

the military decision making process

The Military Decision Making Process: A Strategic Guide to Effective Command

the military decision making process is a fundamental framework used by armed forces worldwide to navigate complex operational challenges and make informed, timely decisions. Whether in the heat of battle or during strategic planning sessions, this structured approach ensures commanders and their teams consider all critical factors, evaluate alternatives, and choose the best course of action to achieve mission success. Understanding this process is not only essential for military professionals but also offers valuable insights for anyone interested in leadership, problem-solving, and decision-making under pressure.

What Is the Military Decision Making Process?

At its core, the military decision making process (MDMP) is a systematic method that guides military leaders through problem-solving and planning. It integrates intelligence gathering, mission analysis, course of action development, and risk assessment into a coherent sequence of steps. This process is designed to reduce uncertainty, enhance coordination, and optimize resource allocation in dynamic and often unpredictable environments.

The MDMP typically involves collaboration among various staff members, including intelligence officers, operations planners, logistics experts, and communication specialists. Each contributes unique perspectives and expertise, ensuring that decisions are well-rounded and consider all operational dimensions.

The Importance of Structured Decision Making in Military Operations

Military operations are inherently complex, involving multiple variables such as terrain, enemy capabilities, weather conditions, and civilian considerations. Without a structured process, decision-making can become haphazard or rushed, leading to costly mistakes. The military decision making process provides a disciplined approach that:

- Encourages thorough analysis of the mission and environment
- Facilitates clear communication among units and command levels
- Promotes contingency planning and flexibility
- Helps identify and mitigate risks before execution
- Improves overall mission effectiveness and efficiency

Steps of the Military Decision Making Process

The military decision making process is typically broken down into seven distinct steps that build upon one another. Each phase is critical to developing a sound operational plan and preparing the force for execution.

1. Receipt of Mission

The process begins when a commander receives a new mission. At this stage, it's crucial to understand the mission's objectives, constraints, and timelines clearly. Leaders gather initial information and prepare their staff for the planning effort ahead. Early identification of deadlines and guidance from higher command sets the tone for the entire process.

2. Mission Analysis

Mission analysis is often considered the most important step. It involves dissecting the mission to understand the purpose, key tasks, and desired end state. Intelligence about the enemy, terrain, weather, and friendly forces is analyzed to identify opportunities and threats. This phase results in a detailed mission statement and identifies essential tasks that must be accomplished.

During mission analysis, planners also assess available resources and potential limitations. A thorough understanding here lays the foundation for effective planning and problem-solving.

3. Course of Action (COA) Development

With a clear grasp of the mission, the staff develops multiple potential ways to accomplish the objectives. Each course of action represents a different strategy or approach, considering factors like troop movements, timing, and resource allocation. Creativity and lateral thinking are encouraged to explore all viable options.

The goal is to create COAs that are feasible, acceptable, suitable, distinguishable, and complete - criteria that ensure each option can realistically be executed and achieves the mission's intent.

4. Course of Action Analysis (Wargaming)

Once COAs are developed, they undergo rigorous analysis through a process known as wargaming. This involves simulating actions and reactions between friendly and enemy forces to identify strengths, weaknesses, and potential outcomes. Wargaming helps visualize the flow of operations and anticipate challenges.

During this step, planners note critical decision points, potential risks, and resource demands. The insights gained here often lead to refining or discarding certain COAs.

5. Course of Action Comparison

After wargaming, the staff compares the COAs against established criteria such as risk, feasibility, and alignment with the commander's intent. This comparative analysis helps prioritize options and narrow down to the most effective strategy.

The comparison is not just a checklist exercise; it's a dynamic discussion among the command team to weigh trade-offs and balance competing factors.

6. Course of Action Approval

The commander reviews the recommended COA and provides feedback or selects the preferred option. This decision marks the transition from planning to preparation for execution. Clear communication at this stage ensures everyone understands the chosen plan and their roles within it.

7. Orders Production, Dissemination, and Transition

Finally, the approved COA is translated into detailed operational orders. These orders outline tasks, timelines, coordination measures, and contingencies. Dissemination ensures all subordinate units are informed and ready to act. Effective transition involves rehearsals, briefings, and adjustments based on feedback.

Key Principles Behind the Military Decision Making Process

Several underlying principles make the military decision making process effective and adaptable across different scenarios:

- **Collaborative Planning:** MDMP relies on teamwork, leveraging diverse expertise to enhance decision quality.
- **Flexibility:** Plans are designed with contingencies to adapt to changing battlefield conditions.
- **Timeliness:** While thoroughness is vital, the process balances speed to meet operational deadlines.
- **Clarity and Precision:** Orders and communications are crafted to minimize misunderstandings.
- **Continuous Assessment:** After execution begins, ongoing evaluation allows commanders to adjust as needed.

