



In the News

NAVAIR PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWS
RELEASE (DEC. 8, 2004)

OSPREY COMPLETES FINAL SHIPBOARD DEVELOPMENTAL TESTING

Ward Carroll

PATUXENT RIVER, Md.—The V-22 integrated test team conducted Shipboard Suitability Phase for 10 days aboard *USS Wasp* beginning Nov. 12, 2004.

The primary objective of this phase was to complete interaction testing between an Osprey parked on the flight deck and another Osprey hovering in front of it.

Additional test objectives included flight envelope expansion for all port-side landing spots aboard the *USS Wasp*, developing a night short takeoff envelope, and evaluating the latest flight control software version.

“The team was able to get a lot done during our time under way,” said Bill Geyer, the integrated test team’s lead shipboard suitability engineer. “The data we gathered will help us close the book on shipboard developmental test. We’ve given the operational testers and, in turn, the fleet the tools for success at sea.”

While the integrated test team was busy working on *Wasp*’s flight deck, a group of maintainers from tilt-rotor operational test squadron (VMX) 22, the V-22 operational test and evaluation squadron based at Marine Corps Air Station New River, were in the hangar bay conducting maintenance demonstration testing.

Tests included removing both engines, jacking the aircraft and cycling the landing gear, and removing prop-rotor hubs and blade assemblies. The VMX-22 team’s findings will serve them well during the squadron’s upcoming operational evaluation.

Geyer was quick to attribute the integrated test team’s success to their hosts.

“The *Wasp* was excellent,” he said. “The bridge team went out of its way to get us the winds we needed, and the Air Department was always willing to go the extra



The V-22 Osprey aircraft operate in close proximity during recent flight deck developmental testing aboard the amphibious assault ship *USS Iwo Jima* in the Atlantic Ocean. The Osprey is a tilt-rotor vertical/short takeoff and landing, multi-mission aircraft developed to fill multi-Service combat operational requirements worldwide.

U.S. Navy photograph by Petty Officer 1st Class Mike Jones



mile to get the job done for us. Overall, it was the best experience I've ever had at sea while conducting tests."

This was the fourth and final underway period for the integrated test team since the program's return to flight in May of 2002.

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (DEC. 10, 2004) ARMY ANNOUNCES PATRIOT MISSILE SYSTEM'S PERFORMANCE IN OPERA- TION IRAQI FREEDOM

The U.S. Army announced today its investigation into the Patriot Missile System's performance in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). The system was found to be successful in performing its mission protecting troops and assets against enemy tactical ballistic missiles. Patriot systems intercepted all nine Iraqi TBMs they engaged, with nine of nine intercepts resulting in destruction of the incoming enemy missile. The Patriot system undoubtedly saved many lives and prevented significant damage or destruction of millions of dollars of coalition property or to neighboring countries.

Patriot missile operations were conducted on an extremely dense and complex battlefield where more than 41,000 sorties were flown by coalition air forces. Forty-one active duty Army and 13 coalition Patriot batteries were deployed to OIF, serving in eight countries.

Two unfortunate incidents of fratricide or "friendly fire" involving U.S. Navy F/A-18 and British Royal Air Force Tornado aircraft resulted in three fatalities. The U.S. Army regrets the loss of life and expresses condolences to the family members.

In a third incident, a U.S. Air Force F-16 fired on a Patriot battery, but there were no deaths or injuries. United States Central Command (USCENTCOM) concluded their investigations into these incidents, and results are posted on the CENTCOM Web site at <http://www.centcom.mil>. Application of lessons learned in OIF has already improved upon Patriot's performance, and the system will be continuously refined. Improvements include combinations of hardware modifications, software changes, and updates to tactics, techniques, and procedures.

Some changes include the integration of satellite radio technology at the Battalion Information Coordination Central, which provides improved situational awareness through voice and data connectivity with higher headquarters Identification and Engagement Authority as well as enhanced command and control; and software im-

provements that enable better identification, classification, and correlation of airborne objects. In addition, the Army continues to explore and evaluate new opportunities to improve performance and reduce the risk of fratricide.

Patriot remains an important part of an integrated joint air defense system, and its soldier operators receive extensive training in a highly realistic Joint Service environment. The system is a unique and viable weapon that is continuously being upgraded and improved to defend against rapidly evolving threats to the U.S. and its allies.

For further information contact Army Public Affairs, Lt. Col. Tom Rheinlander at 703-697-7589, e-mail thomas.rheinlander@hqda.army.mil.

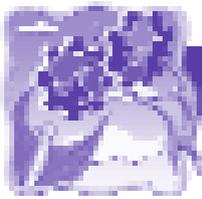
PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ENTERPRISE INFORMATION SYSTEMS NEWS RELEASE (DEC. 10, 2004) COALITION MILITARY NETWORK SUP- PORTS MULTINATIONAL OPERATIONS AGAINST INSURGENTS

Stephen Larsen

Just in time to support coalition operations to clear insurgents out of Fallujah and other hotbeds, the U.S. Army completed and fielded the Coalition Military Network, a new Internet Protocol-based, network-centric satellite communications system. The CMN provides bandwidth-on-demand services, with high-quality voice capabilities and secure broadband data communications for the coalition's multi-national division, which includes British, Filipino, Korean, Polish, Ukrainian, and U.S. forces.

Implementation of the CMN is part of the Kuwait-Iraq C4 Commercialization (KICC) program, through which the Army is providing enduring communications infrastructure for U.S. and coalition forces. According to Lt. Col. Joseph Schafer, the Army's project manager for the KICC program, the CMN extends the global information grid to the coalition's remote sites in Iraq. "Our vision is to strike a balance between the need to deliberately build out the GIG at the major base camps and to quickly extend the GIG to more temporary locations," he explains.

The network gives coalition users at remote sites access to the same quality of communications as at larger, more established locations; as an example, CMN gives the sites data and FAX capability where they didn't exist before. The CMN reduces satellite usage by dynamically expanding and contracting bandwidth based on the user's instantaneous needs, using bandwidth-on-demand tech-



nologies, which could reduce satellite leasing requirements by up to 60 percent.

For voice communications, the CMN employs a full-mesh topology. Each node in the network can talk directly with every other node going through the satellite, but without having to go through the hub. Using only a single satellite hop reduces satellite delay by 50 percent, meaning significant improvements in voice quality and secure call reliability for coalition users.

Ron Mikeworth, a project coordinator for the CMN effort, says that installation team members (including technicians from the prime CMN contractor, Lockheed Martin, and subcontractors DataPath and ViaSat) faced dangers as they traveled by truck in convoys through hostile territory to complete installations at remote sites. "Without the assistance of the soldiers who helped us transport the equipment to sites, our work in Iraq would have been extremely more difficult," he says. Mikeworth thanks the 711th Signal Battalion, Alabama National Guard, specifically Lt. Matt Kelly; the 111th Signal Battalion, South Carolina National Guard, specifically Lt. Monica McGrath and Sgt. Robin Goode; and the 3rd Signal Brigade, specifically Capt. Clair Crowe-Chaze.

"Combat operations continue, insurgency has driven up costs, and troop strength has increased rather than decreased," notes Schafer. "But despite it all, we're leveraging IP-based technology to field communications that meet the requirements of the transformational communications architecture, and we're doing it in a war zone. The CMN represents a tremendous capability for GIG extension in the area of responsibility."

For more information, contact the Public Affairs Officer for PM DCATS at stephen.larsen@us.army.mil.

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (DEC. 14, 2004) **STRYKER PERFORMANCE SCORES HIGH WITH ARMY LEADERS**

Sgt. 1st Class Tammy M. Jarrett

WASHINGTON—Speed, protection, and mobility are just a few reasons Army leaders are praising the Stryker's survivability in urban combat and arctic environments.

"The Stryker is the system that is providing our soldiers with battlefield speed, situational awareness, and protection that is unmatched by any other Army system that we have," Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Sorenson, director of Management and Horizontal Technology Integration,



Shown here are two satellite terminals that make up one of the 20 remote nodes of the Coalition Military Network in Iraq. Between the two terminals, a contractor technician enters a container that served as a combination shipping trailer, communications and operational trailer, and temporary sleeping quarters for the contractors until housing became available.

Photograph by Pete Cryan

said during a Stryker media roundtable at the Pentagon Dec. 9, 2004.

Sorenson and other Department of the Army leaders held a video tele-conference with Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT) commanders from 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash., and 172nd Infantry Brigade, Fort Wainwright, Alaska, discussing the system's operational successes and lessons learned from the field.

"It's fast and quiet and tracks very well in the snow," said 172nd Commander Col. Michael Shields, via VTC from the brigade's tactical operations center. "The soldiers have complete confidence in the weapon system. It's incredibly accurate and lethal, and it works well in the arctic environment."

The 172nd was in day seven of a warfighting exercise, using lessons learned from 3rd Bde., 2nd ID, which returned from Iraq in October 2004, to shape its training as it undergoes transformation as the Army's third SBCT.

