

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 9th, 2025

Art Scutro, President, opened the Meeting

Tom Hull provided stirring Words of Inspiration

Tom introduced guests John Polgreame and Glenn Edward

Steve Seamans described the upcoming annual meeting with spouses for next month.

The Meeting will feature Nancy Beffa and her renowned films on the Olympics.

Minutes from the prior Meeting were approved

After lunch the Meeting moved on to our featured speaker.

Tom Hull introduced our featured speaker Ray Malley

Ray is a Fletcher School grad from Tufts who spent years in international business and as a diplomat for the U.S. Government.

Ray is a former major in the Air Force as well. Ray served in the private sector with companies such as Texaco and Hyundai, but also had a long and distinguished career in government service in the State Department and US AID. Ray's talk centered on the historical use of "Soft" and "Hard" Power as instruments of foreign policy. Ray began his talk with the Treaty of Westphalia which brought an end to the 30 Years War, and also saw the emergence of the nation/states in Europe. Ray introduced the School of "Realism" as described by Hans Morgenthau, the German/American academic. Hans Morgenthau is now considered one of the "founding fathers" of the [realist school](#) in the 20th century. This school of thought holds that nation-states are the main actors in international relations and that the main concern of the field is the study of [power](#). Realist practitioners of this school include Nixon and Kissinger as opposed to the Liberal School of politics who included Wilson, Carter and Clinton (Globalists). Countries project power in two forms, "Hard" and "Soft" Power. Hard power can include direct (military) action while Soft power includes actions such as foreign aid to influence events. Example of Soft power projection include the Marshall Plan, post WW2, and the current Chinese "Belt and Road" initiative. An element in Soft power projection that detracts from its effectiveness is the bureaucratic nature of foreign aid within the government structure which tends to limit its effectiveness. Ray did a great job of introducing a complicated subject and his efforts were greatly appreciated by the members present.

As mentioned before the next Meeting will include a lecture by Nancy Beffa on the Olympics.

Submitted: Tom Flynn, Secretary