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Education

2001 Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Political Science.
1992 B.A., University of Chicago, Political Science (with honors).

Teaching Positions

2006-present Associate Professor, Department of Government, Dartmouth College.
2005-06 Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania.
2000-05 Assistant Professor, Department of Government, Dartmouth College.
1999-00 Instructor, Department of Government, Dartmouth College.

Professional Affiliations

Associate Editor, *International Security*, 2009-present
Research Affiliate, Security Studies Program, MIT, 2003-present.
Consultant, RAND Corporation, 1994-present. Security Clearance: Top Secret.
Research Associate, Olin Institute for Strategic Studies, Harvard University, 2001-2008.
Member, Council on Foreign Relations, 2001-2005.
Member, American Political Science Association (APSA).
Member, International Studies Association (ISA).

Books

Calculating Credibility: How Leaders Assess Military Threats, Cornell Studies in Security Affairs (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2005).
-- Paperback edition, 2007 from Cornell University Press.

Articles in Refereed Journals

“The Short Shadow of U.S. Primacy?” *International Security* 31 (2007): 185-93 (with K. Lieber) [Our response to three letters responding to our “End of MAD” piece].

“The End of MAD? The Nuclear Dimension of U.S. Primacy,” *International Security* 30 (2006): 7-44 (with K. Lieber).

“The Credibility of Power: Assessing Threats during the ‘Appeasement’ Crises of the 1930s,” *International Security* 29 (2005): 136-69.

"The Effects of Wars on Neutral Countries: Why It Doesn't Pay to Preserve the Peace," *Security Studies* 10 (2002): 1-57 (with E. Gholz).

"The Myth of Air Power in the Persian Gulf War and the Future of Warfare," *International Security* 26 (2001): 5-44.

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"Lessons From Ground Combat in the Gulf: The Impact of Training and Technology," *International Security* 22 (1997): 137-46.

"Come Home America: The Strategy of Restraint in the Face of Temptation," *International Security* 21 (1997): 5-48 (with E. Gholz and H. Sapolsky).

Selected Other Publications

"The Nukes We Need: Preserving the American Deterrent," *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2009 (with K. Lieber).

"The Strategy of Restraint: Reclaiming Our Strategic Depth," *World Affairs*, Fall 2009 (with H. Sapolsky, B. Friedman, and E. Gholz).

"All the Oil We Need," op-ed, *New York Times*, August 21, 2008 (with E. Gholz).

"Superiority Complex: Why America's Growing Nuclear Supremacy May Make War with China More Likely," *The Atlantic Monthly*, July/August 2007: 86-92 (with K. Lieber).

"Energy Alarmism: The Myths that Make Americans Worry about Oil," Cato Institute Policy Analysis, No. 589, April 5, 2007: 2-22 (with E. Gholz).

"U.S. Nuclear Primacy and the Future of the Chinese Deterrent," *China Security Quarterly* (2007): 66-89 (with K. Lieber).

"Time to Offshore Our Troops," op-ed, *New York Times*, December 12, 2006 (with E. Gholz and B. Valentino).

"Nuclear Exchange: Does Washington Really Have (or Want) Nuclear Primacy?" *Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2006 (with K. Lieber). [Our response to four letters responding to our "Rise of U.S. Nuclear Primacy" piece]

"A Balanced Foreign Policy," in Stephen Van Evera, ed., *How to Make America Safe: New Policies of National Security* (Tobin Project: Cambridge, MA, 2006) (with B. Valentino).

"The Rise of U.S. Nuclear Primacy," *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2006 (with K. Lieber).

"A Victory, But Little is Gained," op-ed, *New York Times*, November 17, 2004 (with B. Valentino).

"How to Take Baghdad," op-ed, *New York Times*, March 26, 2003.

"The Persian Gulf Wars, 1991-2003," *Encyclopedia Americana*, 2003 (with J. Lind).

"Paying to Keep the Peace," *Regulation*, Spring 2003 (with E. Gholz).

"The Iraq Question," *Dartmouth Alumni Magazine*, Vol. 95, No. 2 (Nov/Dec 2002).

"Urban Warfare: Options, Problems, and the Future," *Marine Corps Gazette*, Vol. 83, No. 4 (April 1999).

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Article Manuscripts

“How Much is Enough? Testing Schools of Nuclear Deterrence Theory,” (with K. Lieber).

“Protecting ‘The Prize’: Oil and the National Interest,” under review (with E. Gholz).

Government Publications

“Desert Breeze 2001: DCINC Review,” RAND Corporation, PM-1243-OSD (SECRET), August 2001 (with B. Bennett).

