

*Curriculum Vitae*

**ROBERT LEE SUETTINGER**

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**Professional Experience**

**Independent Consultant/Historian** January-October 2004; April 2016-Present  
Political risk analysis on Asia, with particular emphasis on China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the Korean Peninsula. Completed a biography of former General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, Hu Yaobang.

**The Stimson Center** April 2014-April 2016  
1211 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036  
*SENIOR ADVISOR AND CONSULTANT.* Researching and writing a book on China's political reform, supported by the Smith Richardson Foundation

**CENTRA Technology, Inc.** October 2004-March 2014  
4121 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22203  
*ANALYTIC DIRECTOR*

**Lawrence University** January-May 2007  
711 E. Boldt Avenue, Appleton, WI 54911  
*STEPHEN EDWARD SCARFF VISITING PROFESSOR*

**Stonebridge International** May-October 2004  
555 13<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington DC 20004  
*SENIOR CONSULTANT*

**The George Washington University** July 2003-June 2005  
2121 I Street, NW, Washington DC 20052  
*ADJUNCT PROFESSOR*

**MBP Consulting Limited, LLC (Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw)** August 2001-January 2004  
1909 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006  
*DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH*

**RAND** November 2000-August 2001  
1200 South Hayes Street, Arlington, VA 22202-5050  
*SENIOR POLICY ANALYST.*

**The Brookings Institution** February 1999-November 2000  
1775 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, DC 20036  
*VISITING FELLOW, FOREIGN POLICY STUDIES.* Worked on a book on U.S.-China relations, supported by the Smith Richardson Foundation.

**National Intelligence Council**  
Washington, D.C. 20505

October 1997-December 1998

*NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICER FOR EAST ASIA.* Prepared, coordinated and produced National Intelligence Estimates and other analyses of critical issues pertaining to East Asia. Maintained expertise on current intelligence issues covering geographic area from Japan to Myanmar. Briefed numerous Asian and European intelligence and foreign affairs officials.

**National Security Council**  
Washington, D.C. 20504

March 1994-October 1997

*DIRECTOR, ASIAN AFFAIRS.* Under National Security Advisors Anthony Lake and Samuel R. Berger, advised President Clinton on U.S. policy in the Asia-Pacific region. Principal focus was People's Republic of China, Taiwan and Hong Kong, but also included issues such as the Korean Peninsula, Cambodia and Vietnam. Frequent travel to the Asia-Pacific region and contact with a wide array of Asian diplomatic and other officials, as well as public speaking engagements before U.S. business and academic groups.

**National Intelligence Council**  
Washington, D.C. 20505

April 1989-March 1994

*DEPUTY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICER FOR EAST ASIA.* Assisted National Intelligence Officer for East Asia in the preparation, coordination and production of National Intelligence Estimates and other duties.

**Department of State, Bureau of Intelligence and Research**  
Washington, D.C. 20506

April 1987-April 1989

*DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ANALYSIS FOR EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC.* Managed 20-25 professional intelligence analysts in preparing all-source intelligence assessments and short-term analyses on Asian issues for the Secretary of State, the Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research, and other senior officials.

**Office of East Asian Analysis, Directorate of Intelligence,  
Central Intelligence Agency**  
Washington, D.C. 20505

May 1975-April 1987

*RESEARCHER, SENIOR ANALYST, AND BRANCH CHIEF IN THE CHINA DIVISION.* Specialized in political-military analysis, political-economic analysis and leadership analysis on China for the Deputy Director for Intelligence and other intelligence and policy officials of the Executive Branch.

## **Research and Publications**

*The Conscience of the Party: Hu Yaobang, China's Communist Reformer*, published October, 2024 by Harvard University Press.

“Negotiating History: The Chinese Communist Party’s 1981 ‘Resolution on Certain Questions in the History of our Party Since the Founding of the People’s Republic of China,’” Paper for *The Project 2049 Institute*, published online July 17, 2017. [https://project2049.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/P2049\\_Suettinger\\_Negotiating-History-CCP\\_071717.pdf](https://project2049.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/P2049_Suettinger_Negotiating-History-CCP_071717.pdf).

