



5th Annual Testing and Training Symposium & Exhibition:  
Partnering In National Defense at Home and Abroad

# **WARFIGHTER TRAINING ON MRTFB RANGES A SUCCESS STORY**

Presented by  
Ted Wheeler & Mark Rindler

Special Operations Maritime Training & Readiness

U.S. ARMY ABERDEEN TEST CENTER

U.S. Army Developmental Test Command

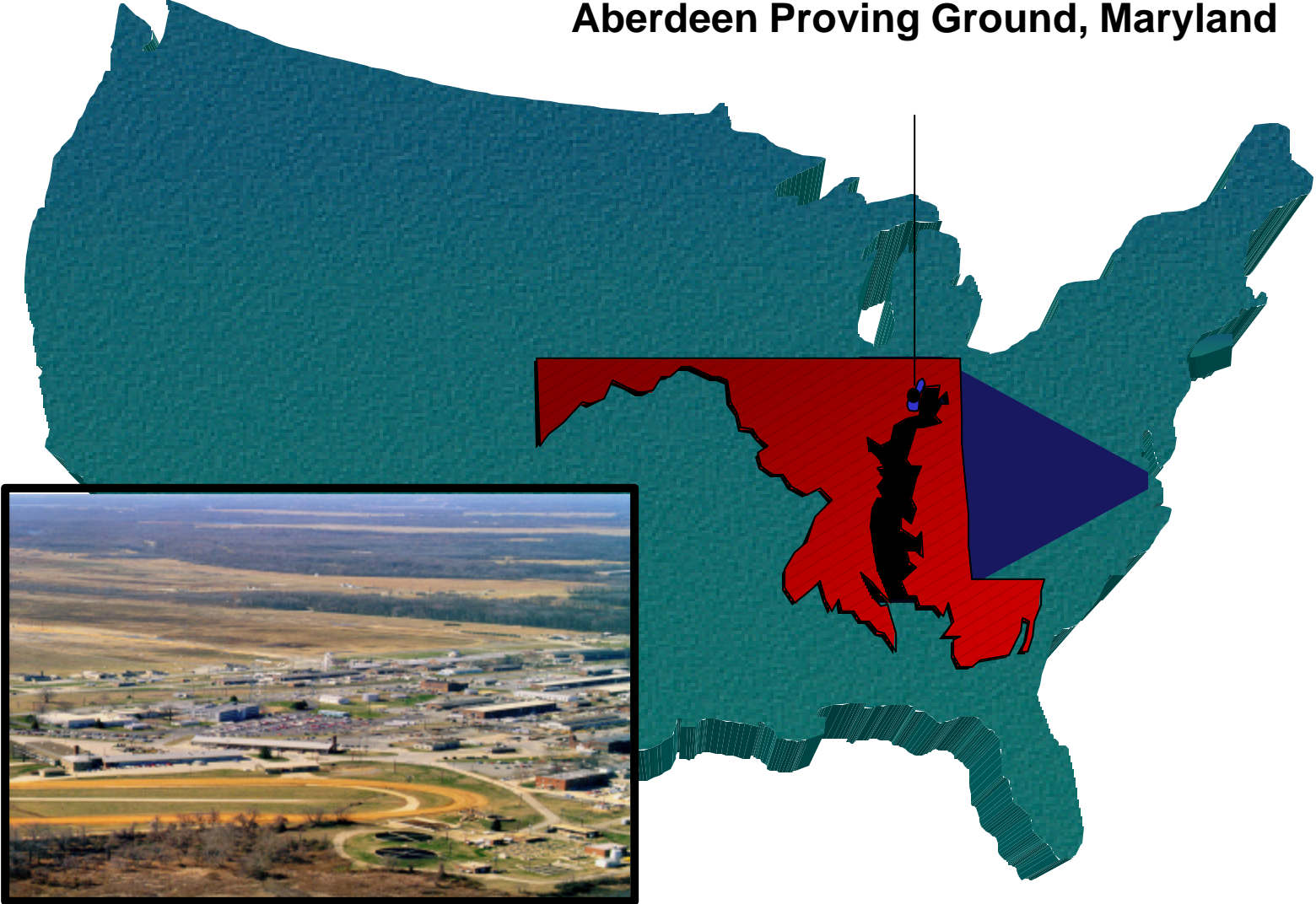
U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command



