



United States Air Force



Air Force Aerial Targets

October 2006

NDIA Brief

Panama City Beach, FL



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Director, 691st Armament Systems Squadron

Eglin AFB, FL

Overall Classification of This Briefing is Unclassified



Overview



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- **Background**
- **Product Groups**
 - Full-scale Aerial Targets
 - Subscale Aerial Targets
- **Summary**



Aerial Target Systems



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- **Airborne aircraft designed to replicate threat aircraft systems**
 - Enemy fighter aircraft
 - Enemy cruise missiles
- **Required per Public Law, Title 10, US Code 2366**
 - New / improved weapon systems are required to demonstrate lethality prior to production
 - Also required for USAF air-to-air weapon system evaluation program (WSEP)
- **Used to validate performance of DOD ground-air and air-air missile/aircraft systems**
 - Must emulate performance, signatures, countermeasures (infrared and electronic attack)



Background



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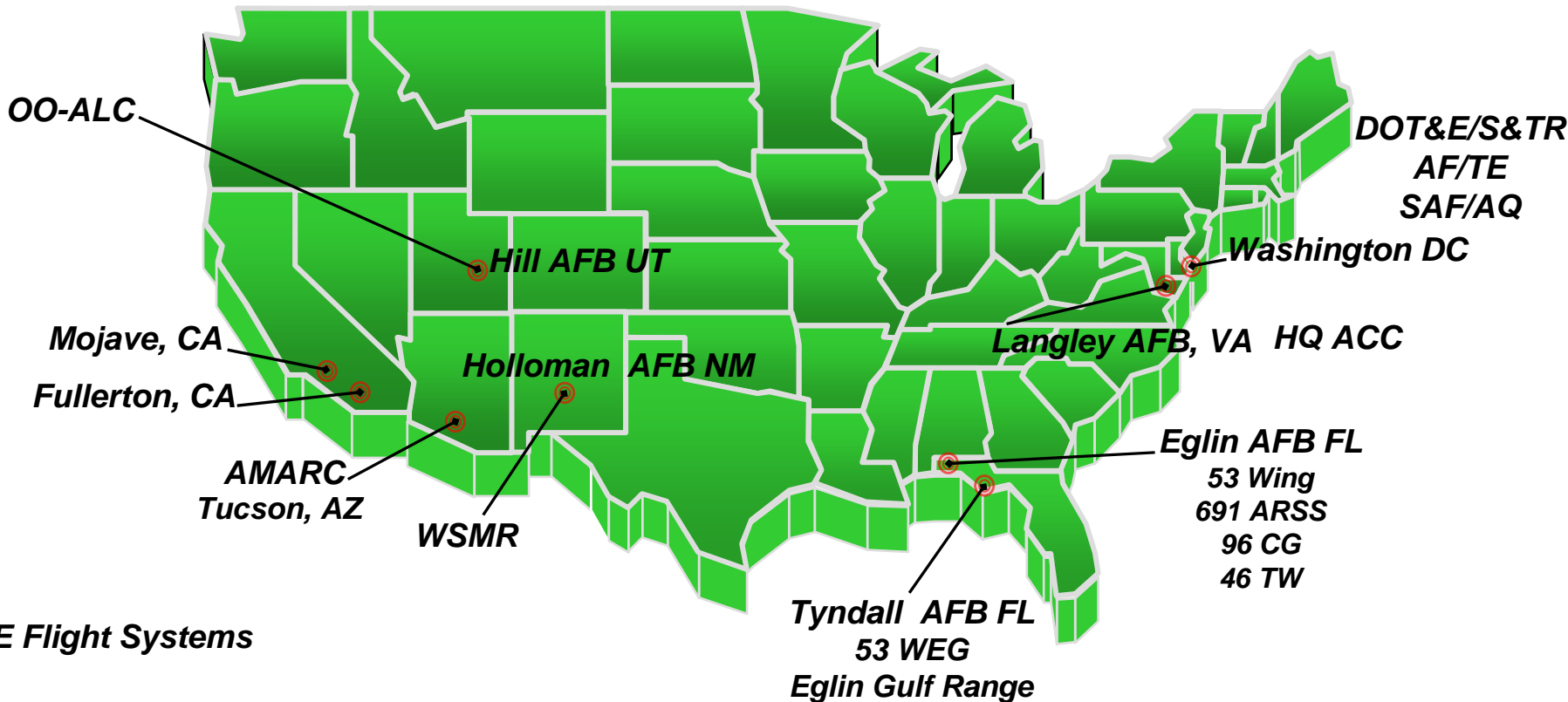
- **The entire Air Force Aerial Targets team provides**
 - **Realistic threat-representative aircraft “presentations”**
 - **The target itself**
 - **The ability to control the target in the air**
 - **Launch, recovery, maintenance, repair**
- **The Aerial Targets System Directorate**
 - **Develops, procures and sustains aerial targets and related systems**



