Air Force Recapitalization and Reset

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"GWOT missions are only the latest in a string of 16 consecutive years of combat in the CENTCOM AOR" -- CSAF, 18 Jan 07
Aircraft Readiness

- Today’s operational environment is demanding
  - AF flying an average 2.3M FH/Yr since DESERT STORM (FY91 → FY06)

- AF fleet…smaller, older and more costly to operate

- Since DESERT STORM (FY91 → FY06)…
  - Total aircraft inventory down 29%…8,494 → 6,018 aircraft
  - Aircraft average age increased 42%…16.9 → 24.0 years
  - OPCODEF increased 38% (FY96-FY06)…$11,639/hr → $16,037/hr
  - MMH/FH increased 50%…9.4 hrs → 14.1 hrs
  - MTBMA deteriorated 43%…40.2 min → 22.8 min
  - MRRB planned depot work up 41%…350K hours → 594K hours
  - Depot O&A up 47%… 29K hours → 56K hours

We’ve maintained the same OPSTEMPO for 16 years…while absorbing a 29% reduction in inventory

Source: AFTOC, AFKS/REMIS
Integrated strategy of divestiture, selective Service Life Extension Programs, mods and procurement

- Divestiture – retire restricted/expensive old systems
  - C-130E, KC-135E, F-117, B-52

- SLEP – bridges gap to next generation of aircraft
  - A-10, F-16, C-130H

- Modifications – improving combat capability
  - F-16 CCIP, C-5 RERP/AMP, A-10 PE

We will progressively shed our oldest, most costly and least capable legacy aircraft, while reinvesting in a smaller, more capable expeditionary force.
Recapitalization
Procurement Priorities

- KC-X Tanker
  - KC-135 celebrated its 50th birthday, average age 46 years
- CSAR-X Helicopter
  - High OPSTEMPO of HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters is rapidly using up service life – average age 16+ years
- F-35A Joint Strike Fighter
  - Fighter force oldest it’s ever been – average 18+ years
- Next Generation Long Range Strike
  - Average age of bomber force exceeds 30 years

Strengthening America’s advantages in Global Vigilance, Reach and Power for years to come
Support Equipment Reconstitution

- OSD supported $60M to fund critical vehicles deployed to AOR, ie. Tactical, Fire/Rescue, Ambulance Buses
  - Since OEF (2001), 29% of vehicles salvaged and replaced during GWOT
    - AF average replacement rate for same period is 15%
    - 12-year life expectancy of UA-HMMWV reduced to 6 years
    - 11 UA-HMMWV lost due to battle damage

- OSD earmarked $114M for Support Equipment
  - Funds essential Aircraft and Fuels Support Equipment, 463L pallets, and IED defeat assets

- Full funding of FY07 supplemental allows AF to reconstitute/reset equipment and vehicles, and maintains sortie generation capability
  - Service life of vehicles and equipment are being reduced due to the harsh environment of the SWA AOR

Air Force logistics equipment requires reset and replacement