Hoover Institution senior fellow Edward P. Lazear was sworn in as chairman of the President’s Council of Economic Advisers on March 6 in Washington, D.C.

In attendance at the ceremony in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building were President George W. Bush; Carlos Gutierrez, secretary of commerce; Joshua Bolten, then-director of the Office of Management and Budget; members of Lazear’s family; and other government officials.

In comments delivered during the ceremony, President Bush noted that Lazear “is an award-winning economist from Stanford University. He’s been a part of the Hoover Institution. He’s taught and lectured in Asia and the Middle East and Europe. He’s advised governments in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe on economic reform. He’s conducted path-breaking research in economics.”

Hoover fellow Shelby Steele awarded 2006 Bradley Prize

The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation has awarded one of four 2006 Bradley Prizes for outstanding achievement to Hoover Institution research fellow Shelby Steele.

Steele specializes in race relations, U.S. social culture, and identity politics. Having written extensively for major publications, he has had a profound influence on mainstream attitudes about the roles of education, families, and character in overcoming the legacy of slavery and segregation.

“Shelby Steele is a deeply reflective scholar, with incredible insight on issues related to culture, values, and government affirmative action policies,” said Hoover Institution director John Raisian. “His amazing eloquence and use of the English language will undoubtedly continue to inspire the nation.”

Edward P. Lazear Sworn in as Chairman of President’s Council of Economic Advisers

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Edward P. Lazear

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the field of labor economics. He’s applied his theories to real-world problems like education and immigration and compensation and productivity. He’s well-rounded, and he’s plenty smart.

“He also understands how to get his message across. After all, he was voted teacher of the year at Stanford’s Graduate School of Business. That’s not an easy accomplishment. He’s a founding editor of the Journal of Labor Economics. He’s a good man, who has served with distinction before in government. He served on my advisory panel on federal tax reform. And he’s going to be an outstanding chairman of my Council of Economic Advisers.”

Lazear commented: “There are challenges ahead, but we have a solid foundation on which to build. Mr. President, I look forward to assisting you in keeping the American economy strong. To that end, I will devote all of my energy to ensuring that the Council of Economic Advisers provides you with the best economic analysis possible.”

Lazear, who was the Morris Arnold Cox Senior Fellow while at Hoover, was nominated to the chairmanship of the Council of Economic Advisers in late 2005 and was confirmed in February. He is now on leave from Hoover and Stanford University.

Shelby Steele

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language makes for delightful listening and reading, leading to personal reflection relating to the issues he pursues. His winning the Bradley Award is certainly warranted, and we all feel a sense of pride at Hoover in his wonderful accomplishments.”

Steele received the National Book Critic’s Circle Award for his book The Content of Our Character: A New Vision of Race in America. His most recent books are A Dream Deferred: The Second Betrayal of Black Freedom in America and White Guilt: How Blacks and Whites Together Destroyed the Promise of the Civil Rights Era. In 1991, Steele earned an Emmy Award, a Writer’s Guild Award, and the San Francisco Film Festival Award for his work on the PBS documentary Seven Days in Bensonhurst. In 1994, he was awarded the National Humanities Medal.

Michael Grebe, the president and chief executive officer of the Bradley Foundation said: “The Bradley Foundation is honoring Dr. Steele for his contributions to the study of race in America and his undying devotion to equality for all. He has a distinguished body of work that has led to understanding of racial equality in America.”

Steele will be presented with the award during a ceremony on May 25 at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

Also honored with the award this year were Middle East scholar Fouad Ajami, school choice advocate Clint Bolick, and internationally recognized economist Hernando de Soto.

Founded in 1985, the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is devoted to strengthening American democratic capitalism and the institutions, principles, and values that sustain and nurture it.
**PHOTOCOPIES OF CHIANG KAI-SHEK DIARIES NOW OPEN FOR RESEARCHERS**

As part of its Modern China Research Project, the Hoover Institution is making available for research significant materials recently added to the Hoover Library and Archives East Asian collections.

The additions and opening of the files were announced on March 24.

Photocopies of the early diaries (covering the period 1917 to 1931) of Chiang Kai-shek, the Republic of China’s first constitutional president, were made available to researchers beginning March 31. The Hoover Institution has the diaries on loan.

In addition, the first of the microfilmed Kuomintang (KMT) records are now also available for research, including those of the Central Reform Committee, covering the period 1950–1952. The KMT is the Nationalist Party of the Republic of China. Attending and speaking at the opening was Ying-jeou Ma, chairman of the KMT Party.

