

**Air University eGPME Webinar Series:** [Friday, 10 July 2020, 1330 CDT/1830Z](#)

**Title:** The Nexus of Strategy & Operational Planning: The Hardest Part of Warfare!  
**Presenter:** Col. Andrew Whiskeyman, PhD

**Webinar Event Link:** <https://eSchool.AdobeConnect.com/Webinar>

*\*Link works best on personal or mobile device with a commercial internet provider; local IT policies may prevent users from accessing Adobe Connect on the NIPR network.*

**Webinar Schedule:** <https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/eSchool/Webinars/>

**Previous eGPME Webinars:** <https://lms.au.af.edu/courses/17569/>

*\*This webinar will be posted for on-demand viewing later. You must have an AU eSchool Canvas account to access.*

**Presenter Background:**

COL Andrew Whiskeyman is currently serving as the Chief of the Information Operations Division within the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) Operations Directorate J3 located at MacDill AFB, Florida. His previous assignment was as the Chief of Strategy for the CENTCOM Joint Cyber Center (JCC).

He enlisted in 1994 and his first assignment was to Misawa AB, Japan as a military intelligence Soldier. He then went to officer candidate school (OCS) in 1998, and was commissioned into the basic branch of Air Defense Artillery. In 2007, he transitioned to the Information Operations functional area.

He has deployed five times: Kosovo (KFOR 3B - 2001/02), Afghanistan (3 times - 2004, 2006/07, and 2012/13), and Iraq (2008/09). He also has numerous shorter trips into the Middle East theater of operations.

He is a graduate (and plank owner) of the Marine Corps Expeditionary Warfare School (EWS - 2004), Air Command and Staff College (ACSC 2011 in residence), the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies (SAASS XXI - 2012), and completed his PhD in Military Strategy through Air University (May 2015).

He has numerous awards and decorations including the Bronze Star and Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

He has been married for over 25 years, and has four children.

**Presentation Information:**

The business of turning strategy into tactics is the art and science of what military professionals in the middle parts of the command structure must do. Those middle parts are typically located in operational level headquarters like Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR), or US Forces Afghanistan (USFOR-A). Such translation is difficult, but it is vital to the conduct of the war. According to Dr. Hal Winton, now retired

SAASS professor, “[w]ithout competence in the middle parts of command . . . superior generalship and battlefield virtuosity alike are likely to be wasted.” The operational level of war is the most difficult level of warfare. This is not to suggest that strategy is simple or that tactical level fighting is easy. A flawed strategy, even with brilliant operations, will not succeed. Likewise, a brilliant strategy, poorly implemented, will also fail. The operational level of war is the hinge that holds it all together. This webinar will discuss some current challenges and opportunities at the operational level.

# ANDREW WHISKEYMAN

Colonel, USA

Chief of J3-IO for US  
CENTRAL COMMAND