Stryker Proves its Worth

"The soldiers have complete confidence in the survivability based on the dialogue with their counterparts in Iraq," Shields said. He said they are also impressed with the overall digital equipment capabilities.



A static display of the Stryker was on hand for viewing by members of the media and Pentagon personnel after the Stryker media roundtable Dec. 9.

U.S. Army photograph



Lt. Col. Gordie Flowers, commander of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, said the Stryker vehicles have proved their worth in protecting soldiers from rocket-propelled grenades and car bombs. He said while in Iraq, more than 50 percent of his Strykers were hit with rocket-propelled grenades and improvised explosive devices.

“No soldiers in my battalion have been killed from either attacks in the Stryker vehicle,” Flowers said. “It has provided unprecedented protection of our infantry as we moved on the battlefield. It’s the perfect vehicle in an urban environment.”

Lt. Col. William “Buck” James, commander of 3rd Brigade, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, said the Stryker system has unmatched mobility both mechanically and tactically.

“It gives you armor protection to deliver that infantry squad to the point of attack, [and] rapidly issue orders to be able to maneuver and gain the advantage over the enemy,” James said.

Lessons Learned Improve Stryker Capability

Although the soldiers like the Stryker and are confident in it, officials said it isn’t the perfect weapon.

Army procurement officials have taken lessons learned from Iraq and are making changes to be implemented in the near future to provide the most combat-effective equipment to support soldiers on the battlefield.

Col. Don Sando, Training and Doctrine Command system manager, said some of the mid-term improvements

include changes to the remote weapon station, day and night optics, laser rangefinder on the infantry carrier vehicle, and some of the other variants. Platforms will be stabilized so that new and improved weapons can be introduced.

They are also looking at initiatives to reduce the overall weight of the vehicle with the add-on slat armor to prevent it from getting stuck in the soft terrain in Iraq.

Other changes have already been applied to the vehicles—for example, the anti-tank guided missile carrier.

Col. Peter Fuller, Stryker project manager, said the carrier’s hatch only opened to a 45-degree angle. This didn’t allow the soldiers room to add weapons to the system or to stand behind the weapons.

“We immediately modified the hatch to open all the way back to allow the soldiers to put crew-served weapons on the back of the weapon and have people standing in the back, providing security,” Fuller said.

Fuller said they have also added a swing mounted on the vehicle so soldiers can hang their crew-served weapons in the back and are experimenting with a shield to go on the hatch to give soldiers more protection.

Lt. Col. Steven Townsend, 3rd Bde., 2 ID commander, said he is convinced that the Stryker is ahead of its game and is exceeding the Army’s expectation.

“The soldiers know this vehicle is not perfect, but they do know and believe it’s the best vehicle available and



they have it to use today,” Townsend said. “Our soldiers have the confidence in the Stryker that it will provide, and get there fast and quiet.”

DEFENSE TRANSFORMATION (DEC. 15, 2004) **ARMY TEST COMMAND ENSURES EQUIPMENT MEETS STANDARDS**

Staff Sgt. Brent A. Hunt, USA

FORT HOOD, Texas—Before U.S. soldiers around the world take a new piece of gear to the field, either wearing it, driving it, or firing it, the Operational Test Command at Fort Hood tests it to make sure it meets Army standards and can be used in the field functionally by the everyday soldier.

“We test everything from clothes to chemical, biological [equipment] to masks,” said Lt. Col. Greg Netardus, test management division chief. “Almost everything that comes into the Army is tested by the [command].”

Operational Test Command's task is to conduct realistic operational testing in the areas of equipment, doctrine, force design, and training. The tests conducted are required by public law and provide significant data to Army decision makers on key systems and concepts around the world.

Located on west Fort Hood are the Test and Evaluation Support Activity and five of Operational Test Command's test directorates: the Aviation Test Directorate; the Command, Control, Communications and Computers Test Directorate; the Close Combat Test Directorate; the Engineer and Combat Support Test Directorate; and the Future Force Test Directorate.

“The Operational Test Command was established 34 years ago at Fort Hood, and I am proud to have been a part of it for the whole ride,” said Arthur Woods, the longest employed tester at Fort Hood's Operational Test Command and currently director of resource management. “The mission has remained the same—to make sure that equipment issued to soldiers has been tested under operational conditions by functional experts. It is a team of noncommissioned officers, warrant officers, officers and civilians backed up by support contractors,” Woods added. “We use noncommissioned officers as test officers, because they bring experience with them. [They] have been the back bone of testing, because they put their hands on the equipment daily.” Recently, the command conducted a study on a piece of equipment

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***—Arthur Woods
Army Tester***

in every conceivable situation around all parts of the world.

“We just finished extensive tests on a Joint Services mask,” said Phillip Riley, military test plans analyst. “We had all the Services test them in every type of environment around the world while they were doing their job. Afterwards, we collected data and made our recommendations on how to improve it.”

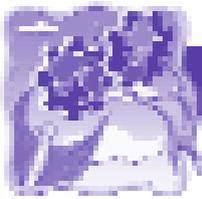
Not only does the command test masks and clothes, they are the main testers for the Stryker Brigades and the Apache Longbow helicopters.

“When we did the Stryker test, we brought outside units [field artillery, air defense, etc.] to [Fort Knox, Ky.] and they tried it out in a field environment,” Riley said. “We tested [Stryker Brigade] for three months at Fort Knox because that was the best place to do it with units that actually use that specific equipment.”

With a \$100 million annual budget, the biggest test Operational Test Command is currently conducting is the Army Battle Command System.

Before 4th Infantry Division went into Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 4th Inf. Div., or now known by many as the Army's high-tech division, was the test bed for digitations on the digital battlefield.

“Digitations on the digital battlefield give the commander information on where friendly and enemy forces are in real time,” Netardus said. “In fact, some guys weren't real comfortable with it when it first came out until they realized it really worked.”



4th Infantry Division is still the main unit being tested with this new system, and they will use it when they re-deploy back to the front.

“Not only do we ensure equipment is compatible when units and soldiers first start to use it, we look at the whole system and if it breaks, determine what can be done to fix it and if it can be fixed,” Netardus said. “We no longer wait for equipment to be tested. We send out rapid testing teams to see how equipment is doing,” he added. “We have people here that will do whatever it takes to get the job done.”

From operational testing of shovels to the Stryker Brigade on to the Apache Longbow helicopter, the underlying philosophy that guides the Operational Test Command is its motto, “Truth in Testing.”

Hunt is on the staff of the Fort Hood Sentinel, published at Fort Hood, Texas.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (DEC. 15, 2004)

NAVY AWARDS CONTRACT OPTION FOR FIRST LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP

The Department of Navy today awarded Lockheed Martin Corp., Maritime Systems & Sensors, Moorestown, N.J., a \$188.2 million contract option for detail design and construction of the first Flight 0 Littoral Combat Ship (LCS).

LCS is an innovative combatant designed to counter challenging shallow-water threats in coastal regions, specifically mines, diesel submarines, and fast surface craft. A fast, agile, and networked surface combatant, LCS will use focused-mission packages that deploy manned and unmanned vehicles to execute a variety of missions.

“Today we take the next step toward delivering this needed capability to the fleet,” said Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition John J. Young Jr. “Just two years after we awarded the first contracts, we’re signing a contract to build the first LCS. This was made possible by great support from Congress and industry, which both teamed with the Navy so we can provide the fleet with greater capability and flexibility to meet mission requirements.”

This detail design and construction contract option award is a critical step in getting the first LCS in the water in 2006. Lockheed Martin’s teammates include Gibbs & Cox, Arlington, Va.; Marinette Marine, Marinette, Wis.;

and Bollinger Shipyards, Lockport, La. Marinette Marine will begin construction early next year after a production readiness review with the Navy.

“LCS takes the operational Navy into a higher tactical speed regime and is a net-centric focal point,” said Rear Adm. Charlie Hamilton, program executive officer for ships.

“It will also fundamentally alter the ship/mission system integration paradigm through extensive use of modularity. The acquisition of LCS sets a new standard for rapid procurement in support of the warfighter.” Echoing Hamilton’s comments, Young noted that “the LCS program has demonstrated fundamental, positive changes to reform and accelerates the acquisition process.”



Artist’s concept of the first Flight 0 Littoral Combat Ship. The LCS is an entirely new breed of U.S. Navy warship that will provide combatant commanders the required warfighting capabilities and operational flexibility to ensure maritime dominance and access for the joint force. Rendering provided by the U.S. Navy courtesy General Dynamics



On May 27, 2004, the Department of Defense awarded both Lockheed Martin and General Dynamics–Bath Iron Works, Bath, Maine, separate contract options for final system design with options for detail design and construction of up to two Flight 0 LCS.

The Navy plans to build a total of four Flight 0 LCS.

Visit <<http://peoships.crane.navy.mil/lcs/>> for more information on the LCS.