Hoover Institution director John Raisian said: “The Hoover Institution has long been dedicated to the gathering of unique archival information related to the 20th century with respect to economic, political, and social history in the world. Today, with the opening of portions of Chiang Kai-shek’s diaries, we are providing firsthand access to an important period of the generalissimo’s life to interested scholars. Further, the opening of KMT records will enable researchers to conduct in-depth study of the evolution of political governance in the Republic of China.”

At a special presentation on March 24, in announcing the opening of the diaries for research, Hoover senior fellow Ramon Myers commented on the historical significance of the Chiang diaries and of the Central Reform Committee, which was established by Chiang in Taiwan.

Myers said that the early Chiang diaries were copied and circulated within a small group of scholars in China. After 1950 the KMT continued to select, edit, and publish many of Chiang’s diary entries. “As none of these published materials accurately represented the original diaries, now, for the first time, researchers can read the authentic diaries,” Myers said.

Chiang family members deposited the handwritten diaries of Chiang Kai-shek and his son Chiang Ching-kuo, third constitutional president, at the Hoover Institution in 2005, pending the creation of a suitable repository on the territory of China. Microfilm preservation copies of the complete diaries are being made while they are on loan to Hoover.

As Chiang’s diaries are too fragile for researchers to examine, the Hoover Archives is making photocopies of the originals. The diaries opened on March 31 cover only a small period of Chiang’s career; the remainder will be opened over the next few years. Because of the uninhibited nature of many personal comments in the diaries, family members have chosen to keep some passages private and have redacted these from user copies. Recognizing the historical significance of the diaries in their entirety, however, family members have authorized that the redacted passages be released in 2035.

The Hoover Institution has cooperated with the KMT since 2003 to preserve the official historical records of the party’s archives in Taipei. As the oldest political party in Asia, the KMT acted as China’s leading revolutionary party until it was defeated in 1949 by Chinese Communist Party forces and forced to relocate in Taiwan. On August 5, 1950, the KMT formally established the Central Reform Committee to create a new political organization. In October 1952, the Seventh National Congress of the Kuomintang adopted the Central Reform Committee’s final reports, affirming the formation of a new Kuomintang. These records were microfilmed in Taipei. One copy was given to the Kuomintang Archives, another use copy was deposited at the Hoover Institution, and a positive microfilm master copy has been stored at the Hoover Institution.

Additional information is available at www.hoover.org/hila/kmt.htm.
Q: Iran and its current politics have a multitude of facets, but one important one you identified recently is the current regime’s attitude toward Jews and Israel. What do you see and think of the situation?
A: These days, with President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s intentionally incendiary words about the Holocaust and Israel, as well as the mischievous shenanigans of his cabal—from organizing a “scholarly” conference on the Holocaust to a cartoon competition on that same theme—the question of Iran’s relationship to Israel, to Jews, and to the Holocaust has, understandably, become an international concern.

Surely Ahmadinejad’s dangerous words and deeds deserve to be thoroughly condemned. The regime in Iran, and leaders such as Ahmadinejad, must be made to understand that the world community has zero tolerance for such anti-Semitic ranting.

Q: What is the reality and the history?
A: Iran’s history, like the history of many other nations, is not free of the blemish of anti-Semitism. But for every anti-Semitic blight, there are many more bright spots where Iranians have had the wisdom to swim against the dark tide of rancor.

The Old Testament begins with a celebration of these bright spots and an unequivocal condemnation of the dark side. The Bible is replete with profuse praise for Persia (the much-maligned Iran of today) and its rulers. In the Book of Ezra, the Lord speaks through the proclamations of Cyrus, the king of Persia, who declares, “The Lord God of Heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the Earth, and he has charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem.” Cyrus acceded to this divine command, and thus was the second temple in Jerusalem built. In other parts of the Old Testament, Cyrus is heartily praised as God’s “Anointed” and the “Chosen” ruler, who freed Jews from their Babylonian captivity.
Q: If one looks at writings and history, how would Persia (Iran) be judged?

A: Scholars of history and exegetes of the Bible concur that ancient Persia was exemplary for its willingness to help the Jews fight the age-old curse of anti-Semitism. The Jewish feast of Purim celebrates the fact that Esther, queen to a Persian king, saved the Jews of the kingdom from annihilation. But along with the benevolence of Cyrus there lurked on the Persian horizon the race of Haman, whose mind and heart was darkened by rancor and hate.

