

Foreword

AMERICA'S ARMY, THE FORCE OF CHOICE in carrying out our national military strategy, is at a crossroads. It must become more capable for future scenarios, and to do this, light forces will need to become more lethal, survivable, and tactically mobile. At the same time, our forces must be able to get to the battlefield fast—lightning fast. While reshaping tomorrow's light force to meet these objectives presents a formidable challenge, the blueprint is being worked today. And it will be created cooperatively within the Army, from our planners and policymakers, to our scientists and technologists, down to our warfighters.

This book represents a first step toward this goal. While working as a multidisciplinary team themselves, the authors have interacted with a wide range of experts from the Department of Defense and the Army. As an objective of this interaction, they have explored and assessed many new ideas, operational concepts, and technologies for improving light forces to give them greater rapid-reaction capability for tomorrow's battles. State-of-the-art modeling and simulation tools are used to help assess these ideas, concepts, and technologies in a systematic, objective, and ultimately meaningful way.

The American public and the Army's soldiers deserve the best we can give them to fight and win tomorrow's battles. Hard choices have to be made to improve the composition of the Army's light and heavy forces, speed them to battle, and even revolutionize how we fight. This book provides useful insights for America's Army, and it will generate constructive dialogue on where and how light forces should be reshaped.

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