



Mr. James “Raleigh” Durham

Director, Joint Advanced Concepts



As the Director of Joint Advanced Concepts, Mr. James “Raleigh” Durham develops and leads key initiatives that support recommendations to the Deputy Under Secretary for Acquisition and Technology (A&T) and to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (AT&L) on acquisition management decisions to best provide timely fielding of integrated combat capability to the Warfighter.

As the Joint Advanced Concepts Director, Mr. Durham has purview over a broad portfolio of defense programs with responsibility for identifying system-of-systems impacts on potential acquisition decisions. Among his responsibilities is the active participation and leadership in the Joint Staff, Force Protection and Force Application Functional Capabilities Boards. Also, he leads the development of integrated capability roadmaps and supports acquisition program reviews, Strategic Planning Guidance and the Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR).

Previously, Mr. Durham served as lead analyst for advanced aircraft systems within Tactical Air Forces Division, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Program Analysis and Evaluation, where he gained extensive knowledge of the cost and effectiveness of major defense acquisition programs. He conducted multifaceted analyses with particular emphasis on planning, sizing and evaluating effectiveness of joint forces, acquisition of aircraft, ships and weapons. His sound analytical expertise on complex issues influenced Department of Defense (DoD) policy development, supported major analytical studies and enhanced DoD interaction with Congress. Mr. Durham’s key program evaluation efforts include the QDR, Kosovo After Action Report (serving as the senior U.S. representative to NATO), Co-Lead of the Deep Attack Weapons Mix Study and Analyses of Alternatives for the Joint Strike Fighter and Airborne Electronic Attack. He has also performed major program reviews on the Joint Strike Fighter, F-22, UCAV, F/A-18E/F and EA-6B.

His active duty military experience includes 28 years in the Marine Corps as an F4 and F/A-18 pilot and graduate of Navy and USMC weapons schools with over 4,500 flight hours. He completed one carrier tour in F-4s, flew as adversary pilot and retired as a Colonel.

Mr. Durham graduated with Honors with a bachelor of science in Physics from Rhodes College (1967) and was a Rhodes scholarship finalist. He earned an M.S. in Physics from University of Oslo, Norway (1969) as a Fulbright Scholar. He has an M.S. in Aeronautical Systems from the University of West Florida (1973) and an M.A. from the Naval War College in Strategic Studies (1991).

Mr. Durham’s awards include the Exceptional Civilian Service Award 2003 (Bronze Palm); Exceptional Civilian Service Award (2000); Defense Superior Service Medal (1998); Legion of Merit (1985); Meritorious Service Medal (1990); Sigma Phi Sigma (National Physics Honor Society) (1966) and Omicron Delta Kappa (National Leadership) (1966).