Aerial Targets Organizations



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BAE Flight Systems
5 D
Lockheed Martin
Cartwright Electronics
MicroSystems

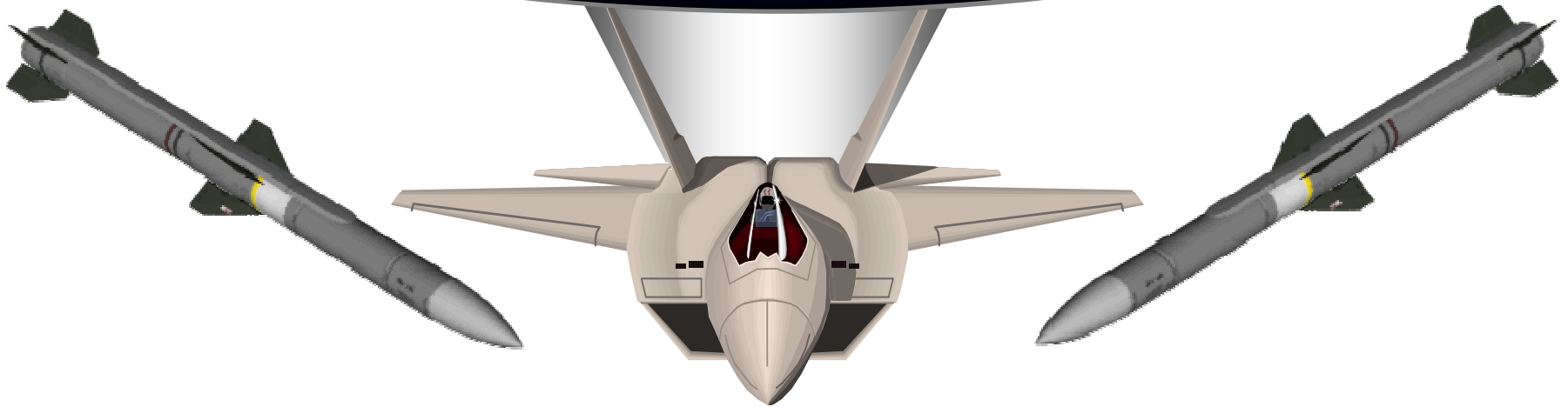


Who Are Our Customers?



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Missile Development Programs & Testers



