

***RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)
invites you to attend its meeting, on Wednesday, June 4, 2014.
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT.***

FRANK ANDERSON

***A LESS AMBITIOUS, MORE FEASIBLE LOOK AT IRAQ,
AFGHANISTAN AND THE WAR ON TERROR.***



The Iraq War was an armed conflict that consisted of two phases. The first was an invasion of Iraq in March 2003 by an armed force led by the United States. It was followed by a longer phase of fighting, in which an insurgency emerged to oppose the Iraqi forces and the newly formed Iraqi government. The U.S. completed its withdrawal of military personnel in December 2011. The insurgency is ongoing, however, and continues to cause thousands of fatalities: to date, 130,000 documented civilian deaths from

violence, 4,800 U.S. and Coalition fatalities, and 188,000 violent deaths including combatants. To say nothing of the wounded in body and mind and the effect on their loved ones.

The War in Afghanistan (2001–present) refers to the intervention by NATO and allied forces in the ongoing Afghan civil war. This War followed the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, in an effort to dismantle al-Qaeda and eliminate its safe haven by removing the Taliban from power. A few days ago, President Obama outlined a plan to withdraw all but 9,800 American troops from Afghanistan by the end of the year and pull out the rest by the end of 2016, ending more than a decade of military engagement, the longest war in U.S. history. To date: 3,400 U.S. and Coalition military casualties, and 20,000 civilian casualties. The human toll of many of those returning.

What have we accomplished? What man is, history tells. What have we learned? “That men do not learn very much from the lessons of history is the most important of all the lessons of history.” Aldous Huxley.

Frank Anderson retired as Chief of the Near East and South Asia Division of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency after a 27-year career at the Agency. His career included three assignments as the Agency's Chief of Station in Middle East countries, running the Afghan Task Force during the late 1980's effort to expel the Red Army from Afghanistan and a stint as the Director of Technical Services (like James Bond's "Q."). Since his 1995 retirement from CIA he has served on a joint CIA/Defense Department Task Force to study intelligence needs for the "War on Terrorism", consulted with U.S. energy, telecommunications and aero space companies on doing business in the Middle East, been President of the Middle East Policy Council, and worked in Afghanistan on a Defense Department effort to bring U.S. business and investments to the country. He earned his B.A. from the University of Illinois in Chicago, a Diploma from the U.S. Foreign Service Institute's Arab Language and Middle East Area Studies School in Beirut, Lebanon, and a Certificate from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government Program for Senior Executives in National and International Security.

Our business meetings begin at 10, and our speakers are scheduled for 10:30. No Charge, and No Reservations are required. For additional information, call Bernard Schneider, 203-698-2558; bgsesq@gmail.com. See our website greenwichrma.org.