



NEWS RELEASE

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FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO SPEAK AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

There is little doubt that the new presidential administration will face serious challenges in international affairs, particularly in the Middle East, where two wars are being waged and at least one country is likely seeking nuclear weapons.

On Tuesday, March 3, former Assistant Secretary of Defense Mary Beth Long will tackle these issues in a lecture at Indiana University entitled, "Challenges Facing the Obama Administration: Afghanistan, Iraq, and Iran." Hosted by the Student Alliance for National Security (SANS) the event will take place at 7:00 pm in the Whittenberger Auditorium of the Indiana Memorial Union. The program is being co-sponsored by the Indiana University Student Association and the Departments of Political Science and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures.

Long will speak about her personal experiences dealing with Afghanistan, Iraq, and Iran and will give insight into the challenges that lie ahead for the new administration.

In December 2007, Long became the highest-ranking woman to ever serve in the Department of Defense (DOD) when she was appointed by President Bush to become Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs. In that capacity, Long played a highly influential role in formulating and coordinating international security policy in the Middle East, Europe, and Africa during the final years of the Bush Administration. She previously held other top posts within the Pentagon.

During her career, Long served in a number of key national security positions. From 1986 to 1999, Long worked in covert operations at the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), where she developed extensive experience in dealing with issues of terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, and counter-narcotics. She has also worked on joint programs with the FBI and State Department in conducting multilateral weapons negotiations. Long received several CIA awards, including in covert action. In between her time at the CIA and DOD, Long worked as an associate for Williams & Connolly LLP.

To schedule press time with the speaker, please email sans@indiana.edu.

The Student Alliance for National Security (SANS) is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to promoting awareness of national security issues, engaging students in discussion on security-related topics, and presenting student opinions on security issues to policymakers. SANS was founded at Indiana University in 2006. To learn more, visit www.StudentsForSecurity.com.