

# CIWAG MARITIME SYMPOSIUM

23-25 JUNE 2025 - NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

# SHADOWS & SABOTAGE

SHADOW FLEETS, MARITIME SABOTAGE and  
the RACE for CRITICAL MINERALS



NAVAL WAR COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION





Cover photo/2025 CIWAG Maritime Symposium  
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Luce Hall, U.S. Naval War College (Spring 2024)





The Center on Irregular Warfare and Armed Groups (CIWAG), along with the Naval War College Foundation thanks you for joining us at our 2025 Maritime Symposium, here in Newport, for these important discussions. We are joined by an extensive list of professionals with expertise across a wide span of global maritime challenges, and from various institutions. The symposium will be exploring a range of issues confronting the United States and her partners concerning complex global security challenges, as well as seeking to develop policy recommendations for the U.S. government.

Our goal, as always, is to provide a great venue for an informative conference with robust discussions and professional collaboration. We are glad to host the participants for this professional forum here in Newport, undergirded by the extensive contributions of the U.S. Naval War College. We seek to examine many of the larger issues of international security and U.S. led global stability.

I specifically want to highlight the tremendous contributions of the Naval War College Foundation, who has graciously supported, not only this venue, but in addition, supports so many aspects of the College's broader education and engagement missions. We look forward to this event and thank you for participating.



David A. Brown, COL, USA (Ret.)  
CIWAG Director  
United States Naval War College

Symposium participants and guests, on behalf of the Naval War College Foundation (NWCF) Board of Trustees and staff, I am pleased to welcome you to "Shadows and Sabotage." This is the third year in a row the Foundation has partnered with the Center on Irregular Warfare and Armed Groups (CIWAG) to provide this critical venue.

The NWCF is proud to support the USNWC as the center of excellence in joint professional military education through several initiatives. Among these are the establishment of six endowed chairs, including the T.C. Sass Chair in Maritime Irregular Warfare and Maritime Special Operations. The T.C. Sass Chair was established to inform and shape national strategies, operational recommendations and policies, and to promote and support research and teaching of irregular warfare and armed groups at the USNWC. This conference is the physical embodiment of that mission. If this is your introduction to the NWCF, I invite you to learn more at [nwcfoundation.org](http://nwcfoundation.org).

I look forward to joining you in these enlightening discussions over the next few days, and exploring the numerous threats to our national security interests and those of our allies and partners.

Thank you for joining us and enjoy the symposium.



CAPT George E. Lang, Jr., USN (Ret.)  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Naval War College Foundation

# Program of Events

## **Monday, June 23** *(Conference Attire – Civilian/Military – Business Casual)*

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>0730</b>      | Registration and Breakfast - Wyndham Hotel, Middletown, RI  |
| <b>0800</b>      | Symposium Welcome & Introduction (CIWAG & NWCF)   |
| <b>0815</b>      | Introduction: Setting the Stage - (Co-hosts)  |
| <b>0845</b>      | NWC Welcome - <b>RADM Darryl Walker</b> (NWC President)   |
| <b>0900-0930</b> | Keynote Speaker <i>(Maritime Aspects of Irregular Competition)</i><br><b>Joshua Tallis, Ph.D.</b> (CNA)   |
| <b>0930-1015</b> | Keynote Speaker <i>(Shadow Fleet)</i><br><b>Elisabeth Braw</b> (Atlantic Council)   |
| <b>1015-1145</b> | <b><u>Panel 1: Shadow Fleet</u></b><br><b>Moderator: Geoffrey Till, Ph.D.</b> (Naval Historian)<br><b>Tomer Raanan</b> (Lloyd's List Intelligence)<br><b>Michelle Wiese Bockmann</b> (Windward)<br><b>Daniel Tadros</b> (American Club P&I Association, Inc.) |
| <b>1200-1300</b> | Lunch (Upstairs Ballroom)   |
| <b>1315-1400</b> | Keynote Speaker <i>(Critical Minerals / Strategic Competition)</i><br><b>Gracelin Baskaran, Ph.D.</b> (CSIS) <i>(Virtual)</i>   |
| <b>1415-1545</b> | <b><u>Panel 2: Maritime Sabotage</u></b><br><b>Moderator: Joshua Tallis, Ph.D.</b> (CNA)<br><b>Lars Saunes, RADM (Ret)</b> (Former CNO Royal Norwegian Navy)<br><b>James Langan</b> (UK Royal Air Force)<br><b>Andrew Rolander</b> (J7, OIWC)                 |
| <b>1600-1630</b> | Closing Remarks / Discussion Summary Day 1 (Co-hosts)   |
| <b>1630</b>      | Reception - Wyndham Patio   |
| <b>1800</b>      | Transportation <i>(by invitation)</i> to Dinner   |
| <b>1900</b>      | Invitational Dinner - The Clarke Cooke House, Newport RI  |
| <b>2100</b>      | Transportation to Hotel   |