“Desert Breeze Phase II: Initial Meeting After Action Report,” RAND Corporation, PM-1173-DTRA (SECRET), March 2001 (with B. Bennett).

“Desert Breeze 4 Package,” RAND Corporation, PM-965-OSD (SECRET), September 1999 (with B. Bennett).

“Desert Breeze 3: Force Requirements and Force Flow,” RAND Corporation, PM-979-OSD (SECRET), September 1999 (with B. Bennett et al.).

“Desert Breeze 2: Protecting Against WMD Threats in the USCENTCOM AOR,” RAND Corporation, PM-944-OSD (SECRET), June 1999 (with B. Bennett et al.).

“Potential Operational and Strategic Impacts of Chemical and Biological Weapons,” RAND Corporation, DB-187-OSD (FOUO), April 1996 (with B. Bennett).

“North Korean Occupation and Defense Requirements” in Bruce W. Bennett, Two Alternative Views of War in Korea: The North and South Korean Revolutions in Military Affairs, RAND Corporation, MR-613-NA (FOUO), 1995 (with B. Bennett).

Selected Presentations, 2000-present

“U.S. Nuclear Posture: Reassessing Requirements for the 21st Century.”

- United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), Omaha, NE, December 2, 2008.
- Atomic Weapons Establishment, Aldermaston, UK, October 9, 2008.

“How Much is Enough? Testing Schools of Nuclear Deterrence Theory.”

- Notre Dame, January 29, 2009
- University of Chicago, January 28, 2009
- Princeton University, February 11, 2008
- New America Foundation, Nuclear Strategy Initiative, April 18, 2008
- Naval War College, October 24-25, 2007.
- American Political Science Association, August 30-September 2, 2007.

“Energy Alarmism: The Myths that Make Americans Worry about Oil.”

- Lincoln Labs, April 2, 2008.
- Security Studies Program, MIT, February 22, 2008.
- Seminar XXI program, May 6, 2007.

“The End of Mutual Assured Destruction?”

- Chatham House, London UK, April 19, 2007

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- International Institute for Strategic Studies, April 18, 2007
- Einstein Forum, Potsdam Germany, April 17, 2007
- Georgetown University, March 22, 2007
- Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, November 28, 2007
- University of Chicago, November 15, 2005
- Columbia University, October 25, 2005
- Council on Foreign Relations, New York, October 25, 2005
- American Political Science Association, September 2, 2004.

“Protecting ‘The Prize’: Oil and the National Interest.”

- American Political Science Association, September 2, 2004.
- International Studies Association, March 10, 2004.

“Does Backing Down Hurt Credibility: Evidence from the ‘Appeasement’ Crises of the 1930s.”

- University of Texas, January 23, 2004.
- Georgetown University, October 24, 2003.
- University of Pennsylvania, April 22, 2003.
- International Studies Association, February 27, 2003.
- Columbia University, January 27, 2003.
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, April 24, 2002.

“Don’t Fear Global ‘Instability’: Economic Adaptability, Oil, and the ‘Insurance’ Analogy.”

- International Studies Association, February 28, 2003.
- Olin Institute, Harvard University, February 10, 2003.

“The Battle for Baghdad: Estimating Casualties in Urban Fighting.”

- Brandeis University, February 20, 2003.
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, December 13, 2002.

“Backing Down and Credibility: Evidence from the Cuban Missile Crisis.”

- UCLA, January 24, 2003.
- UCSD, January 22, 2003.
- Ohio State University, December 5, 2002.
- Princeton University, April 12, 2002.
- University of Chicago, April 25, 2000.

Current Research Projects

1) Testing Theories of Deterrence: Nuclear Weapons in the Cold War and Beyond

For decades scholars have debated the central question of great power politics during the nuclear age: what type of nuclear arsenal is needed to reliably deter nuclear war? This issue was hotly debated in the United States during the Cold War, but neither scholars nor analysts could answer the question without access to the most sensitive deliberations within the Soviet Union. That data was unavailable then, and it still is. In this book we reverse the research question to shed substantial new light on deterrence theory. Because U.S. and British archives from the 1940s, 50s, and 60s are now largely declassified, we ask: how large and capable a nuclear arsenal did the Soviet Union need to deter the Western allies from using nuclear weapons if the superpower standoff became a major war? How did U.S. and NATO strategies, war plans, and thoughts about nuclear weapons change throughout the Cold War, and was there a strong connection between Soviet force posture and Western plans? What was the role of the nuclear taboo in constraining nuclear war? Our archival research on U.S. and British decision making is

permitting us to overturn much of the conventional wisdom about nuclear deterrence during the Cold War, and our findings suggest that major deterrent challenges lie ahead in the 21st Century. We hope that this book will be the best test to date of the various schools of nuclear deterrence, and that it will recast the role of nuclear weapons in the Cold War competition. It will also offer fresh evidence that raises significant questions about the “nuclear taboo,” and will include an analysis of new trends and challenges for nuclear deterrence. We have presented early drafts of papers based on this research at Princeton University, the University of Chicago, Notre Dame, and the Dartmouth international relations seminar.

