

# Chinese Aerospace Power: Evolving Maritime Roles

## About the Contributors

**Mr. Dennis J. Blasko, Lt. Col., USA (Ret.),** served 23 years as a Military Intelligence Officer and Foreign Area Officer specializing in China. Mr. Blasko was an army attaché in Beijing from 1992-95 and in Hong Kong from 1995-96. He also served in infantry units in Germany, Italy, and Korea and in Washington at the Defense Intelligence Agency, Headquarters Department of the Army (Office of Special Operations), and the National Defense University War Gaming and Simulation Center. Mr. Blasko is a graduate of the United States Military Academy and the Naval Postgraduate School. He has written numerous articles and chapters on the Chinese military and defense industries and is the author of the book, *The Chinese Army Today: Tradition and Transformation for the 21st Century* (Routledge, 2006).

**Dr. Michael S. Chase** is an associate research professor and Director of the Mahan Scholars Program in the Warfare Analysis and Research Department at the U.S. Naval War College (NWC) in Newport, Rhode Island. He previously served in the Naval War College's Strategy and Policy Department. He earned a Ph.D. in international affairs from the Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). In addition, Dr. Chase studied at the Johns Hopkins University-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies in Nanjing, China. Prior to joining the NWC faculty, he served as a research analyst with Defense Group Inc. and an international policy analyst with the RAND Corporation. Dr. Chase's research includes work on nuclear weapons policy and strategic deterrence, Chinese military strategy, Chinese missile force modernization, and Taiwan's security policy.

**Mr. David Chen** is a Principal Research Analyst at CENTRA Technology, Inc., where he contributes primarily to China-related analytical products. He received a M.P.I.A. in International Economics from the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies, U.C. San Diego in 2004. His research interests include organizational theory, resource economics, and space security policy. He has published work in *Space Policy*, *Space News*, and in publications of the National Bureau of Asian Research, the Strategic Studies Institute, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, among others. He also serves on the Editorial Board of *Space Policy* and the review committee for *China Security*. A native speaker of Mandarin, Mr. Chen has studied in China, at Nanjing University, and in Taiwan.

**Mr. Ron Christman** is currently the Senior Intelligence Officer, and was formerly the Division Chief (Acting), for the Strategic Missile Forces Division of the Defense Intelligence Agency's (DIA's) Office for Military Forces Analysis. In this position, he is responsible for directing order of battle and related forces analysis on foreign land-based offensive missile forces worldwide. The Strategic Missile Forces Division was recently awarded a National Intelligence Meritorious Unit Citation for its performance from November 2005 to May 2007. Previous DIA assignments include providing direct analytic support to OSD defense planning while serving in DIA's Defense Warning Office and serving in a numerous positions within DIA's China Division. Mr. Christman served in 1995 as an Assistant to the Director for China Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs. In 1992-93, he participated in the

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Director of Central Intelligence's Exceptional Analyst Fellowship Program. Mr. Christman received DIA's Meritorious Civilian Service Award for 2008, DIA's Award for Excellence in 2008, and the Arthur S. Flemming Award for innovation in government service during 1999; he was DIA's Intelligence Officer for the Year in 1996. Christman has published widely in Intelligence Community forums, and he published a chapter, "How Beijing Evaluates Military Campaigns: An Initial Assessment," in the Army War College's 2003 book, *The Lessons of History: The Chinese People's Liberation Army at 75*. He received an M.A. in International Affairs and East Asian Studies from American University's School of International Service in 1989, and a B.A. in Political Science and Organizational Behavior and Management from Brown University in 1983.

**Dr. Roger Cliff** is a Senior Political Scientist in the Washington Office of the RAND Corporation. Dr. Cliff's research focuses on security issues involving China; specifically, Chinese military strategy and capabilities as well as U.S. defense policy and strategy in the Asia-Pacific region. He recently led a study on Chinese military space power. His other studies have covered Chinese air force doctrine, Chinese antiaccess strategies, China's aerospace industry, and China's antiaccess concepts and capabilities. His recent RAND publications include the major coauthored study (on which he served as lead author), *Shaking the Heavens and Splitting the Earth: Chinese Air Force Employment Concepts in the 21st Century* (2011) and *Entering the Dragon's Lair: Chinese Antiaccess Strategies and Their Implications for the United States* (2007), which has received widespread attention in government and policy circles and has been covered by such media sources as *CNN*. Dr. Cliff served previously as Assistant for Strategy Development in the office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy and as a defense systems analyst for VERAC, Inc., in San Diego. He has received a Ph.D. in international relations, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University; an M.A. in history (Chinese studies), University of California, San Diego; and a B.S. in physics, Harvey Mudd College.

