

ITSC 201 Winter 2021





CAPT Joseph Caldwell Wylie Jr.
Photo thanks to Bill Gonyo.

J.C. WYLIE

Another naval strategist

Another innovative
thinker

Sadly neglected, until
recently



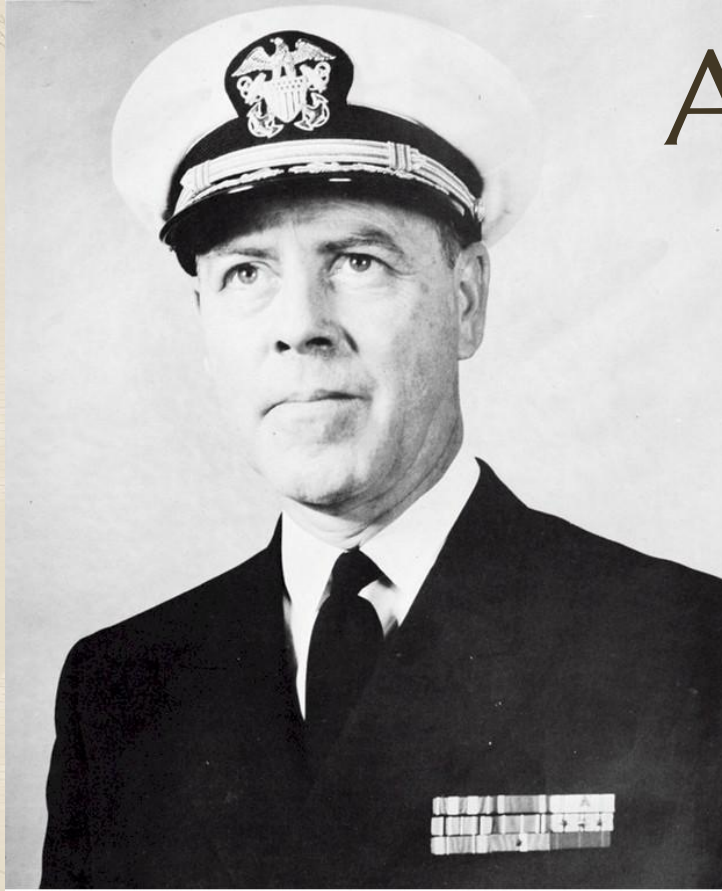
CAPT Joseph Caldwell Wylie Jr.
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J.C. WYLIE

The Control School

Four contemporary
strategies

- ◆ Air
- ◆ Naval
- ◆ Continental
- ◆ Maoist



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Photo thanks to Bill Gonyo.

A GENERAL THEORY

The shared element

Wylie's four observations

The intangible
importance of centres of
gravity



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Photo thanks to Bill Gonyo.

“The aim of the soldier is to establish control over the enemy by overcoming his army and thus destroying his will to fight. The aim of the sailor is to establish and exploit control of the sea and extend, by a variety of pressures, control from the sea onto the land, where the opponent is.”



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Photo thanks to Bill Gonyo.

THE FOUR THESES

1. Whatever the desire, war may result
2. The aim of war is to gain some control over the enemy
3. The pattern of the war can not be predicted
4. The “ultimate determinant” is troops on the ground



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WYLIE'S CENTRE OF GRAVITY

The key to successful
strategy

Manipulate the center of
gravity

And force the conflict
into a favorable pattern



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“It would appear that a fairly careful scrutiny of the opponent’s thought patterns and their underlying assumptions should be an early component of our own planning process. If we could deliberately make his theory invalid we have gone a long way toward making his actions ineffective. An examination of this type might uncover something crucial in reaching toward establishment of control...



CAPT Joseph Caldwell Wylie Jr.
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CONTROL & POWER

Herding the enemy

Sequential and
Cumulative strategies

Complementary, not
exclusive

REFERENCES

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