SHOOTERS • OPERATORS • MAINTAINERS



Where We Fit In



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**Headquarters
Air Force**

**Air Force Materiel
Command**

Air Combat
Command

Air Education &
Training
Command

Air Force
Reserve
Command

Air Force Space
Command

Air Force Special
Operations
Command

Air Mobility
Command

Pacific Air Forces

US Air Forces
Europe

Laboratories

Test Centers

Product Centers

Air Logistics
Centers

Specialized
Centers

Air Force
Research
Laboratory

Arnold
Engineering Dev
Center

Electronic Systems
Center

Ogden ALC

Aerospace
Maintenance &
Regeneration
Ctr

Air Force Office
of Scientific
Research

Air Force Flight
Test Center

Aeronautical Systems
Center

Oklahoma City

Air Force
Security
Assistance
Center

**Air Armament
Center**

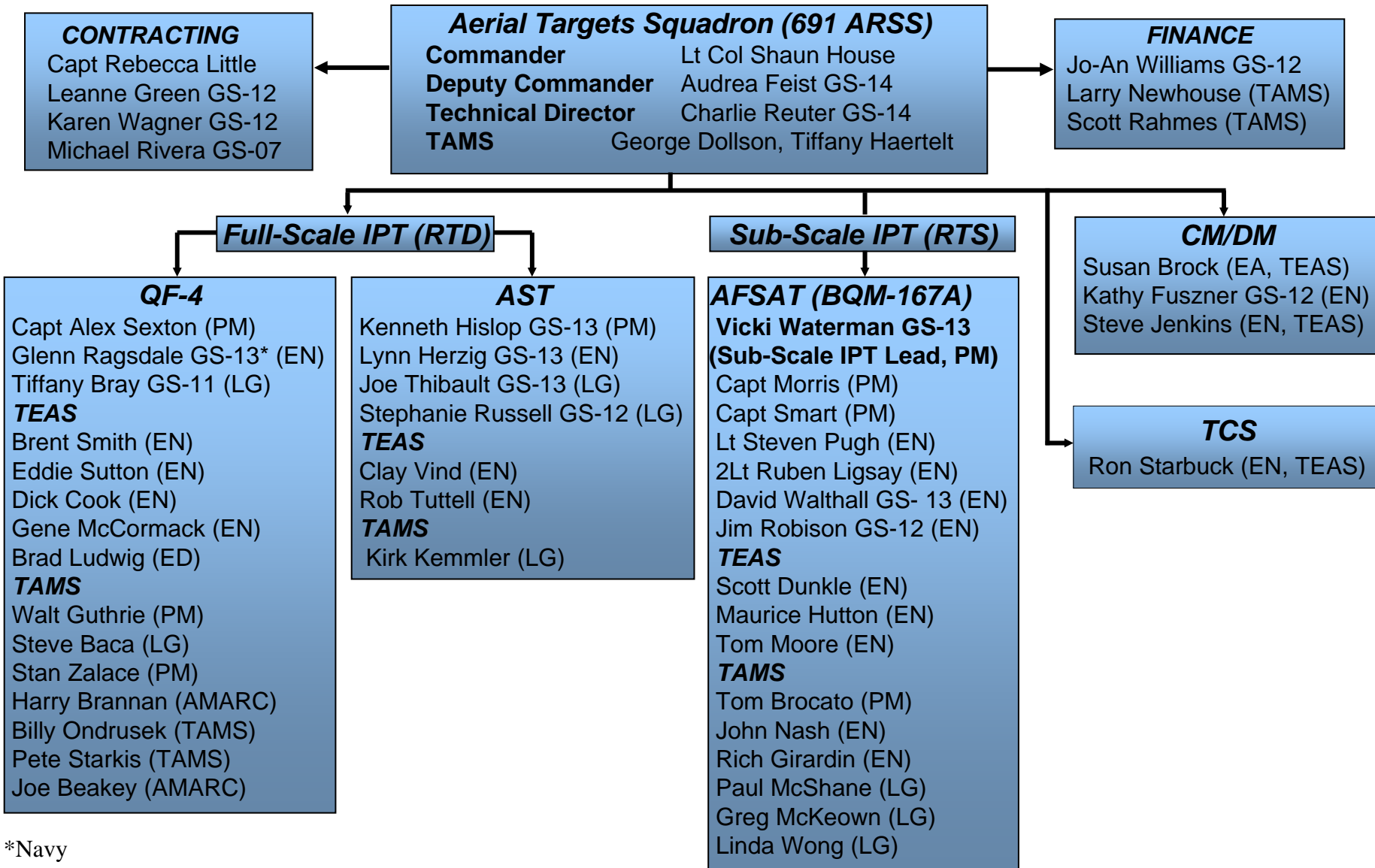
Warner Robins
ALC



691st Armament Systems Squadron



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*Navy



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QF-4



Program Manager: Capt Alex Sexton (USAF)

Systems Engineer: Mr. Glenn Ragsdale (USN)





QF-4 Full Scale Aerial Target



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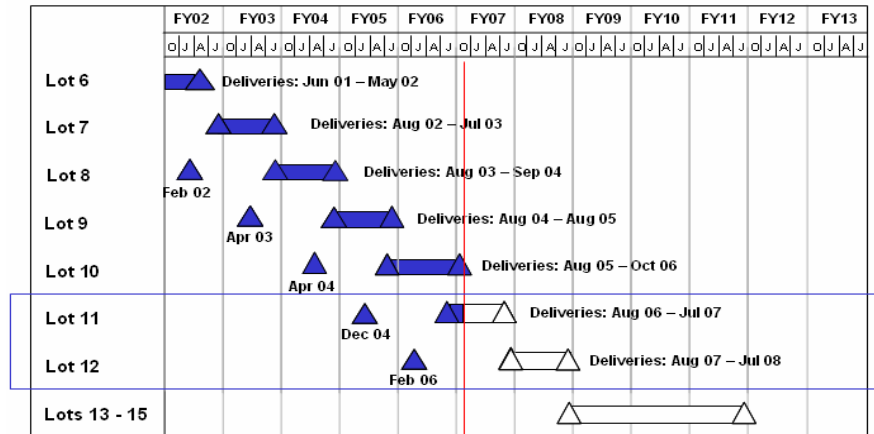
Key Features

- Conversion of F-4 E/G and RF-4C aircraft into full scale aerial targets
- Satisfies Title 10 “Live Fire/Lethality” development & operational test reqmts
- Operates via automatic flight control system, positive ground & airborne control, & flight termination system
- Program in full production; prime contractor is BAE Systems, Mojave, CA

