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# THE ADVENT OF NETWAR

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Prepared for the  
Office of the Secretary of Defense

**RAND**

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This documented briefing was prepared for a project on new modes of information-age conflict titled “Advent of Netwar.” That project is sponsored by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence), OASD (C3I), and is being conducted within the Acquisition and Technology Policy Center of RAND’s National Defense Research Institute (NDRI). NDRI is a federally funded research and development center sponsored by the office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, and the defense agencies.

This document provides an overview of the “netwar” concept, which we have been developing for the purpose of better understanding the nature of conflict and crime in the information age. The document is based on several briefings that we have presented since May 1995 using charts like those included here.

A briefing is supposed to tell a story at a pace and in a way that attracts the listeners’ attention, the better to inform them. Readers unfamiliar with the briefing style should be apprised that while the text is meant to expand on the points of the chart, not all points are always addressed in the text, and the text may not echo precisely the wording on a chart. That can be particularly true for a briefing with as many charts as this one.

Primarily of interest to U.S. government officials and policy analysts, this briefing should also interest those concerned with the changing nature of conflict and crime in the information age.

Comments are invited.

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