

David J. Trachtenberg



Mr. David J. Trachtenberg is an independent consultant on national security issues and serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of Shortwaver Consulting, LLC. He has more than 30 years experience in the national security policy field and has worked at senior levels in the Executive and Legislative branches of government.

From October 2005 to September 2007, he was Vice President and head of the Strategic Analysis Division at CACI-National Security Research, where he provided strategic advice and oversight of CACI-NSR's support to private sector customers. Prior to NSR's merger with CACI in October 2005, he was Senior Vice President for Homeland Security at National Security Research, Inc. From August 2003 to March 2005, he served as NSR's Senior Vice President for Corporate Support.

Prior to joining NSR, Mr. Trachtenberg was Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Policy with responsibility for issues relating to NATO, Europe, Russia and Eurasia, technology security, counterproliferation, missile defense, nuclear forces, and arms control. From October 2001 to April 2002, and again from May to July 2003, he also served as the acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Forces Policy. In this capacity, he headed the office responsible for the Nuclear Posture Review, including policy development for the New Triad. He also represented the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy at meetings of the Nuclear Weapons Council. He headed numerous interagency delegations abroad in support of the President's direction to the Secretary of Defense to encourage international cooperation on missile defense, leading discussions with Russia on this topic. He was appointed to his OSD position by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld in October 2001 and was a member of the Senior Executive Service. In November 2003, he was awarded the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service, the highest honorary award presented by DoD to private citizens.

From 1995-2001, Mr. Trachtenberg was a Professional Staff Member with the House Committee on Armed Services [HASC] in Washington, D.C. As head of the Committee's policy staff, he was responsible for numerous defense policy issues, including ballistic missile defense, arms control, the "Nunn-Lugar" Cooperative Threat Reduction program, counter-terrorism, Bosnia and Kosovo, Iraq and the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM), technology transfer, China, export controls, and proliferation. In addition, he was the staff lead for the HASC Special Oversight Panel on Terrorism. He co-authored the HASC investigative report on the June 1996 terrorist bombing of Khobar Towers in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, and was the lead investigator and author of the HASC staff report on the U.S.S. Cole attack. He also helped draft the legislation creating the independent Commission to Assess the Ballistic Missile Threat to the United States (a.k.a. the "Rumsfeld Commission").

Formerly, Mr. Trachtenberg was National Security Senior Analyst and Member of the Technical Staff at The Analytic Sciences Corporation (TASC) in Arlington, VA, where he provided analytic and research support to the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization and executive support to the Chairman of the BMD Advisory Committee - the senior independent DoD advisory group on all matters relating to ballistic missile defense acquisition, system development, and technology. At TASC, he also worked on counterproliferation issues for the Air Force and the Defense Airborne Reconnaissance Office. He

established and managed the TASC Arms Control and Proliferation Analysis Center, which focused on policy issues related to arms control, proliferation, and ballistic missile defense. He was also a consultant to the President's General Advisory Committee on Arms Control and Disarmament.

Prior to joining TASC, Mr. Trachtenberg was Senior Defense Analyst of the Committee on the Present Danger in Washington, D.C. He was also a Research Associate with the Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis, Inc. He holds an A.B. in International Relations from the University of Southern California and a M.S. degree in Foreign Service from Georgetown University, knows Russian and French, and is a member of several national honor societies and defense-related professional organizations.

Mr. Trachtenberg has been widely published and has been featured on television and radio, including on C-SPAN and the Voice of America. His publications include: "Align U.S. Strategic Forces to New Russian Realities," Defense News, 7 December 2015; "A New Missile Defense Policy for the New Year," The Hill, 7 January 2015; "Perfect: Enemy of the Good & Missile Defense," Real Clear Defense, 28 April 2014; "U.S. Benefits From Diversity in Missile Defense," Roll Call, 23 October 2013; "Non-Lethal Weapons: An Overlooked, Undervalued Asset." Defense News, 28 January 2013; "From Niche to Necessity: Integrating Non-Lethal Weapons Into Essential Enabling Capabilities," (co-author) Joint Force Quarterly, Issue 66, 3rd Quarter 2012; "Nuclear Fallback," National Review Online, 10 October, 2011; "U.S. Extended Deterrence: How Much Strategic Force Is Too Little?" Tailored Deterrence: Influencing States and Groups of Concern, published by the USAF Counterproliferation Center in May 2011; "New Days, Old Ways," (a book review of The New Nobility: The Restoration of Russia's Security State and the Enduring Legacy of the KGB, National Security Policy Proceedings, Winter 2010; "Toward a New 'New Look': U.S. Nuclear Strategy and Forces for the Third Atomic Age," (co-author) AEI Center for Defense Studies, March 2010; "Going Nuclear," Defense News, 8 February 2010; "Disconnected Dots Between Strategy and Means," Defense News, 27 April 2009; "Non-Lethal Weapons: The Right Tools for the Job," (co-author) Jane's Defence Weekly, 11 February 2009; "Death Knell for Nuclear Deterrence?" Defense News, 14 July 2008; "Rethink Arms Control: Next U.S. Leader Must Adapt, or Quit, Outdated Treaties," Defense News, 29 October 2007; "How to Spice Up Voice of America's Dull Broadcasts," The Christian Science Monitor, 23 August 2007; "The Role of Nuclear Weapons in U.S. National Security Policy," American National Security Policy: Essays in Honor of William R. Van Cleave (2007); Understanding American Nuclear Weapons Policy and Strategy: A Citizen's Guide to the Nuclear Posture Review and the Role of Nuclear Weapons in the 21st Century; and "Off the Radar: What Happened to Missile Defense?" Armed Forces Journal, January 2006.

Mr. Trachtenberg has served on a number of government and private sector advisory boards reviewing U.S. defense posture, including the Defense Science Board Task Force on Missile Defense Information Policy and Task Force on Nuclear Capabilities. He is also a member of the U.S. Nuclear Strategy Forum. In addition, he supported the work of the congressionally-chartered *Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse [EMP] Attack* [a.k.a. "EMP Commission"] and has written and spoken publicly on the topic.

An adjunct professor, Mr. Trachtenberg teaches graduate seminars in nuclear deterrence and strategy and the role of Congress in national security policy making at the Fairfax, Virginia campus of Missouri State University's Defense and Strategic Studies Program.

Mr. Trachtenberg is the National Planning Coordinator for the U.S. Air Force Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) – a volunteer public service providing DoD-sponsored contingency radio communications support to U.S. Government operations, including the Department of Defense and U.S. armed forces. He is also a member of the Shared Resources (SHARES) High Frequency Radio Program, an interagency emergency message handling system intended to ensure national security and emergency preparedness communications in the event of natural or man-made disasters. He is a licensed amateur radio operator (call sign N4WWL) and has been an avid shortwave radio listener since 1969. He is a member of the American Radio Relay League, Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association and North American Shortwave Association.