



► Master
General of
Logistics:
Professional
Military
Education List

Updated July 2022

Continuous professional development generates operational and organisational advantage. I have selected ten resources as a start point for those seeking to enhance their professional military education, with a step away from ‘just books’ to cater for the neurodiversity of the Corps. The sub-theme is ‘Logistic Sustainability and Greening solutions’ but the list deliberately includes broader geopolitical, history and leadership/behavioural materials.

Major General Simon Hutchings OBE Master General of Logistics

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1. [**The Big Stick: The Limits of Soft Power and the Necessity of Military Force, Eliot Cohen.**](#) While acknowledging that the US must be careful about why, when, and how it uses force, Cohen insists its international role is as critical as ever, and armed force is vital to that role.
2. [**The Changing of the Guard: The British Army since 9/11, Simon Akam.**](#) A shot in the arm against the biases and hubris that may have arisen from two decades of campaigning that constitutes the overriding political context for the majority of RLC personnel.
3. [**Supplying War: Logistics From Wallenstein To Patton, Martin Van Crevald.**](#) Covers a broad period but in sufficient detail to provide some very pertinent lessons; logistic friction is part of the nature of war but will have its own character as technology evolves.
4. [**Logistics in the Falklands War: A Case Study in Expeditionary Warfare, Kenneth Privatsky.**](#) Almost unique coverage of the logistic focus required to sustain Op CORPORATE. An eye-opening demonstration of the strategic efforts required to propel an expeditionary force.
5. [**A Game of Birds and Wolves: The Ingenious Young Women Whose Secret Board Game Helped Win World War II, Simon Parker.**](#) (Audiobook). The strategic supply of Great Britain via the Atlantic convoys is a vehicle to demonstrate the importance of adapting in competition. Incredibly easy to follow and utterly inspiring for those not yet familiar with wargaming.
6. [**How to Fix Broken Supply Chains | Dustin Burke \(11 Minute Ted Talk\).**](#) Supply chains are ever more intertwined. Eg: Sony Play Station 5 as a direct competitor to Ford's F-150 pickup because for microprocessors. This encourages consideration of supply chain complexity.
7. [**Nuss, P., Graedel, T.E., Alonso, E. and Carroll, A., 2016. Mapping supply chain risk by network analysis of product platforms. Sustainable Materials and Technologies, 10, pp.14-22.**](#) Pertinent to the RLC as the complexity of equipment increases: a reminder to remain cognisant of the supply chain required just to get materiel to the purple gate.
8. [**Decarbonizing Logistics: Distributing Goods in a Low Carbon World, Alan McKinnon.**](#) (Paperback/e-reader). A focussed review of the nature and scale of challenge we face in trying to achieve 'deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions' from logistical activities.

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9. [**Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain Management; Principles and Practices for Sustainable Operations and Management 3rd Ed.**](#) All the key areas in sustainable logistics and supply chain management are examined, with comprehensive case studies.
10. [**Talking Logistics. \(Podcast\)**](#). Easily digestible, it provides useful commentary on the development of global logistics. For this initial list, the following episodes are recommended:
 - a) 24 Oct 21 – The Next Evolution in Supply Chain Technology (24 min)
 - b) 29 Aug 21 – Order Orchestration: Enabling Agility in the Supply Chain (23 min)
 - c) 13 Mar 22 – How Technology is Transforming Transportation (23 min)