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## 50 Years Ago...

What we have set out to do is to create an institute for the Foreign Service of the United States that in its field will compare favorably with the War Colleges of the Armed Forces, as there has never been an institute equipped to do for diplomacy what the War Colleges do for defense.

— From: "The New FSI Training Program" by Harold B. Hoskins, *FSJ*, Nov. 1955.



Kurtzer on Sept. 9, "The government may or may not decide to pursue it [the aid], in view of the fact that the costs to the American taxpayer of Katrina are likely to be enormous in the period ahead."

Traditional adversaries of the United States like Cuba, Venezuela and Iran have also offered their help. Cuba has sent 1,100 physicians, and Venezuela has donated food supplies and humanitarian relief. Less sincere is Iran's offer to provide 20 million barrels of crude oil, which is conditional on the U.S. lifting trade sanctions. The United States has rejected this and all other conditional offers.

Multilateral organizations have also provided assistance to the recovery effort. NATO's contribution is significant, both in monetary terms and as evidence of its continued transition toward humanitarian and peacekeeping missions. To provide for disaster relief, NATO has utilized the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Center, created in 1998 as the focal point for coordinating disaster relief efforts in the Euro-Atlantic partnership. Daily situation reports can be found at the EADRCC Web site (<http://www.nato.int/eadcc/2005/katrina/index.htm>), with detailed information on the contributions of donor states.

The EADRCC has also been working in close coordination with the

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to alleviate the condition of displaced people along the Gulf coast, much as it did for those affected in Asia following last December's tsunami. Reliefweb, a Web site administered by UN-OCHA, provides a wealth of documents on Katrina relief (<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc108?OpenForm&rc=2&emid=TC-2005-000144-USA>). A collection of maps can also be found of the affected areas.

Predictably, scandal has erupted alongside all of the help. CI Host, the largest private Web-hosting firm worldwide, reports that over 4,000 Katrina-related scam Web sites have been created since Sept. 1. According to their figures, 60 percent of all Katrina fundraising Web sites are fraudulent. Tips on how to avoid scam Web sites are available, among other places, at the FBI cyber investigations Web site (<http://www.fbi.gov/cyberinvest/escams.htm>).

Government agencies working with foreign donors have begun to produce tangible results. These same efforts are also being directed toward Hurricane Rita and its aftermath. Having struck only weeks after Katrina, Rita has underscored the need to learn, and institutionalize, Katrina's many tough lessons. ■

— Daniel Zussman,  
 Editorial Intern