**Mr. Gabriel Collins** is a private-sector commodity market analyst focusing on China and Russia. He was an OSD/ONA research fellow in the U.S. Naval War College's China Maritime Studies Institute (CMSI) from 2006-08. CMSI was established in October 2006 to support the research needs of the U.S. Navy and to increase knowledge and understanding of the maritime dimensions of China's rise. Collins is an honors graduate of Princeton University (2005, A.B. Politics) and is proficient in Mandarin Chinese and Russian. His primary research areas are Chinese and Russian energy policy, maritime energy security, Chinese shipbuilding, and Chinese naval modernization. Collins's energy- and shipping-related work has been published in *Oil & Gas Journal*, *Jane's Intelligence Review*, *Geopolitics of Energy*, *Proceedings, Naval War College Review*, *The National Interest*, *Hart's Oil & Gas Investor*, *LNG Observer* and *Orbis*.

**Prof. Peter A. Dutton** Professor of Strategic Studies at NWC and Director of CMSI. Prof. Dutton's current research focuses on the international law aspects of East Asian maritime flashpoints, on divergent American and Chinese views on sovereignty and international law of the sea, and on the strategic implications to the United States and the U.S. Navy of Chinese international law of the sea perspectives and policy choices. His recent publications include "Charting a Course: American and Chinese Cooperation at Sea" (*China Security*, March 2009); and *Scouting, Signaling and Gate-Keeping: Chinese Naval Operations in Japanese Waters*

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(China Maritime Studies Monograph, NWC Press, March 2009). Prof. Dutton is a retired Navy Judge Advocate and aviator. He was legal advisor to Commander, John F. Kennedy Battle Group during the 1999-2000 Middle East deployment and to Commander, Seventh Fleet for international exercises in 2005. Upon retirement from active duty in 2006 with the rank of Commander, Prof. Dutton joined NWC's faculty. Prof. Dutton also researches and lectures on topics related to international law of the sea issues in the Arctic, the Proliferation Security Initiative, and maritime strategy. He is an Adjunct Professor of Law in the Marine Affairs Institute at Roger Williams University School of Law. Professor Dutton holds a Juris Doctor from The College of William and Mary, a Master's of Art (with distinction) from NWC, and a Bachelor's of Science (*cum laude*) from Boston University.

**Mr. Ian Easton** is a research affiliate at the Project 2049 Institute where he conducts primary source Chinese-language research and analysis focused on aerospace and security related issues in the Asia-Pacific region. He is currently conducting research on missile defense and military space competitions in the Asia-Pacific region. He is also a consultant for a Taiwan-based software company where he provides strategic planning, research and translation products tailored to clients' needs. Prior to joining Project 2049, he conducted research and analysis on a broad range of security related issues for the Asia Bureau of *Defense News*, including Chinese signal intelligence and cyber security activities, North Korean front companies in Taiwan, and air defense and missile trends in the Taiwan Strait. While based in Taipei, he provided translation services for the Foundation on Asia Pacific Peace Studies (FAPS). He holds a Master's degree in China Studies from National Chengchi University (Taiwan's premier research and training center for political science, diplomacy, and foreign languages). His graduate thesis focused on the implications of China's militarization of space. He also holds a Bachelor's degree in International Studies from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He received his formal Mandarin Chinese training at the National Taiwan Normal University's Mandarin Training Center in Taipei, and Fudan University in Shanghai, China. He is certified SC-TOP rank 6/7 in the advanced level of Mandarin Chinese. He has lived in Taiwan and mainland China for five years, and has traveled throughout Asia and Europe.

**Mr. Richard D. Fisher, Jr.** is a Senior Fellow with the International Assessment and Strategy Center. He has previously served as a Senior Fellow with the Center for Security Policy, Editor of the Jamestown Foundation *China Brief*, Senior Fellow with the House Republican Policy Committee, and Director of the Asian Studies Center of The Heritage Foundation. He is the author of *China's Military Modernization, Building for Regional and Global Reach* (Praeger, 2008), and contributed the chapter on foreign influences in *China's Future Submarine Force* (Naval Institute Press, 2007). His articles have been published in the *Jane's Intelligence Review*, *Jane's Defence Weekly*, *Defense Technology International*, *Armed Forces Journal*, *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *Asian Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Times*, *The Sankei Shimbun*, *World Airpower Review*, and *Air Forces Monthly*. He received a B.A. (Honors) in 1981 from Eisenhower College.