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (DEC. 30, 2004) ARMOR PROCUREMENT ON SCHEDULE

Eric Cramer

WASHINGTON—The Army will meet its requirement of 8,105 up-armored Humvees by March 2005, has equipped all deployed soldiers and DoD civilians with Interceptor Body Armor, and has also developed a more flexible system for meeting field commanders' equipment needs.

In a roundtable discussion with members of the media Dec. 30, Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Sorenson, deputy for acquisition and systems management, and other members of the Army staff discussed the procurement of material and armor for both vehicles and people in theater.

Sorenson said the issue of providing armor for vehicles has evolved as the conflict in Iraq has changed mission requirements.

“On the march to Baghdad, we had mostly armored-type vehicles, tanks, Bradleys, or whatever” Sorenson said. “After that, the Army wanted to be less obtrusive and made a conscious decision to lower that to one-third of the force and go to motorized vehicles.”

He said the threat that developed from improvised explosive devices, known as IEDs, drove the need for additional up-armored vehicles.

More than 6,000 factory-produced up-armored Humvees are already in the CENTCOM area of operations, Sorenson said. Of the other Humvees there, roughly 80 percent—or about 10,500—have now been equipped with armor, either at the factory or in the field.

“It's not just armoring of vehicles,” Sorenson said. “We've added body armor for our personnel, methods to prevent improvised explosive devices from working. It's been a holistic effort.”

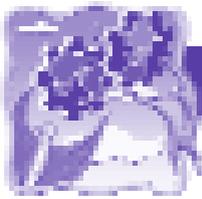
He said the Army has also improved force protection by creating an IED Task Force that analyzes every incident to help determine new ways to counter the threat of insurgency.

Col. Ed Donnelly, chief of the Dominant Maneuver Division, G8, said protecting soldiers in the field is also the mission of the Army's Interceptor Body Armor.

“The IBA consists of an outer tactical vest or OTV and small arms protective inserts or SAPI,” Donnelly said. “It's been augmented this year with the Deltoid Axillary Protector, which is an ambidextrous add-on to protect the shoulder and arm.”



Army Col. Ed Donnelly, chief of the Dominant Maneuver Division, G8, points out the Deltoid Axillary Protector on the Interceptor Body Armor worn by Maj. David Delmonte, systems synchronization officer for soldier equipment. Photograph by Patricia Ryan



He said the Army is currently producing 25,000 sets of IBA per month, and will continue to do so until it reaches the goal of having more than 800,000 sets sometime in the second quarter of fiscal year 2006. Currently, the Army can equip all of its personnel in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, and the Horn of Africa with the protective gear. Soon it will be part of every soldier's field equipment, in both forward and training environments, he said.

Dr. Forrest Crain, director of Capabilities Integration, Privatization and Analysis, G-3, said the Army has improved its methods for acquiring new equipment to meet the need of commanders in the field.

"Commanders can create an operational needs statement," Crain said.

He said the ONS system allows commanders to evaluate a need, create a statement that goes through the chain of command, and allows the Department of the Army to meet the requirement if it cannot be met at lower levels.

"Before Sept. 11, we received less than 12 of these a year. Since October, 2002, we received 2,600. In 2004, we received 1,400 ONS statements," Crain said.

He said meeting an ONS request is much more rapid than is traditional in Army acquisitions.

"If you think about the normal process, where the military is buying something like the F-22 fighter or the M-1 Abrams tank for the first time, that's a multi-year process," Crain said. "In the ONS system, if a commander needs, say, sniper rifles, he puts together an ONS. It isn't a complicated or bureaucratic process, but it runs through the chain of command because commanders may not be aware of all the resources available."

He said the ONS requests are handled by officers who have specific areas of expertise.

"Requirements staff officers look to see if it's just a matter of redistributing something. They look at new ways to meet the requirement. For example, we've had an increased need for .50-caliber machineguns," Crain said. He said the Army was able to meet the need for the weapons from stores without seeking to purchase more.

Crain said a council of colonels meets to validate and prioritize the ONS and how they are met.

"When it comes to reaching the priorities, it's a commonsense approach," Crain said. "The first needs that are met are those that are in theater, in combat. Next are units that are getting ready to deploy."

Crain said a unit's component isn't a factor.

"It doesn't matter if it is a reserve or active component; what matters is whether it is in combat or next to deploy," he said.

MARINE CORPS NEWS (JAN. 5, 2005) RIVERINE CRAFT PROVES ITSELF IN IRAQ

Cpl. Shawn Rhodes, USMC

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.—In April 2004, the assault on Fallujah raged inside the city. There were reports of insurgent movement to and from the city via the Euphrates River, creating a liquid highway for trafficking people and weapons. It was up to 2d Marine Division's Small Craft Company to stop it.

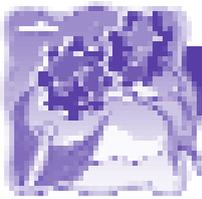
To do so they relied on the latest fusion of speedboat and warfighting craft—the Small Unit Riverine Craft (SURC).

"The boat has proved itself to be perfectly suited for the environment in Iraq. It's held up well right off the shelf," said Color Sgt. Matthew R. Tomlinson, a landing craftsman first class with the British Royal Marines. The Somerset, United Kingdom, native has participated in landing operations from Northern Ireland to Sierra Leone and recently worked with the company and the SURC in Iraq.

"I look at it this way: Every country has rivers and waterways. A lot of countries have more waterways than roads, so it is important we have a strong riverine force," Tomlinson said.

The force Small Craft Company brought to Iraq included a few of the new 39-foot SURC capable of carrying three weapons systems per craft, making them the most dangerous thing in the water.

Not only do we have the most firepower on these boats compared with the Rigid Raider Craft, but the speed and maneuverability blows other tactical boats out of the water, according to Sgt. Aaron A. Smith, a platoon sergeant with the company who has been able to work with the SURC. Although the Riverine Assault Craft carried four weapons systems on board, the speed and ma-



FALLUJAH, IRAQ—The Marines of Small Craft Company rest for a moment during a patrol near Fallujah. Their new Small Unit Riverine Craft proved invaluable during countless ambushes, raids, coordinated strikes, and medical evacuations during Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

Photograph courtesy Small Craft Company

neuverability of the SURC makes it a better fighting platform. The Kerrville, Texas, Marine explained how the new boat can out-perform any other craft on the water.

“This boat can go from zero to 25 knots in 15 seconds. A top speed of 40 knots means Marines can move in and out of kill zones faster,” Smith said. He added, “Because of the twin 440 horsepower six-cylinder diesel engines, it can move and turn faster than our other boats. Additionally, it is the only boat with ballistic protection even around the engine compartment.”

Smith said they would be field testing mini-guns and possibly missiles on the craft in the future.

Not only are the SURC faster, they can travel farther than their predecessors as well.

“The old Raider craft could travel 75 nautical miles whereas the SURC can travel for 250 nautical miles,” said Staff Sgt James A. Cascio, a platoon sergeant with the company and native of Long Island, N.Y. He added, “This boat is great both on (seaside and riverine) operations. Because of the way it is designed, it performs well both on the ocean and on rivers.”

“If we didn't have this [riverine assault] asset on the water, the insurgents would be moving around in boats on the water,” Tomlinson said. He explained about one situation where the boats proved themselves in combat.

“It was the first day of our assault on Fallujah and we were ambushed,” Tomlinson recounted. “We went full

speed to the shore and started laying down fire with our guns. The word got out not to mess with these boats, and there weren't any boats around us on the water after that.”

Tomlinson added the reason the company always beat the enemy not only because of the boats, but also the extreme professionalism of the crew and gunners on board.

The SURC boats proved themselves time and time again in the waterways of Iraq, and despite being new, come with great reviews from the men who live on them.

“The boats are like homes for seven months. The Marines are so proud you feel you need to wipe your feet before stepping on board,” Tomlinson said. He added, “The boats have never

failed a mission or task they've been put up to and we've never had to quit, saying 'something happened to one of our boats.'”

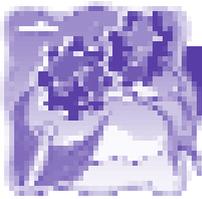
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JAN. 7, 2005) FISCAL 2005 ADVANCED CONCEPT TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS ANNOUNCED

The acting under secretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics Michael Wynne announced the selection of new Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration (ACTD) projects for fiscal 2005.

The military services, combatant commanders, defense agencies, and industry submitted almost 100 proposals. Representatives of the military services and major combatant commanders reviewed the list of proposals and provided their requirements for operational capabilities.