Applying the Military Decision Making Process Beyond the Battlefield

While the military decision making process is tailored for defense operations, its principles have broad applicability in business management, emergency response, and project planning. The structured approach to gathering information, analyzing options, and selecting the best course of action under uncertainty can improve decision-making in various fields.

For example, corporate leaders facing complex market challenges can adopt similar frameworks to assess risks, develop strategic alternatives, and respond to competitive threats. Emergency management teams benefit from the emphasis on contingency planning and rapid adaptation.

Tips for Effective Use of the Military Decision Making Process

- **Engage Diverse Perspectives:** Encourage input from all relevant stakeholders to capture a full picture.
- **Use Clear Visual Aids:** Maps, timelines, and flowcharts help clarify plans and enhance understanding.
- **Practice Wargaming:** Simulations reveal hidden risks and improve preparedness.
- **Maintain Open Communication:** Regular updates and feedback loops prevent surprises during execution.
- **Embrace Flexibility:** Be ready to revise plans as new information emerges.

The Role of Technology in Modern Military Decision Making

Advancements in technology have transformed how the military decision making process is conducted. Digital tools enable faster data collection, real-time intelligence sharing, and advanced simulations. Geographic Information Systems (GIS), battlefield management software, and artificial intelligence assist commanders in visualizing scenarios and optimizing plans.

Despite these innovations, the core principles of MDMP remain unchanged: deliberate analysis, collaboration, and adaptability. Technology serves as a force multiplier, enhancing but not replacing human judgment and leadership.

Understanding the military decision making process reveals much about how disciplined, effective

leadership operates under pressure. It showcases the balance between rigorous analysis and decisive action—a balance that is critical not only in military contexts but in any environment where complex decisions shape outcomes and success depends on the quality of those decisions.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Military Decision Making Process (MDMP)?

The Military Decision Making Process (MDMP) is a structured, systematic approach used by military leaders to make informed and effective decisions. It involves a series of steps including receiving the mission, mission analysis, course of action development, analysis, comparison, approval, and orders production.

Why is the Military Decision Making Process important?

MDMP is important because it ensures thorough analysis, reduces risks, enhances coordination, and improves the quality of decisions in complex and dynamic operational environments, ultimately leading to mission success.

What are the main steps of the Military Decision Making Process?

The main steps of MDMP are: 1) Receipt of Mission, 2) Mission Analysis, 3) Course of Action (COA) Development, 4) COA Analysis (War-gaming), 5) COA Comparison, 6) COA Approval, and 7) Orders Production.

How does mission analysis fit into the MDMP?

Mission analysis is a critical phase in MDMP where leaders assess the mission, identify specified, implied, and essential tasks, analyze constraints and limitations, evaluate the operational environment, and develop a clear understanding of the commander's intent and guidance.

What role does war-gaming play in the MDMP?

War-gaming is a step in MDMP where proposed courses of action are tested against potential enemy actions and environmental factors. It helps identify strengths, weaknesses, risks, and possible outcomes, enabling leaders to refine their plans.

How does the MDMP improve collaboration among military units?

MDMP fosters collaboration by involving multiple staff sections and commanders in a structured process, encouraging information sharing, coordination, and consensus-building, which leads to unified and coherent operational plans.

Can MDMP be adapted for use outside of military contexts?

Yes, the principles of MDMP—such as structured problem solving, thorough analysis, and collaborative decision-making—can be adapted for use in emergency management, business strategy, and other fields requiring complex decision-making under pressure.

What tools or technologies support the Military Decision Making Process?

Tools supporting MDMP include digital mapping and Geographic Information Systems (GIS), data analytics software, collaborative planning platforms, simulation and war-gaming software, and communication systems that enhance situational awareness and coordination.

How do commanders ensure timely decisions during the MDMP?

Commanders ensure timely decisions by setting clear timelines for each MDMP step, prioritizing critical tasks, delegating responsibilities, using experienced staff, and employing technology to expedite analysis and communication, balancing thoroughness with operational urgency.

Additional Resources

The Military Decision Making Process: An In-Depth Analysis of Strategic and Tactical Planning

the military decision making process stands as a cornerstone of effective command and control within armed forces worldwide. It embodies a structured methodology enabling commanders and their staff to analyze complex operational environments, evaluate courses of action, and arrive at cogent decisions critical to mission success. Rooted in decades of military theory and practice, this process integrates intelligence assessment, risk evaluation, and resource management to optimize strategic and tactical outcomes under conditions of uncertainty.

