Media Advisory

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NBR and Sasakawa USA to launch Maritime Awareness Project

Premier interactive website will provide visual analysis of Asia-Pacific and beyond

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In recent years, maritime disputes at sea and in the diplomatic arena have become intractable features of the global security landscape. Despite increasing confrontations in the East and South China Seas little progress has been made in understanding the specifics of individual maritime disputes or possible solutions.

To address this problem, the National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR) and Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA have partnered to create the Maritime Awareness Project (MAP), a comprehensive interactive and analytical website. The MAP portal combines exciting, interactive mapping technology with premier analyses from the world's greatest maritime experts to serve as the leading authoritative resource on maritime issues.

The MAP portal, with an initial focus on the Asia-Pacific region, will be launched on April 14 at a special event in Washington, D.C. Please join us for the website launch and for an important foreign policy discussion, at which the leadership of MAP and leading research expert members will gather to both demonstrate the web portal and have fruitful discussions on pressing maritime issues in the Asia-Pacific region today.

MAP Launch:

Navigating Unsettled Waters: Introducing the Maritime Awareness Project
Thursday, April 14, 2016, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Navy Memorial and Heritage Center, Washington, D.C.
Click here to RSVP

Featuring a keynote address by:
Vice Admiral Robert L. Thomas, Jr.
Director, Navy Staff, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations

Reception to follow

MAP Leadership

- Admiral Dennis Blair, USN (Ret.), *Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA*
- Dr. Richard Ellings, *The National Bureau of Asian Research*
- Dr. M. Taylor Fravel, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

MAP International Expert Panel

- Dr. Rommel Banlaoi, *Philippine Institute for Peace, Violence and Terrorism Research*
- Dr. Ja Ian Chong, *National University of Singapore*
- Mr. Mikkal Herberg, *The National Bureau of Asian Research*
- Dr. Nong Hong, *Institute for China-America Studies*
- Dr. James Kraska, *Naval War College*
- Dr. Tabitha Mallory, *The National Bureau of Asian Research*
- Mr. James Manicom, *Independent scholar*
- Mr. Rory Medcalf, *Australian National University; Lowy Institute for International Policy*
- Dr. Shafiah Muhibat, *Center for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia*
- Dr. Justin Nankivell, *Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies*
- Ms. Kerry Lynn Nankivell, *Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies*
- Dr. Hong Thao Nguyen, *Vietnam National University*
- Ms. Sumathy Permal, *Maritime Institute of Malaysia*
- Dr. Ryo Sahashi, *Japan Center for International Exchange*
- Dr. Ian Storey, *ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute*

MAP Project Team

- Jeffrey Hornung, *Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA*
- Karolos Karnikis, *The National Bureau of Asian Research*
- Tiffany Ma, *The National Bureau of Asian Research*
- Roy Kamphausen, *The National Bureau of Asian Research*

About The National Bureau of Asian Research

Founded in 1989 with a major grant from the Henry M. Jackson Foundation, NBR is an independent, nonpartisan research institution committed to informing and strengthening U.S. policy toward the Asia-Pacific. Drawing upon an extensive network of the world's leading specialists, NBR bridges the academic, business, and policy arena.

About Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA is an independent American non-profit, non-partisan institution devoted to research, analysis, and better understanding of the U.S.-Japan relationship. Through research and education programs, Sasakawa USA facilitates people-to-people exchange and dialogue between American and Japanese policymakers, influential citizens, and the broader public.

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