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# On The Psychology Of Military Incompetence

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Military Psychology for Africa  
Building Psychological Resilience in Military  
Personnel  
Psychology and Military Proficiency  
Reflections and Critiques  
The Image of the Enemy  
Principles and Case Studies  
Military Psychologists' Desk Reference  
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On the Psychology of Military Incompetence  
A History of the Applied Psychology Panel of the  
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The Oxford Handbook of Military Psychology  
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The Military Balance 2021  
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How Psychology Is Revolutionizing War  
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Understanding the Impact of Social Research on  
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On the Psychology of Military Incompetence  
The Psychological Cost of Learning to Kill in War  
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Concepts, Trends and Interventions  
The Psychology of Honour  
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**CHANEL CECELIA**

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Military Psychology for  
Africa Routledge  
As U.S. service

members deploy for  
extended periods on a  
repeated basis, their  
ability to cope with the  
stress of deployment  
may be challenged.  
Many programs are  
available to encourage

and support psychological resilience among service members and families. However, little is known about these programs' effectiveness. This report reviews resilience literature and programs to identify evidence-informed factors for promoting resilience. *Building Psychological Resilience in Military Personnel* Springer Contemporary Issues in South African Military Psychology, is a well-timed, extremely thought-provoking, imperative, particular to the African context, and deals with a highly contemporary issue within the people management and the management studies fields specifically in the military field and context. This is

specifically of importance as military psychology is a behavioural science that combines theory and practical application. - Prof Karel Stanz, University of Pretoria  
*Psychology and Military Proficiency* Amer Psychological Assn This book examines the drivers behind great power security competition in space to determine whether realistic strategic alternatives exist to further militarization. Space is an area of increasing economic and military competition. This book offers an analysis of actions and events indicative of a growing security dilemma in space, which is generating an intensifying arms race between the US, China,

and Russia. It explores the dynamics behind a potential future war in space and investigates methods of preventing an arms race from an international relations theory and military-strategy standpoint. The book is divided into three parts: the first section offers a broad discussion of the applicability of international relations theory to current conditions in space; the second is a direct application of theory to the space environment to determine whether competition or cooperation is the optimal strategic choice; the third section focuses on testing the hypotheses against reality, by analyzing novel alternatives to three major categories of space systems. The

volume concludes with a study of the practical limitations of applying a strategy centered on commercialization as a method of defusing the orbital security dilemma. This book will be of interest to students of space power, strategic studies, and international relations.

**Reflections and Critiques** SAGE

Publications India  
This book examines the use of military force as a coercive tool by the United States, using lessons drawn from the post-Cold War era (1991–2018). The volume reveals that despite its status as sole superpower during the post-Cold War period, US efforts to coerce other states failed as often as they succeeded. In the coming decades, the

United States will face states that are more capable and creative, willing to challenge its interests and able to take advantage of missteps and vulnerabilities. By using lessons derived from in-depth case studies and statistical analysis of an original dataset of more than 100 coercive incidents in the post-Cold War era, this book generates insight into how the US military can be used to achieve policy goals. Specifically, it provides guidance about the ways in which, and the conditions under which, the US armed forces can work in concert with economic and diplomatic elements of US power to create effective coercive strategies. This book will be of

interest to students of US national security, US foreign policy, strategic studies and International Relations in general.

The Image of the Enemy Hachette UK

A useful book that deals with a number of psychological issues surfacing in military and paramilitary forces. *Military Psychology: Concepts, Trends and Interventions* offers various psychological theories that are not only significant in the context of soldiers but also help to strengthen the capability of military and paramilitary forces during combat and non-combat operations. Stressing on the psycho-social well-being of the soldiers, this book offers insights into

military psychological issues, such as soldier selection, combating stress, instances of misconduct, psychological operations, optimism, resilience and hardiness training, gender bias, value-based leadership, familial well-being and the future warfare. The global case studies in the book offer lessons for India and other countries where military and para-military forces are engaged in dealing with both external and internal extremism. Principles and Case Studies Bloomsbury Publishing  
 In *Living and Surviving in Harm's Way*, experts investigate the psychological impact of how warriors live and survive in combat duty. They address the

combat preparation of servicemen and women, their support systems, and their interpersonal and intrapersonal experiences. The text maintains a focus on cognitive-behavioral interventions for treating various combat-related disorders, and addresses psychological health and adjustment after leaving the battlefield. The text is logically organized for easy reading and reference, and covers often overlooked topics such as preparation and training of service personnel, women in combat, and the indirect effects of combat stress on family. This book is written by clinicians who have in some ways experienced what

they write about, and resonates with mental health professionals, servicemen and women, and their families. Any clinician hoping to treat a serviceman or woman effectively cannot afford to overlook this book.

