



David E. Johnson

Senior Fellow

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Dr. Johnson is a Senior Fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments. He is the author of numerous books, reports, articles, and commentary on strategy, joint operations, military innovation and other topics. He is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University, where he teaches a graduate course in strategy and military operations, and an adjunct scholar at the Modern War Institute at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point. He was a Principal Researcher at the RAND Corporation, where he worked from 1998–2016. From June 2012 until July 2014, he was on a two year loan from RAND to the United States Army to establish and serve as the first Director of the Chief of Staff of the Army Strategic Studies Group. Prior to joining RAND he was a Vice President at Science Applications International Cooperation (SAIC). He joined SAIC after a twenty-four year career in the United States Army.

Dr. Johnson's work has been featured on the professional reading lists of the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force Chiefs of Staff, the Commander, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, the Chief of Staff Royal Air Force (United Kingdom), the British Army, the Royal Australian Air Force Chief of Staff, and the U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, as well as military and civilian universities and colleges.

Select books and reports include: *The Challenges of the "Now" and Their Implications for the U.S. Army* (RAND, 2016); *Hard Fighting: Israel in Lebanon and Gaza* (RAND, 2012); *Heavy Armor in the Future Security Environment* (RAND, 2011); *Learning Large Lessons: The Evolving Roles of Ground Power and Air Power in the Post-Cold War Era* (RAND, 2007); *Preparing Potential Senior Army Leaders for the Future: An Assessment of Leader Development Efforts in the Post-Cold War Era* (RAND, 2002); *Fast Tanks and Heavy Bombers: Innovation in the U.S. Army, 1917–1945* (Cornell University Press, 1998); *Modern U.S. Civil-Military Relations: Wielding the Terrible Swift Sword* (National Defense University Press, 1997); with Bryan Frederick, *The Continued Evolution of U.S. Law of Armed Conflict Implementation: Implications for the U.S. Military*, (RAND, 2015); with M. Wade Markel, Brian Shannon, *The 2008 Battle of Sadr City: Reimagining Urban Combat* (RAND, 2013); with John Gordon IV, *Observations on Recent Trends in Armored Forces*. RAND (2010); with Jennifer D. P. Moroney, Roger Cliff, M. Wade Markel, Laurence Smallman, Michael Spirtas, *Preparing and Training for the Full Spectrum of Military Challenges: Insights from the Experiences of China, France, the United Kingdom, India, and Israel*, (RAND, 2009); with Jody Jacobs, Katherine Comanor, Lewis Jamison, Leland Joe, David Vaughan, *Enhancing Fires and Maneuver Capability Through Greater Air-Ground Joint Interdependence* (RAND, 2009); with Adam Grissom and Olya Oliker, *In the Middle of the Fight: An Assessment of Medium-Armored Forces in Past Military Operations* (RAND, 2008); with Peter A. Wilson, Richard A. Darilek, and Laurinda L. Zeman. *Joint Paths to the Future Force: A Report on Unified Quest 2004* (RAND, 2006); with William M. Hix, John R. Bondanella, Bruce J. Held, Michael Hynes, Ellen M. Pint, Art Pregler, Mike Stollenwerk, Jerry M. Sollinger, *Rethinking Governance of the Army's Arsenal and Ammunition Plants* (RAND, 2003); with Karl P. Mueller, William H. Taft V, *Conventional Coercion Across the Spectrum of Operations: The Utility of Military Force in the Emerging*

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Military Innovation
Operations
Strategic Assessments & Planning
Strategy Development
Ground Warfare

DAVID E. JOHNSON

Security Environment (RAND, 2002); and with Thomas L. McNaugher, Jerry M. Sollinger, *Agility by a Different Measure: Creating a More Flexible U.S. Army* (RAND, 2000).

Book chapters include: “You Go to COIN with the Military You Have: The United States and 250 Years of Irregular War” in Beatrice Heuser and Eitan Shamir, eds., *Insurgencies and Counterinsurgencies: National Styles and Strategic Cultures* (Cambridge, 2016); “What Are You Prepared to Do? NATO and the Strategic Mismatch between Ends, Ways, and Means in Afghanistan—and in the Future,” in Christopher M. Schnaubelt, ed., *Towards a Comprehensive Approach: Strategic and Operational Challenges* (NATO Defense College, 2011); “Minding the Middle: Insights from Hezbollah and Hamas for Future Warfare,” in *Global Trends and the Future of Warfare 2025*, Daniel Moran and James Russell, eds. (Naval Postgraduate School, 2011). “From Frontier Constabulary to Modern Army: The United States Army between the World Wars,” in *The Challenge of Change: Armed Forces and New Realities, 1919-1941*, Harold R. Winton and David R. Mets, eds. (Nebraska Press, 2000, 2003).

