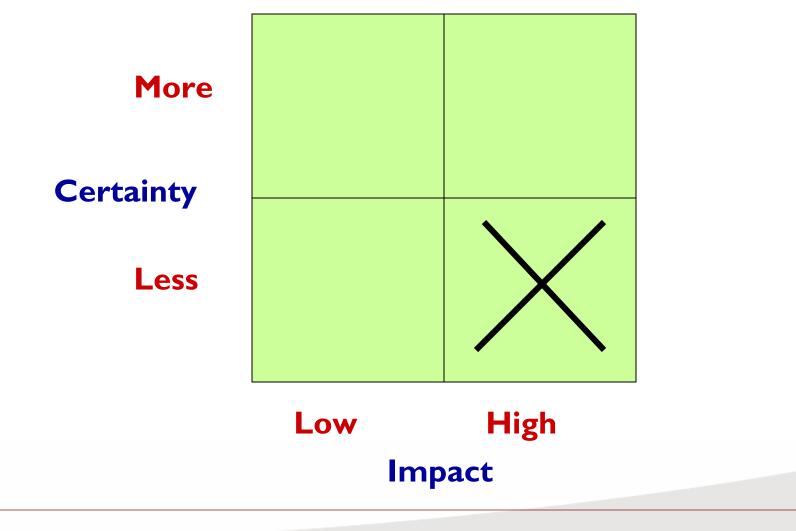
# "Rules of the Road"

- Maturing Process
  - Skepticism  $\rightarrow$  to  $\rightarrow$  focus
  - Listen, internal discussion, agree
- Appropriateness

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- Do not lay blame
- Avoid political statements
- Do not pretend to be climate scientists
- Stay within our comfort zone

### Realization



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### **Perspective on Scientific Debate**

We never have 100% certainty.

# If you wait until you have 100% certainty, something bad is going to happen on the battlefield.

That's something we know.

#### — GEN Sullivan



# **Findings Highlights**

- I. Trend is a serious threat
  - Remember
- 2. Threat multiplier ... volatile regions!
- 3. Trend can add to tensions; in stable regions
- 4. Climate change trends, security, and energy dependence are related

# **General Concerns**

• "Slow & grinding" nature of change.

- Truly

- Inability of world's most troubled regions and least capable governments to understand and cope
- Migration of people for:
  - Water Food
  - Health Safety (from natural disaster)
- Desperation, hopelessness exacerbated
  - Ripe for fanaticism

#### **Europe**



"Europe will be focused on its own borders. There is potential for fracturing some very strong alliances based on migrations and the lack of control over borders."

Pilling

#### Africa

Climate change : • weakened governance • economic collapse • human migrations • potential conflicts

Stability operations and humanitarian missions



could **increase** ... draws U.S. into African political scene - new USAFRICOM

Africa – oil – tranquility

#### **Middle East**

Water security will be threatened – 2/3 Middle East <u>already</u> depend on water sources external to their borders

Loss of food and water security will increase pressure to emigrate across borders

