Marine Corps
Service Perspective

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“The Marine Corps is America’s Expeditionary Force in Readiness – a balanced air-ground-logistics team. We are forward deployed and forward engaged: shaping, training, deterring and responding to all manner of crises and contingencies. We create options and decision space for our Nation’s leaders. Alert and ready, we respond to today’s crisis with today’s force.....TODAY.”

– Gen James F. Amos, Commandant of the Marine Corps

175K MARINE CORPS FORCE STRUCTURE
BACKGROUND

- The Marine Corps’ optimal size to meet the requirements of the President’s National Security Strategy, as identified by the 2010 Force Structure Review, is 186.8K. The Marine Corps began to build this force for a post-Afghanistan environment, transitioning from its wartime high of 202K.
- The Budget Control Act of 2011 rendered that force size unaffordable. We then designed a 182.1K force, to be reached by 2016, that would still meet the National Security Strategy (NSS) requirements with a smaller force, cut across all aspects of the Marine Air Ground Task Force.
- Concerned with the likelihood of future sequestration budgets beyond 2013, the Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC) initiated a study in February to identify the future Marine Corps force structure that would best meet the NSS requirements, at a high rate of readiness, within the confines of those future budgetary constraints.
- Directed by the CMC’s guidance to design a Marine Corps that maintains its crisis-response capability and forward presence, a 175K force emerged as the best we could do in addressing the operational requirements of steady state deployments, crisis response activities, and potential major combat operations while preserving institutional health and readiness.
- At this size, the Marine Corps leverages its crisis response capability, which is crucial for the current and future threat environments, through lighter, agile, forward-deployed forces. We accept significant risk, however, in our ability to carry out major combat operations and sustain them with a smaller force.
175K MARINE CORPS FORCE STRUCTURE (Cont’d)
MESSAGES

- **A Marine Corps of 186.8K remains the optimal force level to meet the requirements of the President’s National Security Strategy.**
  - A Marine Corps of 175K is the lowest level that can remain America’s crisis response force capable of meeting the requirements of our Nation’s strategy. This force provides a minimum acceptable level of readiness, yet maintains a forward presence as a part of the Navy-Marine Corps team.
  - Decreased funding also reduces our ability to conduct equipment modernization and infrastructure sustainment. Over time, ageing equipment also puts at risk our ability to effectively respond to tomorrow’s threats.

- **A 175K Marine Corps is the best we could do to balance the operational requirements of steady-state deployments with our institutional health and readiness in the current fiscal environment.**
  - Sequestration undeniably affects our individual Marines and every aspect of our Corps.
  - Marines on the forward edge of our Nation’s security will remain the Corps’ number one priority and will continue to receive the full support they need.

Despite an uncertain fiscal environment, the Marine Corps is prepared to adjust our planning by maintaining our priority: near-term unit readiness to support deployed and next-to-deploy forces.

We will also preserve capability and capacity to meet the demands of combatant commands.

Following that, we will support Fiscal Year 14 operations and exercises, with potential reduced participation levels for some exercises. We will be forced to reduce capacity to support near-term unit readiness for non-deployed crisis response and Fiscal Year 15 next-to-deploy units.

Additionally, there will be reduced investment in infrastructure sustainment and we will shift funds from equipment modernization to protect current readiness.
### Proponent: USMC/MARCORSYSCOM/PM Ammunition

### Background/Purpose/Objective:
Very lightweight polymer material replaces most of the brass case, allowing reduction of weight of conventional brass cased ammunition by ~20%.

- Interoperable with current weapons & logistics sustainment.

### Operational benefits of lightweight ammunition will vary by platform and mission.
- Ground: Increase lethality; more ammo
- Air: More weight sensitive than ground. Increased range

### Accomplishments/Status:
- **Fully Funded**
  - Upon successful qualification of the MK323 – funds from legacy caliber .50 ammunition will be realigned to support Full Rate Production

- **USMC Test and Evaluation:** Initiated Sept 2013 – Ongoing
  - Successful Stakeholder Demo at Fort Bragg: Dec 2013
    - Over 4,000 rounds fired - 1 malfunction (operator induced)
    - Successfully fired from GAU-19 Gatling .50 Cal and the GAU-21 (M3M)

- **Qualification of .50 Caliber PCT**
  - Final Qualification: 4th Qtr FY15
  - Initial Production: 4th Qtr FY16
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2013</th>
<th>FY 2014</th>
<th>FY 2015</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Small Arms</td>
<td>74,051</td>
<td>32,894</td>
<td>33,133</td>
<td>28,635</td>
<td>36,874</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linear Charge</td>
<td>34585</td>
<td>6088</td>
<td>5000</td>
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<td>200</td>
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<td>Fuzes</td>
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<td>27783</td>
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<td>Non-Lethal</td>
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Source PRESBUD14
• Artillery - Outyear procurement of Alternative Warhead round for Dual Purpose Improved Conventional Munitions (DPICM)

• Fuzes - Precision Guidance Kit (PGK)

• Rockets – Light Anti-Armor Weapon (LAW) and Shoulder-Launched Multipurpose Assault Weapon (SMAW)

• 120MM – Expeditionary Fire Support System (EFSS) and Multipurpose High Explosive (MPHE)
Retrograde, Redeployment and Reconstitution (R3) Ammunition Basic Framework

- **Requirement (based on Forces)**
  - NO
  - [Cross Level]
  - NO
  - [Serviceable]
    - YES
    - Kuwait
  - NO
    - [Disposal]

- **Consumption**
  - YES
  - Payback @ SYSCOM level

- **Theater Requirement**
  - NO
  - [Cross Level]
    - NO
    - [Serviceable]
      - NO
      - [Disposal]
      - YES
      - Ammunition Sustainment Vessels CONUS
      - Return to USMC Inventory
  - YES
    - Store

- **Serviceable Inventory**
  - CONUS
Questions?