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Prior to joining NBR, Mr. Kamphausen served as a U.S. Army officer—a career that culminated in an assignment in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) as Country Director for China-Taiwan-Mongolia Affairs. Prior postings included assignments to The Joint Staff as an intelligence analyst and later as China Branch Chief in the Directorate for Strategic Plans and Policy (J5), and as an Assistant Army Attache in the U.S. Embassy in the People's Republic of China.

His areas of professional expertise include China's People's Liberation Army (PLA), U.S.-China defense relations, U.S. defense and security policy toward Asia, and East Asian security issues. He has co-edited the last six volumes produced by the Carlisle PLA Conference, including the most recent volume released in December 2012: "Learning by Doing: The PLA Trains at Home and Abroad". He has also written numerous articles and book chapters, including the most recent in Strategic Asia 2012-13 China's Military Challenge, entitled "China's Land Forces: New Priorities and Capabilities".

Mr. Kamphausen holds a BA in Political Science from Wheaton College and an MA in International Affairs from Columbia University. He studied Chinese at both the Defense Language Institute and Beijing's Capital Normal University.