

Michael W. Johnson
Senior Defense Research Analyst

The RAND Corporation
1200 S. Hayes St.
Arlington, VA 22202

mjohnson@rand.org
(703) 413-1100 ext 5269
cell: (703) 568-9146

SUMMARY

Former Army strategic plans and policy officer with expertise in military strategy, risk assessment, Joint campaign planning, combat operations in Afghanistan, military transformation, doctrine and force development. Served for eight years in the Pentagon on the Joint Staff and the Army Staff. Key assignments include special assistant for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Joint Staff J-5 Strategy Division, speechwriter for the Army Vice Chief of Staff; HQDA G-3/5/7 Army Transformation Office, and operational planner at U.S. Third Army (CFLCC) and I Corps.

EDUCATION

National Security Seminar XXI Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2009
Masters of Military Art and Science (Theater Operations) U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies	2001
Masters of Military Art and Science (Strategy) U.S. Army Command and General Staff College	2000
Masters of Arts (International Policy Studies) Monterey Institute of International Studies	1998
German Defense Language Institute	1997
Bachelor of Science (European Foreign Area Studies) United States Military Academy, West Point	1988

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Defense Research Analyst, RAND Corporation 2012 – present

- Options for Aligning the Army Service Component Commands (HQDA G-3/5/7)
- Analytical Support for Preparing the Army Budget (HQDA G-8)
- Analytical Support for the 2013 Quadrennial Defense Review (HQDA G-35)
- Future Force Sufficiency and Risk Analysis (ARCIC)

Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

2010 – 2012

- Conducted research and analysis to inform the Chairman’s best military advice to the President of the United States
- Prepared and accompanied Admiral Michael Mullen for Congressional testimony on the defense budget and ongoing conflicts in Libya, Afghanistan and Iraq
- Answered Chairman’s questions on a range of strategic issues, including avoiding the “Thucydides trap” with China, strategic options in Syria, “red-team” assessment of operations in Libya, Afghan-Pakistan Annual Review, and risk methodology

Chief, Strategy Branch, Joint Staff J-5 Strategy Division

2008 – 2010

- Lead author to draft the *National Military Strategy of the United States of America*
- Lead author to develop, review, publish and submit the *Chairman’s Risk Assessment* report to Congress in 2010 and 2009
- Lead J-5 strategist to conduct and review the *2009 Quadrennial Defense Review*, including the Chairman’s QDR risk assessment
- Lead J-5 strategist to review the *Unified Command Plan (UCP)*, the *Guidance for Employment of the Force (GEF)* and the *Joint Strategic Capabilities Plan (JSCP)*
- Lead J-5 strategist in the force sufficiency analysis conducted by OSD in the Analytic Agenda and by the Joint Staff J-8 in Operational Availability studies
- Revised the Joint Risk Assessment System to clarify definitions, criteria and metrics for supporting risk assessments by services and combatant commands
- Developed strategic concepts of expanded deterrence for the Vice Chairman

Speechwriter for the Vice Chief of Staff, Army

2006 – 2008

- Prepared formal policy speeches, briefings, Congressional testimony and written statements, and executive correspondence for General Richard Cody
- Conducted research and analysis to inform the Army’s senior leadership on a range of topics including defense analyses by think tanks, military transformation, Army Force Generation and the Army Medical Action Plan

Strategic Planner in the HQDA G-3/5/7 Army Transformation Office

2004 – 2006

- Managed strategic change of the Army at war across doctrine, organization, training, material, leader development, personnel and facilities
- Prepared sections of the initial *2004 Army Campaign Plan*
- Lead author to develop the strategic concepts and publish the *Army Force Generation Implementation Plan*
- Presented the ARFORGEN Implementation Plan for approval at the Army Review Council and for review by the Army Science Board
- Lead author for the *Army Transformation Report to Congress*

- Subject matter expert in ARFORGEN and modular force transformation during the 2005 Quadrennial Defense Review
- Subject matter expert in network-enabled battle command

Army Research Fellow at the RAND Corporation

2003 – 2004

- Co-author of the *Stryker Brigade Combat Team Network-Centric Warfare Case Study*
- Presented SBCT case study findings to Admiral Cebrowski, Office of Force Transformation, and NATO's Allied Command Transformation
- Assisted RAND's researchers on a range of studies including operations in Afghanistan and Iraq

Operational Planner in U.S. Third Army (CFLCC) and I Corps

2001 – 2003

- C-35 Future Operations lead planner for land operations in Afghanistan during the first year of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF)
- Employed both conventional and special operations forces to achieve the operational objectives to overthrow the Taliban and establish a representative Afghan government
- Conducted deliberate planning for the future conduct of land operations during Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF)
- Lead planner to develop a consequence management campaign plan for USPACOM in the event that India and Pakistan wage a nuclear war
- Lead planner for corps operations in the event of war with North Korea or the collapse of that regime
- Lead planner for corps operations to deter or defeat Chinese aggression
- Lead planner for combined training exercises with partners including Japan, Korea and Thailand

Armor and Cavalry Officer

1988 – 2000

- Graduate of the School of Advanced Military Studies to develop strategists and campaign planners at combatant commands, theater armies and joint task forces
- Armor Tactics Small Group Instructor at the U.S. Army Armor School
- Cavalry and Headquarters Troop Commander
- Tank Company Executive Officer, Mortar Platoon Leader, Tank Platoon Leader

HONORS

- Defense Distinguished Service Medal
- Legion of Merit (impact award)
- Meritorious Service Medal (three awards)
- Honorable Order of St. George (patron saint for Armor-Cavalry)

ORGANIZATIONS

- Society for Risk Analysis
- Association of the United States Army
- Autism Society of America

PUBLICATIONS

Military Documents

- *National Military Strategy of the United States of America*, Admiral Michael Mullen, assisted by Colonels James Baker, William Bowers, Troy Thomas, Michael Johnson, and Mr. Kevin O'Neal, The Joint Staff, 2011
- *Chairman's Risk Assessment*, Admiral Michael Mullen, assisted by Colonel Michael Johnson, classified report to Congress, The Joint Staff, 2010 and 2007
- *Army Transformation Report to Congress*, Lieutenant Colonel Michael Johnson, 2007
- *Army Force Generation Implementation Plan*, Lieutenant Colonels Michael Johnson and James Dickens, and Mr. Bradley Mason, Department of the Army, 2006
- *Foreign Consequence Management Campaign Plan*, Major Michael Johnson, I Corps HQ, 2002

Monographs

- "Strange Gravity: Toward a Unified Theory of Joint Warfighting," Michael Johnson, U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies, 2001
- "Clausewitz on Kosovo," Michael Johnson, U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies, 2000
- "The Future of Just War Theory," Michael Johnson, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, 2000
- "The Causes of State Failure," Michael Johnson, Monterey Institute of International Studies, 1998
- "Weimar Russia," Michael Johnson, Monterey Institute of International Studies, 1997