Challenges for the Long War

Maj Gen Donald Wurster
Vice Commander
America’s **Specialized Airpower**

Air Component to Special Operations
AFSOC Weapons Systems Overview

- **MC-130E**: 43
- **MC-130W**: 20*
- **U-28A**: New
- **MC-130P**: 39
- **MC-130H**: 19
- **CV-22**: Awaiting IOC
- **AC-130H**: 38*
- **AC-130U**: 17
- **MQ-1A**: To be delivered
- **MH-53M/J**: 37
- **EC-130J**: 9
- **AF DCGS**: Awaiting IOC
Gunship Operations
Weapon Systems

AC-130H/U
Precision requires Training

“You can run...but you’ll only die tired”
Precision Fire Support
Way Ahead

Near Term Upgrades:
- 30mm replacing 25mm & 40mm
- Replace ALLTV with GMS2
- Improve UAV collaboration

Change in Paradigm
- Variable effects (non-lethal to lethal)
- Higher threat areas
- Multiple, simultaneous targets
- All-weather, day/night
- Directed energy

NGG
Cooperate w/ ACC/AMC

25 AC-130H & U
Mobility – Infil / Exfil / Resupply

Weapon Systems

MC-130E/H/W
Fixed Wing Mobility
Way Ahead

- Increase Commonality
- Center Wing Box Issues
- MC-130W
- SOF Tanker Recap

Recapitalization Requirement
- 23 X MC-130P Replacements
- 14 X MC-130E Replacements
- 12 X SOF Tanker QDR Augments
- 12 X MC-130W Replacements
- 61 SOF Tankers
Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance

3rd SOS
Tactical ISR support of Special Operations Forces
Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance

11th Intelligence Squadron
SOF Dedicated
Distributed Ground System

“Specialized Intel for Special Operations”

Providing Near Real-Time Intelligence directly to Operators
Transformational Mobility

CV-22 Osprey
- Farther and faster in one period of darkness
- 1st CV-22 delivered to Hurlburt in Nov 06

8 SOS is 1st Operational CV-22 Sq
Theater Mobility

Weapon Systems

319th SOS
Tactical in-theater support of Special Operations Forces
Battlefield Airmen Overview

Family of Airmen
- Combat Controllers
- Combat Weathermen
- Pararescuemen

• Enable Air Power
• Advanced Skills Training
• BAO Kit
Highly Trained Personnel
Why We Succeed

- Highly skilled, mature operators
- Regional orientation, cultural sensitivity, language skills
- Creative and Adaptable
- Small, flexible, joint teams

“The nation that will insist on drawing a broad line of demarcation between the fighting man and the thinking man is liable to have its fighting done by fools and its thinking done by cowards.”
Sir William Francis Butler
Aviation Foreign Internal Defense

Overview

6 SOS
Assess
Train
Advise
Assist
Integrate
Our Special Operations Forces are the worst nightmare of America's worst enemies...

President George Bush, June 2004
A Bad Day to be a Terrorist…
AFSOC Transformed

“…Our Special Ops, The Worst Nightmare of America’s Worst Enemies” President Bush