Q: And what of today’s situation?

A: Today, Ahmadinejad has altogether forfeited the magnanimity of Cyrus and opted instead to embrace the poisoned malice of Haman. The duality of the approach to Jews evident in the dawn of Iranian civilization can easily be seen in the troubled history of the twentieth century as well.

Q: You’ve written that Iran was actually something of a beacon for tolerance and the Jewish people during the 1930s and 1940s. How so?

A: As early signs of the murderous Final Solution became visible in Europe, the Iranian government convinced the Nazi race experts in Germany that Iranian Jews had lived in Iran for more than 2,500 years and were thus fully assimilated citizens of Iran and must be afforded all the rights of such citizens. The Nazis accepted this argument, and the lives of all Iranian Jews living under the Nazi yoke were saved. An account of this episode can be found in the History of Contemporary Iranian Jews, published by the Center for Iranian Jewish Oral History.

Moreover, as I have recounted in my book Persian Sphinx, Iranian diplomats in Europe and elsewhere offered hundreds of Iranian passports to European Jews, thus saving their lives. And when the Nazi killing machines began slaughtering innocent Polish Jews, 1,388 Jews, including 871 children, were moved to Tehran, where they lived in relative safety till they moved to Israel. Again the History of Contemporary Iranian Jews provides an account of what are called the “Tehran children.”

Q: So Iran officially aided Jews who then wanted to move on to Israel?

A: Iran’s attitude toward Iranian and Arab Jews leaving its countries for Israel was no less commendable. The man responsible for the transfer of Jewish refugees in Iran, Moir Ezry—who became Israel’s ambassador to Iran—writes in Yadnameh, “As the Shah of Iran [who ruled from 1941 to 1979] had particular affinity for the Jews, the military and bureaucratic institutions of the country spared no effort in helping refugees reach Israel.” He goes on to say, “Countries like Bulgaria, and Romania asked for great sums of money from Israel in order to set their Jewish population free. But the Iranian government never asked for any money.”

Q: What of the political ties between Iran and Israel at that time?

A: The facts of history during the second half of that murderous century are also a credit to Iran and its people.

Iran was the first Muslim country in the world to establish diplomatic and economic ties with Israel. Throughout the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s, Iran supplied oil to Israel; after the rise of Nasser’s pan-Arab nationalism in the Middle East, Israel, along with Iran’s secret police, operated a radio station in the southern provinces of Iran and beamed its anti-Nasser message to the entire Arab world.

Q: This relationship is actually of some length and rather recent, isn’t it? How could this be forgotten by Iranians—or others around the world?

A: David Menashri, one of the most eminent Israeli scholars of modern Iran, calls the 1960s and 1970s “the Golden Age of Iranian Jewry, when Jews enjoyed almost total cultural and religious autonomy, experienced economic progress, and had no less political freedom than their Muslim counterparts.” He adds, “On per capita terms, they may well have been the richest community in the world.” To focus our attention on the deplorable words of irresponsible leaders such as Ahmadinejad is to forget the Esthers of Iran and remember only the rancorous Hamans.

This Q&A is based on op-eds Milani wrote for the International Herald Tribune in late 2005 and the San Francisco Chronicle in February 2006.
President George W. Bush met with the Hoover Institution Board of Overseers on February 27, the first day of the overseers’ annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

Stephen J. Hadley, assistant to the president for national security affairs, also addressed the group. The meetings were held at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building at the White House on Monday afternoon.

Earlier in the day, in a talk to overseers and guests, noted Middle East studies professor Fouad Ajami discussed the situation in Iraq and the steps its leaders and citizens can and should take. Ajami said he believes that the time has finally arrived and that the foundation is moving into place—after several rounds of elections in that country—for Iraqis to build what he called a “national unifying government.”

His talk was titled “Changing Arabia: American Power and the Battle for Arab Reform.” He is professor and director of the Middle East Studies Program at Johns Hopkins University School for Advanced Studies.

Before dinner, Allan B. Hubbard, assistant to the president for economic policy and director of the National Economic Council, spoke. Overseers and guests attending the dinner also heard a talk by Edward P. Lazear, the new chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers and a Hoover Institution senior fellow.

Vice President Dick Cheney closed the Hoover Institution Board of Overseers meeting with remarks to overseers, fellows, and guests on the afternoon of February 28.

Cheney discussed United States security and lauded the performance of President Bush and U.S. law enforcement for policies and actions taken since 9/11.