Understanding the intricacies of the military decision making process sheds light on how modern militaries navigate the challenges of dynamic battlefields and evolving threats. Given the high stakes involved, where lives and geopolitical stability are at risk, the process demands precision, adaptability, and collaborative input. This article explores the core components of the military decision making process, its procedural stages, and the implications for command efficacy in contemporary military operations.

The Framework of the Military Decision Making Process

At its essence, the military decision making process (MDMP) is a deliberate and iterative sequence of steps designed to facilitate thorough mission analysis and planning. While variations exist among different branches and nations, the U.S. Army's seven-step model has become a widely recognized standard that exemplifies the process's systematic nature.

These seven steps are:

1. Receipt of Mission
2. Mission Analysis
3. Course of Action (COA) Development
4. COA Analysis (Wargaming)
5. COA Comparison
6. COA Approval
7. Orders Production, Dissemination, and Transition

Each phase builds on the previous one, enabling commanders to move from understanding the mission to delivering decisive guidance and detailed orders. This framework ensures that decisions are not made impulsively but are the result of comprehensive evaluation and strategic foresight.

Receipt of Mission and Initial Assessment

The process begins with the receipt of the mission, where commanders receive orders or guidance from higher headquarters. This initial step is critical as it sets the parameters for all subsequent planning activities. It often involves a preliminary assessment of available intelligence, timelines, and resources. Commanders must quickly grasp the mission's intent, constraints, and overarching objectives.

Effective receipt of mission includes conducting a rapid reconnaissance of the operational environment, which may involve reviewing intelligence reports, terrain data, and enemy capabilities. This foundational understanding shapes the scope and urgency of mission analysis.

Mission Analysis: Defining the Problem Space

Mission analysis represents one of the most labor-intensive and intellectually demanding stages. It requires dissecting the operational environment to identify key facts, assumptions, constraints, and specified tasks. During this phase, planners develop a detailed understanding of friendly and enemy forces, terrain, weather, and civil considerations.

A critical output of mission analysis is the development of the commander's intent and planning guidance, which provides clarity on the desired end state and priorities. This step also involves risk assessment, identifying potential challenges or vulnerabilities that might affect mission success.

Developing and Evaluating Courses of Action

Following mission analysis, staff officers collaborate to generate multiple potential courses of action. Each COA represents a distinct way to accomplish the mission, varying in tactics, resource allocation, or timing. The diversity of options encourages creative problem-solving and mitigates the risk of tunnel vision.

Once COAs are developed, the next stage is COA analysis or wargaming. This involves simulating enemy reactions, terrain effects, and logistical considerations to predict outcomes and identify decision points. Through wargaming, planners assess feasibility, acceptability, and suitability of each COA.

Subsequently, COA comparison contrasts the advantages and disadvantages of each option, allowing commanders to weigh risks against operational benefits. This analytical rigor ensures that the selected COA aligns with strategic objectives and operational realities.

Approval and Execution: From Decision to Action

The culmination of the MDMP is the commander's approval of a preferred COA, which then transitions into detailed orders and execution plans. This final step transforms abstract planning into actionable directives communicated across the force.

Orders production involves crafting clear, concise, and unambiguous instructions that ensure unity of effort. Dissemination ensures that subordinate units understand their roles, timelines, and contingencies. The transition phase may also include rehearsals or coordination meetings to synchronize efforts.

Advantages and Challenges of the Military Decision Making Process

The military decision making process offers numerous benefits that contribute to well-informed and coordinated operations:

- **Comprehensive Analysis:** The structured nature forces planners to consider all relevant factors and avoid oversights.
- **Flexibility:** Iterative evaluations allow for adjustments based on new intelligence or changing conditions.
- **Collaboration:** Involvement of multiple staff sections fosters diverse perspectives and expertise.
- **Risk Mitigation:** Early identification of potential challenges reduces surprises during execution.

However, the process is not without its limitations. The time-consuming nature of MDMP can be a liability in fast-paced or emergent scenarios where rapid decision-making is paramount. Additionally, excessive reliance on structured procedures may stifle innovative thinking or lead to analysis paralysis. Commanders must balance adherence to process with the agility required in modern conflict environments.

Comparing MDMP to Other Military Planning Models

While the MDMP is predominant in many Western militaries, other frameworks exist globally. For example, the Marine Corps employs the Rapid Decision Making and Synchronization Process (RDMSP), which is designed to be more agile under time constraints. Similarly, the British Army uses the Estimate process, which, while similar, places greater emphasis on the commander's judgment and experience.