The ACTDs selected for initiation in fiscal 2005 in alphabetical order are:

- **Actionable Situational Awareness Pull:** “Pull and tailor” relevant actionable information
- **Chemical Unmanned Ground Reconnaissance:** Detection at maneuver speeds, while protecting personnel
- **Coalition Secure Management and Information System:** Rapid role-based secure release of command and control information among coalition partners
- **Epidemic Outbreak Surveillance:** Near real-time, presymptomatic diagnostic detection of pathogens



- **Joint Coordinated Real Time Engagement:** Joint real-time operations across multi-Combatant Commands, theaters, and echelons
- **Joint Enhanced Explosion Resistant Coating Exploitation:** Protection against explosives and/or penetrating ordnance
- **Joint Force Projection:** Comprehensive, end-to-end planning of joint deployment
- **Medical Situational Awareness in Theater:** Fusion of medical data and health threat intelligence
- **Rapid Airborne Reporting & Exploitation:** Target detection, identification, and characterization
- **Sea Talon:** Undersea detection in littoral areas
- **Sea Eagle:** Monitoring of maritime areas
- **SOCOM Long Endurance Demonstrator:** Unmanned vehicle for vertical take off and landing with long
- **Viper Strike:** Precise targeting with minimal collateral damage
- **TACSAT-2 Roadrunner:** Responsive and affordable tactical satellites
- **Weapons Data Link:** Weapon re-targeting in flight.

The ACTD program aids in rapidly transitioning advanced technology into the hands of warfighters serving the unified commanders.

Marrying new operational concepts with maturing technologies in a joint environment, ACTDs reduce the time required to field new systems and increase user involvement in system design and integration.

For more information on the ACTD program, go to <http://www.acq.osd.mil/actd/> >.

THIRD MARINE AIRCRAFT WING (JAN. 7, 2005) THUMB DRIVES SAVE TIME, MEMORIES

Cpl. Joel A. Chaverri, USMC

AL ASAD, Iraq—With the digital age upon us, information is slowly moving away from paper and toward the computer screen. Miniature hard drives, referred to as “thumb drives,” have become the new rage among business professionals and personal users alike.

Suitably named, the drives are about the size of a person's thumb, able to store large amounts of information in an incredibly small amount of space. This capability has allowed the average person to store various types of data that otherwise would be a hassle to maintain.

Service members deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom are no exception. Troops are able to use this technology to save family pictures, journal entries, work files and more, all of which is able to fit in the palm of their hand.

“With the drive, I no longer have to keep paper copies of everything,” said Hospital Corpsman 2nd class Joseph L. Entrekin, aviation physiology technician, Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. “I can keep my work and important data with me at all times.”

Transporting information from one workstation to the other is also a useful feature used prominently with the thumb drives.

“I use it to store lectures I give to different units on base,” said Entrekin, a 30-year-old native of Washington Court House, Ohio. “Before I got it, I had to carry a laptop to my meetings, or burn a compact disk. Now all I need is this little drive.”

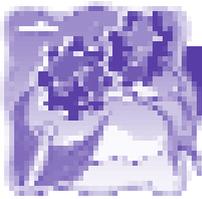
Thumb drives use a technology called the Universal Serial Bus (USB). They can plug into nearly any computer or device that has a USB port, giving users the ability to copy and save files at a quick rate.

“It's saved me a lot of time,” said Entrekin. “It's been a lifesaver and made my job a lot easier.”



Miniature hard drives, sometimes referred to as “thumb drives,” are becoming a common piece of gear among military professionals, including Marines in Iraq. Suitably named, the drives are about the size of a person's thumb, able to store large amounts of information in an incredibly small amount of space.

Photograph by Cpl. Paul W. Leicht, USMC



Thumb drives are available in different memory sizes, many able to hold more information than a CD.

"[CDs] scratch easily and can only be used once," said Entrekin. "These drives can be used over and over and you never have to worry about them getting scratched."

With all of their capabilities, thumb drives are swiftly creating a medium for troops to save memories of their experiences.

"I save all my pictures on my drive," said 24 year-old Falls City, Neb., native Pfc. Joey W. Schuetz, airframe mechanic, Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. "I'll check my e-mail from the Internet café and copy the pictures over so that I can look at them whenever I want to."

Seeing pictures of family and friends can help build morale among troops who have been deployed for long periods of time.

"Being able to save pictures on my drive has really paid off," said Schuetz. "It's absolutely worth its weight in gold."

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (JAN. 11, 2005) ARMY ADOPTS NASCAR TECHNOLOGY FOR HELICOPTERS

Stefanie A. Gardin

WASHINGTON—NASCAR windshield tear-offs will soon provide Army helicopters an extra layer of protection from sand, rocks, and debris thanks to two National Guard soldiers.

Sgt. 1st Class Paul Kagi and Sgt. Michael Mullen, Virginia Army Guard helicopter mechanics, submitted the idea to use windshield tear-offs to the Army Suggestion Program after discussing the idea at a Christmas party five years ago.

Their unit went to the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., with brand new helicopters. However, when they came back, they had to replace about 80 percent of the windshields as a result of sand damage.

"Sand will eat up a glass window. It gets so pitted you can't even see out of it," said Kagi. "That's where Sgt. Mullen got the idea. He said, 'Hey, they put tear-offs on race cars at Daytona and Texas for that very reason—to protect them from sand and debris.'"



The windshield tearoff is being applied to a Blackhawk helicopter by Steve Fricker of United Protective Technologies at Fort Eustis, Va. Photograph by Andrew Hough

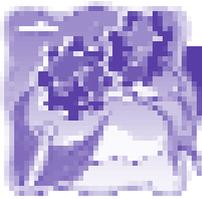
Kagi did some homework, researching tangible cost savings for the tear-offs, and the idea was submitted through the Army Suggestion Program channels for evaluation. Eventually, the aviation team at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., together with the Defense Logistics Agency, picked up the idea and funded all the testing.

"In order to put anything on a helicopter, we have to do a lot of testing on it because if a helicopter doesn't work, it crashes—and that's bad news," said Doug Felker, Reliability, Availability and Maintainability team leader at AMRDEC.

Felker and team put the windshield tear-offs through a series of environmental testing and visibility testing with the naked eye and night vision goggles. They also flight-tested the tear-offs on an aircraft in California in a brownout condition, where the aircraft purposely flies into a dust and sand environment, said Ken Bowie, RAM team member.

"The material has met or exceeded our expectations on all the tests at this point," said Bowie. "That is how we got our airworthiness release."

An Army airworthiness release is similar to its civilian counterpart—FAA approval. Any aircraft modifications must have this release before going into effect. So far, the RAM team has received approval for a single-layer tear-off sheet for the Black Hawk only, but it is working to get approval for the other aviation platforms: the Kiowa, Apache, and Chinook as well.



“Tear-offs are simple solutions to a tactical problem,” said Bowie. “The problem is operating in a sandy, dusty environment.”

The tear-offs are clear pieces of Mylar, seven millimeters thick, that are molded to the shape of the windshield. Mylar has all of the optical qualities of regular glass and even stands up to abrasions better than glass because it has more give to it.

The point of the tear-off is that if there are incidences where a windshield gets pitted or dinged up, the damage is on the Mylar, not the windshield. Instead of replacing the windshield, which is time-consuming and costly, the Mylar can be torn off, and the aircraft can move on.

“We want the Mylar to fail,” said Felker. “As long as the Mylar receives all of the damage, the windshield’s life is prolonged. Right now there is an acute shortage of windshields, and those windshields aren’t cheap.”

Current predictions estimate the life of one tear-off to be about six months. As long as the tear-off is not hit by something it won’t handle—like bullets—and a fresh piece of Mylar is kept on it, the windshield should last forever, said Bowie.

“Tear-offs will save the Army repair, increase readiness, and save a great deal of money in both material and maintenance costs,” said Felker.

Other contributors to the funding, research, and fielding of the tear-offs have been the Defense Logistics Agency, Richmond, Va.; the Black Hawk Project Office, Huntsville, Ala.; and the Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, Fort Eustis, Va. Installation of the tear-offs on Black Hawks in Iraq and Kuwait is slated to start the first or second week in February.

“The goal is to improve things for our peers,” said Kagi. “With helicopters, we operate and fight battles all over the world, and if we can get the word out or suggest something that is for the good of Army Aviation, then that is what we want to do.”

Cash awards are paid for ideas adopted that were submitted through the Army Suggestion Program. The amount is based on tangible cost savings with a maximum award of \$25,000.

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (JAN. 11, 2005) **SCANEAGLE PROVES WORTH IN FALLUJAH FIGHT**

Jim Garamone

FALLUJAH—It’s called ScanEagle, and it has already saved the lives of many Marines.

ScanEagle is an unmanned aerial vehicle that the Marines used during Operation Al Fajr, the coalition operation to remove insurgents from this city.

The ScanEagle system, developed by Boeing and the In-situ Group of Bingen, Wash., had its baptism by fire during some of the heaviest urban combat Marines have been involved in since Hue City in Vietnam in 1968. The UAV performed flawlessly, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force officials said today.

ScanEagle is a relatively low-cost UAV at \$100,000 a copy. But its real worth was in giving Marines in Fallujah a real-time picture of the enemy and helping them close with and kill insurgents without becoming casualties.

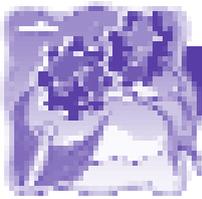
Driven by a small propeller, the aircraft can stay airborne for 19 hours on just a gallon and a half of gas. It is a “launch-and-forget” system. A catapult launches the 40-pound aircraft, and a computer operator just clicks the cursor over the area of interest. The aircraft operates autonomously.