**Mr. Paul Giarra** leads Global Strategies & Transformation, a professional services firm and consultancy providing national security strategic analysis, defense concept development, military transformation expertise, and applied history as a planning tool. He is a strategic planner and security analyst for Japan, China, East Asian, and NATO futures. He is an interagency

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community expert and Navy Senior Subject Matter Expert; a NWC Maritime Strategy “Graybeard”; and managed the 500-page “Global Strategic Assessment” published by National Defense University in July 2009. As a military transformation expert, he has supported transformation and experimentation in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, at U.S. Joint Forces Command, at NATO Headquarters, and at NATO Allied Command Transformation. Mr. Giarra has moderated, designed, and led seminars, workshops, and war games for numerous U.S. government clients. He is a frequent commentator and author on Asia security futures, and the parallel transformation of the U.S. military, most recently having testified before the U.S. China Commission on Chinese naval developments. During his naval career, Mr. Giarra was a naval aviator; a naval strategic planner; and a political-military strategic planner for Far East, South Asia and Pacific issues; and managed the U.S.-Japan alliance in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

**Mr. Jeff Hagen** is a Senior Engineer at the RAND Corporation. His research areas include technological systems analysis and strategic policy and decision-making. Much of his work involves modeling and simulation of military forces, including the effects of advanced weapons systems, intelligence, and information operations; particularly with regard to Air Force operations and force planning. His most recent project involves Chinese Air Force employment concepts in the 21st century. Hagen’s latest RAND publications include *Cost-Benefit Analysis of the 2006 Air Force Materiel Command Test and Evaluation Proposal* (Thirtle et al., 2008) and *Methodology for Improving the Planning, Execution, and Assessment of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Operations* (Lingell et al., 2008). Earlier in his career, Hagen worked at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and NASA Dryden Flight Research Center and at the University of Washington, where his research focused on turbulent fluid flows. Hagen received his B.S. in engineering and applied science from the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and his M.S. in aeronautics and astronautics from the University of Washington.

**Mr. Eric Hagt** is the director of the China Program at the World Security Institute in Washington, D.C., and chief editor of *China Security Quarterly*. He manages research projects on traditional and non-traditional security issues in China with an emphasis on space, the defense-industry, the energy security and crisis management. He was a visiting researcher at the Freeman Chair in Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and has studied and worked in Taiwan and Mainland China for eight years. In 2004, Hagt earned a master’s degree in international policy and China studies at U.C. Berkeley. He has authored publications in journals including *Survival*, *Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst* and *China Security* and has testified before Congress’s U.S.–China Economic and Security Review Commission. He can be reached at ehagt@cdi.org.

**Mr. Garth Hekler** is an analyst with SGIS focusing on China foreign policy issues. He previously served as a research analyst at Defense Group Inc.’s Center for Intelligence Research and Analysis (CIRA), where his research focused on science, technology and security issues in China, North and Southeast Asia. Prior to joining CIRA, he served as an International Trade Specialist at the U.S. Department of Commerce Office of the Chinese Economic Area, where he covered energy policy and trade in commodities. He received his M.A. from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) with a dual focus on China and Southeast Asian Studies. He is proficient in Mandarin Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean.

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**Dr. James Holmes** is an associate professor of strategy at NWC. He is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Vanderbilt University and earned graduate degrees from Salve Regina University, Providence College, and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He graduated from NWC with highest distinction in 1994 and was the recipient of the Naval War College Foundation Award, signifying the top graduate in his class. Before joining the NWC faculty in the spring of 2007, he was a senior research associate and adjunct professor at the University of Georgia School of Public and International Affairs; a research associate at the Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis; and a U.S. Navy surface warfare officer, serving in the engineering and weapons departments on board the battleship *Wisconsin*, directing an engineering course at the Surface Warfare Officers School Command, and teaching Strategy and Policy at NWC, College of Distance Education. He is the author of *Theodore Roosevelt and World Order: Police Power in International Relations* (2006), co-author of *Chinese Naval Strategy in the 21st Century: The Turn to Mahan* (2007), co-editor of *Asia Looks Seaward: Power and Maritime Strategy* (2007), co-author of *Indian Naval Strategy in the 21st Century* (2009), co-author of *Red Star over the Pacific: Chinese Sea Power and the Challenge to U.S. Maritime Strategy* (2010), and co-editor of *Nuclear Strategy in the Second Nuclear Age* (forthcoming).