These alternatives highlight a spectrum between methodical planning and rapid decision-making, reflecting differing operational doctrines and cultural attitudes toward command. Understanding these models provides insight into how militaries balance thoroughness with responsiveness.

The Role of Technology in Modern Military Decision Making

Technological advancements have increasingly influenced the military decision making process, enhancing the speed, accuracy, and scope of analysis. Command and control systems now integrate real-time intelligence feeds, geospatial data, and simulation tools that support more informed COA development.

Artificial intelligence and machine learning are beginning to assist in pattern recognition and predictive modeling, potentially reducing the cognitive load on planners. However, the integration of technology also introduces new challenges related to data reliability, cybersecurity, and overdependence on automated systems.

Training and Implementation Considerations

Effective application of the military decision making process requires rigorous training and institutional support. Military academies and staff colleges emphasize MDMP as a fundamental skill, combining classroom instruction with practical exercises.

Simulation-based training allows commanders and staff to practice the process under realistic conditions, honing their ability to synthesize information and make timely decisions. Moreover, fostering a culture that values both analytical rigor and adaptive thinking is essential to maximize the process's effectiveness.

In operational contexts, commanders must tailor the MDMP to fit situational demands, sometimes

abbreviating or accelerating certain steps without sacrificing critical analysis. The balance between process adherence and flexibility often distinguishes successful leaders.

The military decision making process remains a vital mechanism through which armed forces transform complex challenges into coordinated actions. Its structured methodology supports clarity, unity, and strategic coherence, all indispensable in the multifaceted nature of modern warfare. As operational environments evolve, so too will the processes and tools that underpin military decision-making, ensuring forces remain capable of decisive and informed command.

The Military Decision Making Process

the military decision making process: Welcome to the Military Decision Making Process (MDMP) C. B, 2019-01-14 Welcome to the US Army Military Decision Making Process (MDMP). This Guide provides an overview of the US Army's MDMP, an established and proven detailed planning process. Learn how to perform the MDMP, the commander's role in MDMP, the staff's role in MDMP and commander, staff and subordinate interaction throughout the planning process. This guide is great for the junior officer that is learning the MDMP to the field grade officer that is looking for a guide for their staff to follow. During each step of the MDMP, you will be provided with all inputs, process, and outputs. The guide can be used as a checklist that will assist you during each step of the planning process to make sure all tasks are being performed. The MDMP is a planning methodology that integrates the activities of the commander, staff, subordinate headquarters, and other partners to understand the situation and mission; develop and compare courses of action; decide on a course of action that best accomplishes the mission, and produce an operation plan or order for execution. The MDMP helps leaders apply thoroughness, clarity, sound judgment, logic, and professional knowledge to understand situations, develop options to solve problems, and reach decisions. This process helps commanders, staffs, and others think critically and creatively while planning.

the military decision making process: The Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP) Richard L. Wampler, 1998 This report documents the analysis, design, and development of the Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP): A Prototype Training Product. The MDMP product is a computer-based, stand alone training support package to assist individuals and staffs of light infantry brigades in learning to participate in the military decision-making process. The product consists of a compact disk that presents a self-paced course of instruction on how to conduct the MDMP. Doctrinal fundamentals based on FM 101-5 Staff Organization and Operations, serve as the basis. The course also contains numerous tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) that will assist staff officers in understanding and mastering their individual skills and their role in the collective process. This program, sponsored by ARI, was coordinated with the Joint Readiness Training Center leader's Training Program.--DTIC.

the military decision making process: The Sustainment Battle Staff & Military Decision Making Process (MDMP) Guide Dr Col (Ret) John M Menter, John M. Menter, 2009 Since 2004, the US Army has started a revolution of reorganization and doctrine development throughout its Combat, Combat Support and especially Combat Service Support logistics organizations, known as Transformation. In the logistics or Sustainment arena, the Army's concept towards supporting other units has changed from the old out-stockpile the enemy concept towards a system used by modern civilian distributors - Just-In-Time sustainment, leaving planning and synchronizing throughput of commodities and support to the customer with little margin of error. To successfully accomplish this, Sustainment planners must thoroughly understand the Military Decision Making Process or MDMP for short. Conducting a Sustainment oriented MDMP is essential in integrating the Sustainment War