# Program of Events

## **Tuesday, June 24** *(Conference Attire – Civilian/Military – Business Casual)*

- 0730** Breakfast - Wyndham Hotel, Middletown, RI
- 0830** Review / Setting the Stage - (Co-hosts)
- 0900-0945** Keynote Speaker *(Adapting to the Gray Zone: Irregular Warfare and Enduring Competition in a Dynamic Security Landscape)*  
**Dennis Walters, Ph.D.** (Irregular Warfare Center)
- 0945-1115** **Panel 3: Critical Minerals / Strategic Competition**  
**Moderator: Nikolas Gvosdev, Ph.D.** (NWC, National Security Affairs)  
**CAPT Andrea Cameron, USN, Ph.D.** (NWC, National Security Affairs)  
**Adam Burstein** (DOD Director Strategic & Critical Materials)  
**Tom Moerenhout, Ph.D.** (Columbia University)  
**Peter Chin** (Irregular Warfare Center)
- 1130-1230** Lunch (Upstairs Ballroom)
- 1245-1400** **Panel 4: Maritime Industry Tracking & Analysis**  
**Moderator: David Brown, COL USA (Ret)** (CIWAG Director)  
**Daniel Mueller** (Ambrey Analytics)  
**Michael Mullins** (Lloyd's List Intelligence)  
**Michelle Wiese Bockmann** (Windward)
- 1415-1530** **Panel 5: Government Policy Responses**  
**Moderator: CDR Elizabeth Hutton, USCG, J.D.** (NWC, Stockton Law Center)  
**John Driscoll, Capt USCG (Ret)** (Chugach Government Solutions)  
**Karen Seifert, J.D.** (Dept of Justice)  
**Brian Callahan** (Department of Treasury - OFAC)
- 1545-1600** Closing Remarks / Discussion Summary Day 2 (Co-hosts)



# Program of Events

## **Wednesday, June 25** (Invitational Writing Workshop)

- 0730**            Transport onto Base
- 0800**            Breakfast - Mahan Rotunda / Reading Room (NWC)
- 0830**            Welcome / Agenda for Workshop - (Co-hosts)
- 0900-1115**      Workshops
- Workshop I: *Shadow Fleet (breakout area)*  
                    Workshop II: *Maritime Sabotage (breakout area)*  
                    Workshop III: *Critical Minerals (breakout room)*
- 1145**            Lunch (Mahan Rotunda)
- 1300-1430**      Workshop Out-briefs
- 1300: Workshop I outbrief: *Shadow Fleet*  
                    1330: Workshop II outbrief: *Maritime Sabotage*  
                    1400: Workshop III outbrief: *Critical Minerals*
- 1430-1500**      Closing Remarks / Discussion Summary (Co-hosts)



## Naval War College & Foundation Leadership



**RADM Darryl L. Walker, USN**

*President, U.S. Naval War College*

Rear Adm. Darryl “D-Day” Walker is the President of the U.S. Naval War College and a career naval aviator. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1985 as an Air Traffic Controller and graduated from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science in Professional Aeronautics. Walker received his commission in the U.S. Navy through the Naval Aviation Officer Candidate School and was designated a naval flight officer in 1992. He graduated from the Naval War College in 2002 with a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies. Prior to the Naval War College, Walker served as Deputy Commander of Joint Force Headquarters-Cyber (Navy), U.S. 10th Fleet.



