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Our Air Force must accelerate change to control and exploit the air domain to the standard the nation expects and requires from us. If we don't change—if we fail to adapt—we risk losing the certainty with which we have defended our national interest for decades.

Accelerate Change or Lose—Gen CQ Brown, 22nd USAF chief of staff

We are engaged in strategic competition in the information space; *Accelerating Change* in information warfare (IW) is an imperative we ignore at our peril. Our great power competitors are already engaged—IW concepts are engrained in their strategic doctrine, reflected in organizational changes and embedded in their training at all levels. China and Russia are maneuvering every day in the IW space, and without swift whole-of-government action, we may find ourselves unable to contest them.

In order to compete effectively in the IW space, we must understand our constraints—strategic culture, organizational seams, and investment trades are only a few examples. In turn, we require better insight into how we could constrain our adversaries. During competition, IW success is often, but not always, measured in small increments that accumulate to strategic advantage over extended periods. If we fly an aircraft along a new route on a given day, does it have the anticipated effect...or are we causing unintended consequences? If we block an access vector, will the adversary shift to an approach we are prepared to secure, or one we cannot defend? Do we know enough about the adversary to draw them into a decision cycle of our choosing? How can we be certain we are pulling the right informational levers at the right time to encourage (or discourage) adversary behaviors?

Information warfare may be the deciding factor in strategic competition. The collection of articles in this information warfare edition of the *Air & Space Power Journal* proves our Airmen are more than ready to contribute their good ideas. Whether it's addressing the overdue need for a standardized IW lexicon, outlining training requirements for our information warriors of the future, or designing campaigns, exercises and operations around shaping adversary perceptions and behaviors, our Airmen are ready to seize the initiative and revolutionize IW operations!



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