



AFPC Junior Fellow Cody Retherford writes on Shaping the Aerial Battlefield of the Future

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"As global focus shifts from counterinsurgency back to conventional state-based conflict, airborne weapon systems are becoming exponentially more important to the prosecution of combat operations. Air superiority was a given during the counterinsurgencies of the last two decades, but will be heavily contested in a modern conventional conflict. The battle for air superiority between major state powers demands increasingly unconventional, innovative thinking—both technologically and tactically—to maintain the edge over adversaries. New technology must be economically viable, secure from cyber and electronic warfare attacks, and adaptable to the rapidly-changing battlefield".

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