# WARFIGHTER TRAINING AT ATC

- Background on Aberdeen Test Center
- A New Initiative for Aberdeen Test Center
- Early Warfighter Training Efforts
- Current Warfighter Training Focus
- Lessons Learned

**US ARMY ABERDEEN TEST CENTER  
Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland**



# ATTRIBUTES

Open Air Ranges w/ Modular Instrumentation Suites

Traditional Laboratories w/ Advanced Tools

Controlled Airspace

Controlled Water Area

Domestic & Foreign Land / Sea-based Targets & Threats

Isolated / Secure / Hardened Surface & Sub-surface Opportunities

Temperate Zone

>52K Ground Acres

Water Depths 2-14'  
Up to 150' in Pond

103 Miles of Shoreline With 60 Miles Adjacent to Live Fire Ranges

C5 Airfield w/ Drop Zones

Real-Time MET





- Compliance**
- *Environment • Safety • Security*
- Systems Test & Training**
- *Auto • Wpns / Ammo • Live Fire*
  - *Life Cycle Assessment / Logistics*

- Technology Development**
- *Hardware / Software • Range Upgrades*
  - *Live, Constructed, Virtual*





# A NEW INITIATIVE

## Guidance From Above

"Training capabilities must be advertised and supported. Likewise, use of our facilities for field training or weapons firing must be supported to the fullest extent possible."



GEN JOHNNIE E. WILSON

July 1996

Commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command



# A NEW INITIATIVE

## CHESAPEAKE REGIONAL RANGES COOPERATIVE

Objective:  
To Provide Readiness and  
Training Support to the  
Warfighter through use of the  
Resources and Capabilities of  
the MRTFB & Training  
Facilities located within the  
Chesapeake Bay Region