The cameras—either for day or night—have enough definition to identify individuals and show if they are carrying weapons. “This was a true advantage for us during the operation,” said Marine Col. John Coleman, chief of staff for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. The rules of engagement were such that Marines could not engage unless they were sure the proposed target was carrying a weapon or intent on harming coalition forces.

ScanEagle enabled commanders to ascertain targets and provided specific coordinates via the Global Positioning System.

The system can also track moving targets. ScanEagle gives commanders at several different levels real-time video. With the explosive growth in use of the Web in warfare, commanders many miles away can direct the system.

All of this is not bad for a system designed to find fish. In-situ developed the aircraft to be launched and recov-



A Boeing contractor explains the workings of the ScanEagle unmanned aerial vehicle to visiting military analysts. The UAV has been credited with saving the lives of a number of Marines during the fighting in Fallujah in 2004.

Photograph by Jim Garamone

ered by tuna boats. Fishermen would use the UAV to spot schools of tuna.

When the Marines needed another UAV system, they contracted with Boeing in June 2004 for ScanEagle and the contractors to run it. Four Boeing employees answered the call, and ScanEagles were soon flying missions over the most dangerous city in Iraq.

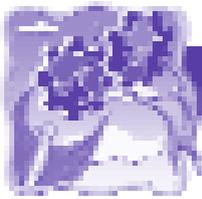
The UAV is small and tough to see, said Marine officials. The contractors put the mufflers pointing up so that the enemy couldn't track the aircraft by sound. The Marines operate the aircraft at a very low altitude and lost only one to enemy fire during the weeks of intelligence gathering leading up to Operation Al Fajr.

The Marines already use the Pioneer UAV and have access to other UAV information. The ScanEagle has a small

footprint. Manning for the system is small, and all the system needs to operate can be carried in four Humvees. The Pioneer, one of the oldest UAVs in the inventory, needs a runway to operate from, several C-130s to transport the system, and 120 people to operate it.

Marine officials are impressed with the ScanEagle system, and have shown the system's capabilities to Army, Navy, and Air Force officials.

Marine officials do not know the true extent of the system's use. "You never really know until the Marines push the capabilities," Coleman said. "Our young Marines are the experts. They know what they need, and they have the knowledge to try new methods and stretch the capabilities of most pieces of equipment."



AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (JAN. 11, 2005) **NEW WEAPONS CARRIER TO OFFER HIGHLY DEPLOYABLE FIRING PLATFORM**

Donna Miles

WASHINGTON—A new weapons carrier that has already proved itself under fire in Iraq will give ground troops a more mobile platform for firing rockets and missiles when it's fielded to operational units beginning this spring.

The addition to the Army's and Marine Corps' inventories reflects a growing trend in the military's transformation: lighter, more easily deployable equipment better geared to the joint expeditionary forces that use it.

The new High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, known by the acronym HIMARS, can roll onto an Air Force C-130 transport aircraft. Army Lt. Col. Darryl Colvin, product manager for field artillery launchers at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., said this capability will give joint expeditionary forces "a very lethal, very deployable system" that's also highly maneuverable on the battlefield.

The heavier, tracked system the HIMARS will replace, the 1981-vintage M-270 launch vehicle, was generally

transported by ship and "took time to get to the fight," Colvin said. The only transport aircraft able to carry that launcher were Air Force C-141s and C-5s, neither of which shares the C-130's ability to land on short, unimproved runways.

During tests on the new lightweight, wheeled HIMARS, troops demonstrated a capability unimaginable with the older launch vehicle. They flew to Fort Sill, Okla., landed on a dirt runway, and then, within 15 minutes, offloaded, set up, and prepared to receive a fire mission.

Enabling troops to quickly set up, execute a fire mission, and then move away from their launch site reduces the risk of a counterattack, Colvin said.

In addition to its deployability, the new system also offers its three-person crews the ability to fire global positioning system-aided munitions, minimizing collateral damage. Colvin said HIMARS will also carry multiple-launch rockets and the Army Tactical Missile System and fire at ranges between eight and 300 kilometers, depending on the munitions used.

The new system will give troops more capability to operate on a "very dynamic, fast-flowing battlefield," he said.

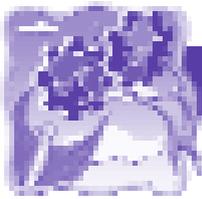
Three prototypes of the HIMARS were "very successful" and "never missed a mission" when put to the test in Iraq with the 18th Airborne Corps' 3rd Battalion, 27th Field Artillery, Colvin said. This is the same battalion slated to receive the first new launchers, beginning in March 2005.

Getting the opportunity to field-test the prototype in combat conditions revealed a great deal about the launchers and gave developers an opportunity to incorporate some late-stage changes, Colvin said. The launchers are now lighter and have an improved self-reloading capability better adapted to field conditions. So far, the Army has ordered 89 HIMARS launchers and the Marine Corps, six. If the system goes to full-scale production, as expected, the Army will ultimately buy 888 of the new systems and the Marine Corps, 40 within the next 15 years, Colvin said.



The High Mobility Artillery Rocket System fires the Army's new guided Multiple Launch Rocket System during testing at White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

U.S. Army photograph



ARMY NEWS SERVICE (JAN. 21, 2005) **PALADINS—HAVE GUNS, CAN TRAVEL**

Cpl. Benjamin Cossell, USA

CAMP TAJI, Iraq—At 32 tons with the ability to fire up to four rounds per minute, the M109A6 Paladin 155mm self-propelled Howitzer is the most technologically advanced cannon system in the U.S. Army's vast field artillery arsenal.

Reinforcing the 1st Battalion, 206th Field Artillery Regiment, soldiers of the 1st Cavalry Division's Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery, maintain and operate the Paladins as a piece of the 39th Brigade Combat Team's artillery firing battery.

"This baby can be on the move, get a call to fire, and be ready to respond in a matter of minutes," explained Hampton, Va., native Sgt. Donald Quash, an artilleryman with 2-82nd FA. "We can carry up to 32 conventional rounds, two copper head [laser-guided] rounds and 44 propellants, in addition to the four crew members inside every vehicle."

While mobility is a key aspect of the Paladin, the battery has operated from a static gun-line as the 1st/206th used the Paladin's ability to fire over long distances. Last June, the battery reinforced the 1st of the 206th as more and more of the attacks on Camp Taji came from areas outside the range of the the unit's M102 Towed Howitzers.

"With the ability to fire up to 30 kilometers, the Paladins allow us to respond to attacks outside the range of our guns," said Maj. Damon Cluck, operations officer for the 1st/206th.

Cluck said Paladins have become a vital piece in the counterfire missions against enemy mortars and rockets that are core to field artillery in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"So far," he said, "the Paladins have been called to fire for 74 missions with a total of 504 rounds being shot."

Cluck explained said some of the shots fired were for registration, "zeroing the rifle" to make certain that the 155-millimeter weapon is on target when it delivers its brand of fury.

The eardrum-shattering report of the Paladin rings out as the battery runs through one such registration fire mission. Spc. Ellery Villalobos, the ammunition team chief, stands a distance away from the vehicle, a red propellant bag slung over his shoulder. He waits. The look

of excitement and sheer joy mix on his face with the dirt and grime that flies back with each round expelled. BOOOOOM fires the gun and Villalobos is sprinting towards it with a new round to load up.

"HOOOOOAH!," he shouts as he sprints back throwing another propellant charge over his shoulder in anticipation. "This is what being artillery is all about! COME ON GUYS! LET'S GO! GET THAT ROUND DOWN RANGE!"

All told, the team will fire 10 rounds, two for adjustment, eight for effect. The impacts are monitored and relayed back to the fire direction center by an observation team stationed at the range. As the mission comes to a close, 2nd Lt. Bryan Shipman, fire direction officer, Battery B, 1st-206th walks out to congratulate the soldiers for an impressive shoot.

"Only two rounds for adjustment and all eight of the rounds for effect were within ten meters of each other," the lieutenant tells them. "That's just awesome guys, great shooting."

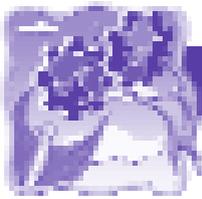
Working on Camp Taji has allowed the soldiers of the battery to maintain their proficiency with their primary weapon system. Many an artilleryman has assumed the role of the infantry—patrolling the streets of Baghdad, spending more time inside a Humvee and conducting raids than putting the skills of their chosen military occupational specialty to use.

"The battery does a really good job of rotating its soldiers up here," observed Cluck. "So guys are still out there on the streets patrolling and doing that mission, but then get a chance to come up here and maintain their core competency."

The Paladins have also proven beneficial to artillery soldiers of the 1st/206th. The paladins and M102 Howitzers share the same fire direction center—the computer nerve center of the gun-line.