*Military Psychologists' Desk Reference* OUP USA

This book, first published in 1944, stresses the point that there is no shortcut to successful wartime leadership, and pays a close analysis to the attributes that contribute to being a sound leader of soldiers. It gives us valuable insights into the values and training of the British Army in the second half of the war.

Clinical and Operational

Applications Guilford Press

Military Psychology for Africa is the first textbook of its kind from Africa. Selected authors with competent military psychology knowledge, skills, expertise and experience each contributed a chapter to this unique book.

The book empowers academics, students and military fellows to apply this knowledge at academic institutions and military units, during operations, and in presenting short courses. The book will also equip soldiers with new knowledge for advancing peace on the continent and abroad.

**The Psychology of Military Leadership**

Springer

Military psychology has

become one of the world's fastest-growing disciplines with ever-emerging new applications of research and development. The Routledge International Handbook of Military Psychology and Mental Health is a compendium of chapters by internationally renowned scholars in the field, bringing forth the state of the art in the theory, practice and future prospects of military psychology. This uniquely interdisciplinary volume deliberates upon the current issues and applications of military psychology not only within the military organization and the discipline of psychology, but also in the larger context of its role of building a better

world. Split into three parts dedicated to specific themes, the first part of the book, "Military Psychology: The Roots and the Journey," provides an overview of the evolution of the discipline over the years, delving into concepts as varied as culture and cognition in the military, a perspective on the role of military psychology in future warfare and ethical issues. The second part, "Soldiering: Deployment and Beyond," considers the complexities involved in soldiering in view of the changing nature of warfare, generating a focal discourse on various aspects of military leadership, soldier resilience and post-traumatic growth in the face of extreme



situations, bravery and character strengths and transitioning to civilian life. In the final section, "Making a Choice: Mental Health Issues and Prospects in the Military," the contributors focus on the challenges and practices involved in maintaining the mental health of the soldier, covering issues ranging from stress, mental health and well-being, through to suicide risk and its prevention, intervention and management strategies, moral injury and post-traumatic stress disorder. Incorporating enlightening contributions of eminent scholars from around the world, the volume is a comprehensive repository of current

perspectives and future directions in the domain of military psychology. It will prove a valuable resource for mental health practitioners, military leaders, policy-makers and academics and students across a range of disciplines.

### **The Psychology of War and Peace**

Guilford Publications  
Throughout history, both military and commercial entities around the world have utilized these methods, and even since the formalization of psychological operations during WW2 our methods have improved greatly, but we are still only touching the 'tip of the iceberg', so to speak, of what is truly possible.

**On Combat** On the Psychology of Military

IncompetenceThe Crimea, the Boer War, the Somme, Tobruk, Pearl Harbor, the Bay of Pigs: these are just some of the milestones in a century of military incompetence, of costly mishaps and tragic blunders. Are these simple accidents--as the "bloody fool" theory has it--or are they inevitable? The psychologist Norman F. Dixon argues that there is a pattern to inept generalship, and locates this pattern within the very act of creating armies in the first place, which in his view produces a levelling down of human capability that encourages the mediocre and limits the gifted. In this light, successful generals achieve what they do despite the stultifying features of the

organization to which they belong. A classic study of military leadership, *On the Psychology of Military Incompetence* is at once an original exploration of the battles that have defined the last two centuries of human civilization and an essential guide for the next generation of military leaders. *On the Psychology of Military Incompetence: Can a Baby Be an Enemy?* Our world is in a deep, prolonged crisis. The threat of global nuclear war, the chronic condition of local wars, the imperilled environment, and mass starvation are among the major forms this crisis takes. The dangers of massive overkill, overexploitation of the

environment, and overpopulation are well known, but surprisingly little has been said about their potential interactions, their bearing upon each other. If there were to be a nuclear confrontation between today's superpowers, it might not take place in today's world, but in a far less friendly habitat, such as the world may be some decades hence. And it need hardly be added that the era of this particular super power configuration may be waning rapidly, its place to be taken by other international arrangements not necessarily less threatening. To understand and cope with our situation we need correspondingly serious reflection. This volume forms a

welcome part of that process. Unavoidably, a large part of our thinking about the issues of human survival must be oriented to physical and biological aspects of the total danger. But it has not escaped the authors of this book that, coupled with these aspects, there are profound psychological dangers, such as loss of the sense of futurity, moral deterioration, and a fatalistic decline in the will to struggle to protect our home, the Earth.

