

Michael J. Meese

Colonel Michael J. Meese is a Professor, USMA, and Head of the Department of Social Sciences at West Point. He teaches microeconomics and defense economics courses and leads the 62 military and civilian faculty members who teach political science and economics, which are the two largest majors for cadets. He is a visiting Professor at Princeton University and taught a graduate course in military force planning and decision-making. He has recently worked in the Multinational Corps-Iraq Headquarters to assist the Commander's Initiatives Group examine economic and governance issues related to the new campaign plan. From 2003-2004, he was assigned as the United States Military Academy Fellow at the National War College where he taught National Strategy, Military Policy, and Bureaucratic Politics courses. In 2003, he deployed as special advisor on political, economic, and military issues for MG Dave Petraeus, Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), in Mosul, Iraq. From January to July 2002 he served as Executive Officer to the Assistant Chief of Staff (Operations) in Bosnia-Herzegovina conducting peacekeeping and counterterrorism operations.

His dissertation is entitled *Defense Decision Making under Budget Stringency: Examining Downsizing in the United States Army*. His research examines budget decisions during previous military reductions with implications for improving defense effectiveness today. In 2005, he was Executive Director of the Secretary of the Army's Transition Team. In 2001, he assisted the Army Science Board Team that examined alternative approaches to Headquarters, Department of the Army organization. He served as the executive director of the Professional Staff of the Department of Defense Panel on Commercialization and Globalization (the Dawkins Panel) that examined the opportunities and risks associated with current changes in the defense and business sectors. He has been a visiting lecturer on the U.S. Army's Transition to the All-Volunteer Force at the Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies. In May 1998, he was part of a two-person team that traveled to South Africa to assess and assist the transformation and integration of the South African National Defense Force. He has participated in four Marshall Center Partnership-for-Peace Conferences as rapporteur and co-author of the final conference proceedings on the subjects of Defense Economics, Extremism, Transformation, and Crime and Corruption. In June 2004, he co-chaired the USMA Senior Conference on "Defense Transformation and the Army Profession."

He is a field artillery officer with previous assignments with the 7th Infantry Division (Light), as a Battery Commander in the 3rd Armored Division in Germany, and as a Battalion Operations Officer and Deputy Division Operations Officer in the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. He is a graduate of the National War College, an honor graduate of the Command and General Staff College, a distinguished graduate from the U.S. Military Academy, and holds a Ph.D., MPA and an M. A. from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

He has written several papers and articles concerning economics and national security and is the author and editor of the *Armed Forces Guide to Personal Financial Planning*. He is a Foreign Policy Association Fellow and a member of the Western Economics Association. He lives in West Point, New York with his wife, Ramona, and their three children.

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Selected Government Experience:

- 2007 **Commander's Initiative Group**, Multinational Corps (Iraq) and later Multinational Force (Iraq), Baghdad, Iraq.
- 2005 **Executive Director** of the Secretary of the Army's Transition Team, Washington, DC
- 2003 **Special Advisor**, political, economic, and military issues for Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Mosul, Iraq.
- 2002 **Executive Officer** to the Assistant Chief of Staff (Operations), NATO Stabilization Force Headquarters, Sarajevo Bosnia-Herzegovina
- 1999 **Professional Staff**, Department of Defense Panel on Commercialization and Globalization (the Dawkins Panel), Washington, DC
- 1998 **Assessment, Training, and Education Team**, working with South African National Defense Force Transformation, South Africa

Teaching Experience:

- 2004-present **Professor, Deputy Head**, and (in June 2005) **Head**, Department of Social Sciences, USMA. Teaching Economics and National Security courses.
- 2003-2004 **Professor**, National War College, National Defense University, Fort McNair, Washington, DC. Serves as U.S. Military Academy Fellow and teaches National Strategy, Military Policy, Bureaucratic Politics, and Field Studies Courses.
- 2002-present **Professor and Deputy Head**, Department of Social Sciences, USMA. Taught Microeconomics and Economics of National Security.
- 2000-present **Visiting Professor**, Princeton University, teaching Policy Analysis: Military Planning and Decision Making. (half-semester course)
- 1996-2001 **Academy Professor/Director of Economics**, Department of Social Sciences, USMA. Taught Microeconomics, Economics of National Security, and, each fall semester, at least one section of the core Economics Principles course.
- 1990-93 **Instructor and Assistant Professor**, Department of Social Sciences, USMA. Upon arrival taught Macroeconomics, and later became course director for Macroeconomics, Economics of National Security, and Advanced Economics.

