

JFQ Dialogue

Open Letter to JFQ Readers

Joint Force Quarterly receives and greatly benefits from a large volume of unsolicited manuscripts on a broad range of national security topics. Moreover, authors submit relevant articles to the journal well in advance of these topics' debut or recognition by the wider defense community. Even when manuscripts focus on technical or specialized aspects of security research, *JFQ* can usually find a way to incorporate the work and sometimes refers an author's study to outside institutes and centers, such as the Center for Technology and National Security Policy. The editors not only desire that authors and research groups continue submitting the array of articles and thoughtful critiques unfettered but also would like to solicit manuscripts on specific subject areas in concert with future thematic focus.

The following are areas of interest to which *JFQ* expects to return frequently, with no submission deadline:

- orchestrating instruments of national power
- coalition operations
- employing the economic instrument of power
- future of naval power
- humanitarian assistance and disaster relief
- industry collaboration for national security
- integrated operations subsets (new partners, interoperability, and transformational approaches)
- joint air and space power
- Just War theory
- defending against surprise attack
- proliferation and weapons of mass destruction
- prosecuting the war on terror within sovereign countries
- military and diplomatic history

The following topics are tied to submission deadlines for specific upcoming issues:

December 1, 2006 (Issue 45, 2^d quarter 2007):
U.S. European Command
(including security issues in Africa)
International Relations and Coalition Operations

March 1, 2007 (Issue 46, 3^d quarter 2007):
Intelligence and Technology
U.S. Strategic Command

June 1, 2007 (Issue 47, 4th quarter 2007):
U.S. Pacific Command
CJCS Essay Contest Winners

September 1, 2007 (Issue 48, 1st quarter 2008):
The Long War
Stability and Security Operations Update

JFQ readers are commonly subject matter experts who can take an issue or debate to the next level of application or utility. Quality manuscripts harbor the potential to save money and lives. When framing your argument, please focus on the *So what?* question. That is, how does your research, experience, or critical analysis improve the understanding or performance of the reader? Speak to implications from the operational to strategic level of influence and tailor the message for an interagency readership without using acronyms or jargon. Also, write prose, not terse bullets. Even the most prosaic doctrinal debate can be interesting if presented with care! Visit ndupress.ndu.edu to view our NDU Press Submission Guidelines. Share your professional insights and improve national security.

Colonel David H. Gurney, USMC (Ret.)
Managing Editor, *Joint Force Quarterly*
Gurneyd@ndu.edu

DEADLINE
Approaching
for **JFQ Issue 45**



FEATURING:

U.S. European Command
(including security issues in Africa)

AND

International Relations and Coalition Operations

Submissions Due by
**December 1
2006**

Visit ndupress.ndu.edu to view our Guide for Contributors. Share your professional insights and improve national security.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor—Recently, I had the honor of speaking at the closing banquet for the 13th Pacific Area Special Operations Conference (PASOC), where 22 Asian and Pacific nations came together to discuss ways in which they could collaborate to isolate, defeat, and prevent the emergence of terrorism within their region.

U.S. Special Operations Forces (SOF) have always valued relationships with allies, but today, these relationships are imperative. Speaking at the PASOC conference, Maria Ressa, the lead investigative reporter for CNN Asia, stressed that the United States is not a “lone hero” in this fight. Indeed, U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) clearly understands the importance of coalition partners in winning this global conflict and is executing it shoulder-to-shoulder with its partners.

USSOCOM is leading the Department of Defense (DOD) planning effort to defeat terrorism and has developed a series of plans that synchronize the efforts of the geographic combatant commanders with a global perspective to ensure that there are no seams where terrorists can find sanctuary. While we are leading the DOD effort, we understand that it takes the skills that all nations can bring to the table.

We often refer to this battle as the war on terror. While not a war in the traditional sense, this designation has merit because it is a global problem. Globalization has changed the world dramatically. The world is interconnected through instant communications. Corporations and financial institutions used to be concrete buildings, but today they are electrons in databases that may be located anywhere yet still function in real-time in any time zone. The most widely used language in the world is not Chinese, Spanish, or English. It is binary: ones and zeros used by computers. Thomas Friedman has estimated that there are 245,000 Indians answering support questions that come from around the globe, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week—a situation possible only through globalization.

There is a dark side to globalization, however. Terrorists can now live on one side of the globe and create catastrophic effects on

the other side with only a few strokes of the keyboard or a few minutes on a cell phone. Terrorists spread their message to millions of people over the Internet in seconds. An al Qaeda propaganda video uploaded on a Web site will be translated into several languages and retransmitted to thousands of additional sites for further distribution in less than 24 hours. Their networks are fast and effective.

In truth, their ability to disseminate information is faster than ours.

Terrorism is a difficult problem because it crosses all borders and boundaries—state, economic, political, and religious. To defeat it, we need to create a global counterterrorism network. Before this network can be implemented, however, we must have a common framework with the relationships and ties that allow us to work together. In *The Counter Terrorism Puzzle for Decision Makers*, author Boaz Ganor states that defining terrorism is one of the most difficult problems we face in defeating it; not until a consensus on the definition is reached will efforts to defeat terrorism become more effective. Ms. Ressa also pointed out that “borders and nations cannot contain conflicts.”

