



CURTIS E. LEMAY CENTER

FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



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PERSEVERANCE

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“Perseverance” is one of the “additional principles of operations.”

The principle of perseverance encompasses the patient, resolute, and persistent pursuit of national goals and objectives, for as long as necessary to achieve them. Some [contingency operations](#) involve a one-time occurrence or a short-term operation to maintain stability until local authorities can take over. Many missions, however, especially [peace operations](#) and building partner capacity, require a long-term commitment. The United States should be prepared to stay involved in a region for a protracted time in order to achieve its strategic goals. Complex problems often cannot be solved quickly; if a situation has been building for a long time, it may take the same amount of time or longer to resolve it. With this in mind, objectives should be established for the conditions under which forces may leave, rather than simply by a timetable for departure.