Fighting Functional Area into the unit's plan and for ensuring a synchronized and supportable course of action. Successful integration is a result of having the right personnel, available tools, correct MDMP methodology, and synchronized timeline throughout the process. If this guide can assist logistics' planners in accomplishing this process, then it has accomplished its intent and mission.

the military decision making process: The Military Decision Making Process Wilson A. Shoffner, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. School of Advanced Military Studies, 2000

the military decision making process: The Division Level Military Decision-making Process (MDMP) James H. Centric, 1999 This report documents the analysis, design, and development of the Division Level Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP) training product. The division level MDMP product is a computer-based, stand alone training support package envisioned to be used by the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC) to augment existing CGSC instruction on the MDMP. The product, a computer disk, provides a self-paced, detailed discussion of the steps of the MDMP, focusing on the battle staff at the division-level. Field Manual 101-5 Staff Organization and Operations served as the doctrinal source reference. The course also contains selected tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) that aid the CGSC student in conducting staff integration and coordination during mission planning. This project was coordinated with the CGSC.--Stinet.

the military decision making process: The Military Decision Making Process Wilson A. Shoffner, 2000 The US Army's Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP) has been oft criticized as a time consuming and cumbersome process. Units typically devote so much time to developing and perfecting the plan that once the process is complete, there remains little time in which to implement it. If the time required by the MDMP were the only problem, then the solution might simply be to abbreviate or streamline the process commensurate with the time available. However, this is not the case. Even if planners are given a week, the MDMP still does not result in a perfect plan. In fact, recent experience at the National Training Center (NTC) indicates that despite extensive work by the staff% many plans are discarded as soon as an engagement begins. This experience is consistent with Moltke's adage no plan survives the first shot. This author does not suggest that planning is pointless, in fact, planning is essential because it develops a thorough understanding of the problem throughout an organization. However a tactical plan is useful only if it can adapt to the dynamic nature of the battlefield. A significant shortcoming of the MDMP is that it is rigid, inflexible, and does not adapt well to rapidly changing battlefield conditions. This monograph asserts that this method is fundamentally inappropriate for tactical planning because it results in only one solution (the selected friendly COA) optimized against only one possible set of circumstances (enemy COA). If circumstances change, the plan becomes useless because it is not adaptable to changing conditions.

the military decision making process: Military Decision-Making Process Wilson A Shoffner, 2025-05-22 The US Army's Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP) has been oft criticized as a time consuming and cumbersome process. Units typically devote so much time to developing and perfecting the plan that once the process is complete, there remains little time in which to implement it. If the time required by the MDMP were the only problem, then the solution might simply be to abbreviate or streamline the process commensurate with the time available. However, this is not the case. Even if planners are given a week, the MDMP still does not result in a perfect plan. In fact, recent experience at the National Training Center (NTC) indicates that despite extensive work by the staff, many plans are discarded as soon as an engagement begins. This experience is consistent with Moltke's adage no plan survives the first shot. This author does not suggest that planning is pointless, in fact, planning is essential because it develops a thorough understanding of the problem throughout an organization. However a tactical plan is useful only if it can adapt to the dynamic nature of the battlefield. A significant shortcoming of the MDMP is that it is rigid, inflexible, and does not adapt well to rapidly changing battlefield conditions. This monograph asserts that this method is fundamentally inappropriate for tactical planning because it

results in only one solution (the selected friendly COA) optimized against only one possible set of circumstances (enemy COA). If circumstances change, the plan becomes useless because it is not adaptable to changing conditions. This monograph assesses the appropriateness of the MDMP for tactical planning as presented in the 1997 version of FM 101-5 and explores the utility of alternative methods and techniques. It begins by reviewing the history of the MDMP to determine the linkage between the Army's original purpose for the staff planning process and the MDMP as it exists today. The evolution of the MDMP is addressed in relation to changes in This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work was reproduced from the original artifact, and remains as true to the original work as possible. Therefore, you will see the original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other notations in the work. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. As a reproduction of a historical artifact, this work may contain missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

the military decision making process: An Artillerization of the Military Decision-making Process (MDMP) Patrick Sweeney, Center for Army Lessons Learned (U.S.), 1999

the military decision making process: Assessing Battle Command Information Requirements and the Military Decision Making Process in a Concept Experimentation Program, 1998 This report describes a concept experimentation assessment of battle command information requirements and military decision making in the 2010-2015 timeframe. This research was the first in a series of concept experimentation programs (CEPs) planned by the Mounted Battlespace Battle Lab (MBBL) at Fort Knox, KY, to re-engineer command and staff operations. This report focuses on research methods, exploratory results, and recommendations on method improvements for assessing battle command information requirements and the military decision making process (MDMP). The exploratory results provide a benchmark for future efforts and suggestions for improving information systems and future evaluations. Limitations and lessons learned on research methods are considered. Method recommendations address measurement approach issues, such as mission, enemy, terrain, troops, and time (METT-T) structure for determining information requirements, and the applicability of the MDMP in a real-time information environment. Recommendations on manual measures address the timing and scope of assessment and respondent workload. Finally, recommendations on instrumented measures stress reducing respondent workload and increasing measurement scope and precision.--Stinet.

