First my apologies; I will never rely on GPS again. Over the last hour or so, I have explored parts of Maryland I did not know existed.

Dr. Catherine McArdle Kelleher is a professor at the University of Maryland at College Park and also holds both a research appointment as Senior Fellow at the Watson Institute at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, and the honorary title of Research Professor Emeritus at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. She is a member of the Naval Studies Board of the National Academy of Sciences. She was also named an Honorary Professor at the Free University of Berlin and is a Senior Faculty Associate for 2004–2009 at the Geneva Center for Security Policy in Geneva, Switzerland. She serves as a Senior Fellow at the Center for Naval Analysis in Washington.

In the Clinton Administration, she was the Personal Representative of the Secretary of Defense in Europe and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia. She served on the National Security Council staff during the Carter Administration and has consulted for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the Department of the Army. She was Professor of Military Strategy at the National War College and has had numerous other teaching assignments. She has been a research fellow at the Institute of Strategic Studies in London and a Kistiakowsky fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; and she has received individual research grants from NATO, the Council on Foreign Relations, the German Marshall Fund, the Carnegie Corporation, and the Ford Foundation. Dr. Kelleher holds degrees from Mount Holyoke College (bachelor of arts and doctor of letters) and from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Ph.D.). She is the recipient of the Medal for Distinguished Public Service from the DoD, the Director’s Medal from the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Cross of Honor in Gold from the Federal Armed Forces of Germany.
Based on my look at the program and few remarks I have heard here, I am sure that all of you share the feeling I have that this conference, in a way, could not have happened at a more opportune time. Although the Japanese tsunami was not caused by climate change, I think the damage that has been suffered in Japan gives you a sense of how the best laid preparations can seem so inadequate when we have to deal with the force of water and the problem of where we all like to live, what we all like to do, and how much that is going to have to change in the future simply because of climate change.

Imagine, if you can, what kind of picture we would have in North Africa if there were not just a wave of revolution with uncertain effects facing us, but if, in fact, that wave were backed up by a massive push of population from places in Africa where both water and ways to support the population are in short supply. Imagine all of those people crowding onto a littoral that is plenty crowded already. I think all of us are under an enormous mandate to think differently about the future. It is not a future that we want. It is not one we are going to be comfortable with, but it is coming, and to the best of our abilities, we have to think through what the implications are not just for the Navy but really for the kind of world in which the United States is going to be operating. There will be many, many demands for resources, and we are going to have to come up with a new list of priorities and be able to defend them not just to our own population but to other people as well.