

William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies Information Resources- Transcript of audio

Please stand by for realtime captions.

Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to FDLP Academy. We have a terrific webinar for you today. My name is Joe Paskoski with my colleague Ashley Dahlen as tech support. The title of today's webinar is William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies information resources. With us today is our presenter, Bert Chapman. He is a longtime depository coordinator and he has presented many webinars for us which we appreciate. I think you will do more in the future and has a conference presentation coming up, a virtual conference. So we will look for that. The end he is the government information and political history science librarian at the Purdue University libraries. With that I will hand the virtual microphone over to him to take it from here.

Thank you very much. Good afternoon, everyone. Over the past couple of years when thinking about international relations or security matters it is possible our first thoughts have been focused on developments in areas such as Russia and Ukraine and China in the Pacific region. The interest in those areas is perfectly valid. But as defense on U.S. and southern border illustrates we also have to pay attention to what is happening in the Caribbean, Central and South America. Created a number of different research centers to do national security and international resources. And one of them is the William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies studies. I like to cover their information resources. Here is the website for the center. This was their webpage I think a few weeks ago. I need to provide some historical background on the William J. Perry. Just after World War II an institution called the Western hemispheric Institute for security Corporation was established in Georgia. Also known for school of the Americas. This executed educated a lot of political figures in country south of the United States, but it became controversial over the years because it included controversial political and military figures such as Argentinian leader --. He was one of the leaders of Argentina and we call him a dictator. He was responsible for Argentina's ill-fated and ill-advised attempt to take the Falkland Islands from the United Kingdom. Then there was penalize a -- who was a Panamanian dictator and president in the late 80s and heavily involved in international narcotics trafficking. He was toppled from power in a U.S.-led military invasion in 1989. And who was president in Panama at the time of the Panama Canal Treaty. Human rights violations by these individuals and others contributed to the closure. I will provide a bit of background information about William J. Perry. He was from Pennsylvania educated at Stanford and Penn State. Served a number of positions in the defense industry and technology industries. Between 1977 in 1981 he was the undersecretary of defense for research and engineering handling weapon systems for procurement research including introducing cell technology. Then during the Reagan and the first Bush administration he was involved in various banking and high-tech firms in San Francisco. In 1993 he was the deputy during secretary of defense. So the secretary defense from 1994 to 1997. Since then he has served on various academic and governmental advisory boards addressing national and international security topics. The Perry center got started during a 1995 defense ministerial of the Americas at Williamsburg Virginia and this involved most central and south American defense ministers. Perry convened this meeting for hemispheric discussion of defense and security matters and this center opened on September 17th 1997 so it is about to celebrate its 25th anniversary. Was

renamed for Perry in 2013 and located at Washington, D.C.'s national Defense University. Its purpose is educating policymakers, practitioners, and academics out the Americas and securing defensive sectors. Many students have gone through and many of them have become key players and policymakers in foreign-policy and defense institutions of other countries. Stripes to promote respect for human rights and produces a number of academic research products to inform policy decisions. Offers six to 10 question courses annually on security and world law. This includes different requirements for civilian and military candidates. And it mentions once you graduate from a course you have to wait at least 18 months to apply to a new course. It mentions some of the other let you can't take courses want to graduate from them. It mentions all candidates have to possess a university degree or equivalent and also military and police personnel have to complete a command or staff course or equivalent. Like I mentioned, courses are conducted in either English or Spanish with no interpretation and they mention some other things including passing a test. You have to submit your application and various other materials including an application Cee Vee or letters of recommendations and documentation of English reading proficiency. And scholarships are granted to attend resident courses in Washington, D.C. and include all of those things. Though the current financial environment has reduced the number of scholarships available. On their website you can find information about different courses the center is offering. One currently being offered is called defense governance. They conducted an online portion from August 22nd to September second and they are currently in the residential phase and the course is in Spanish. And explores relevant concepts on functioning of defense governance in different countries. List the name of the instructor. I will say more about him. He says these are some of the learning objectives. To find defense governance. Discuss the leadership of defense governance. Then the respective relevance to defense governance. We thought was a four week's course with two weeks online into mixed residential. You have to use their blackboard to download assignments and participate in videoconference and the residential phase involves individual study reading discussion, small group discussions, panels, case studies, and exercises. Here are some of the policy goals they particularly want to focus on improving at ministerial capacity of governance of security and defense sectors. It mentions candidate should meet various requirements either military or civilian. And these are some of the educational requirements. Here is a professor of this class. He is Brazilian. There is his contact information, educational background. And it mentions a couple of his publications then there is another course that will be starting late this month and going to October called strategy and defense policy. It tells us what the course objectives are and who the structure instructor is. Here are the learning objectives, policy goals. Biographical information on the instructor including has done some service in the U.S. government and a link to a publication and an article he wrote published in the national defense journal which is open access. And there is his contact information. Other subjects offered by our the planning workshop, regional governance seminar. Regional seminar to combat transnational threats and a transnational threats seminar. They mentioned that the target audience for each of these seminars will be graduates of other regional courses from not only the Perry center, but other security studies covered in previous webinars. Because of the pandemic they put a number of its programs online so these are some webcasts of some of the different webinars they have done. Here is one called Central America Morris tier one threat. You can click to on-demand videos in either English or Spanish. This was a lecture that was held on June 26 four years ago. And about the transnational gang which is been a huge problem in