"Many of soldiers had no previous experience operating the computer systems used by the Paladins," Cluck said. "As we work together to accomplish the mission, they've had to learn how to use them and can now add that to their knowledge base."

Having completed their registration fire, the team of soldiers conducts an informal after action review: what could have been better, what went badly, and what they can improve. Sgt. Richard Castro, of Fresno, Calif., notes



that the shoot was supposed to include 20 rounds but for reasons unspecified, called short at 10.

"That's OK," Castro exclaimed as he rinses the accumulated dirt from his face. "[That] just means we'll have to do it again sometime soon, and there isn't any job better in the Army than this one right here!"

Cossel writes for the 122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JAN. 21, 2005) NAVY FUNDS CONTRACT OPTION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF DESTROYER

The Department of Defense announced today that Bath Iron Works, a unit of General Dynamics, received a \$562.1 million modification to its FY02-05 DDG 51 Class multi-year contract to build the final ship of the Arleigh Burke Class. As the 34th DDG 51 Class Destroyer built by Bath Iron Works, DDG 112 represents the culmination of new construction for the U.S. Navy's AEGIS shipbuilding program and marks the beginning of a major transition for the Navy as it moves from the DDG 51 to the next generation of destroyer, the DD(X).

John J. Young Jr., assistant secretary of the navy for research, development and acquisition, described today's action as another "landmark on the highway" of AEGIS shipbuilding.

"This is the last of 62 DDG 51 Class ships, the final act of a play that will be reviewed as one of the most successful defense acquisition programs in history," said Young. "Bath Iron Works continues to produce excellent AEGIS destroyers that will serve this nation's vital interests for decades to come. The funding of DDG 112 also continues the Navy's commitment to a multi-year procurement contract and, combined with the purchase of LPD 25, satisfies the DDG-LPD workload swap agreement, which saved the taxpayers over \$500 million in shipbuilding costs."

"This extremely capable class of combatants continues to serve our nation and our Navy with distinction, and DDG 112 will carry on that proud legacy for decades to come as these ships serve as the foundation of our combatant force," said Rear Adm. Charlie Hamilton, the program executive officer for ships. "The Navy has utilized a number of acquisition tools on the AEGIS shipbuilding program, including spiral development, flight upgrades, and technology insertion. Those innovative methods have produced a great product and will continue to have a lasting impact on how we develop and acquire the best surface combatants in the world."

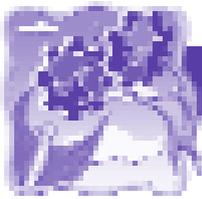


Like its other Arleigh-Burke Class ships, DDG 112 will be a 9,200-ton multi-mission guided missile destroyer capable of conducting a variety of operations, from peacetime presence and crisis management to sea control and power projection, in support of the National Military Strategy. DDG 112 will be capable of fighting air, surface, and subsurface battles simultaneously and will contain myriad offensive and defensive weapons designed to support maritime defense needs well into the 21st century.

The ship will be built in Bath, Maine, and the Navy expects delivery in December 2010. DDG

The Paladin 155-mm mobile howitzer fires during a drill. The weapon system is providing additional fire support to units overseas.

U.S. Army photograph



112 will benefit from the considerable technological advancements and engineering upgrades that have been developed, tested, and installed in the class since the commissioning of DDG 51 July 1991.

For more information about this release, contact the Navy news desk, (703) 697-5342.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PRESS ADVISORY (JAN. 27, 2005) DOD ANNOUNCES FISCAL 2004 REPORT

The Department of Defense announced today that the fiscal 2004 report of "100 Companies Receiving the Largest Dollar Volume of Prime Contract Awards (Top 100)" is now available on the World Wide Web. The Web site address for locating this publication and other DoD contract statistics is: <http://www.dior.whs.mil/peidhome/procstat/p01/fy2004/top100.htm>.

According to the new report, the top 10 Defense contractors for fiscal 2004 were:

| | (In Billions) |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Lockheed Martin Corp..... | \$20.7 |
| 2. The Boeing Co..... | 17.1 |
| 3. Northrop Grumman Corp..... | 11.9 |
| 4. General Dynamics Corp..... | 9.6 |
| 5. Raytheon Co..... | 8.5 |
| 6. Halliburton Co..... | 8.0 |
| 7. United Technologies Corp..... | 5.1 |
| 8. Science Applications International Corp..... | 2.5 |
| 9. Computer Sciences Corp..... | 2.4 |
| 10. Humana, Inc..... | 2.4 |

In fiscal 2004, DoD prime contract awards totaled \$230.7 billion, \$21.7 billion more than in fiscal 2003.

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (JAN. 27, 2005) DOD TRANSFORMATION HERE TO STAY, CEBROWSKI SAYS

Gerry J. Gilmore

WASHINGTON—Transformation has taken hold across the Defense Department and "will be with us a very, very long time," DoD's top transformational thinker said here today.

In response to President Bush's directive to DoD to change itself to better confront 21st century threats, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld has implemented many

policies that have changed the way the military operates and does business, noted retired Navy Vice Adm. Arthur K. Cebrowski, director of the DoD's Office of Force Transformation.

The admiral, speaking at an American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics-sponsored luncheon, pointed to revamps made to the Unified Command Plan as well other significant departmental changes that required legislation from Congress.

The department remains committed to improved and expanded communications capabilities, said Cebrowski, who's slated to retire from his current position at end of the month. "We're not going to step back to a less-networked age," he said.

The admiral said it's "difficult to undo some of the things that have been done." For instance, he said, the U.S. Army isn't going to jettison its new combat-brigade structure centered on the Stryker armored vehicle and go back to an old-style, division-based tactical force structure.

"That's just the way things are," he said.

Also, he noted, the U.S. armed forces "are raising up a very large number of NCOs and junior and mid-grade officers who have combat experience" under the new transformational doctrine.

"That changes the force," he explained, noting today's servicemembers "have experienced many of these transformational things, whether they're items for procurement or they are tactics or they are organizational constructs."

The Army and Marine Corps, Cebrowski pointed out, employ "a very robust way of capturing these (transformational) attitudes, turning them back into the training for the forces that are going to deploy again."

Consequently, a culture of taking lessons derived from troop combat experiences in Afghanistan and Iraq has been developed across the Army and Marine Corps, the admiral noted.

"What happens is the doctrine process just catches up later," Cebrowski concluded.



PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ENTERPRISE INFORMATION SYSTEMS NEWS RELEASE (JAN. 27, 2005) **DEPLOYABLE PORT OPERATIONS CENTER PROVIDES TOTAL ASSET VISIBILITY FOR SDDC IN KUWAIT**

Stephen Larsen

ASH SHUAIBA, Kuwait—From December 2002 to the present, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, the U.S. Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC) has shipped more cargo for the American military than at any time in the past half-century.

During that period, the SDDC has moved more than 70,000 containers. That's enough materiel—from Bradleys to bullets to butter—to fill more than 1,000 football fields. Laid end-to-end, the containers would stretch from New York City past Fredericksburg, Va.



A truck offloads cargo of the 3rd Infantry Division from a ship at the port of Ash Shuaiba, Kuwait.

Photograph by Stephen Larsen

Most of the materiel has come into Southwest Asia through Ash Shuaiba, a port south of Kuwait City. Helping SDDC Southwest Asia keep track is the Deployable Port Operations Center (DPOC), a suite of IT systems contained in an 8-foot-by-20-foot shelter, with satellite connectivity provided by a 2.4 meter Flyaway Triband Satellite Terminal (FTSAT). The DPOC functions as a deployable office, providing SDDC personnel with the same nonsecure Internet protocol router network, secret Internet protocol router network, video teleconferencing, fax, and IT capabilities they have at their home stations.

The IT capabilities include the worldwide port system, through which the SDDC tracks all common-user surface shipments; the global transportation network, which is the DoD system of record for in-transit visibility; and the integrated computerized deployment system, which, based on information provided by WPS, provides automated stow plans for vessels. Together, these capabilities add up to in-transit visibility and total asset visibility throughout the logistics pipeline.

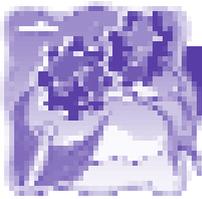
Contact Stephen Larsen: (732) 427-6756 or Stephen.Larsen@us.army.mil.

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (FEB. 7, 2005) **BUDGET EMPHASIZES PRESENT, FUTURE WARFIGHTING CAPABILITIES**

Donna Miles

WASHINGTON—The president's \$419.3 billion defense budget request for fiscal 2006 reflects Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld's four basic priorities: defeating global terrorism, restructuring the armed forces and global defense structure, developing and fielding advanced warfighting capabilities, and taking care of U.S. forces.

A senior defense official unveiled details of the proposed budget, which reflects a 4.8 percent increase over the 2005 budget and a 41 percent increase in DoD's budget since 2001.



The new budget continues to support the global war on terror and to provide those in uniform with the tools they need to fight this global war on terror, the official told Pentagon reporters.

