

David P. Fitchitt

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Colonel (Ret.) U.S. Army, Special Forces

Career Summary

A solutions driven executive with 20+ years of extensive planning, organizing, and resource management background leading global projects. Specifically, expert at turning vision into viable plans and operations responsible for overall development and management of complex, international projects in diverse environments. Combat experienced, proven program manager skilled in planning and executing projects on time, developing teams, and managing organizational change.

Key Strengths

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|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Risk Assessment/Management | Team Leadership/Development | Complex Problem Solving |
| Program Management | Crisis Management | Critical Thinking |
| Emergency Preparedness | Intelligence Analysis and Integration | Operations Management |

Professional Experience

United States Army
Director, Current Operations

1988 - Present

Positions Include:

Director, Current Operations - U.S. Special Operations Command, Tampa, FL

Leader of an Integrated Operations Center providing situational awareness, advice and recommendations to senior executives for complex, high-profile special operations worldwide.

- Led 70 subject matter experts and a budget of over \$125M performing operational support of special operations forces in over 75 countries every day.
- Served as the focal point for coordination and integration of strategic level policy and programs with Intelligence, Interagency, Diplomatic, International, and Law Enforcement agencies.
- Principal advisor to the commander and senior staff on counterterrorism and operational requirements for special operations missions, programs and strategies.
- Managed a portfolio of SOF teams working with international security forces in over 25 countries annually.
- Project leader for the planning, coordination and conduct of the command's first seminar focused on hostage situations at the Strategic and Operational levels.
- Supervised the physical and personnel security program for highly-classified compartmented, sensitive security information and technology systems.

Chief of Staff - Special Operations Command Korea, Seoul, South Korea

Supervised a diverse team of subject matter experts focused on Northeast Asia performing program, human, and resource management and a budget of \$10 million.

- Led organizational change in policy, process and initiative development across multi-faceted portfolios ensuring special operations were integrated into plans, exercises, and operations.
- Supervised the creation of a new organizational structure integrating foreign nation special operations forces and multiple U.S. government agency liaisons into plans, training, and operations.
- Supervised a \$100 million unit relocation project fixing critical shortfalls and putting the project back on schedule and meeting mission requirements within four months of arriving; created a planning team to sustain the project.
- Managed resource and security requirements for over 50 Special Forces teams conducting event and scenario-based contingency planning and exercises.
- Led an extensive change effort, reorganizing the headquarters and creating an office of training management improving individual and unit readiness by 45 percent in six months.

Director of Human Resources - U.S. Army JFK Special Warfare Center and School, Fort Bragg, NC

Led a cross-functional team responsible for human resource management policies and programs for over 15,000 active duty military personnel in the Army's highest priority career fields.

- Supervised the comprehensive revision of career development programs for officers, warrant officers and noncommissioned officers integrating new education and training initiatives.
- Led the modernization of leader development programs with post-9/11 best practices and integration with Army leader development initiatives.

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- Created a Talent Management program with career-long training and education of special operations personnel for future conflict in asymmetrical environments centered on critical thinking and complex problem solving skills.
- Supervised four Assessment and Selection programs, including the first all-female program, screening over 4,000 officers and noncommissioned officers annually for service in Army Special Operations.
- Served as the Army special operations representative for a holistic leader development program review hosted by the Chief of Staff, Army at the United States Military Academy.

Director of Operations – Special Operations Command Korea, Seoul, South Korea

Led a multi-discipline team of subject matter experts in special operations planning, training, exercises, and operations.

- Led the planning and integration of special operations into strategic-level plans for crisis, conflict and contingencies; integrated United Nations partner nation special operations forces.
- Supervised the planning and deployment of the command during two large scale joint and combined exercises spanning the Korean Peninsula involving over 11,000 U.S. and international special operations forces.
- Supervised the planning and conduct of over 900 U.S. special operations personnel deploying from CONUS to conduct high-risk training with host nation forces.
- Led the command's Joint Operations Center conducting 24-hour operations during joint and combined training and crisis situations.
- Managed the Joint Combined Exchange Training program integrating U.S. and Korean special operations forces in realistic, high-threat scenarios.

Education

Masters of Science, Administration, Central Michigan University - Human Resource concentration

Bachelor of Arts, Criminal Justice, Washington State University - Summa Cum Laude

Command and General Staff College

Joint Professional Military Education Phase II, Joint Forces Staff College

Leadership for a Democratic Society, Federal Executive Institute, Office of Personnel Management

Foreign Languages

Spanish (fluent - reading, writing, and speaking)

Special Skills

U.S. Army Special Forces Officer

U.S. Army Ranger qualified

Emergency Services Officer (Master rated)

Community Emergency Response Team qualified

Search and Rescue Technician

Emergency Medical Technician

Security Clearance and Citizenship

Top Secret (SCI) | U.S. Citizen

Affiliations

Special Forces Association

United States Military Strategists Association

Publications

Fitchitt, D. (2015). Navigate or Die! The Importance of Land Navigation Skills for First Responders. *1st Responder Broadcast Network*. Retrieved from <http://www.1strespondernews.com/webpages/news/displaynews.aspx?ID=1613e69d-eef7-43ed-9fc3-ccd9a9fed0db>

Fitchitt, David P. and Rocke, Mark D. "Establishing Strategic Vectors: Charting a Path for Army Transformation". *The Association of the United States Army*. (2007): 1-28. Print

Fitchitt, David P. "Raising the Bar: The Transformation of the SF Training Model". *Special Warfare Magazine*. 17.3 (2005): 2-5. Print