
“Emerging Strategic & Geopolitical Challenges: Operational Implications for US Combatant Commands” Panelist and Moderator Biographies

Mr. Michael A. Clark



Michael Clark, a member of the Senior Executive Service, serves as the US Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) Director for Acquisition and Technology (J9). Mr. Clark provides leadership, advice, and technical guidance on development and integration of cyberspace capabilities as part of the Joint Cyber Warfighting Architecture Portfolio exceeding \$4B. He leads technology transition efforts with strategic government and academic partners. He provides leadership to the maturity of the command's Innovation Strategy. He is responsible for the development and execution of all USCYBERCOM acquisition system policies and procedures.

Mr. Clark retired from active duty Air Force in 2001, after 24 years of service as an Intelligence professional. He served in numerous duty positions to include tours with the RC-135, SR-71, and U2-R collection platforms; as an all-source intelligence analyst at the Intelligence Center Pacific; as Flight Commander at the 6920th Electronic Security Group, Misawa Air Base, Japan; and as the first Commander of Detachment 1, 692nd Intelligence Wing, Andersen AFB, Guam. He was the first Air Force officer assigned as a CLASSIC WIZARD Operations Officer at the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station in the Western Pacific. His final active duty assignment was to Headquarters Air Force (HAF) where he held positions as the Intelligence Briefer to the Chief of Staff and Secretary of the Air Force, Functional Manager for Air Force Information Warfare Programs, and as HAF Integrated Joint Special Technical Operations Planner.

Mr. Clark joined Syracuse Research Corporation (SRC) in Chantilly, Virginia in 2001 as a Senior Intelligence and Information Operations Engineer, developing a Computer Network Operations (CNO) enabling-technology for the National Reconnaissance Office. Mr. Clark was the first SRC employee to be assigned as an Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) detailee and lead the Executive Agency Office for Headquarters Air Force, providing oversight of two Defense Intelligence programs. In 2006, he joined the Joint Functional Component Command Network Warfare at Fort Meade, Maryland and held positions as a CNO Planner (J5), Deputy Director for Operations (J3), Director for Manpower, Personnel, and Security (J1), Deputy Director for Plans and Policy (J5), and most recently, Director for Acquisition and Technology (J9). He has been with USCYBERCOM since its inception in 2010.

Lt Gen (Ret) Dr. Robert Elder



Lieutenant General Robert Elder (USAF, retired) joined the George Mason University faculty as a research professor with the Volgenau School of Engineering following his retirement from military service as the Commander of 8th Air Force and US Strategic Command's Global Strike Component. He currently conducts research in the areas of command and control, assured communications, strategic stability and deterrence, competition-cooperation management, and international actor decision-making. General Elder served as the Central Command Air Forces Deputy Commander for Operation Enduring Freedom, Air Operations Center Commander and Deputy Air Component Commander for Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Commandant of the Air War College. He was the first commander of Air Force Network Operations and led the development of the cyberspace mission for the Air Force. He received his Doctorate in Engineering from the University of Detroit.

Ms. Kayce Jansen



Ms. Kayse Jansen is Branch Chief, Deterrence Analysis and Outreach, Plans and Policy Directorate, USSTRATCOM/J5.

Ms. Kayse Jansen leads a team of analysts responsible for conducting adversary decision calculi in support of USSTRATCOM advocacy, risk assessments, plans, and operations. Her team also manages the J5's Campaign of Learning, an initiative to advance the command's thinking on deterrence-related issues. Additionally, Ms. Jansen acts as a senior technical advisor on nuclear policy and strategy issues.

Ms. Jansen entered civil service in April 2010 as a Scientist and Engineer Palace Acquire Intern in the Capability and Resource Integration Directorate, USSTRATCOM/J8. What started as a technical career in operations research, analyzing and identifying capability solutions in the space and ISR mission sets, transitioned to strategy and policy development for the nation's nuclear enterprise. Most recently, Ms. Jansen led the adversary-specific strategy development and analysis for the President-directed Nuclear Posture Review.

Ms. Jansen holds a BA and M.A. in Mathematics. In May 2022, she obtained her M.S. in Defense and Strategic Studies from Missouri State University, where she examined How Competition Undermines Deterrence. Ms. Jansen is continuing her education in Defense and Strategic Studies towards a Doctorate degree.

When not contemplating how the nation guarantees its security, Ms. Jansen enjoys spending time with her husband (a semi-truck driver) and three daughters (5, 7, 22), working on her family's farm, and "standing in the gap" by fostering children in need.

Mr. James M. Jenista



James "JJ" Jenista is an Air Force civilian in the Joint Training, Exercise, and Wargaming Directorate (J7) at North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM). In the combined Headquarters for the two Commands, JJ provides contract management and acquisition support across eight Divisions and a host of external partners. He is a plankowner with USNORTHCOM and has assisted in the planning and execution of a variety of Joint and National Level Exercises.