Earlier on Tuesday, those attending the meeting heard remarks from Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. secretary of defense, who discussed the huge shift in military operations during the past five years to meet the threats of terrorism.

Samuel W. Bodman, U.S. secretary of energy, commented on the search for alternative and new fuel resources to help

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Research Fellow Russell Roberts was featured on the nationally syndicated Diane Rehm Radio Show on April 23 as he and panel members discussed the issue of economic inequality in the United States. Roberts is a professor of economics at George Mason University.

Abbas Milani, a member of the Iran Democracy Project and a Hoover research fellow, appeared on “CBS 5 Town Hall: Islam and the West” on KPIX TV(CBS), San Francisco, on March 24 and 25. The show may be viewed on the KPIX website at cbs5.com/specialreports.

He also was interviewed about Iran on KGO radio (ABC), San Francisco, on March 21. KCBS (CBS) radio on March 17 featured Milani on Iran and its quest for nuclear capability.

Senior Fellow Larry Diamond discussed the situation in Iraq on KGO TV (ABC), San Francisco, on March 21. The same day he was interviewed about Iraq on WBEZ radio (National Public Radio), Chicago.

Senior Fellow Peter Berkowitz and Research Fellow Kenneth Anderson were featured on CSPAN on February 21 during a panel discussion about the American courts and the use of foreign law. Also on the panel were Jack Goldsmith, law professor at Harvard University, and John Yoo, law professor at University of California, Berkeley.

Senior Fellow Thomas Henriksen discussed the escape of Al-Qaeda prisoners in Iraq with KGO TV (ABC), San Francisco, on February 6.

The nomination of Senior Fellow Edward Lazear to chairmanship of the Council of Economic Advisers was covered on Bay Area stations including KGO radio (ABC), San Francisco, and KCBS radio (CBS), San Francisco.

Boards of Overseers

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America retain its leadership and power.

Joshua B. Bolten, then-director of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, talked about the need for good economic decisions to bolster national security and sustain economic growth.

Hoover senior fellow Victor Davis Hanson reflected on current affairs in Iraq and the interplay of oil, terrorism, and nuclear proliferation threats around the world.

More than 500 guests, overseers, and fellows concluded the evening at a reception.

All photos: Goodman/Van Riper Photography
President George W. Bush met with Hoover Institution fellows at the residence of Distinguished Fellow George P. Shultz on Friday, April 21, as he began a four-day tour of Northern California.

While there, the president met with 30 Hoover Institution fellows, members of Hoover’s Board of Overseers, and Stanford University’s president and provost.

“It was an honor and privilege to welcome the president to meet with representatives of Hoover and Stanford on his recent visit to California,” said Hoover director John Raisian. “We had a cordial discussion of prevailing public policy issues. Our time together was stimulating, as the president was in great spirits, offering his policy goals for the coming two years and hearing the comments and reactions of those in attendance.

“Many Hoover Institution fellows have been pleased to offer ideas for thoughtful consideration by the administration over the past six years and excited to be part of a continuing dialogue going forward.”

The Hoover Institution has served as a resource on public policy matters for U.S. presidents. Hoover fellows met with Ronald Reagan as he prepared his campaign for the presidency. A number of Hoover fellows served in the Reagan administration, including Shultz, who was secretary of state.

When George W. Bush was governor of Texas and preparing his bid for the presidency, he sought the counsel of Hoover fellows. Condoleezza Rice, a Hoover senior fellow, was appointed U.S. secretary of state after serving as the national security adviser to the president. Senior Fellow Edward P. Lazear was selected to become chairman of the President’s Council of Economic Advisers; Senior Fellow John Taylor served in a senior post in the Treasury Department under Bush, and Senior Fellow John Cogan has served as a longtime economic adviser to the president.

In February 2006, President Bush met with Hoover fellows and overseers during the Hoover Institution Board of Overseers meeting in Washington, D.C.
HOOVER MEDIA FELLOWS COMPARE REAGAN AND GEORGE W. BUSH PRESIDENCIES

“Tale of Two Presidents: Comparing Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush” was the topic when Lou Cannon, Reagan biographer, and his son, Carl Cannon, reporter with the National Journal, exchanged views on the two presidents at a media fellows seminar on March 27.

Lou Cannon, a former reporter with the Washington Post, analyzed the relationships of the two presidents with neoconservatives. “Ronald Reagan used the neocons,” Lou said, “George W. Bush is used by them.” He noted that the neocons have grown cool on the current administration but that “in the run-up to the 2004 election George W. Bush was hailed as both the legacy and disciple of the Reagan revolution.” The neocons, Lou said, underestimated the problems in Iraq.