Key Enabler for Multiple Strategies

- Assures warfighters that weapon systems perform adequately against threat-representative targets
 - Satisfies public law Title 10 “Live Fire/Lethality” developmental/operational test requirements
 - Validates operational missile/weapon system effectiveness, fighter OFP updates, etc.
 - Supersonic, high-G, heavy-payload capability
- Meets USAF, Army, Navy, allies’ test requirements
- Refurbished F-4 aircraft (by AMARC), droned by BAE

Program Schedule

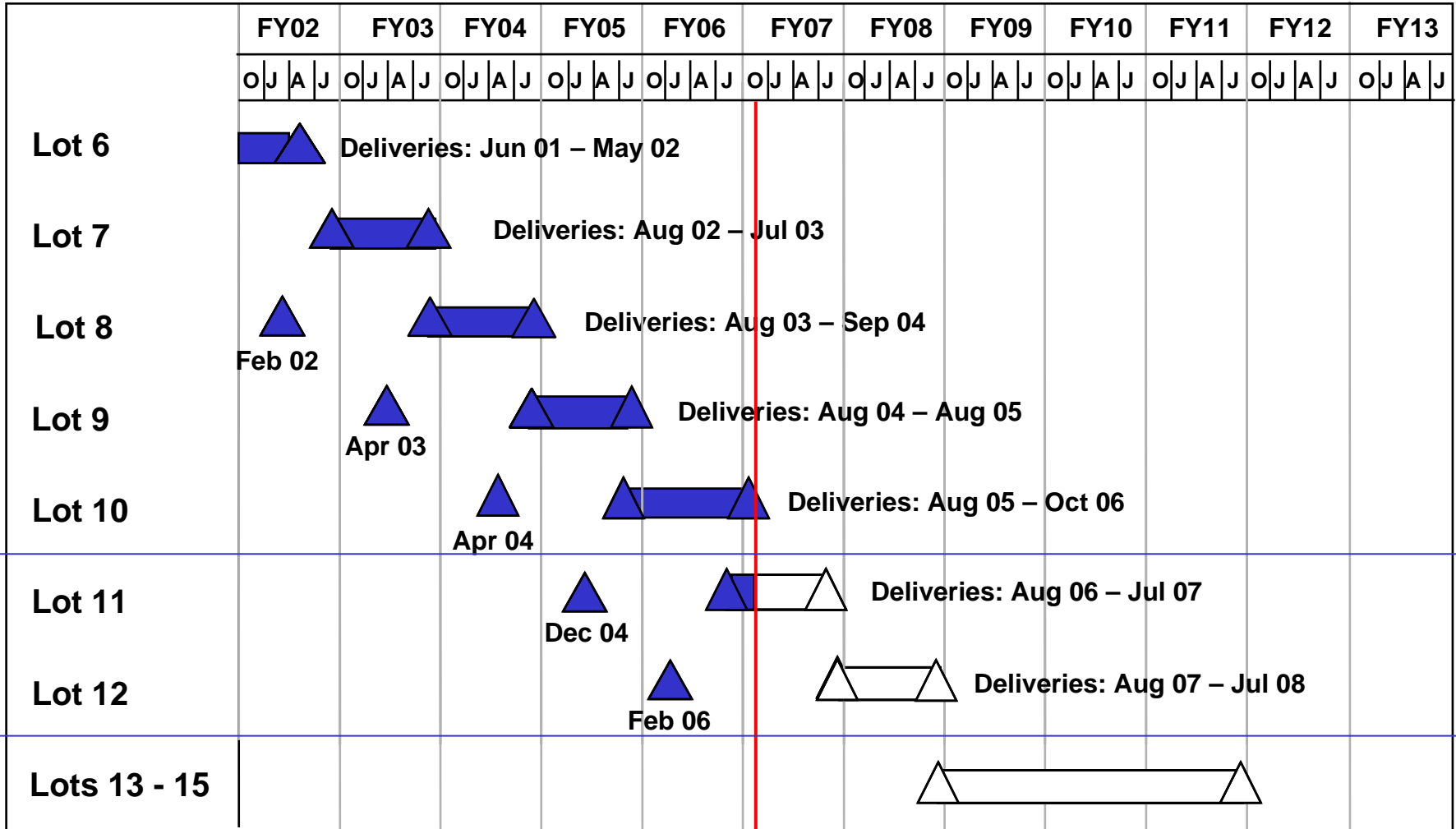




QF-4 Master Schedule



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A Year of Successes



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- **Delivered 200th QF-4 in May 06**
- **Reestablished depot capability at Ogden Air Logistics Center**
 - **Key to successful fielding of RF-4C-based drones**
 - **Provides 3 additional years of QF-4 ops**
 - **Now projecting 15 lots against original rqmt for 9 lots**
- **BAE on track with RF-4C ECP**