"But it is also important that we are transforming the way we fight wars, and that includes new organizational strategies and realigning our forces and bases," the official said. "And in the area of building joint capabilities for future threats, we are applying the lessons from today's operations to strengthen our knowledge and joint capabilities for the future."

And although it was the last point listed on the briefing slide, the official said the effort to "take care of our forces" is actually the most important of all in the proposed budget. "People are our most important asset, and we continue to provide significant benefits and pay for our people," she said.

Funding to support the global war on terror is a key part of the budget proposal, and the official said the centerpiece of that is a \$48 billion commitment to restructure the Army's ground forces into brigade combat teams to create a more modular force. A military official told reporters this ongoing effort will increase the Army's combat capability by about 30 percent and is already showing a clear payoff in relieving the force during current operations in Iraq.

In support of this priority, the budget also:

- Accelerates the restructuring of the Marine Corps to add more combat and support units
- Provides \$2.1 billion in additional funding, for a total of \$9.9 billion, to increase the chemical and biological detection and protections for U.S. forces
- Funds homeland security activities, including Operation Noble Eagle, routine combat air patrols, and emergency preparedness and response activities
- Increases funding for special operations forces to \$4.1 billion to add 1,200 new special operations troops and four SEAL platoons, as well as other initiatives
- Provides additional funding to improve intelligence capabilities and intelligence-gathering systems, including the space-based radar and secure communications platforms
- Seeks legislative authorities that support the Commander's Emergency Response Program and other programs in direct support of the war on terrorism.

The proposed budget also reflects continuing efforts to restructure U.S. forces, global and stateside basing, and

DoD management and support activities. At the same time, it supports initiatives to better manage current demands on the force.

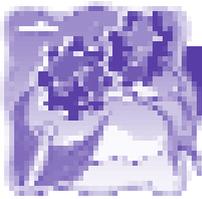
In support of this priority, the budget:

- Provides continued funding to restructure Army ground forces and to add combat and support units to the Marine Corps to increase its warfighting power and reduce stress on its high-demand forces
- Increases the Navy's combat power by supporting the Fleet Response Plan, replacing aging ships, and transitioning to a new generation of more capable ships
- Supports the continued restructuring of 10 air and space expeditionary forces that enable the Air Force to better support U.S. combatant commanders worldwide
- Helps manage demand on the force by rebalancing high- and low-demand capabilities within the active and reserve components and returning military personnel in civilian-like jobs to combat and core defense functions
- Restructures the U.S. global defense posture and streamlines DoD bases and facilities "to help us be where we need to be" for current and future operations, rather than Cold War-era ones, the official said.

The fiscal 2006 budget proposal reflects ongoing efforts to develop and field new military capabilities—with an emphasis on joint capabilities—to counter future threats, the official said. In support of this priority, the budget:

- Continues funding to develop, test, and field missile defense technologies to defeat ballistic missiles and adds five ground-based interceptors
- Supports Army modernization through the Future Combat Systems Program and the Army Aviation Modernization Plan
- Promotes Navy shipbuilding to continue the shift to a new generation of ships and funds four new ships
- Funds advanced aircraft to increase U.S. capabilities and replace aging systems; this includes funding for the F/A-22 Raptor, Navy F/A-18E/F Super Hornet, Joint Strike Fighter, C-17 transport aircraft, and tanker replacement
- Continues funding to develop and field intelligence and intelligence-gathering capabilities
- Promotes development and procurement of unmanned systems, including Joint Unmanned Combat Air Systems and Global Hawk and Predator unmanned aerial vehicles.

The budget also maintains President Bush's commitment to support U.S. military forces and their families,



whom the senior defense official called "our nation's most important defense asset." The proposed budget:

- Funds a 3.1 percent hike in military base pay and a 2.3 percent increase in civilian pay
- Increases funding for the Defense Health program
- Provides a 4 percent increase in the basic allowance for housing and eliminates more inadequate family housing units
- Expands healthcare coverage under TRICARE for National Guard and Reserve members before and after mobilization
- Provides up to 36 months of educational benefits for reserve component members who have been mobilized
- Increases maintenance funds for facilities used by DoD military and civilian employees.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (FEB. 8, 2005) DOD SELECTS FOREIGN DEFENSE EQUIPMENT FOR TESTING

The Department of Defense has selected 18 new start projects to receive fiscal 2005 funding under the Foreign Comparative Testing (FCT) program.

Authorized by Congress since 1980, the FCT Program is administered by the deputy under secretary of defense, advanced systems and concepts, office of the under secretary of defense, acquisition, technology and logistics.

The FCT Program demonstrates the value of using non-developmental items to reduce development costs and accelerate the acquisition process. The principal objective of the program is to support the U.S. warfighter by leveraging non-developmental items of allied and other friendly nations to satisfy U.S. defense requirements more quickly and economically. This is to increase U.S. capabilities in the war on terrorism and improve interoperability with our allies.

Given a first-rate foreign non-developmental item, U.S. user interest, a valid operational requirement, and good procure-

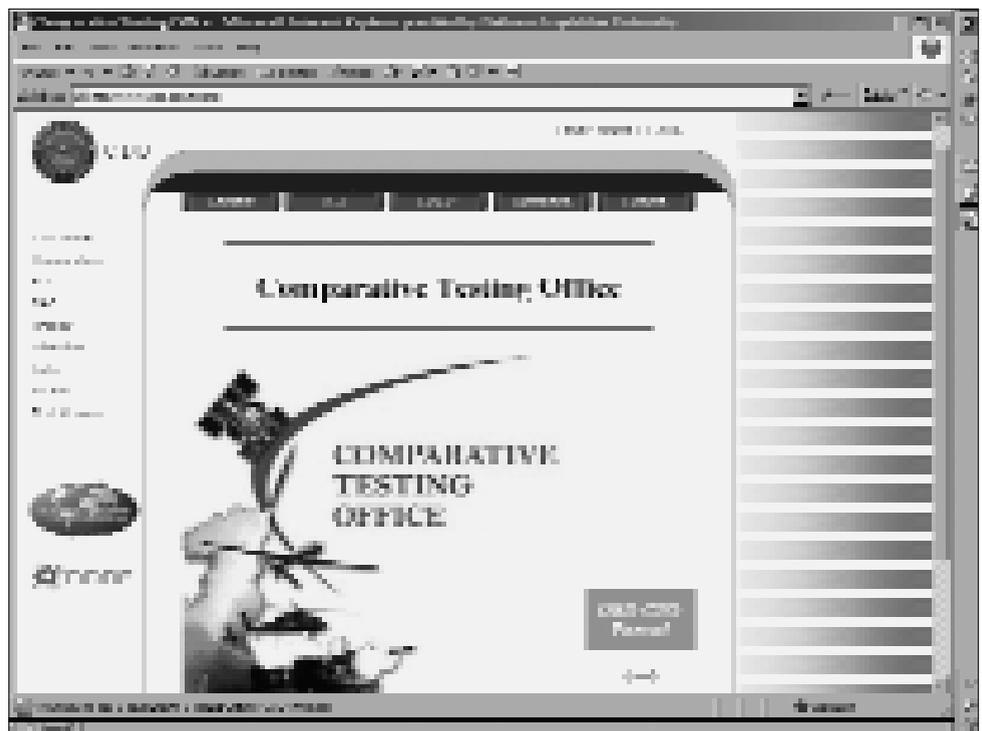
ment potential, the FCT program fields world-class systems and equipment not otherwise available.

At the same time, by promoting competition and eliminating unnecessary research, development, test, and evaluation expenses, the FCT program reduces total ownership costs of military systems while enhancing standardization and interoperability with coalition allies, promoting international cooperation, and frequently serving as a catalyst for domestic industry partnering and U.S. industry overseas.

Each year, the military services and U.S. Special Operations Command nominate candidate projects for FCT funding consideration. Each proposed project is screened to ensure the fully mature technology addresses valid requirements, to confirm a thorough market survey was conducted to identify all potential contenders, and to verify the U.S. military sponsor has developed a viable acquisition strategy to procure the foreign item if it tests successfully and offers best value.

Of the 18 new start projects, four are sponsored by the Army, four by the Navy, five by the Marine Corps, and five by the U.S. Special Operations Command.

Additional information is available on the FCT Web site: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/cto/>.





GAO REPORTS

The following Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports may be downloaded from the GAO Web site at <http://www.gao.gov>.

