

# U.S.—AFGHANISTAN POLICY: PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS



WEDNESDAY, 6 OCTOBER  
NOON  
238 HRCB



## Michael J. Metrinko

MIDDLE EAST SPECIALIST, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Michael J. Metrinko is a retired Foreign Service officer with over forty years of experience in the Islamic world, five of those in Afghanistan since 2002. In Afghanistan, Metrinko served as a senior advisor for the Dyncorp International, the U.S. Embassy, and NATO forces, recently returning to the U.S. He previously served as ministry reform advisor at the U.S. Army Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute, based at the U.S. Army War College. His last FSO posting was as the advisor on Parliamentary Affairs for the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, where he dealt directly with the new Afghan National Assembly. He served seven years in Iran before being taken hostage in

1979, spending fourteen months as a prisoner. Metrinko returned to active service after the events of September 11, 2001, with assignments to Yemen, Iraq, and Afghanistan. As an FSO, he served for three years as the office director in the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, where he had responsibility for refugee programs in Europe, South Asia, and the Middle East, and as deputy director for the Iran-Iraq office. A former Peace Corps volunteer for five years in Turkey and Iran, Metrinko graduated from Georgetown University, received an MPA from Harvard, and attended both the University of Teheran and the National Defense University.