The Future of QF-4



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- **Project last QF-4 delivery in FY11**
 - **Inventory exhausted in FY13**
- **Final 3 lots populated with RF-4Cs**
 - **Ogden ALC addressing parts/support issues**
 - **Extremely limited options to extend beyond lot 15**
- **Trying to stretch inventory to avoid gap in full scale ops**

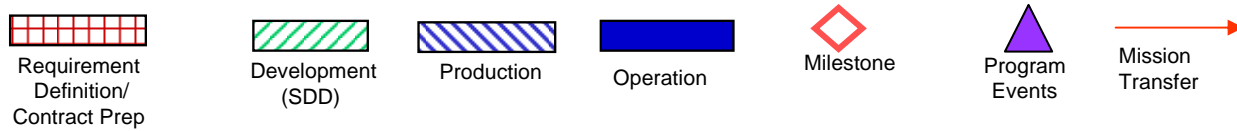
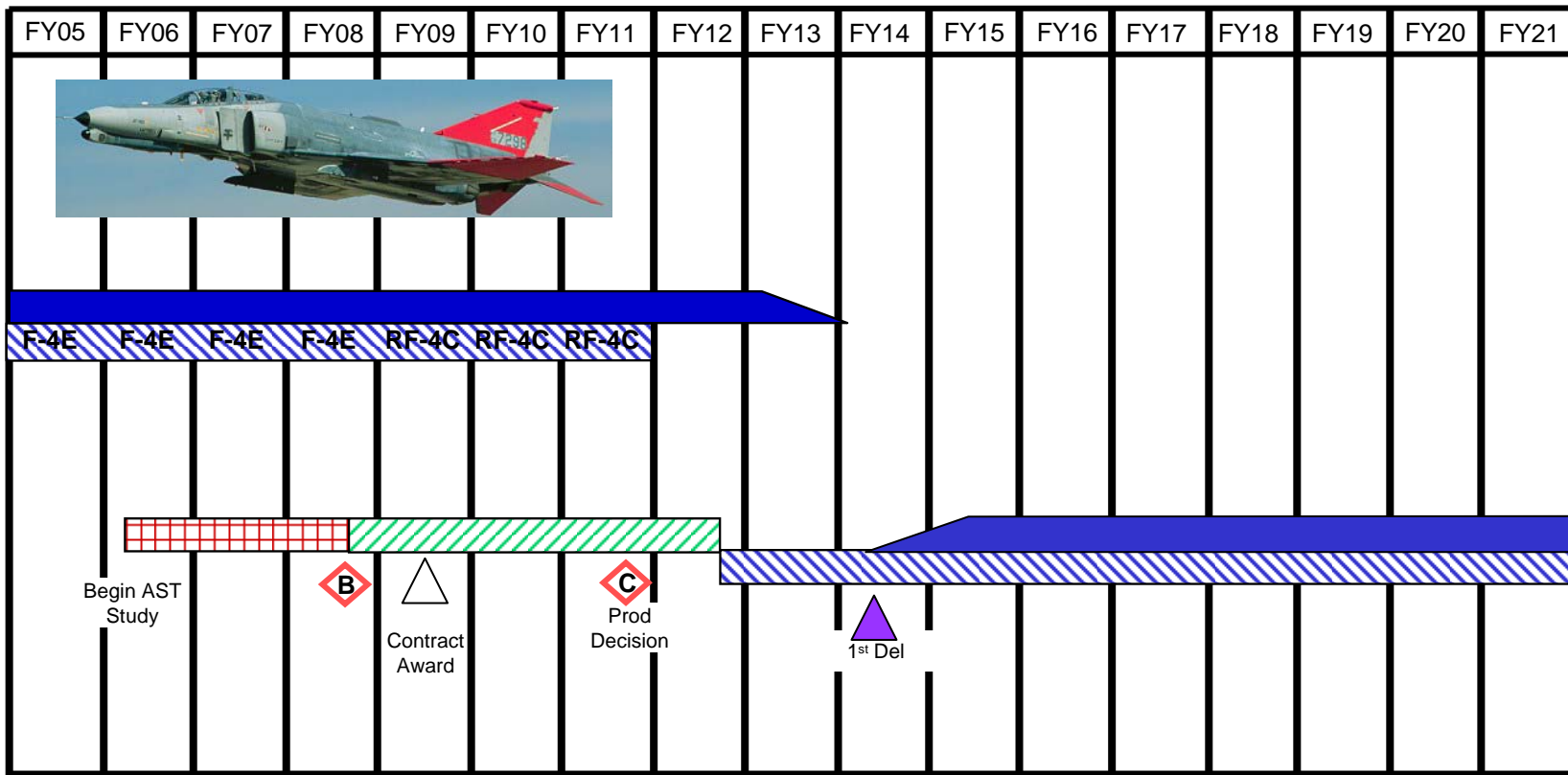