the Latin American countries and various areas within the U.S. A few years ago Kirstjen Nielsen identify them as the first thing dangerous enough to be classified as a transnational criminal organization. This provides a little more information about the group. They have been involved in drug trafficking and various criminal activities and political ambitions have grown considerably. This is the agenda for today and the webinar. A lot of different subject areas of interest. Including development in Honduras and El Salvador. Here is an example of one of the videos you can connect to to watch the webinar. On March 10th of this year there was another webinar called security defense and general Latin America, what are the impacts. This is available in English. And it was the location where it was held. Here was the agenda. And that list to the different speakers are and there was a moderator for each session. The center has a library and a number of publications have gotten into the of the LP. And they have a number of different categories of publications and these are some of them. Explain what they cover. Some of these errors very active publication categories and others are not. So this will explain what they are. Here is the center's annual report and it covers the fiscal year in it. In some ways it is just telling you what all they have done that particular year. Here is the table of contents for the 2019 report so it will mention some of the different seminars. Here is one on countering transnational threats in the Americas which was conducted in July of 2019 in Argentina. Mentioned over 30 alums participated as speakers. And here's a session in Washington, D.C. and a location in Peru in 2014 that included approximately 20 students from the Peruvian maybes post graduate leadership program. Talks about the topics that were discussed during this program. There is a variety of publications they have produced. This is an occasional paper that came out this year about vaccination against COVID-19 among Western Hemisphere readiness force protection and international cooperation forces. This is a picture of soldiers from Brazilian Army military region clean and disinfect in a small market in Brazil during August of 2020. Here is some information. They mentioned Peru had the highest death toll from the coronavirus and the Dominican Republic and Venezuela were the least affected. Venezuela may have had a higher rate. They also have a listing of deaths and vaccination rates for all of the countries in this region. The deaths are per 100,000 people. And the percentage are fully vaccinated, you will notice it varies considerably. And they mentioned that they issued a vaccine was recommended, but voluntary. And 92% of personnel received at least one dose. And they mentioned one of the countries private security companies to vaccinate its employees. They mentioned there has been high levels of vaccine hesitancy in that country. This tells the story for Honduras and its military. Some representatives from the commandment covers Caribbean and Latin America. And they have a section on future implications and additional research. That's the question jazz vaccine resistance or refusal undercut military readiness. They also ask what discussion around vaccination be different if it was more deadly among young individuals. The mission forces have been up been hit as hard, but might not be the case in a potential future pandemic. Also a series called regional insights. This is talking about the Colombian cocoa blue, the Mexican heroin search, and sentinel crisis. Here they are explaining how the sentinel crisis or opioid crisis that began in 2013 and explain the lethality of Fentanyl and particularly mention how the amount of Fentanyl seized by U.S. border agencies has drastically skyrocketed between 2013, 2018 and 2020. This chart really graphically illustrates increases in drug overdose deaths with fentanyl deaths absolutely going through the roof. And they are taking some data from the CDC's national Center for health statistics. Here is more information about it including developments from 2021. They also have their conclusion and mention how cocaine makes

its way from the Andes through Central America and dispersed through multiple countries and cartels before entering the U.S. Another report is called how cryptocurrencies is empowering transnational criminal organizations and countries in Latin America. They mention particularly in 2021 that cryptocurrency has gone mainstream and more consumers are using them and investing in various cryptocurrencies. They mention what the market capitalization reached last year and how transnational criminal organizations has turned to cybercrime in cryptocurrencies. Another report has this adversarial analysis of Salvatori and gangs. Here is a table of contents and they do things such as a literature review, introduction, sharing their research methods and explain how the gangs worked and the presence of children in the gangs, drug trafficking. And here are some of the conclusions. The family gangs may have an ideology that wants to weaken the national government and establish a parallel gang nation. Also a paper called big data, too big to ignore for Latin America and the Caribbean. They mention what the objective of this paper is and the things they are trying to examine analyzing the impact theme of data on society as a impact security and defense. Also at one time published a journal called security and defense studies review. Here is some of the articles in that. You will notice a couple of them are in Spanish. Here is one called the rise of China in the Americas. China is trying to increase its influence in many areas of the world and Latin America and the Caribbean are no exception. This is an article describing that and giving things such as China's trade balance with Latin American countries. I think there are a number of benefits we can gain from using Perry Center resources and transmit these benefits on to our users. What has scholars addressing these issues. Getting an understanding of us can't affect security topics. Federal, state, and local government policy security and making with individual communities and on a macro level policy approach getting an understanding of how they can affect our lives and communities and neighbor such as public health, criminal justice, personal physical safety, immigration, drug abuse, local, state, national finance. And learning how countries such as China, Iran, Russia, and others significantly advanced their strategic areas in this area. With that I am ready for your questions.