### **On the Psychology of Military Incompetence**

American Psychological Association (APA)

"Since the publication of the first edition of *Head Strong: How Psychology is Revolutionizing War* in

2014, developments in military psychology have been rapid and important. So much so, that this revised edition is necessary to accurately capture the vital role that psychology continues to play in 21st century military success. The ideas contained in the first edition influenced emerging doctrine in the Army's Human Dimension, and informed military leaders around the globe of ways that psychological science and practice may be leveraged to improve combat effectiveness. Many of the predictions made in the first edition have come true, and new and exciting products of military psychology now offer novel ways of impacting military outcomes. This revised

edition of Head Strong updates the 13 chapters included in the first edition with breaking news in military psychology, and adds new material to augment those chapters. Two entirely new chapters are included in this edition. The first is on character and discusses how to measure it, how to develop it, and how character plays a vital role in the performance of individual soldiers and their units. The second new chapter is based on a year-long special assignment the author spent working as a Fellow for the Army Chief of Staff's Strategic Studies Group, and captures the rapid developments in psychology, cognitive neuroscience, and

other disciplines that may help the military optimize soldier and unit performance. Like the other topics in *Head Strong*, these two new chapters have significant applicability to non-military organizations including schools, corporations, and sports teams. Taken together, the updates and new chapters make *Head Strong, Revised Edition* essential reading for anyone interested in how the military, and by extension other organizations, may leverage psychology to improve performance."--

*A History of the Applied Psychology Panel of the National Defense Research Committee*  
SAGE Publications India  
"In the late 1990s, a number of psychologists who

supported national security programs would meet monthly to collaboratively discuss program and research initiatives. The need for psychologists to remain focused on a professional and ethical practice of psychology in support of national security operations was a frequent topic of those meetings. Thus, the meetings often served as professional peer consultations in a practice domain that has come to be known as operational psychology. Various potential and real ethical conflicts related to the practice of psychology in support of national security missions were addressed in those meetings. Many of those discussions serve as the foundational

impetus for this book. It also goes without saying that the dramatic increase in relevance and practice of operational psychologists in a post-9/11 world reinforces the need to bring that foundation into a structure of practice. This volume is intended to help frame that structure and guide those operational psychologists, who now face a vast array of complex challenges around the world. It is our intention that this volume provide firsthand knowledge about the key areas of operational psychological practice and the ethical analysis needed to operate in this relatively uncharted territory"--  
 Book. (PsycINFO Database Record (c)

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### **War On The Mind**

Greenwood Publishing Group

The army of Frederick the Great of Prussia is generally known as an efficient fighting machine based on brutal and strict drill procedures that led to broken but fearless soldiers as well as glorious battle victories. In analysing the mentalities of the men who established Prussia's great power status, Prussian Army Soldiers and the Seven Years' War fundamentally challenges this interpretation. Drawing on a vast array of primary sources (including the writing of regimental chaplain Küster, who could probably be called the first modern military

psychologist) and presenting the first English translation of 12 letters of common Prussian soldiers from the Seven Years' War, this book shows that the soldiers were feeling individuals. They were loving husbands, vulnerable little brothers, deeply religious preachers, and sometimes even bold adventurers. All these individuals, however, were united by one idea which made them fight efficiently: honour. In *Prussian Army Soldiers and the Seven Years' War*, the different elements of the Prussian soldiers' concept of such honour are expertly analysed. The result is a nuanced, sophisticated, and much-needed psychological history of

Frederick the Great's army.

*The Psychology of Military Leadership*  
Routledge

The psychological well-being of servicemen and women returning from war is one of the most discussed and contemplated mental health issues today.

Media programs debate the epidemic of PTSD in returning veterans and the potential fallout of a less-than-adequate veteran mental health system. This public discussion is only a small glimpse into the field of military psychology. One of the most diverse specialties within psychology, it is a sector positioned and equipped to influence such concepts as psychological resilience,

consequences of extended family stress, the role of technology in mental healthcare delivery, and how to increase human performance under harsh conditions.