**Stephen J. Mariano, Ph.D.**

*Provost, U.S. Naval War College*

Stephen Mariano, Ph.D., is the Provost of the U.S. Naval War College and most recently served as the deputy commandant and dean of the NATO Defense College in Rome, Italy. He also served on the faculties of the School of International Service at American University, National Defense University, the Royal Military College of Canada and the U.S. Military Academy. He holds a B.A. in mathematics and economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara, an M.A. in national security affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a Ph.D. in war studies from the Royal Military College of Canada.



**George E. Lang Jr., CAPT USN (Ret)**

*President & Chief Executive Officer, U.S. Naval War College Foundation*

Serving over three decades in the U.S. Navy, George Lang held numerous challenging leadership positions ashore and at sea, including command of USS Carr (FFG 52), Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans (N3/N5), and numerous overseas deployments to the Gulf of Guinea, Mediterranean Sea and the Arabian Gulf. In addition, George served as Deputy Superintendent and Chief of Staff of the U.S. Naval Academy, Vice President and Chief of Staff of the U.S. Naval War College, and Current Operations Officer 2nd Fleet/Striking Fleet Atlantic. Following his retirement from active-duty Naval service, George became President and Chief Executive Officer of the Naval War College Foundation in Newport, RI, in April 2019.



## Symposium Hosts



**David A. Brown, COL USA (Ret)**

*Director of the Center on Irregular Warfare & Armed Groups (CIWAG)*

Executive Director of the Advanced Strategist Program, and Director of the Center on Irregular Warfare & Armed Groups (CIWAG) at the Naval War College. A decorated combat veteran and former military strategist, COL Brown served 30 years in the U.S. Army and has a background in nuclear weapons, combat experience in DESERT STORM and IRAQI FREEDOM, and operational planning experience at Battalion, Brigade, Division and Theater levels, including operations in Bosnia, Kosovo, and as senior military advisor for the 2nd Iraqi Army Division in Mosul, Iraq. Prof Brown taught in the college's Strategy and Policy department and in the Maritime Advanced Warfighting School (MAWS) for joint war planners. He holds advanced degrees from the Army's School of Advanced Military Studies Program (SAMS), Long Island University, and the Naval War College.



**Geoffrey Till, Ph.D.**

*Naval/Maritime Historian*

Emeritus Professor of Maritime Studies at King's College London. Former Dean of Academic Studies at the UK Joint Services Command and Staff College, he is author of nearly 300 books, chapters and articles. Since 2009 he has been a Visiting Professor, Senior Research Fellow and Advisor at the Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore, and also held the Dudley W. Knox Chair for Naval History and Strategy at the US Naval War College. He is the author of *Understanding Victory: Naval Operations from Trafalgar to the Falklands*, and *How to Grow a Navy: The Development of Maritime Power*. Dr. Till is also working on a fifth edition of *Seapower: A Guide for the 21st Century*, and is the series editor for the Cass Series on Naval Policy and History.

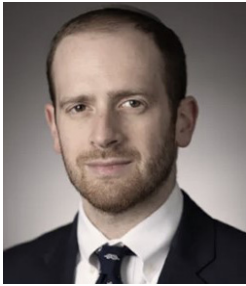


**Nikolas K. Gvosdev, Ph.D.**

*Professor National Security Affairs, U.S. Naval War College*

Professor of National Security Affairs at the U.S. Naval War College. He holds non-residential fellowships with Foreign Policy Research Institute (editor of "Orbis") and Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs (co-host of the "Doorstep" podcast). He is a member of Loisach Group, a collaboration between the Munich Security Conference and the Marshall Center to enhance U.S. and Germany's security partnership. He is also a contributing editor for *The National Interest*. He has taught at Baylor, Georgetown, George Washington, Harvard Extension and Brown universities. From 2016-20, he held the Captain Jerome E. Levy Chair in economic geography and national security.

