

**Strategic Architectures of
 Victory and Defeat - *Part Two*,
 Korea, Vietnam, Iraq**
 Presented by: *John D. Caldwell*

Three Thursdays
March 10, 17, & 24 2016
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Goleta Library
 500 N. Fairview

The Strategic Architectures course answers the question how and why the United States won World War II, fought to a stalemate in Korea, lost in Vietnam, and failed in Iraq. The World War II victory was the subject of a four week course in January and February and is the historical benchmark against which to evaluate the conflicts after 1945. The Korean, Vietnam, and Iraqi wars were limited, but they required enormous national commitments. They resulted in American casualties approaching a third of World War II levels — nearly 300,000 combat deaths in World War II versus 100,000 deaths for Korea, Vietnam, and Iraq. These conflicts produced no lasting victories for Americans to celebrate. They required massive expenditures measured in trillions of dollars and produced bitter political controversies. That is the central problem this course addresses.

The second segment of the course analyzes the Korean, Vietnam, and Iraqi wars against the same strategic-architecture framework where World War II stands as the benchmark. The Korean War examines the early months of the war, the long retreat south from Seoul and the Battle of the Pusan Perimeter (General Walker’s making the best of a dire situation), General MacArthur’s masterstroke at Inchon three months later, the decision to cross the 38th parallel and attack north to the border of communist China, the risks of overreaching (including the meaningless meeting between President Truman and MacArthur on Wake Island in October 1950), and the stalemate conflict that followed for two-and-one-half more years. The Vietnam War will be analyzed with respect to our failure beginning with the Battle of Ia Drang Valley (General Westmoreland’s never-ending search for the decisive battle), the massive bombing campaign of Operation Rolling Thunder coupled with the top-secret Igloo White program to instrument the Ho Chi Minh Trail, the failure of the Pacification Program, the shock of the Tet Offensive (a turning point in US war credibility), Nixon’s Vietnamization campaign, and the losing path between 1973 and 1975.

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Enrollment Form: Victory & Defeat Part 2- March 10, 17, 24, 2016

VISTAS Members \$35, Non-members \$52.50.

Note: At-The-Door Registration is an additional \$5.00

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Check# _____

Name(s): _____

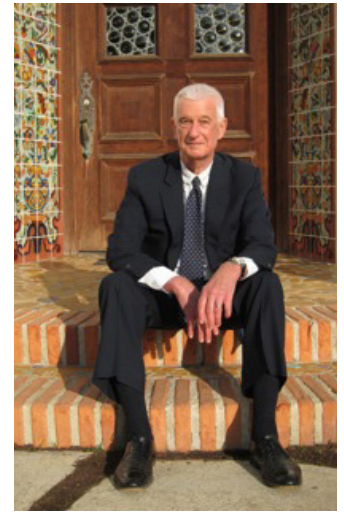
Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Mail registration form to:

VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc., P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara, CA 93121-3228

Please check here if you would like to volunteer to help with refreshments _____

BIOGRAPHY: *John Caldwell* retired in 2007 from a quarter-century career at TRW Space & Defense and later Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems (NGAS acquired TRW in 2002). He trained as a political scientist (Amherst, BA; UCSB, Ph.D., 1973). His first real job was in Saigon in 1968 working for a think tank on a classified research project for DoD's Advanced Research Projects Agency. His boss was a Marine Corps Colonel with a Silver Star from Chosin Reservoir. He says that his career has been a series of fortuitous accidents where he found himself in the right place, at the right time, with enough qualifications to get hired for jobs normally performed by scientists and engineers, many of them military veterans. He quickly discovered that he thrived in an intellectual environment where technical discipline and rigor, not to mention clear writing skills, were highly prized. Eventually, he found himself at TRW in 1982 working on nationally important programs for the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, NASA, and the intelligence community. He is currently an active consultant



at Northrop Grumman. His job experience is what prepared and motivated him to write the Strategic Architectures manuscript.



**The Strategic Architectures of
Victory & Defeat**
WORLD WAR II, KOREA, VIETNAM, & IRAQ
John D. Caldwell



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The conflicts in Iraq over the last quarter century will be examined in terms of five, consecutive, but operationally distinguishable conflicts: War I: the Persian Gulf War (1990-91), War II: the 13-Year Air Conflict over Iraq (1991-2003), War III: the Bush 43rd President Invasion of Iraq in 2003, and the Sunni and al Qa'ida insurgency that immediately followed, War IV: the General Petraeus-led Surge in 2007-2009 followed by the Obama Administration's withdrawal of all military forces from Iraq at the end of 2011, and War V: the Rise of ISIS (2012 to the present). A concluding module will address World War II and the three postwar conflicts against the perspective of what happens when a country as powerful as the United States lacks clarity in its end game and banishes "nation-building" from its geopolitical vocabulary.

VISTAS Calendar

Seminar/Event	Inclusive Dates	Time	Venue
Documentary Film Club	3rd Thurs Monthly	2:00 pm	Maravilla Theater
Race to the Poles	8 Tuesdays 2/2-3/22	9:00 am	SB County Admin Bldg
Political Polarization	Thurs, Feb 18, 25 & Mar 3	9:30 am	Goleta Library
Opera	Sun, March 6	2:30 pm	Grenada Theater
Art & Poetry	Mon, March 7	1:30 pm	Valle Verde Social Rm
Systems & Individuals	Wed, Mar 2	1:30 pm	Maravilla Club Room
Short Stories	Wed, Mar 9, 16, 23, 30	1:30 pm	Private Home
Grand Jury	Wed, March 9	9:30 am	Vista del Monte
Victory & Defeat Part 2	Thurs, Mar 10, 17, & 24,	1:30 pm	Goleta Library
Catherine the Great	Mon, April 11, 18, 25		