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Celebrating 50 Years

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PARAMETERS

THE US ARMY WAR COLLEGE QUARTERLY

Publication Milestones

PARAMETERS • 1971	Practitioner-relevant scholarship since 1971
PARAMETERS • 1981	More than 1,500 articles and 1,300 book reviews published
PARAMETERS • 1991	1,200 authors featured
PARAMETERS • 2001	89 articles by women published since 1980
PARAMETERS • 2011	Yearly circulation of 48,000 copies
PARAMETERS • 2021	Decisive Point podcast introduced in 2020
PARAMETERS • 2021	37,000 downloads since June 2020

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1971–1980: Vietnam War – All-Volunteer Force –

Left to right: 1. The efficacy of ground combat comes under question during the Vietnam War. 2. Arriving in Beijing on February 21, 1972, US President Richard Nixon shakes hands with Premier of China Zhou Enlai. The visit led to the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China. 3. US Marines in Vietnam honor lost comrades killed in action with battlefield crosses—a long-standing tradition begun during the American Civil War. 4. The United States endures two oil crises—an oil embargo by OPEC in 1973 (the price of oil rose almost 300 percent) and an oil shortage in 1979 (the cost of a barrel of oil more than doubled to \$39.50). Both crises cause fuel shortages and long lines at the gas pumps. 5. In January 1973, Denmark, Ireland, and the United Kingdom enter the European Economic Community (EEC), the precursor to the European Union (EU).

Celebrating Fifty Years

Changing US-USSR and US-PRC Relations

Left to right: 6. Desegregation continues to change the culture and demographics of families in and out of the military. Public Law 94-106 allows women to enter the all-male military academies for the first time in history, and in 1976, women join the freshman class of the US Military Academy, the US Naval Academy, and the US Air Force Academy. 7. The United States celebrates its bicentennial and the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. 8. An early Apple MacIntosh computer (1976) and other technologies transform society, making computers more mainstream and affordable and radically changing military planning and analysis and the execution of warfare. 9. In September 1978, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat (left) and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin (right) greet each other for the first time at Camp David in Maryland. The Camp David Accords lead to a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel the following year, the first treaty between Israel and any of its neighboring Arab countries. 10. Lebanese Shiite religious leader Subhi al-Tufayli addresses a crowd in Beirut in support of the November 1979 Islamic revolution in Iran.

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1981–1990: End of the Cold War –

Left to right: 1. An Afghan mujahideen fighter engages Soviet aircraft with a US-made Stinger anti-aircraft missile. The CIA program, code named Operation Cyclone, arms and finances the mujahideen in Afghanistan from 1979 to 1989. **2.** In January 1981 newly freed American hostages arrive at the US Air Force Hospital in Wiesbaden, Germany, for medical and psychological exams after spending 444 days in Iranian captivity. **3.** The United States launches Operation Urgent Fury in Grenada on October 25, 1983, to protect the lives of US students, restore democratic government, and eradicate Cuban influence on the island. **4.** Artillery personnel from the 82nd Airborne Division load and fire M102 105-mm howitzers during Operation Urgent Fury. **5.** A suicide bomber destroys the US Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, on April 18, 1983, killing 63 people.

Celebrating Fifty Years

Changing US Civil-Military Relations

Left to right: **6.** In 1986 peace activists gather outside Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, to protest nuclear weapons. **7.** In the Oval Office in 1986, US President Ronald Reagan discusses his remarks on the Iran-Contra Affair with Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, Secretary of State George Shultz, Counselor to the President Edwin Meese, and White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan. **8.** US President Ronald Reagan and General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev discuss human rights, regional conflicts in Afghanistan, Central America and Africa, and arms control during a 1987 White House Summit. The summit results in the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. **9.** In summer 1989 Kristin Baker becomes the first female cadet to serve as first captain at the US Military Academy. **10.** Germans begin dismantling the Berlin Wall near the Brandenburg Gate on November 9, 1989. In English the sign reads, "Notice! You are now leaving West Berlin!" The fall of the Berlin Wall initiates the collapse of the Iron Curtain and communism in Eastern and Central Europe and presages the end of the Soviet Union. **11.** At the Malta Summit in 1989, US President George H. W. Bush and General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev continue peace efforts aboard the Soviet passenger liner *Maxim Gorky* in Marsaxlokk Harbor, Malta. In foreground: US Secretary of State James Baker III and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. The summit results in Bush and Gorbachev declaring the end of the Cold War on December 3, 1989. **12.** Drug Enforcement Administration officials escort Panamanian dictator General Manuel Noriega to Miami, Florida, following his surrender to US officials on January 3, 1990, as part of Operation Just Cause (December 1989–January 1990).

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1991–2000: Terrorism at Home and Abroad –

Left to right: 1. Tanks amass at the Saudi Arabian border in preparation for Operation Desert Storm, which begins on January 17, 1991. **2.** The Patriot surface-to-air missile defense system dominates air defense efforts in the Middle East during the Gulf War, engaging and intercepting Scud missiles and contributing to the coalition's victory in the war. **3-4.** The 7th Engineer Brigade comprised of National Guard Engineer Groups combat, combat-heavy and divisional engineer battalions; and topographic, bridging, well-drilling, and fire-fighting units deploys to Saudi Arabia in 1991 to perform a variety of support missions. **5.** At Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany, in November 1992, Lieutenant General Jerry R. Rutherford, V Corps commander, discusses last-minute details with Lieutenant Colonel Felipe Casso, executive officer, 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH). The MASH is the first US Army unit to deploy to Zagreb, Croatia, in support of UN Protection Forces in Operation Provide Promise, a humanitarian relief operation. When the mission ends in 1996, it becomes the longest humanitarian airlift operation performed by the Department of Defense.

