



Aerial Observation and Confidence Building

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Table of Contents

About the Project	<i>i</i>
Table of Contents	<i>iii</i>
List of Abbreviations	<i>v</i>
Preface	<i>vii</i>
Confidence Building, Peace-Making and Aerial Inspections in the Middle East	1
<i>Michael Krepon and Peter D. Constable</i>	
Open Skies: Beyond “Vancouver to Vladivostok”	21
<i>John H. Hawes</i>	
Risk Reduction in South Asia: A Role for Cooperative Aerial Observation?	49
<i>John H. Hawes and Teresita C. Schaffer</i>	
Notes on Contributors	

About the Project

The Henry L. Stimson Center has been working to promote confidence-building measures (CBMs) in regions of tension since 1991. Our CBM programming now focuses primarily on India, Pakistan, China, and Japan. We have also carried out workshops in Latin America and the Middle East and provided CBM briefings for officials and visitors from these regions.

The Center's CBM programming has six main components:

- C First, we hold a series of meetings on CBMs in Washington for diplomats and military attachés, media, executive and legislative officials, and representatives from nongovernmental organizations. These meetings provide an opportunity to discuss problem-solving ideas in a congenial setting.
- C Second, we commission papers to stimulate thinking and problem-solving CBM approaches within regions of interest. We are interested in developing the theory as well as the practice of CBMs. Towards these ends we compare CBM experiences in different regions. We are also interested in collaborations across borders to encourage networking. We publish commissioned work as funding permits.
- C Third, with local co-sponsorship, we convene workshops on CBMs within countries of interest, reaching key target audiences: government officials, military officers, journalists, academics, and researchers.
- C Fourth, we host a Visiting Fellows program, whereby talented individuals from India, Pakistan, and China carry out research and writing on the theory and practice of CBMs at the Stimson Center.
- C Fifth, we publish and distribute widely materials on CBMs. We also place our CBM publications and non-published work on the Stimson Center's website (www.stimson.org).
- C Sixth, we moderate a cross-border internet dialogue, known as the Southern Asia Internet Forum, designed to generate open dialogue, and broaden the scope of discussion, among individuals working on security issues in the region.

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List of Abbreviations

ABM	Anti-ballistic missile
APCs	Armored personnel carriers
CBMs	Confidence-Building Measures
CFE	Conventional Forces in Europe
CSCE	Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe
CWC	Chemical Weapons Convention
DGMOs	Directors General of Military Operations
LoC	Line of Control
MFO	Multinational Force and Observers
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NNA	Neutral and non-aligned
NTM	National technical means
OSI	On-site inspection
SALT	Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty
START	Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty

Preface

Over the past seven years, the Henry L. Stimson Center has published several essays on the utility of cooperative aerial observation for tension reduction, confidence building, and conflict resolution. We are reproducing these essays and republishing them as they originally appeared in order draw attention to this body of work at a time when these imaginative ideas could have direct utility for long-standing disputes in South Asia, the Middle East, and the Asia-Pacific region.