## Keynote Speakers



**Joshua Tallis, Ph.D.**

*Naval Analyst, CNA*

Naval analyst with expertise in maritime security as well as Arctic, Euro-Atlantic and NATO naval strategy. Tallis embarked on the Harry S. Truman strike group during the U.S. Navy's first Arctic carrier deployment since the Cold War. His post-deployment analysis remains a central reference product for High North naval operations. Later, he embedded with Naval Forces Europe - Naval Forces Africa in support of 6th Fleet, where he helped craft various analyses informing strategy, operations and processes. Tallis leads the development of policy-relevant products, including congressionally mandated studies on Arctic naval infrastructure, Chinese Arctic investments, and illegal fishing. He holds a doctorate in international relations from the University of St. Andrews and a Bachelor of Arts in Middle East studies from George Washington University.



**Elisabeth Braw**

*Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council*

Senior fellow with the Atlantic Council's Transatlantic Security Initiative in the Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security. Her work focuses on defense against gray-zone and hybrid threats as well as the intersection of geopolitics and the globalized economy. She leads the center's Transatlantic Security Initiative, Threats to the global maritime order: Protecting the freedom of the seas. Braw is also a columnist with Foreign Policy and Politico Europe, a member of several advisory boards on technology and other research efforts, and a member of the UK's National Preparedness Commission. Braw has published numerous books, including the award-winning *Goodbye, Globalization: The Return of a Divided World* (2024), *The Defender's Dilemma: Identifying and Deterring Gray-Zone Aggression* (2022), and *The Undersea War*, (upcoming). Braw was previously a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and a senior research fellow at the Royal United Services Institute.



## Keynote Speakers



**Gracelin Baskaran, Ph.D.**

*Director, Critical Minerals Security Program, CSIS*

Director of the Critical Minerals Security Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). She is a mining economist, has worked in South Africa's platinum belt, and at the World Bank in South Africa. Dr. Baskaran was a Fulbright Scholar and holds a doctorate from the University of Cambridge. She held positions at the University of Cambridge, University of London, and University of Cape Town. She recently published *Critical Minerals and the Future of the United States Economy* and currently working on a US strategy for critical minerals. She is widely published, her research appearing in the *Mineral Economics* journal, and cited in *The Economist*, *Financial Times*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Fox*, *BBC*, *Bloomberg*, and the U.S. International Trade Commission. She's a regular commentator on critical mineral competition at leading international mining and energy conferences, universities, and forums, and has testified before Congress.



**Dennis Walters, Ph.D.**

*Director, Irregular Warfare Center, U.S. Department of Defense*

Director of the national Irregular Warfare Center (IWC), Dr. Walters draws on more than three decades of operational and academic expertise to guide the Defense Department and interagency approach to conflict and competition, focusing on irregular warfare. He served in the US Army as an Infantryman, Army Ranger, Intelligence Officer and Green Beret where he led a Special Forces Operational Detachment deployed to combat operations in Kosovo and Serbia. A fluent Russian speaker, he worked with the Russian Army in Tajikistan, post 9/11. Walters later served as a senior military advisor to ASD-SOLIC for counterterrorism. In 2009 Dr. Walters set the foundation for the creation of DoD's first Irregular Warfare Center. Today the network consists of more than 25,000 people in 120 countries and enhances U.S. interoperability with allies and partners around the globe. He holds a doctorate in Strategic Leadership from Regent University, a MA in public policy from Georgetown, and has taught on irregular warfare at NDU. He is the author of numerous articles in the field of IW.

## Panelists



**Michelle Wiese Bockmann**

*Senior Maritime Intelligence Analyst, Winward*

London-based energy commodities and maritime analyst and writer specializing in sanctioned oil flows and the ‘shadow fleet’, (deceptive and illicit shipping practices, and their regulatory, security and legal implications). Bockmann has more than 25 years’ experience across three continents in shipping and oil markets with a focus on the intersection of global shipping and geopolitics, maritime intelligence, and risk & compliance. She is part of the Distinguished Visiting Fellows Programme at the International Maritime Organization’s International Maritime Law Institute, and currently serves on the Comité Maritime International’s working group on Piracy, Maritime Violence, and Fraudulent Activity (including fraudulent registries). Michelle was also a journalist and political writer for The Australian, and worked for Bloomberg News, Lloyd’s List, and Fairplay shipping publications.



