



PRESS RELEASE

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AFA's Mitchell Institute Releases new Forum Paper *Chasing Relevance: Building Actionable Intelligence Analysis*

ARLINGTON, Va (June 7, 2016) —The Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies is pleased to release the newest entry in its Forum paper series, [Chasing Relevance: Building Actionable Intelligence Analysis](#), by US Air Force Maj. John M. Minear.

The management and exploitation of information and intelligence is increasingly driving success or failure in modern war. Air Combat Command's Gen. "Hawk" Carlisle noted in December 2015 that in today's combat environment, situational awareness – for airmen and commanders alike -- is defined as the ability to "know what I need, when I need it, and nothing more."

It is this challenge which Minear explores in his Forum paper– how to better identify and leverage intelligence in future conflict, and make it "actionable" for commanders and decision makers.

Minear, an experienced intelligence officer and weapons school graduate, notes that for the service to be more relevant to the needs of modern war, it must improve how it delivers analysis of its intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) products to commanders, leaders, and decision makers. When commanders ask for better analysis of a problem, target, or adversary action, "they are not asking for more information," Minear writes. "Rather they are asking for actionable intelligence, and the right information to make decisions." Instead of attempting to predict the future actions of adversaries, he adds, the Air Force should alter its focus to examine problems holistically embracing "capabilities theory" as the guiding principle for analyzing ISR, making it actionable from the strategic to the tactical level of command. Doing so will lead to decision advantage in a wide spectrum of potential future conflicts.

The Mitchell Forum series provides a venue for authors with ideas, concepts, and thoughts on national defense and aerospace power to engage with current and emerging policy issues. For more information on the series, and inquiries about submissions, contact Mitchell's Director of Publications Marc Schanz at mschanz@afa.org or visit our website, www.mitchellaerospacepower.org.

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The Air Force Association's Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies is an independent, nonpartisan policy research institute established to promote understanding of the national security strategy advantages of exploiting the domains of air, space, and cyberspace. The Mitchell Institute's objective is to provide creative, insightful policy options to better empower our nation's leaders.

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