

Mr. Cortez Cooper
Senior International/Defense Researcher, RAND Corporation



Cortez A. Cooper III is a senior international/defense researcher at the RAND Corporation. He provides assessments of security challenges across political, military, economic, cultural, and informational arenas for a broad range of U.S. government clients.

Prior to joining RAND, Mr. Cooper was the director of the East Asia Studies Center for Hicks and Associates, Inc. He has also served in the U.S. Navy Executive Service as the senior analyst for the Joint Intelligence Center Pacific, U.S. Pacific Command. As the senior intelligence analyst and Asia regional specialist in the Pacific Theater, he advised Pacific Command leadership on trends and developments in the Command's area of responsibility. Before his Hawaii assignment, Mr. Cooper was a senior analyst with CENTRA Technology, Inc., specializing in Asia-Pacific political-military affairs.

His 20 years of military service included assignments as both an Army Signal Corps Officer and a China Foreign Area Officer. In addition to numerous military decorations, the Secretary of Defense awarded Cooper with the Exceptional Civilian Service Award in 2001.

Mr. Cooper has testified before the Commission on multiple occasions, most recently in 2011 on China's active defense and anti-access strategy.