**Adam C. Burstein**

*Technical Director Strategic and Critical Materials, Office of the Secretary of Defense*

Technical Director for Strategic and Critical Materials at the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy responsible for assessing Strategic and Critical Materials (S&CM) supply chain vulnerability and developing policy related to sourcing, stockpiling, investment, and disposition of S&CM to ensure a secure Defense Industrial Base. Burstein was a Country Director for Oceania in OSD Policy where he advised on international security policy and served as Geospatial Advisor to and provided technical program management to the Army’s geospatial program. He previously supervised research as a branch chief in an Army laboratory and managed geospatial architecture, standards, data modeling, and system certification efforts. He also served as a geologist and hydrologist, mapping water resources of military interest and supporting Joint operations worldwide.



**Brian Callahan**

*Sanctions Compliance Officer, Department of Treasury*

Sanctions Compliance Officer at the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). As part of OFAC’s Compliance division, Brian is responsible for implementing U.S. economic sanctions through outreach to and engagement with public and private sector partners. Brian regularly advises and educates on a variety of matters relating to compliance with U.S. economic sanctions programs. Prior to joining OFAC, Brian served as a Surface Warfare Officer in the U.S. Navy.



## Panelists



**CAPT Andrea H. Cameron, USN, Ph.D., Ed.D.**

*Military Professor, National Security Affairs, U.S. Naval War College*

CAPT in the U.S. Navy, and a Permanent Military Professor at the U.S. Naval War College. CAPT Cameron teaches policy analysis in the National Security Affairs Department and is the founding director of the Climate and Human Security Studies Group. Her academic interests explore non-traditional and transnational security threats and their impact on U.S. strategic, national security and economic interests. These research interests include climate change and security, climate and energy policy, human security topics and civil-military coordination during humanitarian assistance/disaster relief.



**Peter Chin**

*Subject Expert / Analyst, Irregular Warfare Center*

Subject Matter Expert with the national Irregular Warfare Center, Chin is a former Green Beret (5th Special Forces Group) and Army Ranger (1/75th) with multiple advanced operational and intelligence specialties. He has multiple combat deployments to the Middle East as part of a specialized counterterrorism team. He also has extensive experience with industry, government, think-tank, and community level project management, including running successful operations across several continents, and regional experience in Europe, Asia, Africa, North America, Latin America, the Caribbean, Oceania, and the Middle East. Peter holds advanced degrees from Oxford and Columbian University, and was also a Stanford Hoover Institution Veteran Fellow, where he focused on increasing U.S. Rare Earths and Critical Materials supply chain resilience.



**John J. Driscoll, Capt. USCG (Ret.)**

*Chugach Government Solutions, LLC.*

31-year career officer in the U.S. Coast Guard as an expert in maritime law enforcement, theater security cooperation, and maritime and defense policy. Captain Driscoll commanded five USCG Cutters, enforcing U.S. drug, immigration, and fisheries laws, as well as UN Security Council resolutions against Bosnia, Iraq, Libya, and North Korea. He served in defense policy and maritime law enforcement roles, including Chief of Drug and Migrant Interdiction at USCG Headquarters, and Director for Homeland Defense Integration in OSD Policy. He also represented the U.S. Coast Guard, DOD, and Homeland Security during interagency coordination in response to maritime events under the Maritime Operational Threat Response plan.