Celebrating Fifty Years

Military Transformation in the Information Age

Left to right. 6. Marines chat with a village elder in Somalia during Operation Restore Hope in 1992. This Unified Task Force is a US-led, UN-sanctioned multinational force charged with delivering food and other humanitarian aid to Somalia. **7.** A soldier from the 6th Battalion, 502 Infantry, Berlin, Germany, stands at attention in Macedonia during Operation Able Sentry, begun in July 1993, to monitor and report activity along Macedonia's northern border with Serbia. The peacekeeping mission is the first time US armed forces are placed under UN command. **8.** On February 26, 1993, Ramzi Yousef and Eyad Ismoil, detonate a truck bomb below the north tower of the World Trade Center in New York City, killing six people and injuring over 1,000 individuals. **9.** The Pentium processor, released in 1993, revolutionizes computer processing. **10.** Domestic terrorists Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols detonate a truck bomb outside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995, killing 168 people. **11.** A terrorist truck bomb explodes outside the northern perimeter of the US portion of the Khobar Towers housing complex in Saudi Arabia on June 25, 1996, killing 19 servicemembers and wounding hundreds more. **12.** In July 1999, Major General Valeri Evtoukovitch (left), commander of Russian Forces in Kosovo, and Brigadier General John Craddock (second from right), US Army commander of Task Force Falcon at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, discuss relations between Russian and American forces as part of the Kosovo Forces, the NATO-led international military force performing peacekeeping missions in support of Operation Joint Guardian, which began in June 1999.

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2001–2010: 9/11 – Global War on Terror –

Left to right: 1. On September 11, 2001, terrorists fly American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 into the north and south towers of the World Trade Center in New York City and American Airlines Flight 77 into the Pentagon, initiating the War on Terrorism. Another hijacked plane, United Airlines Flight 93, crashes into a field in Somerset, Pennsylvania. **2-4.** Conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan cost the United States in blood and treasure. **2.** A CH-47 Chinook lands at Combat Outpost Kalagush in Nuristan, Afghanistan. **3.** Members of the Old Guard conduct a funeral ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. **4.** The military embraces new technologies, including the Predator drone, which fires its first missile in combat over Afghanistan in 2001. **5.** The Euro becomes the official currency of Europe on January 1, 2002. **6.** The Department of Homeland Security is established in 2002 to prevent attacks and protect Americans. **7.** The United States captures Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein (2003).

Celebrating Fifty Years

Homeland Security

Left to right: 8. Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia join the EU in 2004. 9-12. Devices such as the iPod (2001) and social media sites such as LinkedIn (2002), Facebook (2004), and YouTube (2005) change how people interact with each other and the world. 13. Soldiers of Company B, Task Force 1-27 Infantry, as part of Operation Wolfhound Power, conduct a dismounted patrol in Hawija, Iraq, on November 13, 2004. 14-15. Following Hurricane Katrina (2005), the Massachusetts National Guard and many other units provide civil and medical assistance in New Orleans, Louisiana, during Task Force Yankee. 16. Cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin (2009) change the way people think about and invest in currencies and technology and how the military analyzes economic power. 17. Colonel Dan Stoltz, commander, Joint Forces Special Operations Component Command – Forward, provides guidance to Haitians following the January 12, 2010, 7.0-magnitude earthquake.

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2011–2020: War in Cyberspace –

Left to right: 1. Osama bin Laden with his adviser Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri. US Special Forces raid an al-Qaeda compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan, on May 2, 2011, and kill bin Laden, the world's most wanted terrorist. 2. Terrorists detonate two homemade pressure cooker bombs near the finish line of the Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013. 3. Evolving technology continues to threaten national security as cyberwarfare efforts grow, requiring another dimension in strategic analysis and the impact of technology on war and policy. 4. Military efforts in the Indo-Pacific region ramp up. 5. More than 20 years after its inception in 1991, the World Wide Web continues to influence global dynamics. 6. China's growing economic power signals China's increasing threat to US interests. 7. Satellite image of Superstorm Sandy over the eastern United States, Tuesday, October 30, 2012. Sandy killed 75 people and caused \$70.2 billion in damage. 8. In 2013 American whistleblower Edward Snowden leaks highly classified documents from the National Security Agency, increasing interest in encryption and the safety of cloud technology for the military and analysis and mitigation of the devastating, long-term impacts of Snowden's disclosures.

Celebrating Fifty Years

Great Power Rivalry – Global Pandemics

Left to right: **9.** The Supreme Court rules the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional on June 26, 2013. Same-sex marriage becomes legal in all 50 states on June 26, 2015. **10.** A Ukrainian special forces soldier dismounts a US version of an armored assault vehicle during NATO training exercise Rapid Trident in 2019 in Yavoriv, Ukraine. **11.** US President Donald Trump shakes hands with the Supreme Leader of North Korea Kim Jong-Un on June 30, 2019, at the Korean Demilitarized Zone. **12.** The United Kingdom officially leaves the EU on January 31, 2020. **13.** The COVID-19 pandemic locks down the world in 2020, affecting health-care systems, international travel, national security, and the global economy. **14.** In fall 2020 Parameters adds the Decisive Point podcast channel to its digital publications lineup. **15.** US Marines (Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines, attached to the 4th Marine Regiment) conduct urban warfare training during Service Level Training Exercise 1-21 at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms, California, on October 7, 2020. **16.** The Los Angeles District, US Army Corps of Engineers, begins site assessments January 1, 2021, at seven Los Angeles County hospitals to deal with the shortage of hospital beds due to large numbers of COVID-19 patients.