

Michael J. Meese

Colonel Michael J. Meese is a Professor, USMA, and Head of the Department of Social Sciences at West Point. He teaches economics and national security courses and leads the 70 military and civilian faculty members in the Department and the Combating Terrorism Center who teach political science, economics, and terrorism-related courses. He is a visiting Professor at Princeton University and taught a graduate course in military force planning and decision-making. From June to September 2007, he worked as a senior advisor to the Commander of Multinational Force-Iraq as the Chief of his Initiatives Group to assist in General Petraeus's assessment, recommendations, and testimony concerning Iraq. From January-March 2007, he assisted with the development of Iraq campaign plan, concentrating on economic and political issues. 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. 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 Army Headquarters organization. He served as the executive director the Department of Defense Panel on Commercialization (the Dawkins Panel) that examined leveraging commercial capabilities to improve defense efficiency and effectiveness. 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 in 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 at Princeton University.

He has written extensively on economics and national security and is the author of the *Armed Forces Guide to Personal Financial Planning*, (Stackpole, 1998) and *American National Security*, due to be published in 2009. He is a Foreign Policy Association Fellow and a member of the Western Economics Association. He and his wife, Ramona, are both from California where he was an Eagle Scout. They live at West Point, New York with their three children, two of which are in college (at the University of Connecticut and West Point) and one is in high school.

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:

"Middle East and Iraq Strategy, Status, and Warfighter Needs," presentation to Senior Directors, MIT Lincoln Laboratory, 29 September 2008.

"Dynamic Leadership in a Time of Change," Keynote Dinner Presentation to Illinois National Guard Convention, 13 September 2008.

"The Three D's (Defense, Diplomacy, and Development) and Democratization: A Longer Term View," Presentation to the 2008 USAID Democracy and Governance Partners Conference, Washington, DC, 13 June 2008.

"Counterinsurgency and Counterterrorism, and a U.S. Government Approach," Presentation to Center for Strategic and International Studies Conference on Counter Insurgency and Human Rights in Berlin, Germany, April 2008.

"Terrorism: A World View," Presentation to University of Maine and Husson College, Bangor Maine, April 2008.

Congressional Testimony, **"Innovative Approaches to Defeating al-Qaida,"** Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, U.S. House of Representatives, 14 February 2008.

"MNF-I Strategy, Implementation, and Way Forward," presentation to Office of Secretary of Defense, Office of Stability Operations Capabilities, 13 February 2008.

"Iraq: Reflections on the Surge and the Way Forward," Heritage Foundation, 8 January 2008 <http://www.heritage.org/Press/Events/ev010808a.cfm>. Also covered on C-SPAN

"Meese Says With Iraqis' Help, Security Is Improving," Council on Foreign Relations interview, 6 September 2007, <http://www.cfr.org/publication/14143/>

Foreign Policy Association sponsored **"Great Decisions Television Series: The Iraq End-Game"** broadcast on PBS stations, January 2008

"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

Member, **Defense Science Board Improvised Explosive Device II** Task Force, 2007-2008

"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.wvs.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>