## Panelists



**CDR Elizabeth A. Hutton, USCG, LL.M., J.D.**

*Coast Guard Judge Advocate, Stockton Center for International Law, U.S. Naval War College*

Military professor in the Naval War College's Stockton Center for International Law where she lectures and writes on matters pertaining to International maritime law & maritime security. She previously served as SJA for the Coast Guard's Fifth District, and was assigned as Deputy Legal Counsel to the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. She also served as legal advisor to the Maritime Security & Response Policy Office where she advised on legislation related to the Coast Guard's Ports and Waterway's Security. Other assignments include Senior Special Victims Counsel for USCG Legal Assistance and Advocacy in D.C., as well as trial counsel with the Navy Region Legal Service Office, Mid-Atlantic. CDR Hutton recently earned a Master of Laws (LL.M.) from Harvard University with a focus on national security. CDR Hutton is a member of the Massachusetts Bar and the United States Supreme Court Bar.



**James Langan**

*United Kingdom Royal Air Force*

Military policy advisor for the Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF) at the UK Ministry of Defence, where he focuses on hybrid threats such as the Russian Shadow Fleet and sabotage to Critical Undersea Infrastructure. Prior to this he was awarded a Chief of Airstaff Fellowship to complete a MPhil in European Security at the University of Cambridge. He was also the UK militaries' chief Information Operations and StratCom instructor, and deployed as Commanding Officer of the British militaries' Combat Camera Team during the 2021 Kabul and 2023 Sudan evacuations. James has also worked as a European energy commodities trader, and currently participates in the RUSI Maritime Sanctions Task Force. His research interests include Russian political economy, and the history of international sanctions policy.



**Tom Moerenhout, Ph.D.**

*Professor Columbia University and Executive Director Geneva Platform*

Professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, where he leads the Critical Materials Initiative at the Center on Global Energy Policy. He is also Executive Director of the Geneva Platform for Resilient Value Chains, and Senior Advisor to the World Bank's Energy and Extractives Global Practice. His work focuses on the geopolitics of critical minerals, industrial policy, and resilient supply chains. He has advised the White House, U.S. Departments of Energy and State, the European Commission, and governments across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Tom has also collaborated extensively with the World Bank, IEA, OECD, and UN agencies on strategic market design, and global materials governance. He holds a doctorate from the Graduate Institute in Geneva and has held visiting positions at NYU Stern School of Business, Sciences Po Paris, and the Geneva Graduate Institute.



## Panelists



**Daniel Mueller**

*Lead Analyst, Ambrey Analytics*

Ambrey's lead analyst for the Indian Ocean and Middle East. Daniel holds a MA in War and Conflict Studies from the University of Potsdam, and served as a navigator with the German Navy. Daniel has led Ambrey's regional response to asymmetric warfare. Daniel also authored Ambrey's Unmanned Aerial Vehicle threat analysis and asset screening methodology, now central to operational decision-making. This work is complemented by advanced gap analysis and voyage risk analytics tools, which together provide a comprehensive framework for maritime threat mitigation. In support of Ambrey's wider Guardian assurance programme, Daniel maintains regular engagement with regional authorities to ensure coordinated risk management to shape strategies against evolving threats in one of the world's most volatile maritime corridors.



**Michael Mullins**

*Senior Account Executive, Lloyd's List Intelligence*

Senior Account Executive, working strategic partnerships and revenue growth with clients across a variety of sectors and regions. He has extensive expertise in maritime and shipping, along with research interests in maritime law and policy. Michael holds a MS in International Transportation Management, a degree in Marine Transportation from State University of New York Maritime College, as well as a USCG 3rd Mate's License Unlimited (an ASBA Chartering Certificate). He is currently pursuing a JD degree at Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University.



**Tomer Raanan**

*Senior Maritime Reporter, Lloyd's List Intelligence*

Maritime risk analyst and senior U.S. reporter for Lloyd's List. Experienced in trade & investment data analysis, security and technology, and FDI, his reporting explores how geopolitics and regulation shape seaborne commerce, and how deceptive practices are used to evade sanctions to facilitate illicit trade. Tomer was named '2024 Multimedia Journalist of the Year' by the Seahorse Freight Association for uncovering a sanctions-skirting LPG shipping network. His writing has appeared in the South China Morning Post and Nikkei (publishers of the Financial Times), and he has written for the Asia Policy Program in the Abba Eban Institute. Before joining Lloyd's List, he worked for a decade in private security following his military service in the IDF. He is a devoted Liverpool fan.

