

CHRISTOPHER A. DENZEL

ChristopherDenzel.com
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CURRENT POSITION

Japan Plans Officer, III Marine Expeditionary Force G-5

CAREER SUMMARY

I am an operational planner and intelligence officer with an interest in supporting US defense policy in great power competition with a focus on East Asia. I am experienced in blending scholarship with operational practice and developing academically-grounded approaches that operate within practical and institutional constraints.

I thrive working in autonomous positions, and operating with minimal guidance. I enjoy challenging conventional wisdom, working on complex problems or in complex operational environments, and strengthening cross-functional and inter-departmental/-agency connections within the US national security enterprise.

EDUCATION

M.A., U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies, *Military Operations*, 2022

M.S., National Intelligence University, *Strategic Intelligence*, 2019

B.A., Case Western Reserve University, *History and Religious Studies*, 2005

AWARDS

- 2023 Gen Robert E. Hogaboom Leadership Writing Contest: First Place (*Marine Corps Gazette*)
- 2022 MajGen Harold W. Chase Prize Essay Contest: Second Place (*Marine Corps Gazette*)
- Joint Service Commendation Medal
- Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2nd Award)
- Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3rd Award)

MILITARY CAREER

Japan Plans Officer, III Marine Expeditionary Force G-5 6/22-pres

- Bilateral US-Japan Planning
- Expert in Japanese Crisis/Conflict Authorities
- Wargame Design and Execution

Graduate Student, U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies 6/21-6/22

- Superior Graduate (top 30%)

Intelligence Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-14 7/19-6/21

- Contingency Plan Intelligence Support
- Training and Education Curriculum Development

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Deputy Plans Officer, Joint Task Force Ares/Marine Forces Cyberspace Command 5/17-7/19

- Service Component Campaign Planning
- Interagency, Multi-National Coordination

Offensive Cyberspace Operations Planner, Joint Task Force Ares/USCYBERCOM 8/15-5/17

- Military Operations Planning
- Combatant Command Planning
- Interagency, Multi-National Coordination

Intelligence Officer, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, Air Combat Element 4/14-8/15

- Deployed (Gulf of Aden) Crisis and Contingency Intelligence Operations and Planning
- Combatant Command Intelligence Planning
- National-to-Tactical Intelligence Integration
- Department of State and Special Operations Intelligence Support

Intelligence Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-26 8/13-3/14

- Reach-back Intelligence Support
- Intelligence Manpower Planning

Intelligence Officer, Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 264 9/12-8/13

- Deployed (Afghanistan) Intelligence Operations and Planning
- National-to-Tactical Intelligence Integration

Student 1/11-9/12

- Air Intelligence Officers Course
- The Basic School
- Officer Candidate School

MILITARY QUALIFICATIONS

- Strategic Planner (*MOS: 0507*)
- Operational Planner (*MOS: 0505*)
- Intelligence Planner (*MOS: 0209*)
- Weapons and Tactics Instructor (*MOS: 0277*)
- Special Technical Operations (STO) Planner (*MOS: 8016*)
- Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) Intelligence Officer (*MOS: 0202*)
- Air Intelligence Officer (*MOS: 0207*)

MILITARY EDUCATION

War Gaming Introductory Course (WGIC), Naval War College, 2024

Advanced Military Studies Program (AMSP), US Army School of Advanced Military Studies, 2022

Master's of Science in Strategic Intelligence (JPME I), National Intelligence University, 2019

Command and Staff College (JMPE I), Marine Corps University, 2019

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MAGTF Intelligence Officer's Course (MIOC), Navy and Marine Corps Intelligence Training Center, 2019

Expeditionary Warfare School (EWS), Marine Corps University, 2017

Advanced Operational Design Course, US Cyber Command, 2017

Joint Staff PDAS Operator's Course, Joint Staff, 2016

Joint Staff Special Technical Operations (STO) Planner's Course, Joint Staff, 2016

Joint Targeting School Staff Course, Joint Staff, 2015

Expeditionary Open Source Intelligence Course, Marine Corps Intelligence Activity, 2014

Expeditionary Warfare Intelligence Course (EWIC), Fleet Intelligence Training Center, 2014

Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course (WTI), Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One, 2014