Military Psychologists' Desk Reference is the authoritative guide in the field of military mental health, covering in a clear and concise manner the depth and breadth of this expanding area at a pivotal and relevant time. Moore and Barnett, former military psychologists, bring together the field's top experts to provide concise and targeted reviews of the most salient aspects of military mental health and present the material in an easily digestible manner. Chapters cover important topics such

as military culture, working with Special Operations Forces, professional issues and ethical challenges, women in combat, posttraumatic stress, anxiety and sleep disorders, psychologists' involvement in interrogations, and how to build and sustain a resilient Force, to name but a few. Authors consist of a combination of current and former military psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers and Chaplains, experts from the Department of Veterans Affairs, prominent academicians, and representatives from other governmental and civilian organizations. This comprehensive resource is a must for



every military psychologist, as well as for non-military clinicians, researchers, counselors, social workers, educators, and trainees who increasingly need to be familiar with this specialized area of psychology.

The Art of Leadership

Springer Science & Business Media  
The Crimea, the Boer War, the Somme, Tobruk, Pearl Harbor, the Bay of Pigs: these are just some of the milestones in a century and a half of military incompetence, of costly mishaps and tragic blunders. Are these simple accidents—as the “bloody fool” theory has it—or are they inevitable? The psychologist Norman Dixon argues that there is a pattern to

inept generalship, a pattern he locates within the very act of creating armies in the first place, which in his view produces a levelling down of human capability that encourages the mediocre and limits the gifted. A classic study of military leadership, *On the Psychology of Military Incompetence* is both an original exploration of infamous modern battles and an essential guide for the next generation of military leaders.

*Clinical and Organizational Practice*  
Human Factor Research Group Incorporated  
The Crimea, the Boer War, the Somme, Tobruk, Pearl Harbor, the Bay of Pigs: these are just some of the milestones in a century

of military incompetence, of costly mishaps and tragic blunders. Are these simple accidents--as the "bloody fool" theory has it--or are they inevitable? The psychologist Norman F. Dixon argues that there is a pattern to inept generalship, and locates this pattern within the very act of creating armies in the first place, which in his view produces a levelling down of human capability that encourages the mediocre and limits the gifted. In this light, successful generals achieve what they do despite the stultifying features of the organization to which they belong. A classic study of military leadership, *On the Psychology of Military Incompetence* is at

once an original exploration of the battles that have defined the last two centuries of human civilization and an essential guide for the next generation of military leaders.

**The Oxford Handbook of Military Psychology** Random House

The Oxford Handbook of Military Psychology describes the critical link between psychology and military activity. The extensive coverage includes topics in of clinical, industrial/organizational, experimental, engineering, and social psychology. The contributors are leading international experts in military psychology.

**Theory and Practice** Guilford Press

A complete guide to an innovative, research-based brief treatment specifically developed for service members and veterans, this book combines clinical wisdom and in-depth knowledge of military culture. Adaptive disclosure is designed to help those struggling in the aftermath of traumatic war-zone experiences, including life threat, traumatic loss, and moral injury, the violation of closely held beliefs or codes. Detailed guidelines are provided for assessing clients and delivering individualized interventions that integrate emotion-focused experiential strategies with elements of cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT). Reproducible handouts can be

downloaded and printed in a convenient 8 1/2" x 11" size. *Contemporary Issues in South African Military Psychology* Routledge This expert compendium surveys the current state of military psychology across the branches of service at the clinical, research, consulting, and organizational levels. Its practical focus examines psychological adjustment pre- and post-deployment, commonly-encountered conditions (e.g., substance abuse), and the promotion of well-being, sleep, mindfulness, and resilience training. Coverage pays particular attention to uses of psychology in selection and assessment of service

personnel in specialized positions, and training concerns for clinicians and students choosing to work with the military community. Chapters also address topics of particular salience to a socially conscious military, including PTSD, sexual harassment and assault, women's and LGBT issues, suicide prevention, and professional ethics. Among the specific chapters topics covered:

- Military deployment psychology: psychologists in the forward environment.
- Stress and resilience in married military couples.
- Assessment and selection of high-risk operational personnel: processes, procedures, and

- underlying theoretical constructs.
- Understanding and addressing sexual harassment and sexual assault in the US military.
- Virtual reality applications for the assessment and treatment of PTSD.
- Plus international perspectives on military psychology from China, Australia, India, and more.

Grounding its readers in up-to-date research and practice, *Military Psychology* will assist health psychologists, clinical psychologists, psychiatrists, and clinical social workers in understanding and providing treatment for military populations, veterans, and their families, as well as military psychologists in leadership and consulting positions.

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