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The RMAF...Moving into the Next Decade of the 21st Century

General Tan Sri Azizan Ariffin, Chief of Air Force, RMAF

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The Royal Malaysian Air Force moves into the next decade of the 21st century having evolved from one that was primarily concerned with supporting a counter-insurgency

threat to that which is being geared to take on the challenges of the new decade.

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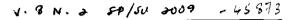
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Tamed Tigers, Distressed Dragon

Brian P. Klein and Kenneth Neil Cukier

For decades, Asia's booming economies built their wealth on export revenues. Today, they are suffering as Western demand collapses. If Asian nations, including China, are to weather the economic crisis, their governments will have to raise wages, boost domestic consumption, and build genuine social safety nets.

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The Pentagon's Wasting Assets Andrew F. Krepinevich, Jr.

The military foundations of U.S. dominance are steadily eroding. With the spread of advanced military technologies to rising powers, hostile states, and nonstate actors, the United States is losing its ability to project power worldwide and its unfettered access to the oceans, space, and cyberspace. These changes demand a major strategic review by Washington—one that leads to both new sources of military advantage and a more modest grand strategy to protect core U.S. interests.

Flipping the Taliban Fotini Christia and Michael Semple

President Barack Obama's proposed deployment of 21,000 more U.S. troops to Afghanistan is necessary to tip the balance of power against the Taliban. But it will not be enough. Washington and its allies must accompany the move with a political "surge," an effort to persuade large groups of insurgents to give up their fight. This can be done: in Afghanistan, battles are often decided by defections rather than fighting, and for many members of the Taliban, the insurgency is less a matter of ideology than a way of life.

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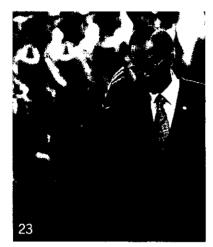
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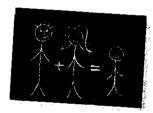
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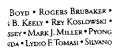
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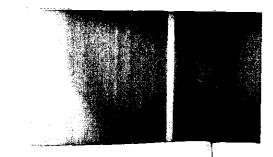
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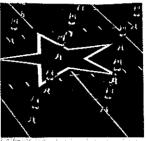
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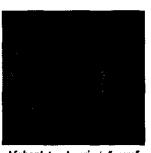
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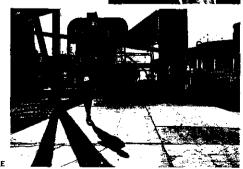
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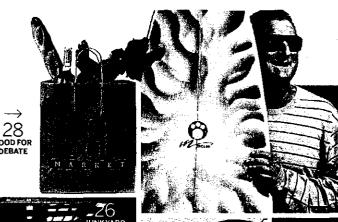
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Partners. It has not. In "Derivatives: The Risk That Still Won't Go Away" (July 6), we incorrectly attributed a New York Times story on Bill Clinton; the piece was written by Peter Baker. In "Sony-Lost in Transformation" (July 6), the first name of Sony executive Kuni Suzuki was misspelled. And in "Toyota's New Man at the Wheel" (July 6), we misstated the amount of Toyota's loss for fiscal 2009. The correct number is \$4.4 billion. Fortune regrets the errors.

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On the cover: Photograph for TIME by Mikhail Galustov—Redux. Insets, from left: Guang Niu— Getty, Universal

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