

***RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)  
invites you to attend its meeting, on Wednesday, April 29, 2015.  
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT.***

***AMBASSADOR TOM NILES***

***KEY POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES AROUND THE  
WORLD***



“May you live in interesting times”, the saying goes. Our world today is one of flux and change. The Soviet Union is challenging the United States and the countries of Western Europe by its aggressive actions in the Ukraine, and has cast an adventurous eye at the countries of the former Soviet Bloc. The United States is embarking on a new course of action in Iran, with a most uncertain outcome. The Near East and Middle East, which not so long ago revolved mainly about Israel at one end, and Iraq/Afghanistan at the other, is now totally engulfed in sectarian conflict, including non-state actors such as the Islamic State and Al Qaeda, whose influence is extending into Africa. By some metrics, China’s economy has overtaken that of the United States, and China’s political and military influence in Asia has become a force to be reckoned with. We also face critical economic issues such as the problems of the European Monetary Union, and we are engaged in key negotiations on the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) and TTIP (Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership).

Ambassador Tom Niles will review key international developments and what they mean for the United States. Based on his experience and insights gained over 36 years in the United States Foreign Service, Ambassador Niles will try to answer that question for us and suggest alternatives that would better advance American interests. Ambassador Niles will also touch upon other current foreign policy matters.

Ambassador Niles served as Ambassador to Canada (1985-89) and to the European Union (1989-91), Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Canada (1991-93), and Ambassador to Greece (1993-97). Earlier in his career, he served in Belgrade, Moscow (twice), and the United States Mission to NATO in Brussels as well as in the Department of State. In 1999 he became President of the United States Council for International Business which advances the global interests of American business both at home and abroad, promoting an open system of world trade, finance, and investment. It is the U.S. affiliate of the International Chamber of Commerce, the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD, and the International Organization of Employers. He recently retired as President of the United States Council for International Business and became its Vice Chairman.

**RMA Meetings are free and open to the public; no reservations are required. Please plan to arrive around 10:45 for our social break (coffee and cake), followed by our speaker at 11:00. Meetings are held at the First Presbyterian Church in Greenwich. For additional information, call Bernard Schneider, 203-698-2558; bgsesq@gmail.com.**