“America and Iran: Endless Enemies?”

Ambassador John W. Limbert

United States Naval Academy

This is the fifth lecture in a series being hosted by Middle East Studies at Marine Corps University entitled “Framing the Iranian Challenge”.

Ambassador (ret.) John Limbert holds the Class of 1955 Chair of Middle Eastern Studies at the U.S. Naval Academy. During a 33-year career in the United States Foreign Service, he served mostly in the Middle East and Islamic Africa. He was president of the American Foreign Service Association (2003-05) and ambassador to Mauritania (2000-03). In 2009-2010, while on leave from the Naval Academy, he served as Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Department’s Bureau of Near East Affairs. Before joining the Foreign Service he taught in Iran as a Peace Corps volunteer in Kurdestan (1964-66) and at Shiraz University (1969-72). He has written numerous articles and books on Middle Eastern subjects including Iran at War with History (Westview Press, 1987), Shiraz in the Age of Hafez (University of Washington Press, 2004), and Negotiating with Iran (U.S. Institute of Peace, 2009). Amb. Limbert holds the Department of State’s highest award – the Distinguished Service Award – and the Award for Valor, which he received in 1981 after fourteen months as a hostage in Iran. Amb. Limbert holds his Ph.D. from Harvard University in History and Middle Eastern Studies.

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Gray Research Center, Room 164,166
2040 Broadway St , MCB Quantico

For more information about the MES Iran Lecture Series, or to RSVP, please contact Adam C Seitz, Senior Research Associate MES at MCU, at (703) 432-5260 or seitzac@grc.usmcu.edu.