Air Intelligence Officers Course (AIOC), Navy and Marine Corps Intelligence Training Center, 2012

PUBLICATIONS

Academic Theses

[Useless Intelligence: Risk Reduction Redundancy in Planning](#), master's thesis, US Army School of Advanced Military Studies, 2022

[Improving Marine Air Intelligence Training](#), master's thesis, National Intelligence University, 2019

Professional Work

[Japan-US Alliance for Defense Practitioners: Plans, Wargames, and Exercises Reference Guide](#), *Unpublished Draft*, January 2025

[Japan-US Alliance: Pocket Reference](#), *Unpublished Draft*, January 2025

[Decoding the Alliance: A Guide to Alliance Acronyms, Abbreviations, and Associated Terms](#), *Unpublished Draft*, January 2025

[Marine Corps Reference Publication 2-10A.9, Air Intelligence](#), *Headquarters Marine Corps*, Washington DC, February 2021

[Air Combat Element Intelligence Operations Manual \(ACEINT OPMAN\)](#), *Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One (MAWTS-1)*, Yuma, AZ, March 2020

Journal Articles

[Collegial Leadership: Leading As A Staff Officer](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (June 2024), pp. 60-62

[Get Multinational Warfighting Right, Before It Matters: Don't wait until the shooting starts to develop a combined command structure in the first island chain](#), *US Naval Institute Proceedings* (May 2024), pp. 20-24

[Maneuver Warfare Is Just Operational Art: Rework MCDP-1 to synthesize the science of attrition with the art of maneuver](#), *US Naval Institute Proceedings* (November 2023), pp. 38-43

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[Achieving Decision on the Battlefield: Redefining maneuver warfare as method, not philosophy](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (August 2022), pp. 86-89

[Professionalizing Air Intelligence, Part VI: A functional concept for air intelligence](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (October 2021), pp. 38-44

[On Intelligence, Part II: Understanding intelligence in risk mitigation](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (October 2020), WE1-WE4

[On Intelligence, Part I: Why does intelligence work?](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (September 2020), pp. 41-44

[Professionalizing Air Intelligence, Part V: In defense of the wing intelligence support company](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (October 2019), pp. 78-83

[Professionalizing Air Intelligence, Part IV: What makes a good squadron S-2?](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (September 2019), pp. 68-72

[Professionalizing Air Intelligence, Part III: The Air Intelligence Tactics Study Group \(AITSG\)](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (September 2018), pp. 31-38

[Professionalizing Air Intelligence, Part II: Who needs an 0277?](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (March 2018), pp. 39-43

[Air Intelligence Tradecraft and Doctrine: Air threat zone matrix](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (May 2017), pp. 48-51

[Professionalizing Air Intelligence, Part I: An MOS tactics, techniques, and procedures manual](#), *Marine Corps Gazette* (January 2016), pp. 72-75

Blog Posts

[Force 2030 – Divesting: Maneuver Warfare](#), *Marine Corps Association Blog* (April 2020)

Podcasts

[Continued Conversation with Chris Denzel, Part II \(Season 2, Episode 6\)](#), *Revolution in Military Affairs* (January 2024)

[Dead Men Have No Will with Chris Denzel \(Season 2, Episode 5\)](#), *Revolution in Military Affairs* (January 2024)

[Maneuver Warfare Is Just Operational Art \(Episode 368\)](#), *US Naval Institute Proceedings Podcast* (November 2023)

[MCDP 1 in the 21st Century: Where Do We Go from Here?](#), *The Warfighting Society* (April 2023)

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SPEAKING & INSTRUCTION

Marine Corps Expeditionary Warfare School, Guest Lecturer 2023-2024

- “Marine Corps Doctrinal Publication 1 “Warfighting”
- Maneuver, Attrition, and Positional Warfare
- Operational Design

1st Brigade, New Zealand Army, Guest Speaker 2024

- Marine Corps Doctrinal Publication 1, “Warfighting”
- Maneuver, Attrition, and Positional Warfare
- Operational Design

Air Intelligence Officers Course, Guest Lecturer 2015-2021

- Tactical Intelligence
- Training, Leadership, and Professional Development

Squadron Intelligence Training Course, Guest Instructor 2013-2021

- Tactical Intelligence Topics
- Applied Scientific Principles
- Doctrine