# CHESAPEAKE REGIONAL RANGES COOPERATIVE

**C**hesapeake  
**R**egional  
**R**anges  
**C**ooperative

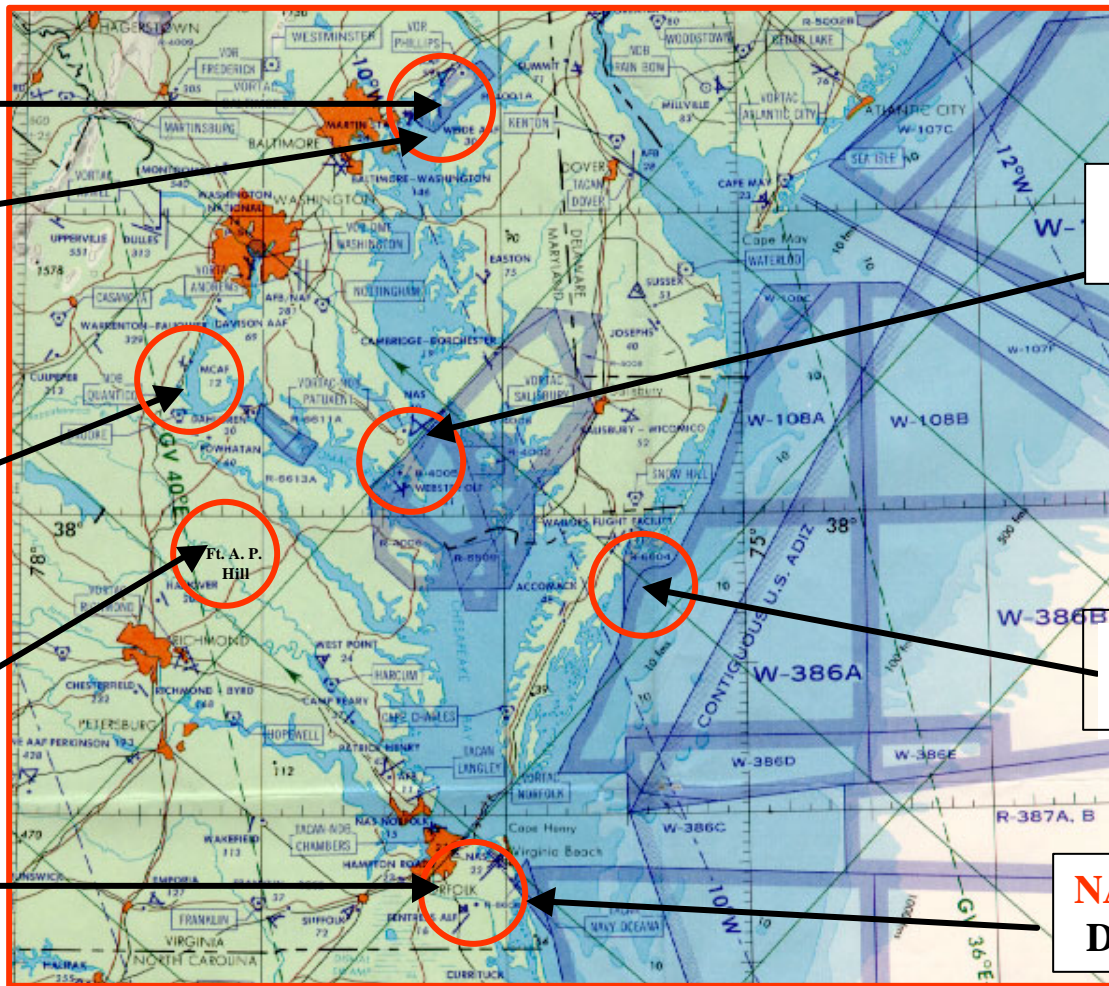
**Aberdeen Test Center**  
Aberdeen PG, MD

**Maryland National Guard**

**Joint Interoperability Test Center (JITC)**  
Indian Head, MD

**Fort A. P. Hill**  
Bowling Green, VA

**CINCLANTFLT**  
Norfolk, VA



**NAVAIR**  
Pax River, MD

**NASA Wallops**  
Wallops, VA

**NAVSEA CDSA**  
Dam Neck, VA





# A NEW INITIATIVE

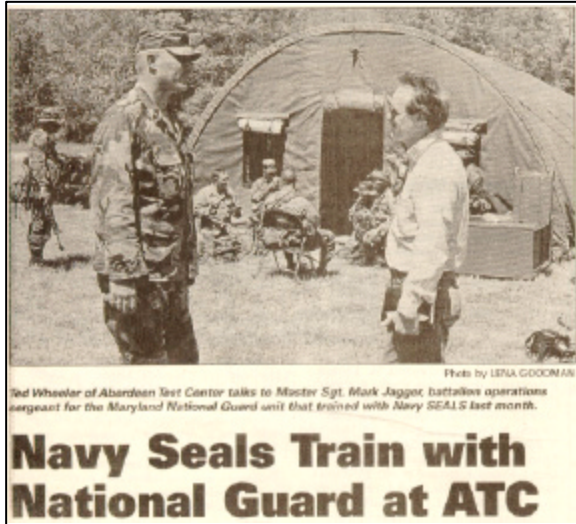
## The Challenge

- New Training Mission Must Not Adversely Impact on Existing Missions or Customers
- Warfighter Training Must Ultimately Be Cost Neutral
- Training Must be Meaningful to the Warfighter
- It Must Be Worth The Effort



# EARLY WARFIGHTER TRAINING EFFORTS

## JTFEX 97-3



U.S. Navy VC-6 Pioneer UAV  
DET trained at Phillips Army  
Airfield July 97 supporting  
SEAL TEAM mission at ATC