## Panelists



**Andrew M. Rolander**

*Subject Expert / Analyst, Joint Staff J7 Office of Irregular Warfare & Strategic Competition (OIWC)*

Senior IW analyst for Joint Staff J7 in the Office of Irregular Warfare and Strategic Competition (OIWC), responsible for formulating strategy and doctrine for the Joint Force. Andrew has expertise in special forces, intelligence, and para-military operations. He served as an intelligence analyst for the FBI and the CIA, and conducted fellowships on IW with USMC University, Grand Strategy as a George C. Marshall fellow, and History and Statecraft for the Clements Center, University Texas. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in maritime strategy and warfighting with the War Studies Department at King's College London, and a Doctorate in National Security at the Institute of World Politics.



**Karen P. Seifert, J.D.**

*Special Counsel for National Security, U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Department of Justice*

Special Counsel for National Security, U.S. Attorney's Office for D.C., U.S. Department of Justice. Karen started her career in the Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch, defending the government in civil actions related to major federal programs. She then joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for D.C. where she prosecuted major violent crime cases and attained a Assistant U.S. Attorney (AUSA) position in the Appellate Division. Later she transferred to the Narcotic and Dangerous Drug Section (NDDS) of the Department's Criminal Division, prosecuting drug cartel cases. She also served in the National Security Section's Threat Finance Unit, prosecuting money laundering, IEEPA, bank fraud, and terrorism cases. Prior to her current duties Karen was on detail to the White House, serving as the Director for Transnational Organized Crime at the National Security Council.



**Lars Saunes, RADM (Ret)**

*Distinguished Fellow, U.S. Naval War College & former CNO Norwegian Royal Navy*

CNO Distinguished international fellow at the U.S. Naval War College, Rear Admiral (ret.) Saunes retired as Chief of the Royal Norwegian Navy in August 2017. A Submariner by trade, ADM Saunes held different command positions on both Kobben and Ula class submarines. He was the commander of the Norwegian task group, the Chief of Naval Operations at joint HQ, Commander of the submarine operating authority, and Commandant and commander of the Norwegian Coast Guard, as well as Chief of the Royal Norwegian Navy. ADM Saunes also served as the head of the naval section of the Norwegian defense high command and the Norwegian defense research Institute.



## Panelists



**Daniel A. Tadros**

*Chief Operating Officer, American Steamship Owners Mutual P&I Association, Inc.*

Chief Operating Officer (COO) for Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Managers of the American Club. His role as COO combines the management of the day-to-day operations of the Club and the Managers' offices in London, Piraeus, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Limassol, and Houston. Dan also has oversight of compliance and corporate governance while offering support to all departments. Dan brings extensive experience in P&I, FD&D and Owners' matters, having previously served as legal correspondent for many of the International Group Clubs. As a maritime lawyer with New Orleans and Houston based Chaffe McCall, LLP, Dan dealt with a wide variety of maritime matters. Dan holds a JD from Loyola University College of Law, New Orleans, and is fluent in modern Greek.



***We thank you for joining us at our 2025 Maritime Symposium.***

Your focus and participation in these critical conversations is important and your support of the work that we do is highly appreciated. We hope you will remain connected by signing up for our newsletter and follow our monthly podcast - The Trident.

Over the next few weeks, we will be working to complete a series of Policy Papers based upon our discussions here. These will be released via our newsletter and social media.

**We are always looking to collaborate with those working in this field. If you wish to work with CIWAG, please drop us a note at [ciwag@usnwc.edu](mailto:ciwag@usnwc.edu) or call us on 401-856-5495.**

David A. Brown, COL, USA (Ret.)  
CIWAG Director





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**Are you new to the Naval War College Foundation?**  
**First-time members are eligible for the introductory**  
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## CONNECT WITH US



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401-848-8300







## OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to the interdisciplinary study of the challenges presented by Irregular Warfare (IW). In order to accomplish this, CIWAG supports expert research in this growing field, promotes efforts to educate security professionals in IW activities, and facilitates interaction and collaboration between professional military educational institutions, civilian academics, and security practitioners.