"Small <sub>changes</sub> may have a greater impact here." - Zinni 13

## **Regional Impacts**

#### Asia

#### Almost **40 percent** of Asia's **4 billion people** live within 45 miles of the coast

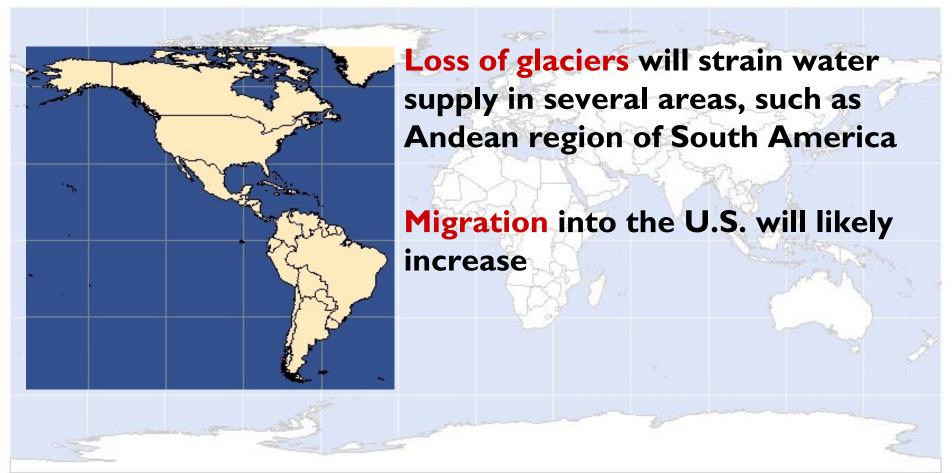
#### **Possible:**

Inundation of coastal areas, loss of settled areas and agricultural land

Spread of infectious disease



#### **Western Hemisphere**



- Missions
- Operating Areas
- Climate adjustments
- National Security Community Contributions?



#### **Missions**

- More regional crises ... military contingency responses
- Stable nations become "fortress nations"
  - Repel immigrants; Allies role?

 More disaster relief and humanitarian tasks ... more engagement opportunities

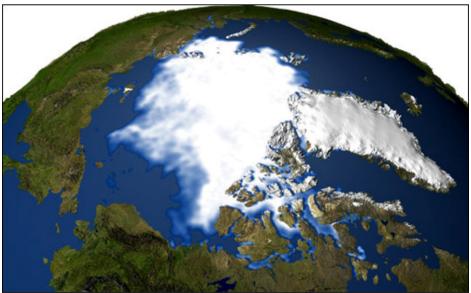
- Training, equipping, deploying consequences





#### **Operating Area Examples:**

- Watch sea level ... base locations
- Arctic as a theater of operations
  - Transportation security
  - Protect sovereignty
- Far from home



2003 SSMI Composite Data

# **Climate Adjustments**

# Drier, wetter, stormier shallower, ice (more and/or less), etc.



- Wear and tear
- New equipment
- Revised tactics



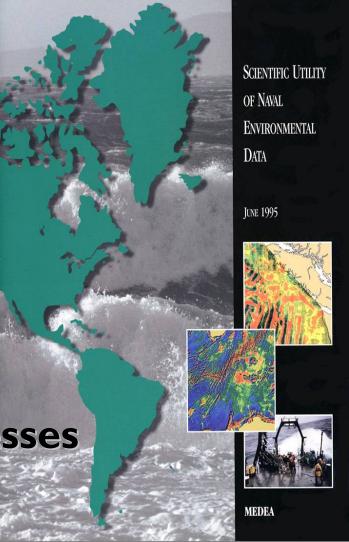
### **National Security Community Contributions**

- Military, Diplomatic, Intelligence
- Global reach
- Equipment...sensors, computation
- Talent ... military and civilian

DATA ... raw, derived, fiducial sites

- Capacity to:
  - Cooperate & Educate

### **MEDEA & ETF ... quiet successes**

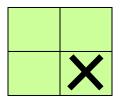


# **Evidence**

- Declassified GEOSTAT altimetry
- Long time series satellite imagery analyses (Corona)
- OCEANO data:
  - Submarine environmental data in Arctic (Gore box)
  - Oceanographic ("hydro stations")
     ... thousands
- Exchanges with Russia
  - Arctic digital database
- Insight by "cleared" scientists into National Security Communities data and processes
- Strange bedfellows
  - Gore & Gates
  - U.S. & Russia

EDEA Program

#### **CNA Corp Study Recommendations**



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- = Integrate climate change trends into national security planning and strategies
  - Congress new progress

Tend to	= Stronger U.S. role to help stem climate trend
others	= Partnerships with less developed nations adaptation & resiliency

- Tend to = Adopt business processes and technologies self to reduce energy dependency = Assess military installations
  - = Assess military installations

# **Concluding Opinions (Mine)**

National Security Community should be fully involved

<ul> <li>"Average" does not mean "even"</li> </ul>			
– Security Planning	Regional specificity!		
<ul> <li>Regional cooperation</li> </ul>			

- Set an example in more efficient energy use
  - Good thing ... even if man has not caused or cannot reverse current trends
- Understand more, analyze better ... 1st principle of USCOP





# Congratulations

### on

# 50 Years!



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