# EARLY WARFIGHTER TRAINING EFFORTS

## Exercise Blue Crab 99/00

- Joint Training Exercise, June 1999 & July 2000
  - Conducted at Aberdeen Test Center
    - Lauderick Creek Training Area
      - Combined Land, Sea, Air Task Force
        - Up to 1000 Personnel from 37 Active duty, Reserve & National Guard Units: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, & Coast Guard
- No Injuries or Mishaps  
Exceptional Training Value was Gained





# EARLY WARFIGHTER TRAINING EFFORTS

## Operation Charlie Rock 2000

- Dismounted ground maneuvers
- Live Firing Exercises of 60-MM mortars
- Javelin missile firing



- July 17-21- 82nd Airborne
- 114 personnel para-drop into Phillips AAF
- Airfield Seizure Exercise





# CURRENT WARFIGHTER TRAINING FOCUS

**Special Operations  
Maritime Training & Readiness**

**Joint Sea/Air/Land  
Mission Scenarios**

- Live Close Air Support
- HOT Extractions & Inserts
- Live-Fire Boat Unit Exercises
- Live-Fire Ground Assault



**A-10**



**AC-130 Gunship**



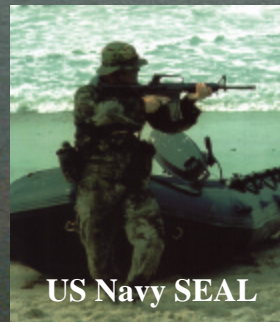
**AH-6 Little Bird**



**SH-60 Sea Hawk**



**Mark V Special Operations Craft**



**US Navy SEAL**



**Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB)**



# Special Operations Maritime Training & Readiness

## Military Units Participating in Current Joint Exercises

- SPECWARCOM Units - SBU 20 & 22, SEAL Teams 2, 4 & 8
- Air National Guard (A-10s) 103rd & 104th Flight Squadron
- USAF SOC 16th Special Operations Squadron (AC-130)
- USMC Reserve HMLA 775 (UH-1 & AH-1)
- US Army 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (A-6)
- US Navy Helicopter Composite Squadron-4 (SH-60)



# Special Operations

## Maritime Training & Readiness

### Training Ranges

- Ballistics Range
- Black Point
- 9600 Impact Range
- Cod Creek/NBF
- Abby Field
- Phillips Army Airfield
- CQB Range
- Carroll Island
- Bush River
- Chesapeake Bay

### Ordnance Expended

#### Small Arms

5.56 & 7.62mm

20 & 25mm

50cal

30mm

40mm

105mm

BDU-33 Training Bombs

2.75" Rockets

Various Pyrotechnics



# Advantages to the Warfighter

- Unfamiliar deployment site (repeating same sites decreases training value)
- Location / proximity to Mid-Atlantic Warfighter Units
- Airfield and drop zones that can support joint operations
- Early (just-in-time) warfighter exposure to developmental equipment
- Link with acquisition community





# Advantages to the Warfighter

- Instrumented ranges document results
  - Video / photographic support
  - Automated scoring
- Live fire ranges
  - Individual soldier through platoon level
  - All weapon systems available to corps units
- Combat efficiency through simulation
  - Moving target simulator
  - Evasive targets
  - Near real-time after action reviews
- Unique training opportunities



# Advantages to the MRTFB

- Field data for realistic models
- “Just-in-time” real world environment
- Focus integrated test and training instrumentation
- “Greening” of test personnel
- Test cases for Advanced Warfighting Experiments
- Build Test and Training Operations Procedures (combining TOPs and TTPs)
- Validate developmental testing assumptions
- “Piggy-backing” with on-going tests
- Source for Soldier Enhanced Program tests
- Maximize Facility Utilization



# LESSONS LEARNED

- The Training Mission Must Fit The Facility Capabilities
- The Training Mission Must be The Priority Once it is Scheduled
- Training Missions Can be Accomplished Without Adversely Impacting Testing Customers
- Warfighters Will Fund Training on MRTFB if the Value is There
- MRTFB Can Have a Significant Impact on Warfighter Training & Readiness
- Its Worth The Effort!!

# Chow Time!

