

# ***Headquarters U.S. Air Force***

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## **ISR - Precision Strike Capabilities & Technology Improvements**



**Lt Gen David Deptula  
Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence,  
Surveillance, and Reconnaissance**

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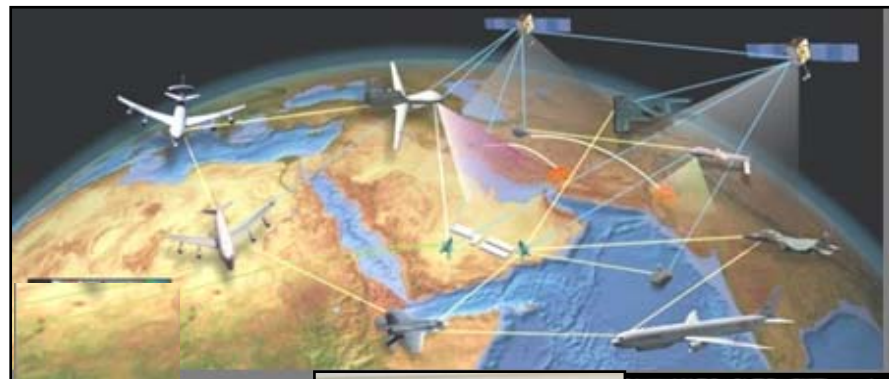
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# *Introduction*

- 20<sup>th</sup> Century Warfare ...
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges ...
- Tenets of Information Age Warfare ...
- Information Age Warfare ISR ...
- What we need from you ...



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# 20<sup>th</sup> Century Warfare

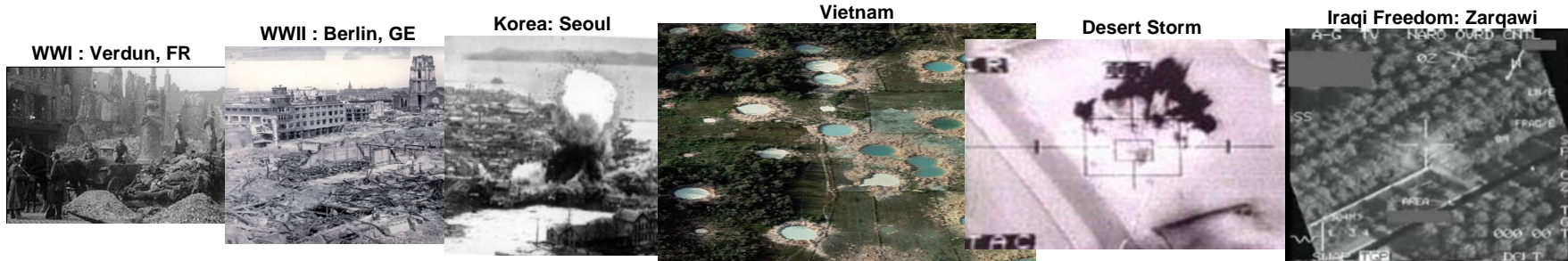
## A cultural divide of precision and information



Finding, Fixing Tracking ...



Targeting, Engaging , Assessing...



Today's challenges demand a new approach....

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# Traditional Challenges: US dominance no longer assured...

Near-term

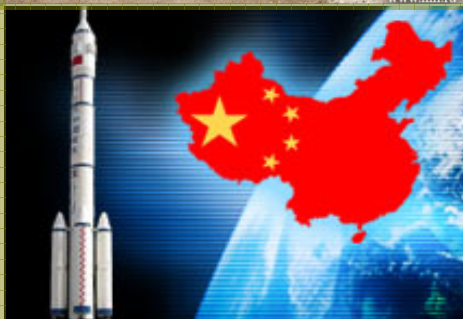
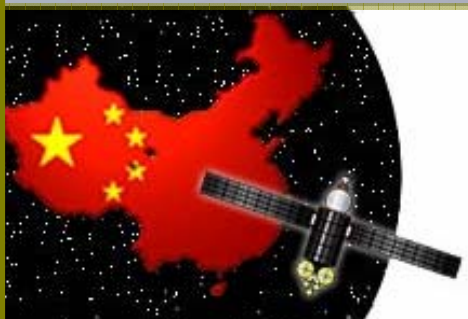
Mid-term