Selected articles include: “Ground Combat,” *The Cipher Brief*, December 20, 2015); “Vietnam Teaches Us that Iraq Needs More than U.S. Combat Advisers,” (*War on the Rocks*, September 14, 2015); “Means Matter: Competent Ground Forces and the Fight Against ISIL” (*War on the Rocks* (March 19, 2015); “Fighting the ‘Islamic State’ The Case for US Ground Forces,” (*Parameters*, vol. 45, no. 2, Summer 2015); “Failure to Learn: Reflections on a Career in the Post-Vietnam Army” (*War on the Rocks*, January 24, 2014); “What Are You Prepared to Do? NATO and the Strategic Mismatch between Ends, Ways, and Means in Afghanistan—and in the Future,” *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* (vol. 34, iss. 5, May 2011); With John Gordon IV and Peter Wilson. “Air Mechanization: An Expensive and Fragile Concept” (*Military Review*, vol. 87, no. 1, January-February 2007); with Peter Wilson and John Gordon, IV, “An Alternative Future Force: Building a Better Army” (*Parameters*, vol. 33, no. 4, Winter 2003–2004); With Peter Wilson and John Gordon, IV. “Beyond the Objective Force” (*Armed Forces Journal International*, October 2003).

Dr. Johnson has been interviewed by many media outlets, including: *Agence France-Presse*; *Al Jazeera America*; *Army Times*; *Associated Press*; *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*; *Aviation Week*; *Baltimore Sun*; *BBC World News Service*; *Boston Globe*; *Breaking Defense*; *Defense News*; *Defense Technology International*; *Foreign Policy*; *GlobalSecurity.org*; *Government Executive*; *Haaretz*; *Inside the Army*; *Inside Defense*; *Israel Air Force Magazine*; *Jane’s Defence*; *Military.com*; *National Defense Magazine*; *National Public Radio*; *North County Times*; *San Diego Union Tribune*; *Vice News*; *Wall Street Journal*; *Washington Post*; *Washington Time*; *Wired*; *WTOP/Federal News Radio*.

Dr. Johnson has served as a consultant to the Defense Science Board and the Army Science Board and as a member of the U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence Senior Advisory Board and the U.S. Army Fires Center of Excellence Senior Advisory Board.

He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

Dr. Johnson’s military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (5 awards), Army Commendation Medal (6 awards), Army Achievement Medal (5 awards), Parachutist’s Badge, Ranger Tab, Expert Infantryman’s Badge, Army Staff Identification Badge, the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara, and the Noble Patron of Armor.

DAVID E. JOHNSON

Dr. Johnson has also been awarded the President's Strategic Vision Award for Excellence in Research/Writing, National Defense University; the SAIC Publication Prize for Policy/Economics/Arms Control; RAND President's Award; two RAND "Gold" Merit Bonus Awards; and RAND "Bronze" Merit Bonus Award.

CURRENT POSITION

Dr. Johnson is a Senior Fellow at CSBA, an independent policy research institute established to promote innovative thinking about defense planning and investment strategies for the 21st century.

PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Between 1998 and 2016, Dr. Johnson was at the RAND Corporation. He was a Principal Researcher and led and worked on projects for the U.S. Army, the U.S. Air Force, the Department of Defense, the National Intelligence Council, and other clients. His areas of research included military strategy and capabilities for national security policy options, military doctrine and organization, civil-military relations, military innovation, military history, and professional military education professional military education (PME).

From 2012 to 2014 he established and directed the Army's first Chief of Staff of the Army Strategic Studies Group for General Raymond T. Odierno. He led the group in its mission of conducting independent, unconventional research and analysis, as directed by the Chief of Staff of the Army, to generate innovative strategic and operational concepts for the future employment of the Army.

Between 1997 and 1998, Dr. Johnson was a Vice President at SAIC. He was the Special Assistant and Chief of Staff to Admiral William A. Owens (U.S. Navy, retired), the President, Chief Operating Officer, and Vice Chairman of the Board. Key areas of responsibility included international business development, cost control initiatives, and information technology standardization.

Dr. Johnson served as an Army officer from 1972 to 1997. He began his career as an Infantry Officer, before receiving a Regular Army commission in the Quartermaster Corps. He branch transferred to Field Artillery in 1975. He served in command and staff positions in the mainland United States, Hawaii, Korea, Germany, and Belgium, including command of the 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery, 25th Infantry Division (Light). His final assignment was as Professor, Director of Academics, and Chief of Staff at the National Defense University. He retired in the rank of Colonel.

EDUCATION

Master and Doctorate in History

Duke University

Master in National Resource Strategy

National Defense University

Master in Military Art and Science

U.S. Army Command and General Staff College

Bachelor in History

Trinity University