Lou has written five books about Reagan, including the acclaimed President Reagan: The Role of a Lifetime, a Book of the Month Club main selection when it was first published by Simon and Schuster in 1991. He worked 26 years for the Washington Post before joining the California Journal, an acclaimed nonpartisan magazine published from 1970 to 2005, first as a contributing editor and then as chief executive officer.

“After 9/11 Bush emerged as a leader,” said Carl Cannon, the White House correspondent for the National Journal, “but Iraq has overwhelmed his presidency, which he doesn’t seem to realize.” That President Bush continues to pursue his domestic policy during a war is surprising, Carl said. He pointed out that, after the 2004 election, President Bush spoke of spending the political capital he had gained as a result of the election but that that is now all gone. The duration of the Iraq war has lowered President Bush’s approval ratings, Carl said, and warned that the ratings could go even lower.

The event was sponsored by the William and Barbara Edwards Media Fellows Program at Hoover Institution and the Stanford Alumni Association. Media fellows have the opportunity to exchange information and perspectives with Hoover scholars through seminars and informal meetings and with the Hoover and Stanford communities in public lectures. As fellows, they have access to the full range of research tools that Hoover offers. More than 100 of the nation’s top journalists have visited the Hoover Institution recently and interacted with Hoover fellows on key public policy issues.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA GOVERNOR SOHN VISITS HOOVER

Hak Kyu Sohn, governor of Gyeonggi province in the Republic of Korea, visited the Hoover Institution on Thursday, February 16, for a luncheon with Hoover fellows. He met with Hoover national security affairs fellows Lieutenant Colonel Scott F. Smith, Department of the Air Force, and Lieutenant Colonel Brian K. Buckles, U. S. Marine Corps.

Republic of Korea Governor Sohn Visits Hoover

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United States secretary of commerce Carlos Gutierrez (center) visited the Hoover Institution on Wednesday, February 15. He was the guest of honor at a roundtable discussion with Hoover fellows. He is seen here with Hoover senior fellow Edward P. Lazear (left) and Hoover distinguished fellow George P. Shultz (right).
In sum, after talking to our soldiers in Iraq and our planners in Washington, what seems to me most inexplicable is the war over the war — not the purported absence of a plan, but that the more we are winning in the field, the more we are losing it at home.

— Victor Davis Hanson, Martin and Illie Anderson Senior Fellow, Wall Street Journal, March 1

Instead of bean-counting and indulging in demagoguery, we should try to ascertain what fraction of mandated postapproval studies are really necessary, and FDA [Food and Drug Administration] should clean up its backlog of superfluous postmarketing studies.

— Henry I. Miller, research fellow, Washington Times, March 23

The war on terror has military, political, and economic dimensions. But it also has a critical psychological component. The terrorists are not 10 feet tall. We should engage in a psychological war that brings these thugs down to size.

— Peter F. Schweizer, research fellow, USA Today, March 23

Ultimately, no commodity, no service industry, sells to consumers without openly disclosing prices. Doctors and hospitals might be forced to rethink their prices if they knew those prices would become part of the public domain. There should be no mystery to patients about what their own health care will cost.

— Scott W. Atlas, senior fellow, Wall Street Journal, February 17

**Publication Roundup**

The Hoover Institution presents a wide range of expert research, commentary, and ideas in its four publications. Below are highlights from recent issues of each:

*Hoover Digest*—www.hooverdigest.org

- The Economy: “Give Me Your Skilled and Capable,” by Gary S. Becker
- Education: “Katrina and Vouchers,” by Milton Friedman
- Taxes: “That Rarest of Opportunities,” by Edward P. Lazear and James M. Poterba
- History and Culture: “On the Indispensability of Think Tanks,” by John Raisian

*Policy Review*—www.policyreview.org

- “Of Power and Providence: The Old U.S. and the New EU,” by David C. Hendrickson

*China Leadership Monitor*—www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org

- Military Affairs: “Ding, Dong, the Witch Is Dead!” by James Mulvenon
- Economic Policy: “Waves of Criticism: Debates over Bank Sales to Foreigners and Neo-Liberal Economics,” by Barry Naughton
- The Provinces: “Think National, Blame Local: Central-Provincial Dynamics in the Hu Era,” by Li Cheng