2) Changes in the Nuclear Balance of Power

For decades, nuclear weapons have been synonymous with two words: stalemate and slaughter. But technology is repealing many of the old “truths” about nuclear weapons. My coauthor and I have used a variety of unclassified models to assess how the accuracy revolution – which has revolutionized conventional war – is transforming nuclear weapons and undermining the foundations of deterrence. Our first set of articles on this topic (“The End of MAD,” *International Security*, and “The Rise of U.S. Nuclear Primacy,” *Foreign Affairs*) demonstrated that little-noticed changes in the U.S. nuclear arsenal have vastly increased the U.S. ability to wage and win nuclear war. More recently, we have used a variety of modeling tools to demonstrate that the accuracy revolution is making low-casualty nuclear war a possibility for the first time. (See “The Nukes We Need,” *Foreign Affairs*, and the accompanying technical appendix.) These findings bring a mix of good and bad news for the United States: they may reduce U.S. vulnerability to nuclear coercion, but they may also blur the nuclear threshold and increase the odds of nuclear conflict. We have presented our results – the modeling work and the strategic analysis – at Draper Laboratories, Lincoln Laboratories, the U.K. Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) in Aldermaston, and the United States Strategic Command (Offut Air Force Base, Omaha NE).

3) Economic Globalization, Oil, and the Effects of Wars on Neutrals.

I am working with a coauthor (Eugene Gholz, UT Austin) on a project that investigates the effects of economic globalization on war, and the effects of war on the global economy. The conventional wisdom holds that globalization has created so much interdependence that disruptions (e.g., from wars) could cause serious economic consequences around the world. On the one hand, this interdependence is said to be an important cause of peace; on the other hand, this tight interdependence implies that even faraway troubles threaten the economies of the major economic powers, potentially drawing them into far-away conflicts. Gholz and I have worked to evaluate this argument by exploring how the globalized economy has responded to major shocks and disruptions in the past, and more recently we have focused on the economic consequences of major disruptions in the energy sector (e.g., conflicts in oil-producing regions, and attacks on tankers). This research has resulted so far in one article in *Security Studies* that offers a theory that identifies the conditions in which wars in a globalized economy create costly economic disruptions around the world, and a paper for the Cato Institute that examines how the oil industry in particular responds to shocks. In another article (currently under review at an academic journal) we develop a theory of cartel bargaining, which we test using monthly country-level data on oil production and price levels. This project has also yielded an op-ed in the *New York Times* (2009) and an article in the *American Interest* (forthcoming), and we are currently drafting an article comparing Russia’s demonstrated ability to use the “energy weapon” by restricting natural gas sales to Europe with China’s apparent efforts to acquire major stakes of equity oil in the developing world.

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Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

Honorable Mention, Jervis and Schroeder Best Book Award, for *Calculating Credibility*, presented by the International History and Politics section of the American Political Science Association, 2006.

Irving Fellow, Phillips Exeter Academy, 2004.

Nelson A. Rockefeller Center for Public Policy and the Social Sciences, Dartmouth College, Research Grant, 2002-03 and 2004-05.

U.S. Army War College, Research Grant, summer 2000.

Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University, Predoctoral Fellowship, 1998-1999.

Olin Institute for Strategic Studies, Harvard University, Predoctoral Fellowship, 1997-1998.

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Summer Research Grant, 1997 and 1998.

Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University, Research Travel Grant, 1996 and 1997.

Television and radio appearances

CBS "48 Hours"

CNN "News Night with Aaron Brown"

CNBC "Kudlow and Cramer"

CNNfn "The Flip Side"

WMUR "Evening News"

BBC "The World,"

WBUR, "On Point" and "The Connection,"

New Hampshire Public Radio "The Exchange,"

References

Barry Posen, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA (617) 253-8088 (Chair of Dissertation Committee).

Stephen Van Evera, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA (617) 253-0530.

Michael Mastanduno, Ph.D., Associate Dean, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH (603) 646-1100.

Bruce W. Bennett, Ph.D., Senior Researcher, RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, CA (310) 393-0411.

Updated: September 2009.