Thank you. Excellent information. Any questions from the audience? [Indiscernible]
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Did you mention the individuals making up defense?

Often the foreign-policy law enforcement personnel.

Okay. A variety of people. Okay. I see it. Thank you. Sounds like a very interesting organization. What prompted the U.S. government to create the Perry Center study in the mid-90s. Not sure if I heard you mention intended to only focus on Latin American studies. And mentioned there was a center established just after World War II so it was Cold War security interest related. But over the ensuing few decades there were some problems with some of the alumni becoming leaders in these countries and becoming dictatorial and engaging in human rights abuses. So it was shut down in the early to mid 90s and re-created as this Perry study center. It is focused primarily on Latin America and Caribbean studies, but because of the interest of outside powers such as Russia, China, and I Ron in the Latin American -- they are starting to undercut the U.S. and its interest, while it is technically just notes on Latin American studies security matters it has global impact.

Very interesting. Here is a question. Are any Perry Center publications indexed in regular library databases or discovery knowledge bases.

I have not looked into that. You would probably want to check to see if they are in public affairs information services. There potentially could be others. A problem sometimes with

many government information resources as they are not necessarily picked up outside of U.S. government channels.

I put the satisfaction survey into the chat so please fill that out and, Ashley, if you could put those other two links we have links to past webinars in our repository. A lot of birds passed webinar focusing on intelligence related issues. Very interesting webinars. But all the Malay gel after three years, but a good many of webinars there. Time for more questions. Did Perry Center publications come through GPL or published independently?

Some come through GPO. I think some are independent. If you see something on their website that is not in the publications asked GPO and set up a link to it.

Okay. We are pretty good on time. Keep those questions coming in. In the meantime I will make a few comments here. I would first like to thank Bert for another great webinar. He has done many webinars for us and I'm sure he will be doing more for us in the future. Plus don't forget his virtual conference presentation army corps of engineers, if I'm not mistaken.

Yes. That leads me into don't forget to register for our fall virtual federal repository conference. See details about that on F DLP.gov. That is October 17 through 19th. We wanted it in person but we thought this year we would go virtual again with COVID still out there. We have five more webinars scheduled for September. Four. One was canceled today. The next one is Tuesday September 20th 2022 entitled census trade tools for the F DLP. This will be important because part of this presentation will be about a new tool we just released from census that is a password database they charge most people for, but for F DLP libraries we get free access with a special password. It is foreign trade online resources. So come to that webinar. The F DLP will talk about some other things, too, but the F DLP resources are available now and you can learn more about it. Don't forget to register for our lives September and fall virtual conference. You can receive news of all upcoming events if you sign up for our newsletter and you can see -- find the Academy webpage go to the top and go over. I believe it is in the about. One of the top links. And you will see all of our debtors there will be a calendar there to see upcoming webinars and events. Also volunteer. There should be a form on there. You can email me if you want to. If anybody wants to present a webinar or any government information topic. It could be F DLP specific.

Managing a suppository or anything of DLP specific for our webinars. See if we got any other questions. Ashley put a link in for the fall conference. Sign up for that. We really get high attendance at these virtual conferences. A nice shout out from Katie. Thank you. I can leave it on for a few more minutes here if there are any last questions for Bert. Okay. It looks like there aren't any more questions so I think I can close things out. Thank you one more time, Bert Chapman. Another fabulous webinar. We really appreciate it. What is it, roughly one a month for us. A lot of great information. Thank you, Ashley, for the great tech support work. And thank you, audience. Please come back for that census trade webinar. It is a great one. And my colleague David Walls is doing some great webinars this month. He is an expert in the field. People love his webinars. It will be a day or so before the transcript and presentation slides will be available on the website. Also please register for our conference. It will be a great conference. Thank you once again. Have a great rest of the day, everyone. Thank you.

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