Air Force Engagement in Expeditionary Warfare

Brig Gen Kevin Henabray
Mobilization Assistant to AF/A8X
(AF Strategic Planning)
Air Force Engagement in Expeditionary Warfare

- In today’s world...
  - Things We Need to Do
  - Places We Need to Be

- The Air Expeditionary Force (AEF)
  - Transformation within DOD
  - Transforming the Air Force
  - How the AEF works

- Enhancing Joint Warfighting – The Air Force Portfolio of Capabilities for Expeditionary Warfare
  - Global Strike
  - Global Mobility
  - Persistent C4ISR
  - Agile Combat Support
What We Need to Do –
Plenty of Strategic Guidance . . .

Force Planning Construct

Integrity - Service - Excellence
Strategic Guidance Directs Transformation

- Fight and win “the long war”
- Remain a military without peer
- Meet traditional, irregular, catastrophic, and disruptive threats
- Recapitalize and modernize
- Become a smaller, more capable force
- Reduce excess infrastructure

“We’re fighting a global war, a real global war. We’re focusing on developing more expeditionary notions of Airmen and more expeditionary notions of presentation of forces.”
- CSAF, General T. Michael Moseley
Meeting the Requirements

COCOMs’ Requirements to “Fight Tonight”

OSD / COCOM Guidance QDR, IPL’s, GWOT, New Missions

OSD’s Requirements for Long-Term Transformation

MISSION AREAS
Global Strike
Global Mobility
Persistent C4ISR
Agile Combat Support

Modernization and Recap
Infrastructure
Readiness
People

RESOURCES
Integrity - Service - Excellence
The Threat Requires an Expeditionary Force

- The Cold War military was not structured to face the new range of irregular, catastrophic, and asymmetric threats
  - Long War on Terrorism
  - Counterinsurgencies
  - Stability operations
  - Diminished protection of geographic distance
  - Proliferation of WMD
  - Unpredictability of conflict locations
  - Reduced access and need for garrison bases
  - Urban operations

- The joint force must effectively conduct operations across the entire spectrum of conflict – no more “lesser included cases”
The Air Force “Warfighters” Vision

- Mission Statement
  - Deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests – to fly and fight in Air, Space, and Cyberspace

- Priorities
  - Maintain a razor-sharp focus on fighting the Global War on Terror
  - Continue developing our Airmen
  - Recapitalize and modernize our inventory

Integrity - Service - Excellence
Where We Were – The Cold War Garrison Force

Focused on Containment

Large Force Structure

Forward Basing

Robust Infrastructure

Integrity - Service - Excellence
Where We Are Today...
An Engaged, Expeditionary Force

Focus is on Engagement
2/3 Fewer Overseas Bases
1/3 Fewer People
4 Times More Deployments

Integrity - Service - Excellence
Where We Might Be Tomorrow. . .
“The Arc of Instability”

In Today’s world . . .
- Things We Need to Do
- Places We Need to Be

The Air Expeditionary Force (AEF)
- Transformation within DOD
- Transforming the Air Force
- How the AEF works

Enhancing Joint Warfighting – Air Force Portfolio of Capabilities for Expeditionary Warfare
- Global Strike
- Global Mobility
- Persistent C4ISR
- Agile Combat Support


Enhancing Joint Warfighting – Interdependence Requires a Portfolio Approach to Capabilities

- Stovepipes within stovepipes
- Separate theaters

- De-confliction
- Separate operating areas

- Vertical & horizontal integration
- Indispensable capabilities

1940s 1970s Today Future

Effectiveness

Independent

Interoperable

Interdependent
Air Force
Transformation into an Expeditionary Force

1998: Air & Space Expeditionary Force (AEF) concept unveiled

TODAY: Total Force Integration And Warfighting HQs

“Tactical” and “Strategic” define effects, not platforms

1992 Functional Organization Shift
1998 Expeditionary Structure Shift

Integrity - Service - Excellence
Enhancing Joint Warfighting – Organize Around Warfighting Headquarters

- Mission: Plan, command, control and execute air, space and information capabilities across full range of military operations
- Provide Operational-level C2 Supporting geographic and functional CC’s

- A-Staff re-organization
- Capability to immediately transition from Day-to-day to major operations
- In-place COMAFFOR of assigned or attached forces
The Combat Wing Transformation

**Integrity - Service - Excellence**

We size the force in Wings to meet warfighting requirements.