**Mr. Daniel J. Kostecka** is a senior analyst for the U.S. Navy. In addition to working for the Navy, Mr. Kostecka has worked for the Department of Defense and the Government Accountability Office, has served as an active duty Air Force officer for ten years, and still serves in the Air Force Reserves with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Mr. Kostecka has a B.S. degree in mathematics from the Ohio State University, an M.A. in military and diplomatic history from Harvard University, an M.A. in national security policy from the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce at the University of Kentucky, and an M.S. in strategic intelligence from the National Defense Intelligence College. Mr. Kostecka is also a graduate of Squadron Officer School and the Air Command and Staff College. His research has been published in *Naval War College Review*, *Proceedings*, and *China Brief*.

**Col. Kevin Lanzit, USAF (Ret.)**, is a program manager and senior analyst with CENTRA Technology. During his 29 years in the U.S. Air Force, he served in multiple fighter assignments and staff positions at locations in Europe, East Asia and the United States. He also trained as a Foreign Area Officer and completed two duty tours with the Defense Attaché Office at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing. He holds a B.S. in Economics from U.S. Air Force Academy and an M.S. in Systems Management from the University of Southern California. He studied Chinese through the Defense Language Institute.

**Lt. Gen. Daniel P. Leaf, USAF (Ret.)**, is vice president for strategic initiatives with the Defense Systems Division of Northrop Grumman Information Systems in Herndon, Va. He is responsible for shaping and developing new defense and joint forces opportunities, with a strong focus on irregular warfare, homeland protection, and allied/coalition-countries support. Prior to joining Northrop Grumman in 2008, he completed 34 years of service with the Air Force, retiring as a lieutenant general after serving as deputy commander, U.S. Pacific Command. A distinguished graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Air Force ROTC, he commanded a flight, two squadrons, an operations group and two fighter wings, and has directed joint operations. General

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Leaf served as the J-3 for Joint Task Force-Southwest Asia and flew the F-15C over Southern Iraq enforcing U.N. sanctions on the Saddam Hussein regime. He deployed to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey in 1998 and flew the F-16CJ on Operation Northern Watch missions over Northern Iraq. During Operation Allied Force, General Leaf commanded the 31st Air Expeditionary Wing, which included F-16CG, F-16CJ, F-15E, F-117A, A-10A and EC-130 aircraft squadrons. He flew and led F-16CG day and night combat missions against fixed and mobile targets in Serbia and Kosovo. During Operation Iraqi Freedom, he served as the Director, Air Component Coordination Element with the Coalition Land Forces Component Commander in Kuwait and Iraq during planning and initial major combat operations. He is a command pilot with more than 3,600 flying hours, including the Allied Force, Joint Forge, Northern Watch and Southern Watch combat missions.

**Dr. Nan Li** is an associate professor in NWC's Strategic Research Department and a member of CMSI. He has published extensively on Chinese security and military policy. His writings have appeared in *China Quarterly*, *Security Studies*, *China Journal*, *Armed Forces & Society*, *Issues and Studies*, *Asian Security*, and many others. Dr. Li has contributed to edited volumes from the RAND Corporation, National Defense University Press, Clarendon Press, M.E. Sharpe, U.S. Army War College, and National Bureau of Asian Research. He has also published a monograph with the U.S. Institute of Peace. He is the editor of *Chinese Civil-Military Relations* (Routledge, 2006). His most recent publication is "The Evolution of China's Naval Strategy and Capabilities: From 'Near Coast' and 'Near Seas' to 'Far Seas'" in *Asian Security* (Spring 2009). Dr. Li received a Ph.D. in political science from the Johns Hopkins University.