“American ‘Management’ of Taiwan Strait ‘Crises:’ 1954, 1958 and 1996” in Michael Swaine, ed., *Managing Sino-American Crises: Case Studies and Analysis*, (The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington DC, October 2006).

“Introduction,” *Tracking the Dragon: National Intelligence Estimates on China During the Era of Mao, 1948-1976*. (Washington, DC: NIC 2004-05, Oct. 2004).

*Beyond Tiananmen: The Politics of U.S.-China Relations, 1989-2000*, (The Brookings Institution, Washington DC, June 2003).

“U.S.-China Policy: The Importance of Debate,” in Kent H. Butts and Edward L. Hughes, eds., *Economics and National Security: The Case of China*, (Center for Strategic Leadership, Carlisle, PA, 2002).

“Tough Engagement: U.S.-China Relations” in Richard Haass and Meghan O’Sullivan, editors, *Honey and Vinegar: Incentives, Sanctions and Foreign Policy*, (The Brookings Institution, Washington DC, 2000).

“The Rise and Descent of “Peaceful Rise,” in *China Leadership Monitor*, Issue 12, Fall 2004 ([www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org](http://www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org))

“Leadership Policy Toward Taiwan and the United States in the Wake of Chen Shui-bian’s Re-election,” in *China Leadership Monitor*, Issue 11, Summer 2004 ([www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org](http://www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org))

“Of Successors, Memories, and Guidance: Qian Qichen Defines His Legacy,” in *China Leadership Monitor*, Issue 10, Spring 2004 ([www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org](http://www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org))

“China’s Foreign Policy Leadership: Testing Time,” in *China Leadership Monitor*, Issue 9, Winter 2004 ([www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org](http://www.chinaleadershipmonitor.org))

“China’s Foreign Policy-making Process,” paper for CSIS Conference on “PRC Policymaking in the Wake of Leadership Change,” October 31, 2003

“The Taiwan Dilemma: Time for a Change in the U.S. Approach?” paper for Woodrow Wilson Center Conference on “U.S.-China Relations Since the Cold War,” May 2000.

“We’re from the Government and We’re Here to Watch: U.S. Government Observation and Analysis of China, 1949-1999,” paper prepared for “Trends in China Watching: Observing China at 50” Conference at George Washington University, October 1999.

## **Professional Activities**

Speaker/lecturer on U.S. China policy in seminars sponsored by, among others, Columbia University, Georgetown University, George Washington University, Harvard University, the University of Michigan, the University of Montana, Princeton University, Stanford University, the University of Virginia, the Intelligence Fellows Program, the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, the United States Information Agency, The Woodrow Wilson Center, The Heritage Foundation, Project 2049 Institute, The Stanley Foundation, The Kettering Foundation, The United States Institute for Peace, the Brookings Institution, and World Affairs Councils in Chicago, Columbus, Denver, Missoula, Pittsburgh, and Savannah – 1999-2015.

## **Education**

Lawrence University  
Appleton, WI

1964-1968

Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*. Phi Beta Kappa. Political Science.

Princeton University 1967-1968  
Princeton, NJ

Cooperative Undergraduate Program in Critical Languages (Chinese language study).

Columbia University 1970-1972  
New York, NY

Master of Arts. Comparative Politics. Masters thesis on Chinese leadership archetypes.

Middlebury College (Summer language program) 1967, 1968  
Middlebury, VT

Advanced Chinese language study.

New Asia College, The Chinese University 1972  
Hong Kong

Advanced Chinese language study.

### **Research Languages**

Chinese Mandarin (also spoken)  
French

### **Personal Information**

Date/Place of Birth: 13 July 1946, Two Rivers, WI  
Military Service: U.S. Army, 1968-70 (Republic of Vietnam, 1969-70)