*Combat Wings include all combat-coded aircraft, space/missile assets, Battlefield Airmen, and Air Operations Centers*
Force Presentation

**Unit of Action**
- **Navy**
  - 313 Ships
- **Army**
  - 70 Brigade Combat Teams
- **Marines**
  - 9 Regimental Combat Teams + 11 Marine Aviation Groups
- **Air Force**
  - 86 Combat Wings

**Force Presentation**
- 12 Carrier Strike Groups (~6-8 ships per)
- 18 Divisions (~4 Brigade Combat Teams per)
- 3 Marine Expeditionary Forces
- 10 Air Expeditionary Forces (~6 Combat Wings per)

We schedule and present in AEFs

*Integrity - Service - Excellence*
The Air Expeditionary Force

- Provides predictability and stability to our Airmen during normal battle rhythm … with a planned and orderly transition to surge using an equitable, consistent and methodical approach, transparent to all commanders.

- Stresses in certain career fields (LD/HD) will make their battle rhythm less predictable (i.e. extended tour lengths, more frequent deployment rotations, etc).

- The AEF Cycle is based on forces aligned in five “pairs”:
  - Each “pair” equates to a four-month deployment window
  - Five AEF “pairs” make up one 20-month AEF “cycle”

- The AEF is the Air Force’s system for presenting forces to COCOM’s
How the AEF Works

A “Typical” AEF

- 2-3 Combat Wings (Shooters)
- 2 Mobility Wings (Tankers/Airlift)
- 1-2 Mobility Squadrons (C-130)
- 1-2 Recon Squadrons
- 1 Bomber Squadron
- 3-4 Austere Locations
- AF Special Ops Base

AEF Deployment Timeline

20 Months
“Every Airman Deployable”

Rotational, Expeditionary, Responsive

1990

- Non-Deployable 85%
- Deployable 15%

Total: 737,000

- Cold War-centric
- Garrison-based
- Permanent forward presence

2006

- Deployable 85%
- Non-Deployable 15%

Total: 543,000

- Post-Cold War, GWOT
- Expeditionary-based
- Modular, flexible deployments

Air and Space Expeditionary Forces

4 month rotation every 20 months

Increased, persistent need for air and space forces

Fewer permanent overseas bases
Air Force Engagement in Expeditionary Warfare

- In Today’s World . . .
  - Things We Need to Do
  - Places We Need to Be

- The Air Expeditionary Force (AEF)
  - Transformation within DOD
  - Transforming the Air Force
  - How the AEF works

- Enhancing Joint Warfighting – The Air Force Portfolio of Capabilities for Expeditionary Warfare
  - Global Strike
  - Global Mobility
  - Persistent C4ISR
  - Agile Combat Support
Global Strike – Ensure continuous 5th Generation fighter industrial base, and develop next generation LRS capability (increased range, payload, with rapid response)

- **F-22A**: Air dominance – integrated avionics & sensors, advanced stealth, and super cruise insure a lethal, survivable, and unrivaled A/A capability

- **F-35**: Precision strike – multi-role stealth fighter meeting the future needs of the AF, Navy, USMC, and our Coalition Allies

- **Long Range Strike**: Modernize the legacy fleet (B-1, B-2, & B-52) & field a next generation bomber capability by 2018 (enhanced speed, range, payload, connectivity, & survivability)
Enhancing Joint Warfare –
Global Strike (CAS)

- A-10C – Upgrade the A-10 to “precision engagement” configuration – new cockpit avionics/flight controls and the ability to drop any bomb in Air Force inventory will enhance the CAS kill chain in irregular operations.

- Gunship: Increase AC-130 fire control accuracy, improved multi-spectral sensor for enhanced target ID, and ROVER feeds (from Predator/Warrior); begin study for next generation gunship
Enhancing Joint Warfare –
Global Strike (Special Ops)

- Special Ops – CV-22 acquisition (50 aircraft) will provide a revolutionary capability to our special ops forces.

- CSAR-X: 141 CSAR-X to replace HH-60G. Combat Search And Rescue is a core AF competency that must be recapitalized — leave no one behind on the battlefield.
Enhancing Joint Fires and Effects

- Increasing terminal attack controllers by 1,000 and adding 120 Combat Aviation Advisors
- Joint Fires Integration and Interoperability team started at Eglin in Feb 2005 (JFCOM)
- Equipping Theater Airborne Reconnaissance System (TARS) with SAR for all weather, night, and real-time CAS
- Activating AFSOC Predator sqdn
- Small Diameter Bomb (SDB) fielded & deployed in combat operations this month

Close Air Support is a key Air Force capability for expeditionary operations

Integrity - Service - Excellence
Global Mobility – We have an urgent need to replace 45-year old tankers, modernize legacy airlift aircraft, and procure a Joint Cargo Aircraft (JCA)