**Lt. Col. Anthony J. Mastalir, USAF**, is the Deputy Group Commander of the 595<sup>th</sup> Space Group, Space Innovation and Development Center (SIDC), Schriever AFB, CO. The group's mission is to conduct operational tests for Air Force space systems, develop space control tactics and techniques, demonstrate cutting-edge technologies, provide advanced training, and operate the Air Force's only space test and training range. Col. Mastalir entered the Air Force as a distinguished graduate of the Northwestern University Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. He is a credentialed space professional, having completed a series of operational and staff assignments in the areas of space control, satellite command and control, and ICBM launch operations. Col. Mastalir earned a master's degree in organizational management as a fellow at The George Washington University, a master's degree with highest distinction in national security and strategic studies from NWC, and a master's degree in airpower art and science from Air University's School of Advanced Air and Space Studies (SAASS). He is a graduated squadron commander and a command space and missile operator with qualifications in the Defense Satellite Communications System III, Skynet 4, Inertial Upper Stage, Minuteman III, and Deployable Space Support Segment III weapon systems.

**Col. Sean D. McClung, USAF (Ret.)**, is currently employed at Millennium Engineering & Integration Company in Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense. He was formerly Director of the National Space Studies Center at Air University. His recent involvement with Chinese space studies includes co-sponsoring China, Space and Strategy Workshops with the Eisenhower Center for Space and Defense Studies; and participating in the Global Space Development Summits sponsored by the Center for International and Strategic Studies in Beijing (2008) and Washington, D.C. (2009). Col. McClung holds the Master Space Operations Badge and is a

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graduate of the Air War College. His civilian education includes a B.S. from the University of Florida and an M.A. in International Relations from International University, London.

**Col. Michael McGauvran, USAF (Ret.),** is a Professor of Joint Military Operations at NWC. He reported to Newport in July 2006 following a tour as the Chief of Plans at U.S. Strategic Command. Colonel McGauvran is a command pilot with 4,100 hours in B-1, T-38, and B-52 aircraft. He has extensive experience in the T-38 as a flight training instructor and in the B-1 as an instructor, evaluator, Operations Officer, Squadron, and Deputy Group Commander. Operationally, Colonel McGauvran deployed twice for combat operations; he was the Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron Commander for Operation DESERT FOX and flew combat in Operation ALLIED FORCE. His degrees include a B.S. from Stony Brook University, NY; an M.A. in Political Science from Midwestern State University, TX; an M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies from Naval Command and Staff College, Newport, RI; and an M.S. in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University, Washington, D.C.

**Rear Admiral Eric McVadon, USN (Ret.),** concluded 35 years of naval service as the U.S. defense and naval attaché at the American Embassy in Beijing 1990–92. As a consultant on East Asian security affairs, he works extensively with the U.S. policy and intelligence communities and the Department of Defense, directly and indirectly. He is also senior advisor and director emeritus of Asia-Pacific Studies at the Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis. His naval career encompassed extensive experience in air antisubmarine warfare and politico-military affairs, including service as the NATO and U.S. sub-unified commander in Iceland and assignments on the Navy Staff, in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, as Deputy Director of the Defense Mapping Agency, and as a direct advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He also commanded a P-3C squadron and the naval station in Iceland. Admiral McVadon, a naval aviator, is a 1958 graduate of Tulane University and has a master's degree in international affairs from George Washington University. He is a distinguished graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School, NWC (Command & Staff), and the National War College. His most recent publications include "Humanitarian Operations and U.S.-China Naval Cooperation: Prospects and Problems," in *China, the United States, and 21st Century Sea Power: Defining a Maritime Security Partnership with China* (Naval Institute Press, 2010); and "China's Navy Today: Looking Toward Blue Water," in *China Goes to Sea* (Naval Institute Press, 2009). He and his wife, Marshall, both from Baton Rouge, LA, live and work in Great Falls, VA, amidst four generations of family extending to great-grandchildren.

**Prof. William S. Murray** is an associate research professor in the Warfare Analysis and Research Division of the United States Naval War College's Center for Naval Warfare Studies. He joined the navy in 1983 immediately after graduating *cum laude* from the State University of New York at Buffalo with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. Professor Murray served on, and qualified to command, nuclear powered submarines. In 1994 he received a Master of Arts degree from NWC. Prof. Murray has served on the Operations staff at the United States Strategic Command, and as a member of the faculty of NWC's Strategic Research Department. He retired from the Navy with the rank of Lieutenant Commander in 2003. He is the co-editor of the U.S. Naval Institute books *China's Future Nuclear Submarine Force* and *China's Energy Strategy*. He has published articles in *International Security*, *Parameters*, *Comparative Strategy*, U.S.

