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The Information Resource Center (IRC) of U.S. Embassy in Bangkok is pleased to offer a select list of the most current online reports, documents, and websites to commemorate President Obama's historic trip to Asia. Full texts are available at your fingertips by clicking the links provided or by copying the URL address into your Internet browser. Current and back issues of "Issue-in-Focus" are also available in our homepage at <http://bangkok.usembassy.gov/services/irc/cis.html>.

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Issue-in-Focus Special Feature: President Obama's First Trip to Asia

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ARTICLES & REPORTS



"Obama Goes to Asia: Understanding the President's Trip"
[Jeffrey A. Bader](#), et al. The Brookings Institution, November 06, 2009, 90 pages.

In a discussion about President Obama's trip to Asia and the issues he is likely to face, hosted by the Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies and the John L. Thornton China Center at Brookings, Bader, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for East Asian

Affairs on the National Security Council, provides a keynote address outlining the White House's strategy for the trip. A panel of leading experts then focuses on each stop in President Obama's journey, analyzing, as appropriated, environmental cooperation, trade issues, alliance management, and regional security challenges.

Full transcript currently available at:

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/events/2009/1106_obama_asia/20091106_obama_asia_trip.pdf [PDF format; 179KB]



"U.S. Objectives in Asia"

[Douglas H. Paal](#). Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, November 12, 2009, 5 pages.

President Barack Obama launches a diplomatic tour of the Asia-Pacific region this week, making stops in Japan, Singapore, China, and South Korea. Paal, Vice President for Studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, discusses Obama's objectives for the trip and the U.S. role in the region.

Full transcript currently available at:

<http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=24167>

"Mr. Obama Goes to Asia: Defining a Regional Policy"

[Douglas H. Paal](#), et al. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, November 5, 2009, 28 pages.

Much has been made about President Obama's upcoming trip to Asia as recent events on the continent—continuing uncertainty in North Korea, the violence in Urumqi, and the ongoing fallout in the wake of global recession, to name a few, indicate that this could be one of the most important trips of his first year in office. Carnegie experts examine the possible implications and outcomes of the trip for the U.S. strategic and economic relationship with the region.

Full text currently available at:

http://carnegieendowment.org/files/1105_transcript_obama_asia2.pdf [PDF format; 197 KB]



"Previewing President Obama's Trip to Asia and the APEC Forum"

[Richard C. Bush III](#). The Brookings Institution, November 12, 2009. Richard Bush, Director of the Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies, examines the United States relationships with Asian countries. He asserts that President Obama's Asia trip gives the

United States an opportunity to restore relations with Asian nations and to stress the importance of strengthening partnerships among all global powers.

Video only. No transcript. Watch to the video from this event at:

http://www.brookings.edu/multimedia/video/2009/1109_apec_bush.aspx [1:30min]

"President Obama Tours Asia"

[Sheila A. Smith](#), et al. Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), November 3, 2009, 6 pages. CFR experts examine a long list of issues crowds the U.S. policy agenda in the East Asia-Pacific region: security, economic, environment, and energy among others. Denuclearization of North Korea, China's holding of U.S. debt, the realignment of U.S. security forces in Japan, and international agreements on trade and climate change may pose challenges to the president as he tours the region.

Full text currently available at:

http://www.cfr.org/publication/20639/boosting_ties_with_a_rising_asia.html?breadcrumb=%2F

"President Obama's Trip to Asia"

[Victor Cha](#). Center for Strategic and International Studies, November 3, 2009, 2 pages. Cha, Senior Advisor and Korea Chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, discusses the significance and expectations associated with the visit and the overall issues associated with the APEC meetings.

Full text currently available at: <http://csis.org/publication/president-obama%E2%80%99s-trip-asia>

BLOG

[Staying in Touch During the Asia Trip](#)

Follow this White House blog for frequent updates on the trip. Written by Ben Rhodes, Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications, the blog will provide an inside perspective to American people as well as the world.

WEBSITE

[A Historic Visit to Asia, November 12-19, 2009](#)

The U.S. Embassy Bangkok presents a special web page which provides details of president Obama's trip itinerary as well as a collection of latest documents, transcripts and resources pertaining to his first trip to Asia since taking office, including his policy speech in Tokyo on November 14.

Learn more about [President Obama's Trip to Asia](#) at bangkok.usembassy.gov



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