Military Training Constraints and Encroachment Issues Overseas and Domestic

Briefing on Recent GAO Reports





Recent GAO Reports

- MILITARY TRAINING: Limitations Exist Overseas but Are Not Reflected in Readiness Reporting (GAO-02-525)
- MILITARY TRAINING: DOD Lacks a Comprehensive Plan To Manage Encroachment on Training Ranges (GAO-02-614)

Bottom Lines

 Military obviously faces numerous constraints on training both domestically and at most overseas facilities

• What's missing is (1) a clear link to readiness through GSORTS and other reporting systems, and (2) an overall DOD approach to dealing with training limitations

DOD's 8 Encroachment Issues

- Endangered Species
- Munitions
- Frequency spectrum
- Ocean resources

- Airspace
- Clean Air Act
- Noise
- Urban growth

Selected Examples - CONUS

- Camp Pendleton, CA
- Ft. Lewis and Yakima Training Center, WA
- Nellis AFB and Nevada Test and Training Range, NV
- Eglin AFB, FL
- Atlantic Fleet, Norfolk VA

Selected Examples -Overseas

- Ground Maneuver Restrictions
 - Germany, Italy, Korea, Okinawa
- Live Ordnance Restrictions
 - Italy, Korea
 - No laser-guided bombs in UK
 - Japan, Okinawa
 - Makua Range in Hawaii

Selected Examples -Overseas

- Airspace Restrictions
 - Germany, Italy, UK
 - Korea, Japan, Okinawa

Air Force Overseas Training Capabilities Assessment

| Capability | Ger | Italy | UK | Korea | Japan | Okina | Alaska |
|-------------------------|-----|-------|----|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Conventional | | | | | | | |
| Tactical | | | | | | | |
| Laser-guided bomb | | | | | | | |
| Chaff | | | | | | | |
| Flare | | | | | | | |
| Night Flying | | | | | | | |
| Low and Medium Altitude | | | | | | | |
| Heavy Weight | | | | | | | |
| Strafe | | | | | | | |
| Live Fire | | | | | | | |
| Scorable | | | | | | | |
| Electronic Warfare | | | | | | | |

Navy Pacific Training Capabilities Assessment

| | Capability | Japan | Okinawa | Hawaii |
|--------------|------------|-------|---------|--------|
| Anti-Air | Air | | | |
| | Surface | | | |
| Anti-Surface | Air | | | |
| | Surface | | | |
| | Submarine | | | |
| Undersea | Air | | | |
| | Surface | | | |
| | Submarine | | | |
| Mine | Air | | | |
| | Surface | | | |
| | Submarine | | | |
| Strike | Air | | | |
| | Surface | | | |
| | Submarine | | | |

Do These Constraints Mean Forces Are Not Well-Trained?

- Readiness reports rarely show training as a factor in degrading unit readiness
- Workarounds, deployments mitigate impact
- Tends to mask the effects of limitations and constraints
 - Less realism; hard to measure quality of training
 - Extra cost and strain on force
 - Proficiency vs. expertise

The Way Ahead – GAO's Recommendations

- Inventory and data base of training ranges, capacities, and capabilities
- Comprehensive plan for managing and coordinating efforts to address encroachment issues
- Reporting system for range sustainability issues, both overseas and CONUS
- Coordinated, overall strategy for addressing overseas issues
- House App. bill calls for Commission

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- www.gao.gov