

DEFENCE AND SECURITY FORUM

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Rt Hon. Lord Lamont of Lerwick

Chairman
Major General Patrick Cordingley DSO
Deputy Chairman
Rt Hon. Sir John Wheeler, JP, DL

DIARY DATES AUTUMN 2009

MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER

ROBERT LACEY, AUTHOR - 'INSIDE THE KINGDOM' – Kings, Clerics, Modernists, Terrorists and the Struggle for Saudi Arabia This is the most penetrating and substantial book on the Saudi state since 9/11. *'Robert Lacey has provided an insightful and intimate portrait of a country – and a family – chained to tradition and challenged by the remorseless march of modernity.* 'Lawrence Wright, Pulitzer-winning author. For the past three years Lacey has been gathering first hand material in Saudi Arabia at every level of Saudi society – from political dissidents and Guantanamo detainees to the innermost circles of the royal family. DSF is proud to be given a preview of a book set to hit the headlines.

Naval and Military Club, 4 St James Sq, London SW1 7.30 for 8 pm. Black tie. £80 pp

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 4TH

2009 – THE YEAR OF THE PIRATE. Raiders strike 150 times in six months. £20m paid in ransoms last year. Why? How do they get away with it? What can be done to stop it? Who is behind it? No region in the world is immune – even the British Channel. **Top expert specialising in piracy, STEPHEN ASKINS, a partner at Ince & Co,** will deliver a full presentation with slides on the scale of problem, the challenges of how he negotiates and seeks the release of ships, valuable cargo - and crew. Referred to by the Financial Times for his skills Mr. Askins has a worldwide reputation .

Naval and Military Club, 4 St James Square, London, SW1 7.30 for 8 pm. Black tie. £80 pp

TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER

LIEUT. GENERAL JONATHON RILEY, CB, DSO, PhD, MA, former Deputy ISAF commander, Afghanistan. Which way forward for the Armed Forces? Over 200 dead Afghanistan alone. Thousands injured. Is the war against the Taliban the one to fight? Poor equipment, inadequate support and funding have raised serious concerns. Time now to crystallise our thinking. Historian General Riley will deliver a theatre level view of NATO operations in Afghanistan – and the best way forward.

21 Cloudesley Street, London, N1 OHX Black tie. 7.30 for 8 pm. Ticket £55 pp

THURSDAY 10TH DECEMBER

ANNUAL HOUSE OF LORDS DINNER

SPECIAL BOAT SERVICE ‘SBS’ 65TH ANNIVERSARY APPEAL – Special Forces unit of the UK Armed Forces. Currently deployed in the forefront of the Global War Against Terror engaged in work that is both secret and highly specialised. They have played a key role in Afghanistan, and suffered accordingly both losses and injuries. Recent success was an SBS ambush of top Taliban leader Mullah Mansur while riding a motorbike. The crack team lay in hiding and ambushed Mansur while calling in Apache gunships to take and his colleagues out.

It was described ‘*A successful precision strike against one of the most dangerous men in Helmund*’. Today SBS Association is dedicated to raising funds for injured men or their dependents. Appeal target is £5m. Because of the nature of the SBS they cannot make a public appeal. Therefore they depend on the generosity of people who appreciate and respect the special role that the SBS is fulfilling on behalf of this country.

SPEAKERS: RT HON. LORD ASHDOWN OF NORTON-SUB-HAMDON, GCMG, KBE, PC

MAJOR GENERAL ANDREW KEELING, CB, CBE: COMMANDING OFFICER OF SBS (*name withheld*)

House of Lords, Black Rod Entrance. 7.30 for 8 pm. Black tie Tickets £110 pp
Gift Aid form enclosed

BOOKING FORM

Monday 12TH October 2009

Robert Lacey on Saudi Arabia - £80 per person

Name.....

Address.....

.....Tel. no.....

Email.....

Dietary requirements.....

Guest/s names.....

Wednesday 4th November 2009

Stephen Askins – Year of the Pirate - £80 per person

Name.....

Address.....

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Email.....

Dietary requirements.....

Guest/s names.....

Tuesday 24th November 2009

Lieut General Jonathon Riley – Afghanistan - £55 per person

Name.....

Address.....

.....Tel. no.....

Email.....

Dietary requirements.....

Guest/s names.....

Thursday 10th December 2009

Annual House of Lords Dinner

SBS 65th Anniversary Appeal - £110 per person

Name.....

Address.....

.....Tel. no.....

Email.....

Dietary requirements.....

Guest/s names.....