Program Schedule

(Based FYDP Purchase/20 Killed/Yr)



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Air Superiority Target (AST)



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Program Manager: Mr. Ken Hislop

Capability Description

<u>KPP</u>	<u>Threshold</u>	<u>Objective</u>
- Airspeed/15kft		
- Minimum	250KCAS	200 KCAS
- Maximum	1.7M	1.85M
- Formation Flight	2,3,4 Targets	---
- Payload Carriage	2,500lbs	5000lbs
- Flight Termination	Auto/Manual	---
- Interoperability	Satisfy all critical IERS	---

System Information

- Follow on Full Scale Target Program
- Planning for 2-Phase analysis of alternatives
- Phase 1: Update previous studies, get program started in FY08
- Phase 2 study to look at long-term solution
 - Supersonic, high-G, heavy payload, with 2, 3, or 4 target formation

Schedule (TBD)

EVENT	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09
Analysis of Alternatives	△	△		
Request for Proposal			△	
Capability Devel Doc		△	△	
Program Documents	△	△		
Milestone B			△	
Contract Award				△
System Design Rev				△



AST Status



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- **AoA in FY06**
 - **Study plan complete - approved by AFROCC**
 - **Two-phased study**
 - **Directed to focus on full scale alternatives**
 - **Assess intel/threat, CONOPS, effectiveness, cost**
- **Prepare Capability Development Document (CDD)**
- **AST funding status being discussed as we speak**
- **Anticipate series of industry days in FY07/08**
- **RFP release in FY08**
- **Contract award in FY09**



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AFSAT



Program Manager: Capt Blair Morris (USAF)