JJ holds Bachelor and Master of Science Degrees in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, where he enrolled on a Naval ROTC scholarship and was subsequently commissioned into the Navy. He flew the A-6 Intruder and the F-14 Tomcat during a 20-year naval career that also included stints teaching NROTC at Notre Dame and facilitating Naval Leader Training Courses in Coronado, CA. He was a 4-time Navy Astronaut Candidate, was on duty in the NORAD Command Center on 9/11, and is completing a master's degree in Homeland Security through the Center for Homeland Defense and Security under the auspices of the Naval Postgraduate School.

Mr. Robert C. Jones



Robert Jones is a retired US Army Special Forces Colonel, a former Deputy District Attorney, and the senior strategist at US Special Operations Command. Currently serving within the USSOCOM J5-JSOU Donovan Integration Group, Mr. Jones is responsible for leading innovative thinking on the strategic environment and how it impacts factors critical to national security, such as the evolving character of conflict, all aspects of irregular warfare, deterrence in competition, societal stability, and implications for SOF. He also serves as a Strategic Advisor to the Director of Plans, Policy, and Strategy.

Mr. Jones is a featured lecturer for the JSOU Enlisted Academy, as well as the USAJFKSWCS Officer Course on strategy, the evolving character of conflict, impact on viability of solutions, and implications for SOF. He is currently promoting a proactive campaigning construct of *strategic influence* that is rooted in the fundamentals of insurgency and unconventional warfare and intended to inform SOF operationalization of the National

Defense and National Military Strategies. His focus is the pursuit of understanding and the provision of context.

Mr. Jimmy Krakar

Jimmy Krakar is the United States European Command Academic Coordinator, in which role he coordinates with military and civilian academia to support the command. Previously, he worked at the TRADOC G-27 Models and Simulations Branch (M&SB) at Fort Leavenworth, where for over seven years he participated in numerous Operational Environment analytical efforts in support of Department of Defense clients, serving as the Team leader and lead analyst for the M&SB efforts which provided on-site support to SOCCENT and CJTF-OIR. Before that he worked as a Counterinsurgency Advisor for the COMISAF Advisory Assistance Team (CAAT) in Afghanistan.

Militarily, Jimmy retired from USSOCOM J-8, which he supported as an Army Reservist. He had over 25 years of active and reserve military experience in Infantry, Civil Affairs, and Human Terrain operations, with deployments to Somalia, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Prior to this job, his most recent European experience was at NATO Special Operations Headquarters (NSHQ), where he served as a Plans Officer.

Jimmy received his BS in Military History from the United States Military Academy and an MS in Intelligence from American Military University, and he graduated the Defense Language Institute as a basic Arabic Linguist. His most recent periodical publication was "The Civil Engagement Spectrum: A tool for the Human Domain," published in the Sep/Oct 15 issue of *Military Review*.

Ms. Lesley Kucharski

Lesley Kucharski is an analyst at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where her research focuses on the role of information confrontation [*informatsionnoe protivoborstvo*] in Russia's approach to multi-domain deterrence and strategic competition, with an emphasis on the nexus between the information and nuclear domains. She is a Russian linguist and has worked on nuclear policy issues at NATO and the United Nations. Kucharski holds master's degrees in nonproliferation and terrorism studies from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey and in Russian language from Middlebury College, and a bachelor's degree in Russian studies and economics from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Robert M. Toguchi

Dr. Robert M. Toguchi is currently serving as the Chief, Concepts Division, Force Modernization Directorate (FMD), in the US Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina since 2013. He has spent over 30 years on active military duty while serving as a Functional Area 59 strategist for the US Army. His past assignments included a tour as the Director, Strategic Plans and Chief, ARCIC Initiatives Group, TRADOC. In the Pacific region, he spent a

tour with the US Pacific Command while serving as the Deputy Director, J8 and the Chief, Strategic Plans, J5 Directorate. Dr. Toguchi was also assigned to Africa in 2005 while serving as the senior US military observer to the U.N. Mission in Liberia. Previously, he served on the faculty and taught military strategy at the US National War College, National Defense University. Additionally, in the Washington D.C. area, Dr. Toguchi gained valuable experiences within the halls of the Pentagon while serving as a strategist in the DAMO-SSP, Strategy and Policy Division, Army G3/5/7 and as a war planner in DAMO-SSW, War Plans Division, Army G3/5/7, 1996-1999. Dr. Toguchi received a B.S. degree from the US Military Academy in 1980 and received a PhD in History from Duke University in 1994.

Dr. Robert Toguchi's book publications include: *The Competitive Advantage: Special Operations Forces in Large Scale Combat Operations*, Army University Press, and *Land Warfare in the Information Age*, Institute of Land Warfare. His previous co-authored article publications include: "The Battle of Convergence" in *Military Review*, "Unveiling the Army's Capstone Concept" in *Small Wars Journal*, "Achieving Excellence in Small Unit Performance" in *Military Review*, "The Future of Army Ground Forces" in *Small Wars Journal* and "Predicting Futures Military Threats: Implications of the Black Swan" in *The National Interest*.