- **KC-X**: AF must start recapitalizing aging tanker fleet now, and most cost-effective option is a fleet of new, medium-to-large commercial derivative tankers
- **JCA**: AF is DoD’s airlift provider, and JCA will provide a niche capability to support joint warfighters at home and in the field
- **C-17**: A modernized C-5 fleet combined with a 190 aircraft C-17 fleet enables the Air Force to manage risk effectively now and in the future (defined by the QDR-validated Mobility Capabilities Study)
Global Mobility
Keeping Expeditionary Operations Sustained

From Ramstein AB, Germany, direct delivery of over 2M HDRs

Deployment of two MEUs to Camp Rhino

Resupply of Northern Alliance

5,500 tanker sorties, supported 80% of USN tanking requirements

Diego Garcia:
- 5,000 miles round trip
- 1,500 miles round trip

CVBGs:
- 3,000 miles to Ramstein AB

USAF Mobility Assets are critical to deployment & sustainment in anti-access environments

I n t e g r i t y  -  S e r v i c e  -  E x c e l l e n c e
Flying and Fighting in Cyberspace

- Persistent C4ISR – Expand global ISR capabilities in air and space, and increase our focus on Cyberspace
  - Space situational awareness: Keystone to dominance of space, and we will provide transformational space surveillance and modernized legacy capabilities
  - MQ-1/RQ-4: To meet joint warfighting requirements, fulfill QDR commitment to 21 MQ-1 orbits and TFI commitment to 5 ANG MQ-1 units, and ensure seamless transition from U-2 to RQ-4
  - DCGS: Expanded weapon system capabilities and integrated Total Force with two new ANG sites and ARC manpower
  - AEHF / WGS / TSAT: Recapitalized MILSATCOM fleet to deliver more bandwidth to the joint warfighters
  - Objective Gateway: Funded airborne data relay platform to allow robust netcentric operations to support the joint warfighters
Expeditionary Reachback
...Moving Data…Not People

- OEF and OIF clearly demonstrated the practical application and advances the Air Force has made in “reachback” using systems like Predator and Global Hawk coupled with advances in C4ISR
  - Stateside AF units sent over 30,000 reports and identified over 1,000 targets for forward deployed units
  - Instead of deploying 2,000 airmen, only 90 were needed to move forward
  - The Air Force saved between $6-15 million dollars by not deploying two intelligence ground stations and eliminated 34 C-5 airlift missions
  - Reachback also reduced the kill chain timeline in OIF to minutes
- Future conflicts will feature on demand space sensors, shared battlefield picture via UAVs, & persistent near-space surveillance

Persistent C4ISR uses “Reachback” to Support Forward Presence
Agile Combat Support

- Agile Combat Support – Become more efficient and effective to free up resources to support COCOM warfighting needs and transformation
  - Manpower/Contractor Redux: We must resize and reshape the force to live within allotted resources while meeting our obligations as an integral part of the interdependent, joint force
    - Remaining focused on supporting joint warfighters and OPLANS
  - Operational Risk: Assumed additional operational risk to balance GWOT with recapitalization and modernization requirements
    - Reduced flying hours, DPEM, MILPERS, & infrastructure
  - Infrastructure: Funded critical new mission requirements while limiting investment in Cold War infrastructure
The Air Force plans for rotating/basing bombers, fighters, Global Hawks, and KC-135s at Anderson AFB
- 554th Red Horse Sqdn began move (Korea to Guam) last week
- 36th WG Contingency Response Group
  - Mobility Response Squadron
  - Security Forces Squadron
  - Medical Squadron
  - Intelligence Division
  - Logistics Planning Division
  - Combat Support Trng Squadron

Starting in 2008, the III MEF HQ and 8,000 marines move to Guam
USN wants ability to service CVNs and will add SSGNs to Guam basing
This summer, the Valiant Shield exercise at Guam involved 30 warships, 280 aircraft, and 22,000 personnel
Agile Combat Support and Guam Joint Basing play a vital role in our Pacific Strategy
Summary
The Air Force in Expeditionary Operations

- U.S. national security and defense strategy stresses the need for the U.S. military to be expeditionary
- The USAF has been expeditionary since the end of the Cold War
- AEFs are the Air Force’s way to organize and present its forces to the COCOMs
- The Air Force is a part of the joint, interdependent warfighting team with distinctive capabilities in:
  - **Global Strike** – The ability to provide Strategic Attack, Interdiction, or immediate CAS to those fighting the enemy “danger close”
  - **Global Mobility** – Getting forces to the fight and supplying our main operating bases and forward operating locations
  - **Persistent C4ISR** – Provide an “unblinking eye” from the national command authority down to the soldier on point
  - **Agile Combat Support** – Providing responsive support to the expeditionary warfighter
Today’s Air Force is Fighting an Expeditionary War…”

- General Moseley, CSAF
The Interdependent Fight
Questions?