Financial Management

- 21st Century Challenges: Reexamining the Base of the Federal Government, GAO-05-352T, Feb. 16, 2005
- Financial Management: Effective Internal Control Is Key to Accountability, GAO-05-321T, Feb. 16, 2005
- Loan Commitments: Issues Related to Pricing, Trading, and Accounting, GAO-05-131, Feb. 14, 2005
- Fiscal Year 2004 U.S. Government Financial Statements: Sustained Improvement in Federal Financial Management Is Crucial to Addressing Our Nation's Future Fiscal Challenges, GAO-05-284T, Feb. 9, 2005
- Long-Term Fiscal Issues: Increasing Transparency and Reexamining the Base of the Federal Budget, GAO-05-317T, Feb. 8, 2005
- Core Financial System Requirements: Checklist for Reviewing Systems under the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act, GAO-05-225G, Feb. 1, 2005
- Capital Financing: Partnerships and Energy Savings Performance Contracts Raise Budgeting and Monitoring Concerns, GAO-05-55, Dec. 16, 2004

Government Operations

- National Nuclear Security Administration: Contractors' Strategies to Recruit and Retain a Critically Skilled Workforce Are Generally Effective, GAO-05-164, Feb. 2, 2005

Information Management

- Office of Personnel Management: Retirement Systems Modernization Program Faces Numerous Challenges, GAO-05-237, Feb. 28, 2005

International Affairs

- Federal Procurement: International Agreements Result in Waivers of Some U.S. Domestic Source Restrictions, GAO-05-188, Jan. 26, 2005

National Defense

- Contract Management: The Air Force Should Improve How It Purchases AWACS Spare Parts, GAO-05-169, Feb. 15, 2005
- DoD Systems Modernization: Management of Integrated Military Human Capital Program Needs Additional Improvements, GAO-05-189, Feb. 11, 2005
- Military Personnel: DoD Needs to Conduct a Data-Driven Analysis of Active Military Personnel Levels Required to Implement the Defense Strategy, GAO-05-200, Feb. 1, 2005
- Military Base Closures: Updated Status of Prior Base Realignments and Closures, GAO-05-138, Jan. 13, 2005
- Defense Inventory: DoD and Prime Contractors Adhered to Requirements in Selected Contracts for Overseeing Spare Parts Quality, GAO-05-73, Dec. 20, 2004
- Defense Transformation: Clear Leadership, Accountability, and Management Tools Are Needed to Enhance DoD's Efforts to Transform Military Capabilities, GAO-05-70, Dec. 17, 2004

Science, Space, and Technology

- Technology Development: New DoD Space Science and Technology Strategy Provides Basis for Optimizing Investments, but Future Versions Need to Be More Robust, GAO-05-155, Jan. 28, 2005

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In the News

| DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BUDGET FOR FY 2006 Released February 2005 Program Acquisition Costs by Weapon System (Dollars in Millions) | | FY2004 | FY2005 | FY2006 |
|---|--|---------|---------|---------|
| Aircraft | | | | |
| Army | | | | |
| AH-64D | Apache | 826.5 | 687.3 | 793.6 |
| CH-47 | Chinook | 524.4 | 869.8 | 695.7 |
| UH-60 | Blackhawk | 441.5 | 639.8 | 733.1 |
| ACS | Aerial Common Sensor | 102.8 | 145.8 | 298.2 |
| Navy | | | | |
| E-2C | Hawkeye | 554.1 | 837.6 | 878.7 |
| EA-6B | Prowler | 271.1 | 149.8 | 153.6 |
| F/A-18E/F | Hornet | 3,208.0 | 3,107.0 | 2,911.0 |
| H-1 | USMC H-1 Upgrades | 407.0 | 371.9 | 349.5 |
| MH-60R | Helicopter | 409.2 | 444.6 | 602.6 |
| MH-60S | Helicopter | 461.5 | 480.4 | 629.9 |
| T-45TS | Goshawk | 339.2 | 304.8 | 239.2 |
| Air Force | | | | |
| B-2 | Stealth Bomber | 291.5 | 365.0 | 344.3 |
| C-17 | Airlift Aircraft | 3,670.3 | 4,258.5 | 3,662.9 |
| F-15E | Eagle Multi-Mission Fighter | 308.5 | 447.4 | 276.1 |
| F-16 | Falcon Multi-Mission Fighter | 392.6 | 453.2 | 536.7 |
| F-22 | Raptor | 5,071.5 | 4,682.4 | 4,297.2 |
| DoD Wide/Joint | | | | |
| C-130J | Airlift Aircraft | 862.1 | 1,595.2 | 1,623.1 |
| JPATS | Joint Primary Aircraft Training System | 295.3 | 119.4 | 235.7 |
| JSF | Joint Strike Fighter | 4,102.9 | 4,326.5 | 5,020.2 |
| UAV | Unmanned Aerial Vehicles | 1,307.0 | 1,870.7 | 1,511.8 |
| V-22 | Osprey | 1,624.7 | 1,697.8 | 1,779.5 |
| Missiles | | | | |
| Army | | | | |
| HIMARS | High Mobility Artillery Rocket System | 311.6 | 385.9 | 414.0 |
| JAVELIN | AAWS-M | 133.9 | 118.2 | 57.6 |
| Munitions | | | | |
| Navy | | | | |
| ESSM | Evolved Seasparrow Missile | 101.3 | 80.0 | 99.8 |
| RAM | Rolling Airframe Missile | 47.6 | 47.2 | 86.9 |
| STANDARD | Missile (Air Defense) | 219.9 | 260.3 | 291.3 |
| TOMAHAWK | Cruise Missile | 426.8 | 310.6 | 373.7 |
| TRIDENT II | Sub Launched Ballistic Missile | 699.4 | 805.8 | 1,022.7 |
| Air Force | | | | |
| SFW | Sensor Fuzed Weapon | 117.0 | 116.6 | 120.4 |
| WCMD | Wind Corrected Munitions | 88.6 | 86.2 | 21.7 |
| DoD-Wide/Joint | | | | |
| AIM-9X | Sidewinder | 80.6 | 93.2 | 107.8 |
| AMRAAM | Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile | 175.0 | 177.7 | 239.1 |
| JASSM | Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile | 145.8 | 211.7 | 217.2 |
| JDAM | Joint Direct Attack Munition | 726.8 | 665.4 | 305.9 |
| JSOW | Joint Standoff Weapon | 198.4 | 153.8 | 158.9 |
| SDB | Small Diameter Bomb | 118.8 | 114.7 | 155.1 |



In the News

| DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BUDGET FOR FY 2006 Released February 2005 Program Acquisition Costs by Weapon System (Dollars in Millions...continued) | | FY2004 | FY2005 | FY2006 |
|---|---|---------|---------|---------|
| Vessels | | | | |
| Navy | | | | |
| CVN-77 | Carrier Replacement Program | 1,468.9 | 975.3 | 872.9 |
| DD(X) | DD(X) Destroyer | 1,015.0 | 1,468.2 | 1,800.7 |
| DDG-51 | AEGIS Destroyer | 3,268.9 | 3,559.3 | 225.4 |
| LCS | Littoral Combat Ship | 158.3 | 452.6 | 613.2 |
| LPD-17 | San Antonio Class Amphibious Transport Ship | 1,584.4 | 1,236.3 | 1,356.1 |
| NSSN | Virginia Class Submarine | 2,832.4 | 2,691.6 | 2,557.3 |
| RCOH | CVN Refueling Complex Overhaul | 214.4 | 331.7 | 1,513.6 |
| SSGN | SSGN Conversions | 1,223.2 | 534.9 | 310.5 |
| T-AKE | Auxiliary Dry Cargo Ship | 621.4 | 768.4 | 380.1 |
| Combat Vehicles | | | | |
| Army | | | | |
| FCS | Future Combat System | 1,624.5 | 2,800.7 | 3,404.8 |
| | Abrams Tank Upgrade | 329.0 | 441.5 | 495.8 |
| IAV | Interim Armored Vehicle (Stryker) | 1,020.3 | 1,573.9 | 905.1 |
| Space Programs | | | | |
| Army | | | | |
| DSCS | Ground Systems | 104.9 | 110.5 | 66.5 |
| Navy | | | | |
| MUOS | Mobile USER Objective System | 84.4 | 389.4 | 470.0 |
| Air Force | | | | |
| AEHF | Advanced Extremely High Frequency Satellite | 775.8 | 685.0 | 1,194.3 |
| DSP | Defense Support Program | 108.5 | 105.5 | 42.7 |
| EELV | Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle | 632.3 | 533.2 | 864.4 |
| MLV | Medium Launch Vehicles | 90.4 | 82.1 | 111.2 |
| NAVSTAR GPS | NAVSTAR Global Positioning System | 487.2 | 616.8 | 719.6 |
| SBIRS-H | Space Based Infrared Systems-High | 621.8 | 594.2 | 756.6 |
| TSAT | Transformational Satellite Communications | 325.1 | 467.2 | 835.8 |
| SBR | Space Based Radar | 165.0 | 73.8 | 225.8 |
| WGS | Wideband Gapfiller Satellite | 57.4 | 109.6 | 166.4 |
| Other Programs | | | | |
| Army | | | | |
| FHTV | Family of Heavy Tactical Vehicles | 235.1 | 227.2 | 210.5 |
| FMTV | Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles | 324.9 | 593.6 | 449.6 |
| HMMWV | High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles | 1,338.4 | 432.9 | 224.2 |
| DoD-Wide/Joint | | | | |
| MD | Missile Defense | 9,066.9 | 9,900.3 | 8,844.6 |