Col David W. Walker



Colonel David W. Walker currently serves as Chief, Strategy & Policy Division in the Strategy, Plans, and Policy Directorate at U.S. Central Command in Tampa, FL.

Colonel Walker was born on 18 June 1973 in McAllen, TX. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1993 and served as a Machine-Gunner with the Fleet antiterrorism Support Team (FAST) Company in Norfolk, VA. He was subsequently selected for the Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) and achieved the rank of Sergeant before commissioning in 1998 after graduating from Texas A&M University. He completed the Basic School and the Combat Engineer Officers Course in 1998.

Colonel Walker's previous assignments include: 2d Combat Engineer Battalion from 1999-2001 where he served as a Platoon Commander, Company Executive Officer and Company Commander; Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego from 2001-2004 where he served as a Series Commander, Battalion Operations Officer and Assistant Depot Inspector; Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 from 2005-2007 where he served as the Engineer Company Commander; Headquarters Marine Corps Office of Legislative Affairs from 2008-2011 where he served as a Congressional Fellow, Deputy Director of the Senate Liaison Office, and Legislative Liaison Officer; 4th Combat Engineer Battalion, 4th Marine Division, Marine Forces Reserve from 2011-2014 where he served as the Assistant Inspector-Instructor; Headquarters Marine Corps Safety Division from 2014-2017 where he served as the Ground Branch Head; Headquarters Marine Corps Strategic Initiatives Group from 2017-2019 where he served as a Strategic Analyst for the Commandant of the Marine Corps and as a Special Assistant to the

Chief of Naval Operations in the Strategic Actions Group; and 4th Combat Engineer Battalion from 2019-2021 where he served as the Battalion Inspector Instructor.

Colonel Walker's combat deployments include Mogadishu, Somalia for OPERATION RESTORE HOPE in 1994 providing security for the U.S. State Department Liaison Office and in Baghdad, Iraq for OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM in 2006 as the Assistant Team Chief for a National Police Transition Team.

Colonel Walker holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and English from Texas A&M University, a Master of Public Policy Administration from the University of Missouri-St. Louis, and Masters of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College and the Marine Corps War College. He is a graduate of Expeditionary Warfare School (non resident), Engineer Career Captains Course, Marine Corps Command and Staff College (non resident), Operations and Tactics Instructor Course, Red Team Members Course, the U.S. Army War College (non resident), and the Marine Corps War College.

Colonel Walker's personal awards include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with four gold stars, Army Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal and Combat Action Ribbon with gold star.

Ms. Michele K. Wolfe

Michele K. Wolfe is a senior civilian employee at the United States Africa Command. As the Senior Operations Research Systems Analyst (ORSA), she functions as the subject matter expert for analysis and strategic assessments for the command, to include crafting and influencing far-reaching strategic actions, affecting Africa, Europe, and the United States.

Ms. Wolfe recently graduated from the Defense Senior Leader Development Program (DSLDP), the Department of Defense's premier program to develop 21st century senior executive leaders. She began the 28-month DSLDP in January of 2020, with leadership seminars and a preparatory course at the Army War College before devoting a year to intensive study at the Naval War College, earning a Master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies (with Distinction) with an additional graduate certificate in Ethics in Emerging Military Technology in June 2021. Ms. Wolfe then accepted the present overseas billet to gain joint and combatant command experience at some of the highest levels.

Prior to the DSLDP, Ms. Wolfe served as Headquarters, Department of the Army G-8's ORSA, Requirements Integration Synchronization Officer (RISO), and the Army Requirements Oversight Council's Secretariat Branch Chief. She led requirements and analysis reviews of Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System (JCIDS) documents and studies, at times writing guidance, and at other times, championing programs through the approval systems and integrating them into the Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Execution (PPBE) cycle. Ms. Wolfe worked with aviation and missile portfolios, but focused on

engineering, to the point where the Corps of Engineers awarded her the Bronze Order of the DeFluery just before she departed for the Naval War College.

Prior to her work at the Pentagon, Ms. Wolfe spent nearly a decade at the TRADOC Analysis Center leading crucial Army and Joint Analysis of Alternatives (AoA) studies. Key programs included the Ground Combat Vehicle AoA, the Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense AoA, and the Advanced Threat Detection System AoA. During these studies, Ms. Wolfe led multi-organization teams through risk, trade-off decisions, and requirements analysis, presenting insights that influenced billion-dollar acquisition programs, some of which the Army is procuring today.

Among her awards, Ms. Wolfe earned the Bronze Order of the DeFluery, the Department of the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, the Commander's Award for Civilian Service, the NATO Science and Technology Organization Award, and a publication in the Journal of Asia-Pacific Affairs for her article "The Next War to End All Wars," from the Naval War College.

Ms. Wolfe spends her free time with her husband, "Air Force" Andy, two gorgeous daughters, an old poodle, and a grumpy cat.