

SO/LIC ESSAY CONTEST 2012

Co-sponsored by

**Joint Special Operations University (JSOU)
and
National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA)
Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict (SO/LIC) Division**

The President of JSOU and the Board of Directors of NDIA's SO/LIC Division are pleased to announce the seventh annual SO/LIC Essay Contest. The contest is being conducted in conjunction with, and in support of, the **23rd Annual NDIA SO/LIC Symposium & Exhibition**, to be held on Monday-Wednesday, February 6-8, 2012 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, DC. Symposium details are available online at: <http://www.ndia.org/meetings/2880>.

The theme of this year's symposium is, "*The New World Dynamic: The Changing Roles of Special Operations, General Purpose Forces, and the Interagency.*" The SO/LIC Division explains the theme as follows. "As major combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan diminish, SOF and GPF will face new challenges. A continuing threat from global terrorists, popular uprisings and a rapidly shifting political landscape, the coming need to employ military forces in small teams across vast distances, and the likelihood of declining budgets all require SOF and GPF leaders to develop new synergies between their forces and with our Interagency partners." Entrants are encouraged to address the theme, but any topic relevant to the broad range of SO/LIC activities is acceptable.

The selection board will award a **\$1,000 prize for the best essay and \$500 for the runner-up**. Winning essays will be published in the NDIA symposium proceedings and may be selected for publication as a JSOU Press monograph. Multiple authors on one essay will be considered as one entry for a potential award (i.e., prize money will be divided). Entries must be submitted and e-mailed or postmarked no later than **Friday, January 6, 2012**.

INFORMATION FOR CONTESTANTS

Eligibility

This contest is open to students enrolled or graduated from a DoD-sponsored PME program during FY11 or FY12. Eligible institutions include intermediate staff schools and senior service colleges, as well as Senior NCO Academies. A contestant is also eligible if he is enrolled in, or graduated within the past year from, resident PME programs, nonresident PME programs, or the Special Operations Masters Degree Program at the Naval Postgraduate School.

Essay Requirements

Essays may not exceed 3,500 words, including quoted matter and citations, and must remain unclassified (do not submit For Official Use Only material). Endnotes should be used sparingly, if at all and if deemed necessary; do not use footnotes.

Criteria for Award

Essays will be judged according to the following criteria:

1. Originality, relevance, and coherence of the argument—10 points max.
2. Clear, logical organization—3 points max.
3. Compelling and competent prose—2 points max.

The selection board retains the right to award no prize. **Winners will be announced on or about Thursday, January 26, 2012.**

Submission

Email essay submissions to:
JSOU Director of Research
JSOU_Research@socom.mil

Electronic transmission is preferred, but contestants may also mail to:
JSOU
Attn: Director of Research
7701 Tampa Point Blvd.
MacDill AFB, FL 33621-5323

Please include contact information: home and work e-mails, phone number, and postal mailing address.

For electronic submissions: Microsoft Word file is required.

Consider using the attached template—named **Essay Booklet 6x9.doc**—when writing, then rename it. If you think a graphic (e.g., drawing or photo) is necessary, attach it as a separate file and indicate in the text where you would like the image placed. The preferred image file is an original (high quality) .jpg, tif, .bmp, eps, or .png. The publishing standard for images is 300 dots per inch as that allows for resizing without affecting image quality. For images that are not your own, include the source and the written permission to use. Personnel submitting essays consent to their work being edited and published by JSOU and NDIA.

Inquiries

For more detailed information regarding program rules and eligibility, please contact:

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NDIA SO/LIC Division
Essay Chair
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[Title1]

[Author]

[Abstract—60-65 words]

[Subtitles]

“[Indent quote]” [if applicable, not required] — [source]

[Body Text]

[Author rank and full name] is a U.S. [service and category] officer. [He/She] submitted this paper while attending the [e.g., School of Advanced Military Studies, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas]. [He/She] is currently assigned to the [org.], [base/post name], [state].