the military decision making process: Logical Evolution of the Military Decision Making Process David W. Burwell, 2001 This monograph explains the ability of the military decision-making process to inform the decision-maker in the current operational environment. A comparison of the operational environment, as envisioned through the U.S. Army's doctrine, before and after the end of the Cold War establishes the framework by which commanders make decisions. Moreover this comparison highlights the critical changes in that environment that the MDMP has yet to account for. Next, an analysis of naturalistic decision-making theory provides insight into how commanders inform the decisions they make. Subsequently, the military decision-making process (MDMP) is analyzed to determine the advantages and disadvantages of the process as compared to the current operational environment and the way experienced commanders naturally make decisions. This analysis establishes the logical evolutionary steps the MDMP must make in order to be a viable decision-making process in the current operational environment The fundamental dilemmas of decision-making within the U.S. Army are five fold. First, there currently is little experience within the U.S. Army at the operational level. Yet, since the end of the cold war the U.S. Army is increasingly becoming involved at the operational level of war, as the shift in focus of the Army's

doctrine indicates. Second, Joint Doctrine does not prescribe a methodology for decision-making that is fundamentally different from the tactical MDMP contained in U.S. Army doctrine. Because of the deficiency in Joint Doctrine it is logical that a U.S. Army planner, for example, operating in a Joint Task Force (JTF) Headquarters will utilize the only decision-making process that the planner is familiar with the MDMP. Yet the MDMP is a tactical process. Third, the MDMP was a tactical decision-making process designed for the pre-cold war, tactical U.S. Army.

the military decision making process: Logical Evolution of the Military Decision Making Process David W. Burwell, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. School of Advanced Military Studies, 2001

the military decision making process: *The Military Decision Making Process (MDMP)* Spencer Beatty, 2017

the military decision making process: The Military Decision Making Process John J. Marr, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. School of Advanced Military Studies, 2001

the military decision making process: The Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP): A Prototype Training Product, 1998 This report documents the analysis, design, and development of the Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP): A Prototype Training Product. The MDMP product is a computer-based, stand alone training support package to assist individuals and staffs of light infantry brigades in learning to participate in the military decision-making process. The product consists of a compact disk that presents a self-paced course of instruction on how to conduct the MDMP. Doctrinal fundamentals based on FM 101-5 Staff Organization and Operations, serve as the basis. The course also contains numerous tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) that will assist staff officers in understanding and mastering their individual skills and their role in the collective process. This program, sponsored by ARI, was coordinated with the Joint Readiness Training Center leader's Training Program.

the military decision making process: *What is the Military Decision Making Process* Georg Podlipny, 2015 The aim of this article is to find out what the characteristic of the Military Decision Making Process (MDMP) at the tactical level is in order to understand better which elements have to change and how they have to change in order to fit this process to the actual challenges.

the military decision making process: The Military Decision Making Process And The Battle Of The Little Bighorn Major Jonathan T. Neumann U.S. Army, 2014-08-15 Based on his background, education, training, and the information available at the time of his attack, Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer made good decisions as he lead the 7th Cavalry in its defeat at the Little Bighorn. Custer received the standard pre-commissioning education that West Point used to mold all future Army leaders. That education served him well in the Civil War where he enjoyed tactical success and a meteoric rise to fame and high rank. Following that conventional conflict, Custer entered into world of irregular warfare and voluntary forces. His defeat at the Little Bighorn ended 10 years of development as an unconventional warrior. Despite the common perception that his decisions invited disaster, by using the current Military Decision Making Process, and the intelligence available to him professionals of today can recreate the command decisions he made that day in June 1876 and possibly conclude that they were not to blame for the defeat. Custer's military decisions are very similar to those a current leader would make using current military decision making doctrine.