Academic Background:

- 2000 Ph.D. Princeton University; Dissertation: *Defense Decision Making Under Budget Stringency: Examining Downsizing in the United States Army*.
http://www.dean.usma.edu/departments/sosh/Research/Meese_Army_Downsizing.pdf
- 1990, 91 MPA., M.A. Princeton University, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs
- 1981 B.S., United States Military Academy, *Distinguished Graduate*

Scholarly Publications and Activities:

Member, Defense Science Board Improvised Explosive Device II Task Force, 2007'

"The Military's Use of Contractors: Economic Reality or Military Necessity," presented to *Problem-Solving Workshop: A New Legal Framework for Military Contractors?*, Princeton Program in Law and Public Affairs, June 2007.

"Operation Iraqi Freedom: Current Operations in Iraq," Keynote address to Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization (JIEDDO), April 2007

"The National War College: Building Strategists for the Nation," chapter 5, in *Educating Leaders in an Age of Uncertainty: The Future of Military War Colleges* (Carlisle: Dickenson College, 2006) available at:

<http://alpha.dickinson.edu/departments/leadership/Smith%20Richardson/Smith%20Richardson%20Report%20Page.htm>

"Back to the Future: Transforming the Army Officer Development System," *The Forum*, vol. 4, issue 1, article 3 (2006), available at: <http://www.bepress.com/forum/vol4/iss1/art3/>

Member, Relative Threat Assessment Panel, Princeton Project on National Security
www.wws.princeton.edu/ppns, 2005

"New Requirements for Army Expert Knowledge: Afghanistan and Iraq," presented to Senior Conference 46, June 2004, published as chapter 15 in *The Future of the Army Profession*, Don M. Snider, Ed., New York: McGraw-Hill, 2005)

"The Financial Front in the Global War on Terrorism," chapter 3 in *Defeating Terrorism: Shaping the New Security Environment*, ed. Russell Howard and Reid Sawyer (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2004); link: <http://www.mhhe.com/catalogs/007287306x.mhtml>

"Assessing Students' Understanding of Human Behavior: A Multidisciplinary Outcome-Based Approach for the Design and Assessment of an Academic Program Goal," (with Bruce Keith, et al) *Teaching Sociology* 30:4 (October 2002), 430-454.

Abstract: <http://www.lemoyne.edu/ts/30tsabstracts4.html#keith>

"The Army Officer Corps in the All-Volunteer Force," *Contemporary Economic Policy* 20:2 (April 2002), 101-110.

Abstract: <http://cep.oupjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/20/2/101>

"Economic Environment" paper (with John Basso) published in *All our Tomorrows: A Long-Range Forecast of Global Trends Affecting Arms Control Technology*, by James M. Smith and Jeffrey A. Larsen. USAF Institute for National Security Studies: USAF Academy, Colorado, June 2002)

Paper: <http://www.usafa.af.mil/inss/OCP/OCP44.pdf>

Corruption within Security Forces: A Threat to National Security, George C. Marshall European

Center for Security Studies, May 2001. Published as IDA Paper P-3677, 7 December 2001 (Alexandria, VA: Institute for Defense Analysis, 2001).

Enhancing the Security of States in a Multipolar World: Focus on Extremism, George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies (with Alan Smith and Peter Raven-Hansen), September 2000.

Defense Economics: Reform, Restructuring, Realignment, George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies (with Alan Smith), December 1999.

Book (pdf):

<http://www.marshallcenter.org/Conference%20Center/Conference%20Reports/defec.pdf>

Armed Forces Guide to Personal Financial Planning, 4th Edition, Stackpole Books, 1998

Link:

<http://search.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/isbnInquiry.asp?userid=53CE3NJP87&isbn=0811726649>

“Teaching Economics with Laptop Computers,” (with Stephanie Lofgren) paper presented to the Western Economics Association International, July 2000.

“Commercialization and Globalization in Department of Defense Activities,” paper presented to Military Operations Research Society Symposium, June 1999, and the Western Economic Association Convention, July 1999. Based on Defense Panel on Commercialization in DoD Report (the Dawkins Panel).

"The Process of Organizational Change," in *Maneuver Warfare: An Anthology*, Richard J. Hooker, Jr., ed. Presidio Press, 1994.

Link:

<http://search.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/isbnInquiry.asp?userid=53CE3NJP87&isbn=0891415181>