

Options for Improvement:

- Encourage selected civilian colleges to offer degrees in national security studies.
- Handpick commandants and faculties for all service colleges, stressing professional competence plus academic expertise.
- Leave them in place long enough to implement programs prepared in response to specific JCS guidance concerning curricula.
- Admit students to the Armed Forces Staff College (AFSC), National War College (NWC), and Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) only after competitive examination.
- Make graduation from AFSC a prerequisite for admittance to NWC or ICAF.
- Stress conceptual strategy at all senior service colleges and the Foreign Service Executive Seminar.
- Feed graduates into the U.S. defense planning system at all levels.
- Provide "post-graduate" courses on strategy for flag officers and senior civilians, with emphasis on options.

Problem 5: Strategic Research

No strategic research center in the United States currently considers its foremost responsibility to be the testing of current concepts and the development of creative theories in the field of defense strategy. Planners consequently struggle to solve strategic problems with unsharpened tools.