

Short Course on Defense Transformation and Network Centric Operations

20 - 22 June 2006

Fort Leavenworth, KS

Course Description

This three-day course addresses the fundamentals of defense transformation and the driving forces behind it. It raises related issues that senior Department of Defense decision-makers are wrestling with as they plan for the future. These include the recently released strategy paper that guides United States defense policy known as the Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR), and the rise to prominence of Network Centric Operations as a tool for leveraging military capabilities in the information age.

After presenting and discussing the fundamentals of defense transformation, the course highlights how Network Centric Operations have been integrated into the QDR and into U.S. defense planning. Hands-on exposure to current Army training and battle command systems is used to illustrate how the military is moving forward with defense transformation. Transformation of allies and partners, and the drive to incorporate transformational methods and technologies into counter-terrorism, stabilization and transition, and interagency operations is also addressed using both theory and newly completed case studies that illustrate results of real operations.

The three days of the course will address issues that reside at the heart of charting transformation and its future directions.

- **Day 1** deals with DoD strategic goals for transformation, operational concepts, technologies, service roadmaps, and combat applications.
- **Day 2** focuses on how information networks and network centric operations are being employed to help carry out major army and joint combat operations in Iraq and elsewhere, and includes applications of the Command Post of the Future and Army Battle Command Systems.
- **Day 3** address the effects of transformation and network centric operations on allied transformation efforts and stabilization and transition missions. The course wraps up with case studies on the effects of transformation in low intensity operations and interagency crisis support.

At the conclusion of the course, participants will come away with a good grasp of defense transformation, its analytical underpinnings, and its influence on United States defense policy.