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Research Guide Series

Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA)

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Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA)

Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA) is a theoretical concept of the future of warfare, which is often associated with technological and organizational recommendation for change; there is a definitive tie to modern information, communications and space technology. Other theories associated with RMA are Networked Enabled Capability and Effects Based Operations. There are three major branches of RMA theory: the first relies on the change in the nation-state and the role of an organized military in using force, which in turn will highlight social, political, and economic factors worldwide. The second theory highlights the advance and evolution of weapons, IT, military organization, and battle field communication. This theory includes discussion of 'Network Centric Warfare', which aims to connect all troops and the battlefield. The third theory states that there has not yet been a 'true' revolution in military affairs, and that this is unlikely to happen: there will, however, be a continuing evolution. Critics have also pointed out that a revolution within the ranks of the military could carry adverse consequences and put a heavy burden on the economy.

This bibliography has been designed to provide a guide as to where to find information on the revolution in military affairs. Please note that the list of references below is a selection of the more relevant titles and information on the subject. The list is not intended to be exhaustive or definitive but is an introductory guide to some of the resources available.

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