



What's In A Word (Count)?

By Mark Stout

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If you haven't looked at the February 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review, aka the QDR, [here is a link known to work](#). Given some pretty well understood previous positions, the QDR contains few surprises, with the unexpected (to me, anyway) inclusion of a "priority objective" to "preserve and enhance the All-Volunteer Force." Were we considering something else?

While you may have heard context is everything, this is a largely context-free bit of microanalysis. It was done by performing word searches on a fairly small, but relevant, catalog of defense terms. Ironically, the word search process itself provides some QDR context with looks at a particular word, variation of the word, or idea. The intent was to consider the QDR in a completely different way. Sadly, the sort is arranged neither alphabetically nor numerically, but hopefully it will retain your interest. Unless I fat fingered things in wrong, your results will not vary:

Word or phrase	Count	Word or phrase	Count
Network/networks	59	Iraq	72
Unmanned	15	Iran	9
Extremism	9	Islam	0
Rebalancing/rebalance	19	Canada	3
Cost/costs	50	Mexico	2
IED/IEDs	12	Europe/European	15
Global	88	Asia/Asian	19
Missile defense/defenses	19	Africa/African	12
Climate change	19	North America	2
Nuclear	60	China/Chinese	8
Peacekeeping	9	NATO	12
Economy/economic	24	Latin America	0
Complex/complexity	44	EU	3
Missile/missiles	33	United Nations	5
Proliferation	29	Afghanistan	81
Global	88	South Korea	1
Deter/deterrent/deterrence	65	Russia/Russian	3
Prevent	42	Al Qaeda	22
Preempt	0	Pakistan	16
WMD	20	India	6
Joint	43	Israel	2
Technology	36	Allies	107
Space	40	South America	0

Cyberspace/cyber	77	Saudi Arabia	1
All-volunteer force	29	Non-state	20
Wounded warrior/warriors	16	North Korea	3
Ocean/sea/littoral	35	Terrorist/terrorists	31
Air	93	Stewardship/stewards	11
Challenge	80	Jihad/Jihadist	0
Counterinsurgency/COIN	32	Extremists	1
Oil	0	Partners	120

Finally, it would appear word searches for the Services' largely aligns with the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy: the Navy (41) leads the Army (35) and the Air Force (34).

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