Systems Engineer: Mr. Dave Walthall

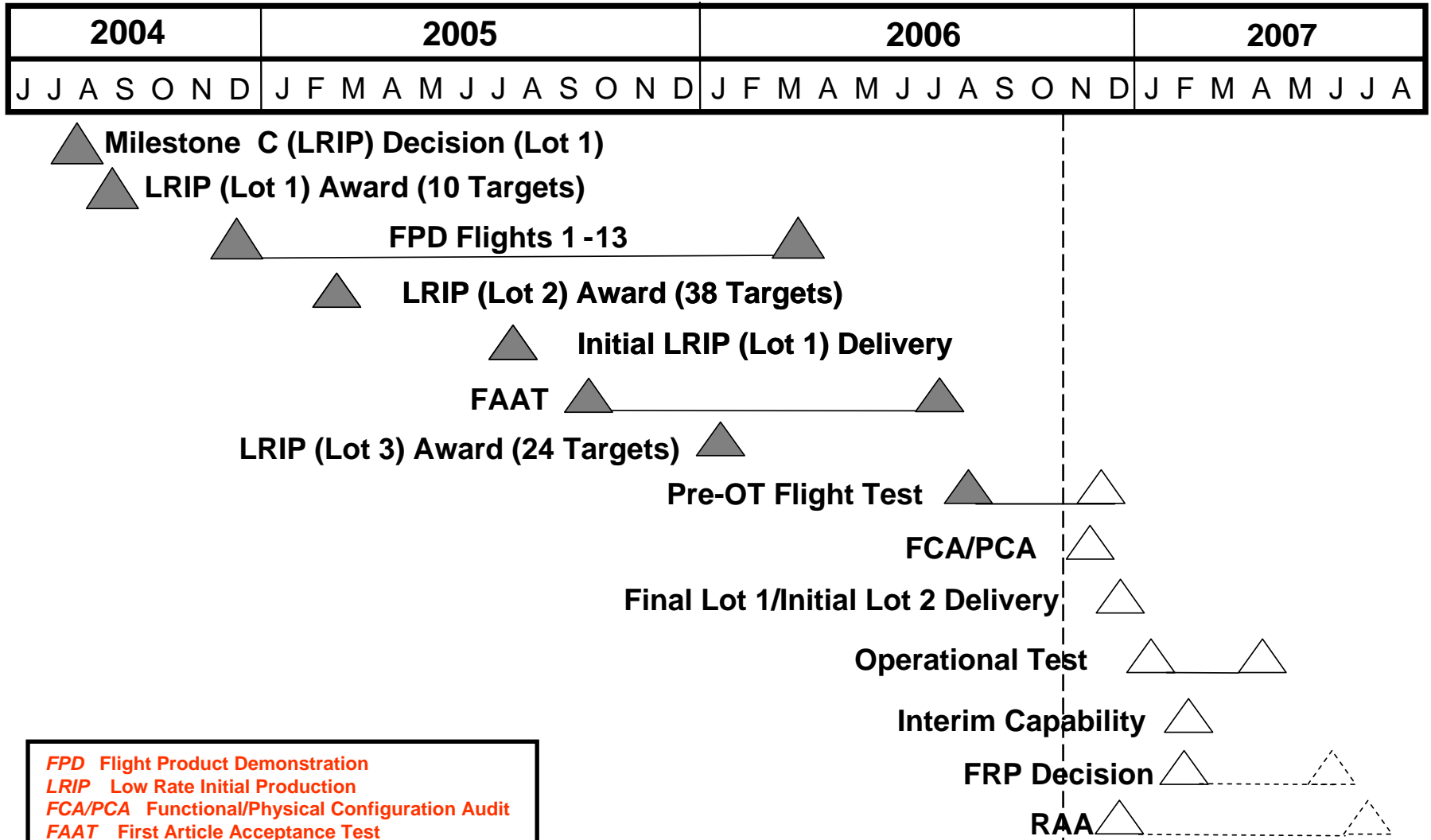




AFSAT Schedule



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FPD Flight Product Demonstration
LRIP Low Rate Initial Production
FCA/PCA Functional/Physical Configuration Audit
FAAT First Article Acceptance Test
RAA Required Assets Available



Flight Demonstration Successes



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- **Speeds: 218 KCAS to 0.95 MACH**
- **Duration: > 60 Minute (7 flights)**
 - **Includes 30 Minute Mil Power Run at 15,000 feet**
- **Payload: Total 300 lbs (100 lbs internal)**
- **Altitudes: 50' – 51,600'**
- **Maneuvers: Pitchback, Slice, Weave, Barrel Roll, Split S, 9G Turns**
- **Recovery: Land (14); Water (7)**
- **Successful Target Recovery: 86% (18 of 21 flts)**
 - **None lost due to recovery system failure**



Challenges



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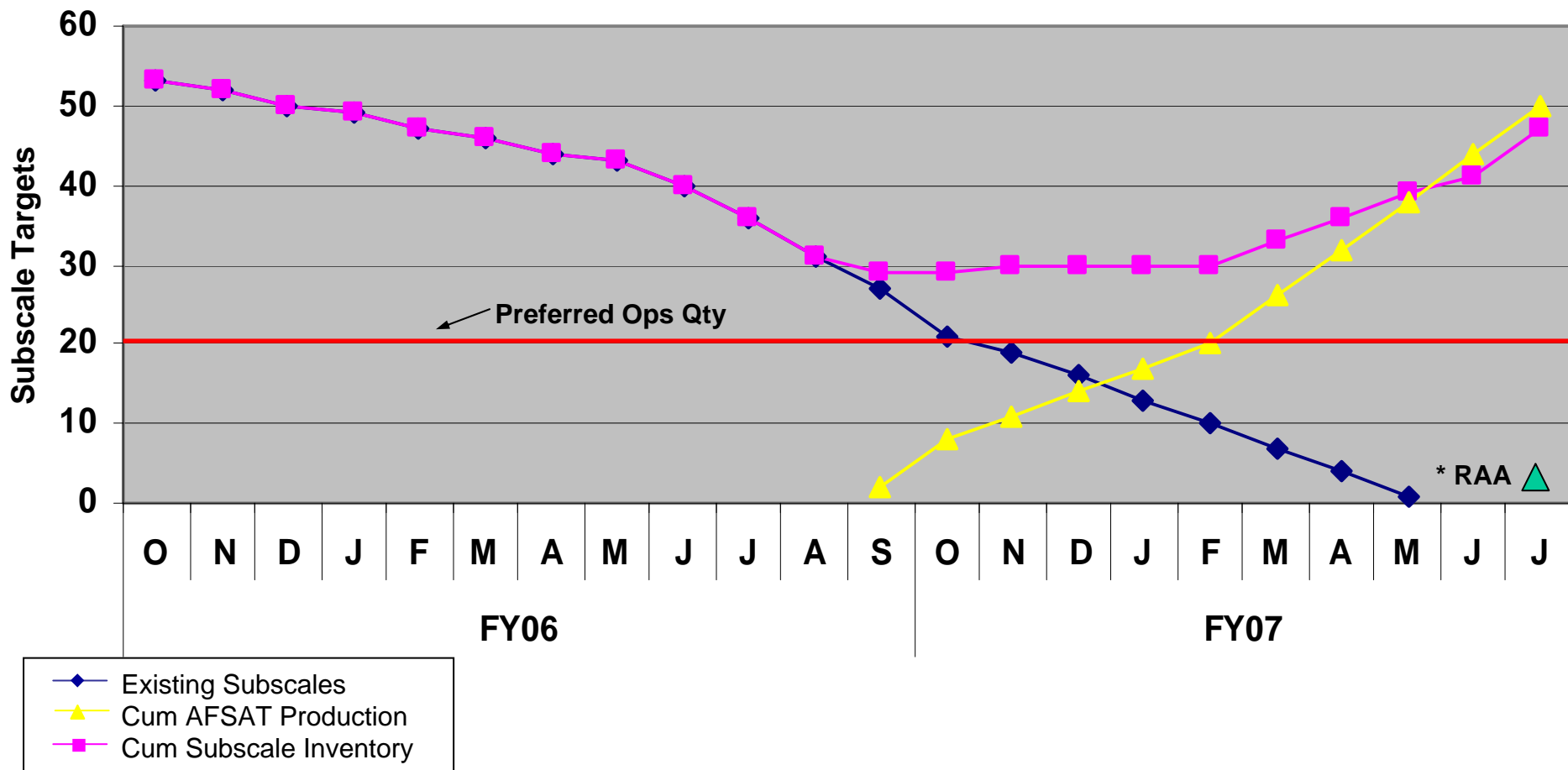
- **Have lost 3 vehicles during testing to date**
 - In-flight & recovery performance is good
 - Launch reliability has been a problem
- **Made changes to aircraft software to ensure more robust launch capability**
- **Added series of flights to build reliability prior to start of operational testing**



