

THE CONTEMPORARY MILITARY ART

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The issue of Military Art is becoming more and more complex as we approach the contemporary age. The main reason is the natural evolution of mankind correlated with the permanent changes in the international security environment and, in this framework, the triggers are globalization and the Revolution in Military Affairs. Thus, the contemporary Military Art is subjected to a complex process of evolution that includes both adaptations and transformations of its core elements at the strategic, operational and tactical levels. All these adaptations and transformations lead us to the idea that in the near future the military action will take place probably in a fluid and multidimensional battle space, whose main features are: asymmetric actions; mobility; decentralization; maneuver; flexibility; a wide range of air, ground, naval, outer space, information, psychological and special actions that will be conducted simultaneously at the strategic, operational and tactical level, etc.

Analyzing the history of the military art we can conclude that the problem related to it becomes more and more complex as we approach the contemporary age in our scientific research. The main cause is triggering a set of alert transformations in security and defense once the Berlin Wall fell, which symbolically marked the end of the Cold War. The international security environment features have changed significantly in the last two decades, making the world armies reconsider their existence and organization at all levels of action: strategic, operational and tactical.

Faced with non-state actors (terrorists, war lords or Jihad fighters) and given simultaneous missions of counterinsurgency, reconstruction and peacekeeping, the international security states and organizations started a complex process of adaptation to the new security and defence challenges. New concepts were developed, the methods and means of waging war were diversified, combining the theoretical and conceptual plan with the technological one, all leading to the idea that contemporary military art is in the middle of a revolution in the military (Revolution of Military Affairs)¹. Thus, the debates within

¹ **FOOK WENG LOO, Bernard**, *New Problems, New Answers? The Revolution in Military Affairs in an Era of Changing Security Concerns*, Proceedings of the NIDS Symposium on International Security Affairs Military Transformation in the 21st Century: Challenge for New Security Environment, February 2006, Tokyo, electronic version:
<http://www.nids.go.jp/English/dissemination/symposium/e2005.html>.