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From the Editor

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From the Editor

Our Autumn issue opens with a special commentary by Patricia Shields, whose “Limits of Negative Peace, Faces of Positive Peace” questions whether we have thought through the ramifications of the quality of the peace we seem to have, when indeed we have peace at all.

In our first forum, *A Wake for Counterinsurgency?* Steven Metz’s “Abandoning Counterinsurgency: Reviving Antiterrorism Strategy” asks whether we ought to admit that strategies based on the principles of counterinsurgency have proven too costly for the United States, and whether we might be better served to approach such problems from a more counterterroristic perspective. Jacqueline L. Hazelton’s “Insurgent Defectors in Counterinsurgencies” underscores the value of using defectors to offset weaknesses in a counterinsurgency effort, which in turn reinforces the conventional wisdom that such efforts are in fact more political than military in nature.

Our second forum, *War among (& for) the People*, takes up the argument of Rupert Smith who claimed modern wars are now invariably waged among civilian noncombatants. Along those lines, Sten Rynning’s “Rethinking NATO Policy on the Protection of Civilians” discusses the strengths and weaknesses of international efforts to safeguard people unwillingly affected by conflict. In “Military Force and Mass Migration in Europe,” Matthew Metzger and John Lorenzen argue policymakers would do well to look to prior American interventions for insights into handling the complex issue of mass migration.

The third forum, *War and Social Perception*, concerns the public’s perceptions of warriors and war. In “Casualties of Their Own Success: The 2011 Urination Incident in Afghanistan,” Paolo Tripodi and David Todd examine the ethical context in which US Marine snipers urinated on Taliban corpses. The authors conclude a strong command climate is the most important influence behind ethical behavior. In “Third-Force Influences: Hollywood’s War Films,” John Chapin, Marissa Mendoza-Burcham, and Mari Pierce discuss the role of movie images in influencing the public’s perceptions of US service members.

Our second installment on *Army Expansibility* features two contributions on the the US Army’s ability to expand in the event of a great power war. Esli Pitts offers a model for transitioning the current Army into a force approximately twice as large in “Expanding Brigade Combat Teams: Is the Training Base Adequate?” Robb Mitchell’s “Rapid Expansion and the Army’s Matériel: Is There Enough?” examines the matériel challenges the US Army might encounter if it were required to double in size on short notice. ~AJE