*Education Next*—www.educationnext.org

- “Is There a ‘Qualified Teacher’ Shortage?” by Michael Podgursky
- “When Principals Rate Teachers: The Best—and the Worst—Stand Out,” by Brian Jacob and Lars Lefgren

- “Getting Ahead by Staying Behind: An Evaluation of Florida’s Program to End Social Promotion,” by Jay P. Greene and Marcus A. Winters
- “A Setback in Dover: Last Rites for Intelligent Design,” by Josh Dunn and Martha Derthick
Warrant for Terror: The Fatwas of Radical Islam and the Duty to Jihad
by Shmuel Bar


Warrant for Terror (Rowman and Littlefield and Hoover Studies, 2006) examines fatwas—legal opinions concerning whether a given act under Islam is obligatory, permitted, or forbidden—as instruments by which religious leaders impel their believers to engage in terrorism. The author examines fatwas’ religious, legal, and moral logic and the depth of their influence. He delves into a number of critical issues including the justification for declaring jihad; the territory in which jihad should be fought; whether women and children may participate; the justification for killing hostages and mutilating their bodies; and the permissibility of diverse tactics and weapons, including suicide attacks and weapons of mass destruction.

Liberty and Justice
edited by Tibon Machan

ISBN: 08179-4702-7

Drawing from a wide range of classical and modern philosophers, editor Tibor Machan, a Hoover research fellow, and the contributors to this volume examine the interdependence of justice and liberty and attempt to define the most sensible, reasonable principles of justice as they relate to equality, property, gender, and other factors. They compare the libertarian approach to the modern liberal focus on “capability,” or entitlements, and offer a libertarian slant on feminism and liberty, a “natural rights” approach to justice.

Fight Club Politics: How Partisanship Is Poisoning the House of Representatives
by Juliet Eilperin

ISBN: 0-7425-5118-0

In Fight Club Politics: How Partisanship Is Poisoning the House of Representatives (Rowman and Littlefield, 2006), Juliet Eilperin, a Washington, D.C., native and Washington Post reporter since 1998, examines the partisan approach that has come to define the inner workings of Congress and the detrimental effect it has had on the country. Fight Club Politics is part of Hoover Studies in Politics, Economics, and Society series, edited by Hoover research fellows Peter Berkowitz and Tod Lindberg and published in cooperation with the Hoover Institution.

Uncertain Shield: The U.S. Intelligence System in the Throes of Reform
by Richard Posner


In Uncertain Shield: The U.S. Intelligence System in the Throes of Reform (Rowman and Littlefield, 2006), Richard Posner builds on his previous books, Preventing Surprise Attacks and Remaking Domestic Intelligence (both Hoover Institution Press, 2005), to question how well the government has been using intelligence to safeguard Americans since 9/11. Posner examines the new organizational structures developed as a result of the report of the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD commission). Posner is a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals in Chicago and a senior lecturer at the University of Chicago Law School. Uncertain Shield is part of the Hoover Studies in Politics, Economics, and Society series.
The seven-volume *The History of Stalin’s Gulag*—published by the Russian Political Encyclopedia Publishing House in cooperation with the Federal Archival Agency of the Russian Federation and the Hoover Institution—has been awarded the 2005 Silver Medal for Human Rights by Vladimir Lukin, plenipotentiary for human rights in the Russian Federation.

When Lukin made the award, it was hailed by Alexander Solzhenitsyn as a decisive and momentous step in the systematic shedding of light on communist repression.

In remarks presented in Moscow at the launching of the documentary series on October 30, 2005, Lukin declared: “If there was something this year that was an achievement in Russian culture, history, or generally in Russian civilization, it is these seven volumes. With their publication, further discussion as to what constituted the Bolshevik regime is no longer necessary.”

The editorial board for the series consisted of eminent Russian and American scholars, including Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Osip Chubar’ian, Iurii Afanasiev, Robert Conquest, Terence Emmons, and Paul Gregory, to name just a few.

Documents included in *The History of Stalin’s Gulag* were obtained by the Hoover Archives as microfilm copies in the 1990s, along with other documents from Soviet archives; they attracted scholars from all over the world to the Hoover Archives.

In 2002 a group of scholars, directed by Professor Paul Gregory, began a research project based on that microfilm collection in an effort to gain a basic understanding of the way the Soviet economic, political, and social system worked. The project’s research fields were designed around the strengths of the Hoover Institution’s archival holdings in areas such as forced labor, party regulation, and audit.