

## **THE FAILURE OF BRITISH MILITARY KNOWLEDGE**

### **Abstract:**

Developing effective Military Knowledge (MK) courses for all British junior Army officers was a significant undertaking. A promising, enthusiastic start in July 2001 was followed by catastrophic failure in August 2002; and yet by 2005 four high quality e-learning courses with 156 lessons, 9 summative assessments (with a bank of 2,200 questions) and over 100 hours of study time were being studied by over 2,000 students around the globe at any one time. All the roots of the initial failure, and all the underpinning success factors in the strenuous recovery programme, can be found in any competent text book on open learning... but the failure still happened. This presentation will draw lessons from the initial failure, the implemented fallback and the recovery. It will also outline proposed improvements for the future of MK, including e-assessment.

Lt Col Jim Potts  
Distance Learning Programme Manager  
UK Defence Academy