Subscale Inventory Levels



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* APB & EMA pending approval/signature

Assumes USAF kill rate of 40/yr and all FMS/Navy/Army assets killed in year delivered



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Summary



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- **Monitoring full-scale inventory**
- **Final QF-4 lots supportable**
- **AST future under discussion at OSD level**
- **Aggressively monitoring subscale inventories**
- **Pressing to complete AFSAT flight demonstration and to improve launch reliability**



BACK UP CHARTS



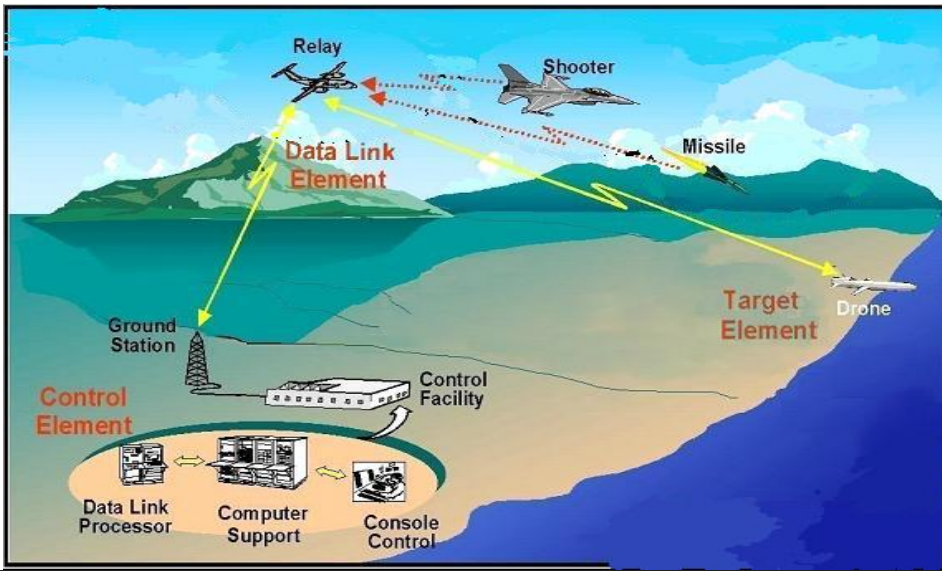
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Gulf Range Drone Control System (GRDCS)



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Key Features

- Able to track:
 - and control 4 drones (any mix)
 - 4 shooter aircraft via GRDCS II pods
 - 4 missiles (AMRAAM) via WRTTM
 - 4 high fliers (MU-2s for OTH)
 - 2 other aircraft (E-9 – AP/TM)
 - Missile termination (4 via WRTTM)
 - Target termination (4 QF-4s)
- Over-the-Horizon (OTH) operations
- 8 consoles (Tyndall), 14 ground stations, 15 tracking pods, 2 Mobile control systems, 1 development system (Eglin)

Program Schedule

- IOC - 1985
- Sustainment – FY13
- Implementation of Advanced Target Control (ATCS)
 - Leverages Multi-Service Target Control System (MSTCS) and other CTEIP developed systems
- ATCS RAA – FY12

- Program Manager: Everett Eblen
- Lead Engineer: Jim Lefebvre



Concern Areas



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- **Operates on commercial frequency bandwidth (915 MHz)**
- **No GPS**
- **No encryption**
- **Parts Obsolescence**
- **Future upgrades/replacement**