Terrorists use violence against civilians to instill fear to accomplish their political goals, force change, and promote their objectives. It appears that they are trying to “weaponize culture” against us, another idea put forward by Ms. Ressa. Many terrorists have reached this level of action only after decades of societies failing to check their radical ideologies. Mr. Ganor points out that it will take a multigenerational effort to eliminate underlying and eroding conditions that contribute to terrorism, to educate and inoculate our populations against the undermining effects of terrorism on society, and to eliminate the current threat. It will be a long battle, but it is wrong to characterize it as a “clash of civilizations.” This is really a battle for security, stability, and freedom for all nations.

Working together, governments can establish counterterrorist networks covering entire regions that identify, locate, and eliminate transnational terrorist threats while at the same time working to diminish the underlying conditions that lead to terrorism. The United States will do all it can to help while respecting the rules of law and international sovereignty. Special Operations Forces will continue to

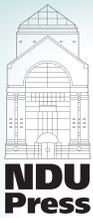
participate in bilateral exercises and, as we reduce our forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, will become available to help train partner nation forces at their request. Over the next 6 years, USSOCOM will grow by nearly 13,000 people, significantly improving the capacity to work with and support partner nations. Theater special operations commands have grown substantially over the last 8 years, and we will continue to add the resources and positions necessary to help each region defeat terrorism. We will work alongside partner nation forces to win hearts and minds and eliminate threats as we continue to strengthen our relationships. Conferences such as PASOC are so important because they create the foundation upon which we can build our networks to defeat this threat.

Last year we had the inaugural USSOCOM International Special Operations Conference. Building on the success of PASOC, the conference brought together special operations leaders from 59 countries, all with the goal of building a world inhospitable to terrorists. From this initiative, we have started a regular series of meetings in Washington, DC, with the defense attachés from several nations to provide an ongoing discussion on terrorism. Efforts such as these at both the global and regional level will encourage international cooperation and eliminate places where terrorists find sanctuary. These conferences provide the basis for building the counterterrorist networks that will eventually defeat global terrorism.

On the wall of USSOCOM headquarters is a statement President George W. Bush made when he visited. It reads, “SOF is the worst nightmare of America’s worst enemies.” I would add that the worst nightmare of terrorist leaders is nations of like-minded people, building a world inhospitable to terrorists—countries of different sizes, religions, politics, capabilities, and histories banding together and sharing skills, intelligence, resources, and tactics, techniques, and procedures to mutually support friendly, willing governments. The efforts of the countries represented in these international conferences are the keys to defeating terrorism. All of us working together to destroy terrorism and eliminate its underlying causes is really the terrorists’ worst nightmare.

—General Bryan D. “Doug” Brown, USA
Commander
U.S. Special Operations Command





New Titles from NDU Press...

JFQ

SUBSCRIBE Today



Institute for National Strategic Studies Occasional Paper 4 **China's Global Activism: Strategy, Drivers, and Tools**

Phillip C. Saunders notes that economic imperatives and strategic challenges are driving China to expand its international activities into different regions of the world. His study examines the rationale, drivers, and extent of this phenomenon, and assesses the implications for the United States. (Available from NDU Press only)



CD-ROM **China/Northeast Asia Publications**

Collected on this CD are more than two dozen NDU Press publications—many out of print—on China and other key countries in the Northeast Asia region. For example, it includes titles like *Chinese Views of Future Warfare*, *'Oil for the Lamps of China': Beijing's 21st Century Search for Oil*, *Korea on the Brink*, and *Japan's Constitution and Defense Policy*. (Available from NDU Press only)



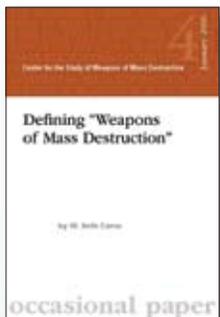
Strategic Forum 220 **Visions of Order: Japan and China in U.S. Strategy**

The 2006 U.S. National Security Strategy combines elements of two approaches—one associated with former Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage and the other associated with Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick—to international and regional order in articulating a “hedge strategy” toward China. James J. Przystup and Philip C. Saunders highlight some conceptual and policy questions that arise from efforts to integrate these approaches to Asia. (Available from NDU Press only)



Strategic Forum 221 **Reforming Pentagon Strategic Decisionmaking**

Christopher J. Lamb and Irving Lachow identify prerequisites for good decisionmaking, describe problems and conditions that currently diminish the quality of Pentagon decisionmaking, and make a case for a new decision support capability that would improve Pentagon decisionmaking. (Available from NDU Press only)



Center for the Study of Weapons of Mass Destruction Occasional Paper 4 **Defining "Weapons of Mass Destruction"**

In this extensively researched study, Dr. W. Seth Carus summarizes how the term *weapons of mass destruction* has been used differently in disarmament talks, U.S. security policy, Soviet and Russian military doctrine, and American political discourse. He assesses the key policy issues associated with alternative definitions, and proposes a definition appropriate for the Department of Defense. (Available from NDU Press only)



\$20/Year

Subscriptions for individuals
and nonmilitary organizations:
<http://bookstore.gpo.gov/subscriptions>

Visit the NDU Press Web site for more information on publications at ndupress.ndu.edu