## CASE STUDIES



Image Above: Shutterstock

Image: (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Jamean Berry/Release)



Image: U.S. Department of Defense (Source) - Public Domain



**U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE**  
— Est. 1884 —  
**NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND**



Image: Mediacentrum Defensie, CCO, via Wikimedia Commons

## DIRECTOR



**DAVID A. BROWN**  
COL, USA (RET)

Colonel Brown served thirty years in combat arms units and teaches on strategy, irregular warfare, and counter-terrorism.

Contact us at:  
[CIWAG@USNWC.EDU](mailto:CIWAG@USNWC.EDU)





# CIWAG Trident Podcast 2025



**Season 2: Ep 1: Sun Tzu's Imperative - to Win Without Fighting; A Strategic Approach**

Guests Rebecca Patterson, Susan Bryant, Ken Gleiman, and Christian Trotti join host Dave Brown to discuss the subject of their recent book *Winning Without Fighting: Irregular Warfare and Strategic Competition in the 21st Century*.

Listen to this podcast, and others, here:





**THE TRIDENT PODCAST**

Photo (Thumbnail): Statue of Sun Tzu  
Photo Credit (Background): Rawpixel ID: 5964671 (Public Domain)



**Season 2: Ep 2: Tangled Tensions: Is Syria the next threshing floor on the CT landscape?**

Guests Gen (Retired) Joseph L. Votel, and Dr. Colin P. Clarke join host Dave Brown and co-host Dr. Heidi Lane to discuss the U.S. mission in Syria and the implications for U.S. counter-terrorism in the region and continuing to prevent the re-emergence of ISIS.

Listen to this podcast, and others, here:





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Photo (Thumbnail): Flag of Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) - Wikimedia Commons  
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**Season 2: Ep 3: The Janus Protocol: Drones – The New Face of Warfare**

Guests Nolan Peterson and Kateryna Bondar join host Dave Brown to discuss the rapid expansion of drone warfare across numerous conflict zones. Janus, the Roman God of new beginnings, symbolizes the change from one condition to another and from past to future. This is a perfect metaphor of this momentous shift in technical weaponry unfolding right in front of us. The future of the modern battlefield is here, and it's most clearly seen in the rapid growth in drone warfare capabilities and the increasing lethality of the current threat environment it is creating.


Listen to this podcast, and others, here:








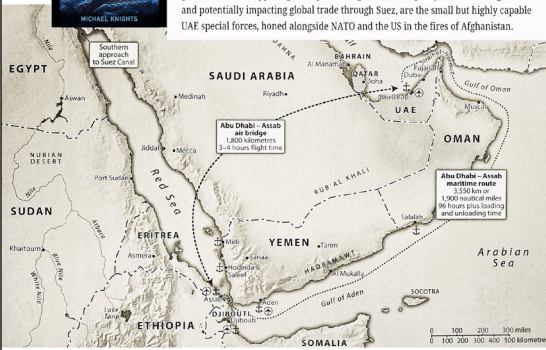
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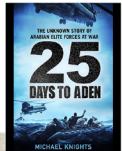
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**Season 2: Episode 4: 25 Days to Aden; The Unknown Story of Arabian Elite Forces at War (a book series with Michael Knights)**

Michael Knights and co-host Jane Stokes join Dave Brown to discuss the first book in a series detailing the outcome of a set of modern irregular warfare operations over control of Southern Yemen in 2015. The first book details the Yemeni Houthis' attempts to take over the port of Aden in their coup against the UN-backed government. The opposing force preventing this Iranian proxy from threatening a second major strategic waterway and potentially impacting global trade through Suez, are the small but highly capable UAE special forces, honed alongside NATO and the US in the fires of Afghanistan.





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Photo (Thumbnail): IPS - Profile Books; Main edition (February 21, 2023), (Background): '25 Days to Aden', page xxxii



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