the military decision making process: *Systems Critique of the Military Decision-Making Process at the Operational Level of War* RICHARD D. PAZ, 2025-05-22 The Military Decision Making Process (MDMP) is the U.S. Army's single analytical process used to assist the commander and staff in developing estimates and plans for military problem solving. A growing body of research and published works within and outside of the Army community are critical of MDMP as an ineffective means of planning and decision-making. Nonetheless, joint operational planning doctrine has adopted the principles of MDMP as the basis for operational planning and decision-making. This monograph examines a revisionist account of general systems theory (GST) and proposes it as an alternative construct for future military-decision making at the operational level of war. This

research rests upon Shimon Naveh's thesis in his *In Pursuit of Military Excellence*, which asserts that any methodological approach to warfare must be theoretically consistent with the materiel system conditions of warfare. Hence, in those campaigns where a systemic approach was applied, in both the planning and management of armed forces, the nature of warfare was marked by sound operational logic... This monograph seeks to answer the primary research question: Is a general systems theory approach to decision-making suitable for the operational level of war? This question is not only of academic interest but also indicative of calls for institutional change resulting from Army and DoD transformation initiatives. A revisionist form of GST, or 'postmodern-GST,' is presented as a framework for military-decision making because of its socio-cultural implications and its value as a potentially progressive and liberating mode of thinking. The influences of other 20th century theories, namely structuralism, post structuralism, and critical theory are relevant because of their undeniable influence on GST and its revival as a postmodern epistemology. These influences must be examined in order to identify the implications that a priori or uncritically accepted warfare theory has on decision This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work was reproduced from the original artifact, and remains as true to the original work as possible. Therefore, you will see the original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other notations in the work. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. As a reproduction of a historical artifact, this work may contain missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

the military decision making process: The Division Level Military Decision-making Process (MDMP) James H. Centric, 1999 This report documents the analysis, design, and development of the Division Level Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP) training product. The division level MDMP product is a computer-based, stand alone training support package envisioned to be used by the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC) to augment existing CGSC instruction on the MDMP. The product, a computer disk, provides a self-paced, detailed discussion of the steps of the MDMP, focusing on the battle staff at the division-level. Field Manual 101-5 Staff Organization and Operations served as the doctrinal source reference. The course also contains selected tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) that aid the CGSC student in conducting staff integration and coordination during mission planning. This project was coordinated with the CGSC.--Stinet.

the military decision making process: Military Decision-Making Processes Kevin Dougherty, 2013-11-08 President Bill Clinton, speaking as might any commander-in-chief, on the eve of his decision to deploy ground troops to Bosnia in 1995, declared he had no responsibility more grave than putting soldiers in harm's way. Such a statement suggests that a study of the decision-making process associated with the weighty matters of using force would be enlightening. Indeed, it is. The decision-making process is far from standardized nor is it simple. While all individuals associated with important decisions about national security and the lives of America's service members take their responsibilities seriously, the processes by which they reach their conclusions are varied and complicated. The book traces eight traditional and emerging theories or models of decision-making by first explaining the components of each model and then by analyzing its practical application through three case studies. Each chapter concludes with a discussion of the utility and explanatory power of the particular model. Instructors considering this book for use in a course may request an examination copy here.

the military decision making process: *Between Discipline and Intuition: The Military Decision Making Process in the Army's Future Force* , 2004 This monograph examines the need to

retool the military decision making process (MDMP) as the U.S. Army transforms to the future force. Although the MDMP is the current doctrinal framework to decision making and planning at the tactical levels, it represents an analytical approach to problem solving with the concerted efforts of a commander and his staff. This monograph compares the current MDMP as an analytical process with the emerging science and theory of naturalistic decision making (NDM) as best represented by Dr. Gary Klein's Recognition Primed Decision Making (RPD) model for intuitive decision making. This monograph compares the two processes to determine which is a better model to use and recommends that a formal recognition of RPD elements and a commander's experience must be codified to present a better model for planning and decision making in the future force. A comparison of the requirements for battle command now and in the future is used to show the validity of any planning and decision making process that is codified by doctrine. Specifically, this monograph explains that any planning process must support a commander's need to visualize, describe, and direct actions against a hostile, thinking enemy. Also, any planning and decision making process must allow for synchronization and synergy of effects as the future force must be capable of rapid, decisive operations with a multitude of assets that make up its combat power. Flexibility must be resident in the process to account for future force operations across the spectrum of conflict as well as to provide a framework that is adaptable and modular. Lastly, any planning and decision making process for the future force must have some semblance of standardization to the process as the common language all organizations can train and execute.

