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From the Editor

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From the Editor

Our Winter issue opens with a special commentary by Hal Brands entitled, “Rethinking America’s Grand Strategy: Insights from the Cold War.” One of the problems with drawing lessons from history is how easy it is to extract the wrong ones. Hal Brands avoids this problem by accounting for differences between the context of the Cold War and that of today. The better strategic course for the United States, he argues, is not that of retrenchment.

Our first forum, *The Efficacy of Landpower*, offers two contributions concerning not only what US landpower brings to the table strategically, but also where it comes up short. In “Landpower and American Credibility,” Michael Allen Hunzeker and Alexander Lanoszka maintain US ground forces provide the authority and reassurance that make American grand strategy and foreign policy work. Joseph Roger Clark’s “To Win Wars, Correct the Army’s Political Blind Spot,” offers a sobering reminder that the performance of US ground forces wants for improvement in areas outside the winning of battles. The remedy, in Clark’s view, is to spend more time teaching Army officers how to “get the politics right.”

The second forum, *Professionalism and the Volunteer Military*, offers two articles reflecting on the way ahead for the US military. Don Snider’s “Will Army 2025 be a Military Profession?” argues the US Army’s senior leaders will have to exercise active moral leadership to ensure the Army is a profession in 2025. Louis Yuengert’s “America’s All Volunteer Force: A Success?” reviews the track-record of the All Volunteer Force, and contends the model remains viable, contrary to arguments favoring a return to the draft.

Finally, *Putin’s Way of War*, features a contribution by Russia expert Andrew Monaghan of Chatham House. Monaghan’s “The ‘War’ in Russia’s ‘Hybrid Warfare,’” argues it is well past time to study how Moscow thinks it might use military force in contemporary conflict. A great deal of effort has gone into understanding the so-called hybrid aspects of Russia’s way of war. But too little research is underway concerning how Moscow’s notions of the utility of military force will influence its decisions moving forward.

We are also pleased to offer a special feature in our *Of Note* section, an excerpt of an interview with General (Ret.) David Petraeus on strategic leadership. ~AJE