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Naval Institute *Proceedings*, *Jane's Intelligence Review*, *Undersea Warfare*, and *Naval War College Review*.

**Mr. Kevin Pollpeter** is China Program Manager at Defense Group Inc. (DGI). Before working at DGI, Mr. Pollpeter was an analyst at RAND from 2000-04. Mr. Pollpeter's research focuses on China military and Chinese military-related research and development and science and technology issues. In particular, Mr. Pollpeter focuses on the Chinese space program. Mr. Pollpeter has authored or coauthored numerous publications on the Chinese military and national security issues. His space-related publications include a monograph entitled *Building for the Future: China's Progress in Space Technology During the Tenth Five-year Plan and the U.S. Response* and a book chapter entitled, "The Chinese Vision of Space Military Operations." He has also written frequently for *China Brief*. Mr. Pollpeter has coauthored many works, including *Dangerous Thresholds: Managing Escalation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* and *Entering the Dragon's Lair: Chinese Anti-access Strategies and Their Implications for the United States*. Mr. Pollpeter received his Master's Degree in International Policy Studies from the Monterey Institute of International Studies and his Bachelor's Degree in China Studies from Grinnell College.

**Lt. Col. Mark A. Stokes, USAF (Ret.)**, is Executive Director of the Project 2049 Institute. The Project 2049 Institute, established in January 2008, seeks to guide decision makers toward a more secure Asia by the century's mid-point. The organization fills a gap in the public policy realm through forward-looking, region-specific research on alternative security and policy solutions. Its interdisciplinary approach draws on rigorous analysis of socioeconomic, governance, military, environmental, technological and political trends, and input from key players in the region, with an eye toward educating the public and informing policy debate. Having served for 20 years in the U.S. Air Force, Lt. Col. Stokes was assigned to a variety of electronic warfare, intelligence, planning, and policy positions. From 1984-86, he was assigned to the 6922nd Electronic Security Squadron, Clark AB, Philippines. From 1986-89, he served as a signals intelligence and electronic warfare officer in the 6912th Electronic Security Wing, Berlin, West Germany. Returning to the United States in July 1989, Lt. Col. Stokes entered the Air Force's foreign area officer training program as a China specialist. From 1992-95, he served as the assistant air attaché at the United States Defense Attaché Office in Beijing, PRC. Lt. Col. Stokes subsequently was assigned to Headquarters, Air Force's Plans and Operations Directorate where he was responsible for operational and strategic planning for the Asia-Pacific region. Between 1997 and 2004, Mark served as Team Chief and Senior Country Director for China, Taiwan, and Mongolia in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs (OSD/ISA). For seven years, he was responsible for developing, coordinating, and managing U.S. defense policy in this area. After retiring from the Air Force and prior to joining Project 2049, Stokes served as Vice President and Taiwan Manager, Raytheon International. He also was Executive Vice President, Laifu Trading Company, Ltd., a subsidiary of the Rehfeldt Group, one of the largest and most successful business development/consultancy firms in Taiwan. Mark also has been a Senior Associate for the Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS) and member of the Board of Governors of the American Chamber of Commerce in Taiwan. Stokes holds a bachelor's degree in history from Texas A&M University, and master's degrees in international relations and East Asian studies from Boston



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University and the Naval Postgraduate School. He currently resides in Bristow, VA, is married to the former Elma Manloloyo of Cebu, Philippines, and has three sons and one daughter.

**Mr. Wayne A. Ulman** is the China Issue Manager, National Air and Space Intelligence Center, Dayton, OH.

**Mr. Christopher Weuve** is a naval analyst working for the U.S. Department of Defense. From 2005-10 he was an Assistant Research Professor in the War Gaming Department at NWC, where he researched military and war gaming issues. He was a major contributor to the NWC's Maritime Strategy project, and was the lead analyst for GLOBAL 2008. Prior to joining the faculty in Newport, he worked for six years at the Center for Naval Analyses as a wargame designer and ASW exercise analyst. He is a distinguished 2008 graduate of NWC (M.A., National Security and Strategic Studies) and a 1988 graduate of the University of Iowa (B.A., Political Science and History).