Related to the military decision making process

Explore Military Life, News, Entertainment & Fitness Resources Explore all aspects of military life whether active service member, veteran, family or just learning. Follow the news, history and pulse of military life today

Military and Veteran Benefits, News, Veteran Jobs | Military.com helps millions of military-connected Americans access military and veteran benefits and news, find jobs and enjoy military discounts

Here Are All the Big Cuts and Changes Coming to the Army The Army is heading for a major reorganization that includes eliminating at least 2,000 positions -- a combination of civilian and troop roles -- and cuts to planned purchases in

The Army Is Losing Nearly One-Quarter of Soldiers in the The military's recruiting challenges have largely centered around finding young Americans eligible to serve, a pool that the Pentagon has estimated at only about 23% of 17-

Military Daily News Daily U.S. military news updates including military gear and equipment, breaking news, international news and more

Will the Military Draft Come Back? Will the U.S. military draft return? Learn the current status, how a draft would work and what recent events mean for the Selective Service

New Army Shaving Policy Will Allow Soldiers with Skin Condition Medical complications tied to mandatory shaving emerged as a flashpoint during the military's bumpy road toward racial integration

Army Seeing Major Recruiting Momentum in 2025 After As of last week, the Army had enlisted 51,837 recruits, or 85% of its 61,000 target for fiscal 2025, according service data provided to Military.com

Surge of Female Enlistments Helped Drive Army Success in Last year marked the first time in several years that the Army achieved its ambitious recruiting goals -- primarily due to an increase in female recruits, according to internal service

homepage | Featured Discounts Veterans Day Restaurant Discounts Dining Travel Retail Insurance Services Auto Electronics Join the Military Join the Military Home ASVAB Contact a Recruiter Military

Related to the military decision making process

OPTIMIZING MILITARY EFFICIENCY (United States Army13d) PROCESS IMPROVEMENT TOOLS AND METHODS AI holds transformative potential across Army operations—from logistics and maintenance

OPTIMIZING MILITARY EFFICIENCY (United States Army13d) PROCESS IMPROVEMENT TOOLS AND METHODS AI holds transformative potential across Army operations—from logistics and maintenance

CECOM Spotlight: Dr. Allison Marier enhances decision-making at CECOM with data and AI (United States Army1d) Dr. Allison Marier is the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command's first chief data analytics officer. With over

CECOM Spotlight: Dr. Allison Marier enhances decision-making at CECOM with data and AI (United States Army1d) Dr. Allison Marier is the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command's first chief data analytics officer. With over

Striveworks to Help Advance U.S. Army Battlefield Decision-Making (Morningstar2mon) Austin-based technology company joins industry leaders to deliver \$99.6 million prototype for U.S. Army's Next Generation Command and Control (NGC2) Striveworks, a leading developer of cutting-edge

Striveworks to Help Advance U.S. Army Battlefield Decision-Making (Morningstar2mon) Austin-based technology company joins industry leaders to deliver \$99.6 million prototype for U.S. Army's Next Generation Command and Control (NGC2) Striveworks, a leading developer of cutting-edge

Planning For A Drone Event: Where The Military Planning Processes Fall Short (Forbes4mon) Bill Edwards is a retired U.S. Army Colonel, a veteran of the Iraq War, a sUAS security trainer, and Owner of Phoenix 6 Consulting LLC. The Tower 22 attack is one example of where the U.S. Army cites

Planning For A Drone Event: Where The Military Planning Processes Fall Short (Forbes4mon) Bill Edwards is a retired U.S. Army Colonel, a veteran of the Iraq War, a sUAS security trainer, and Owner of Phoenix 6 Consulting LLC. The Tower 22 attack is one example of where the U.S. Army cites

How to Prepare for High-Stakes Decision Making (Psychology Today5mon) Military personnel, firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency room physicians, and many others can find themselves in circumstances requiring rapid and accurate decisions. The consequences of

How to Prepare for High-Stakes Decision Making (Psychology Today5mon) Military personnel, firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency room physicians, and many others can find themselves in circumstances requiring rapid and accurate decisions. The consequences of

Building a Brain of the Army Through Professional Military Education (csis.org3mon) Next Army is a collaborative series by CSIS Futures Lab and the Modern War Institute launched in honor of the U.S. Army's 250th birthday and the Army Transformation Initiative (ATI). The commentaries

Building a Brain of the Army Through Professional Military Education (csis.org3mon) Next Army is a collaborative series by CSIS Futures Lab and the Modern War Institute launched in honor of the U.S. Army's 250th birthday and the Army Transformation Initiative (ATI). The commentaries

Related Articles

- [paint watercolor flowers a beginners step by step guide](#)
- [how to write about africa binyavanga wainaina](#)
- [flannery oconnor a good man is hard to find analysis](#)

[Back to Home](#)