**Col. Timothy White, USAF**, reported to NWC as a Joint Military Operations Professor in July 2008 following a tour as the Commander, HQ Air Mobility Command Test and Evaluation Squadron where he directed a total force, multi-service testing of new and modified airlift and tanker aircraft, support equipment, procedures, and subsystems. Of note were the evaluation of the KC-X (now KC-45) test program stand up, KC-135 Block 45, C-130J, C-130 AMP, C-5M "Super Galaxy," Joint Precision Air Drop System, Joint Cargo Aircraft, C-17 All-weather Formation Flight System, NASA Air Launch Rocket System, and new tactical maneuvers for every mobility airframe. Col. White earned his wings from Vance AFB and is a command pilot with over 3,000 hours in the T-38, KC-135A, KC-135Q, KC-135R, KC-135T, Special Operations RT KC-135R, KC-10A, C-130H, C-5A, C-17A, and E-3 aircraft. He has extensive experience in the KC-135 as a flight training instructor, instructor school trainer, operational instructor/evaluator, and Operations Officer of an Air Refueling Squadron and Operations Support Squadron. He has deployed as a commander of a KC-135 Air Refueling Squadron, and a combined KC-135 & KC-10 Air Refueling Squadron (both flying special operations combat missions into Iraq and Afghanistan), and a KC-10 Air Refueling Squadron; and has deployed 10 times in support of operations *Northern Watch*, *Southern Watch*, *Joint Endeavor*, *Deny Flight*, *Vigilant Warrior*, *Enduring Freedom*, and *Iraqi Freedom*. Col. White has an M.S. in Adult Education from Troy State University, M.A. degrees in Military Art and Science from Air University, an MA in National Security and Strategic Studies from NWC, and a B.A. degree in Criminology from the University of South Florida.

**Dr. Larry M. Wortzel** is a retired U.S. Army colonel who spent 12 years of his 32-year military career in the Asia-Pacific region, including two tours of duty as a military attaché at the American Embassy in China. He served as professor of Asian Studies and director of the Strategic Studies Institute at the U.S. Army War College from 1997-99. After retiring from the Army, he was Asian Studies director and then vice president for foreign policy and defense studies at the Heritage Foundation. At present he is one of twelve commissioners appointed by the leadership of Congress to the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, where he served as chairman of the Commission for the 2008 reporting year. He has written or edited ten books about China, as well as numerous policy papers and journal articles. His senior military education includes completion of degree programs at the Armed Forces Staff College

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and the U.S. Army War College. Wortzel is also a graduate of Infantry Officer Candidate School and both Airborne and Ranger schools. He earned his B.A. from Columbus College, Georgia, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Hawaii.

**Mr. David Yang** is an Associate Political Scientist at the RAND Corporation. Prior to joining RAND, he was a visiting research fellow at Stanford University, and a consultant for the U.S. Naval War College. He is currently completing his doctoral dissertation in Politics from Princeton University. Yang has published various articles in edited books and academic journals including *World Politics*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *China Economic Review*, *China: An International Journal*, and *The New England Journal of Political Science*. Before returning to graduate school Mr. Yang worked for a number of years as an analyst/software developer in the financial industry and an avionics software engineer for the Lockheed Corporation. He also holds an MBA in International Economics.

**Dr. Toshi Yoshihara** is an associate professor in the Strategy and Policy Department at the Naval War College. Previously, he was a visiting professor in the Strategy Department at the Air War College. Dr. Yoshihara has also served as a senior research fellow at the Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis. His research interests include U.S. alliances in the Asia-Pacific region, China's military modernization, Chinese naval strategy, and Japan's defense policy. He is the co-author of *Red Star over the Pacific: China's Rise and the Challenge to U.S. Maritime Strategy* (Naval Institute Press, 2010), *Indian Naval Strategy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Routledge, 2009), and *Chinese Naval Strategy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Turn to Mahan* (Routledge, 2008). He is also the co-editor of *Nuclear Strategy in the Second Nuclear Age* (Georgetown University Press, forthcoming 2011) and *Asia Looks Seaward: Power and Maritime Strategy* (Praeger Security International, 2008). Dr. Yoshihara holds a Ph.D. in international relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, an M.A. in international relations from the School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, and a B.S. in international relations from the School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University.

**Dr. Jingdong Yuan** is associate professor in International Security at the Centre for International Security Studies, University of Sydney. Prof. Yuan specializes in Asia-Pacific security, Chinese defense and foreign policy, and global and regional arms control and non-proliferation issues. A graduate of the Xi'an Foreign Language University, People's Republic of China (1982), he received his Ph.D. in political science from Queen's University in 1995 and has held research and teaching appointments at Queen's University, York University, the University of Toronto, and the University of British Columbia, where he was a recipient of the prestigious Izaak Killam Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. He is the co-author of *China and India: Cooperation or Conflict?* (London: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2003) and his publications have appeared in *Asian Survey*, *Contemporary Security Studies*, *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *The Hindu*, *Japan Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Nonproliferation Review*, *South China Morning Post*, and *Washington Quarterly*, among others. He is currently working on a book manuscript on post-Cold War Chinese security policy. Prior to joining CISS, Prof. Yuan served as Director of the East Asia Nonproliferation Program, and was Associate Professor of International Policy Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies, a graduate school of Middlebury College. In July-August 2009, he was a visiting senior research fellow at the East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore.

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**Dr. Xiaoming Zhang** is associate professor in the Department of Leadership and Strategy at the Air War College. He received his Ph.D. in history from University of Iowa in 1994, and taught at Texas Tech University and Texas A&M International University prior to joining the Air War College faculty. Dr. Zhang has published a number of articles on Chinese military involvement in the Korean and Vietnam Wars, and Sino-Soviet relations during these conflicts; as well as *Red Wings over the Yalu: China, the Soviet Union and the Air War in Korea* (Texas A&M University Press, 2002). *The Journal of Military History* has twice selected him to receive the Moncado Prize for excellence in the writing of military history. He is currently writing a book on China's 1979 war with Vietnam. His areas of expertise include Chinese military history, the People's Liberation Army Air Force, the Korean War (particularly the air component), the Vietnam War, and China-U.S. and China-Soviet relations.

### The Editors

**Dr. Andrew S. Erickson** is an associate professor in NWC's Strategic Research Department and a founding member of CMSI. He is an Associate in Research at Harvard University's Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies. During academic year 2010-11, he was a Fellow in the Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program. From 2008-11, he was a Fellow in the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations' Public Intellectuals Program, and served as a scholar escort on a five-Member Congressional trip to Beijing, Qingdao, Chengdu, and Shanghai. Erickson received his Ph.D. and M.A. in international relations and comparative politics from Princeton University and graduated *magna cum laude* from Amherst College with a B.A. in history and political science. Erickson is coeditor of, and a contributor to, the Naval Institute Press book series, "Studies in Chinese Maritime Development," comprising *China's Strategy for the Near Seas* (forthcoming), *Chinese Aerospace Power* (2011), *China, the U.S., and 21st Century Sea Power* (2010), *China Goes to Sea* (2009), *China's Energy Strategy* (2008), and *China's Future Nuclear Submarine Force* (2007); as well as the Naval War College Newport Paper *China's Nuclear Force Modernization*. He is also co-founder of *China SignPost™* 洞察中国 ([www.chinasignpost.com](http://www.chinasignpost.com)) a research newsletter and web portal that covers key internal developments in China, its use of natural resources, its trade policies, and its military and security issues. Links to this, and his other publications, can be found at [www.andrewerickson.com](http://www.andrewerickson.com).

**Dr. Lyle J. Goldstein** is an associate professor in NWC's Strategic Research Department and was the founding director of CMSI. Proficient in Chinese and Russian, Professor Goldstein has conducted extensive field research in both China and Russia. His research on Chinese defense policies, especially concerning naval development, has been published in *China Quarterly*, *International Security*, *Jane's Intelligence Review*, *Journal of Strategic Studies*, and *Proceedings*. Prof. Goldstein's first book, *Preventive Attack and Weapons of Mass Destruction: A Comparative Analysis*, which compared proliferation crises and focused particularly on Chinese nuclear strategy, was published by Stanford University Press in 2005. He earned a Ph.D. from Princeton University, an M.A. from Johns Hopkins SAIS, and a B.A. from Harvard College. Dr. Goldstein has also worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He is also

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coeditor of, and a contributor to, the “Studies in Chinese Maritime Development” series; and is the editor of CMSI’s “China Maritime Studies” series. He can be reached at [lyle.goldstein@usnwc.edu](mailto:lyle.goldstein@usnwc.edu).