Long-term

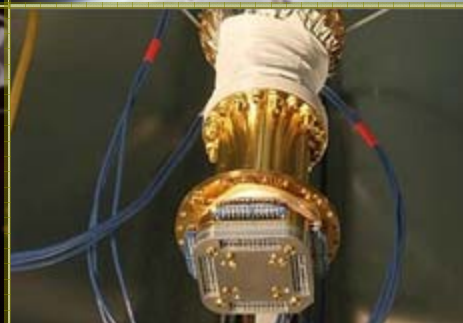
AIR



SPACE



CYBER



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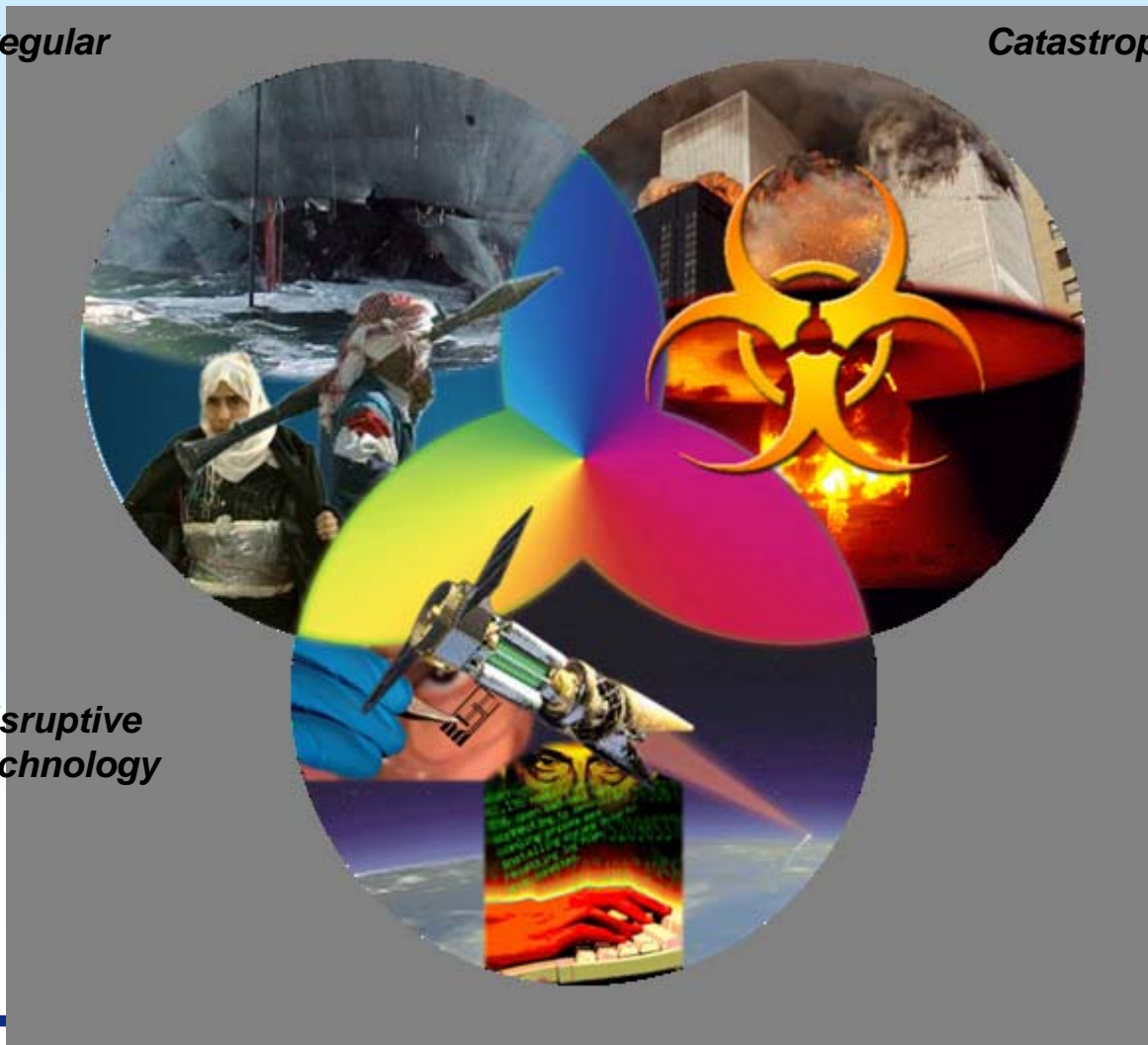
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# ***Non-Traditional Challenges:*** ***US increasingly 'surprised'...***

***Irregular***

***Catastrophic***

***Disruptive  
Technology***



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# Emerging Technology: Diffusion – technology no longer ‘asymmetric’

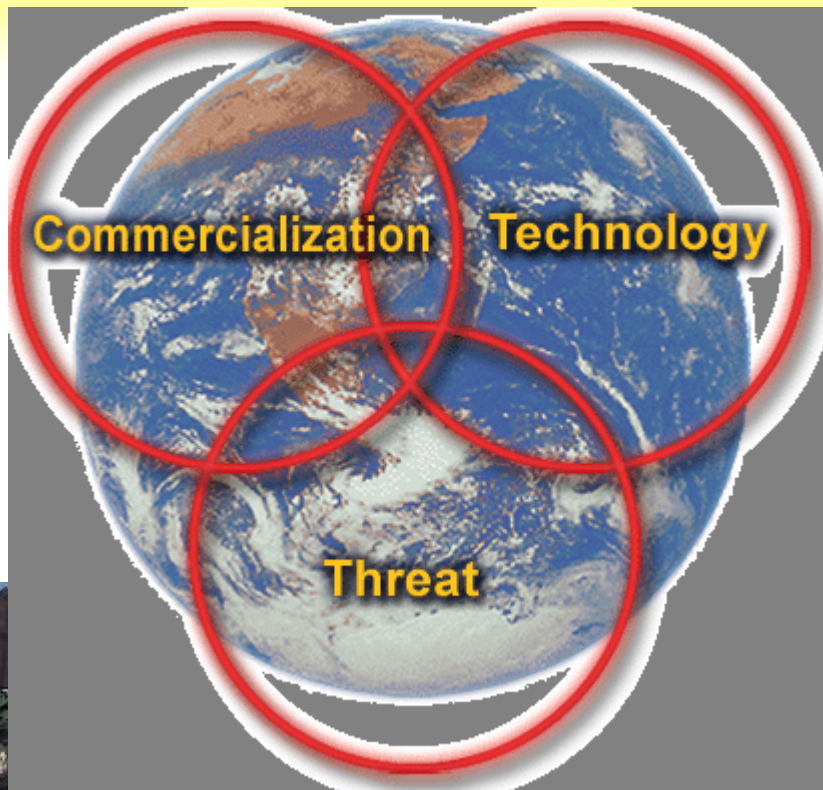
**Globalization and commercialization of technology resulting in potential disruptive threats worldwide**



GPS Jammers



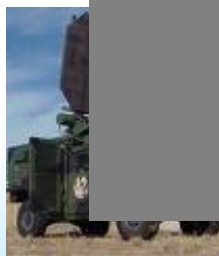
Laser



Anti-missile Defense



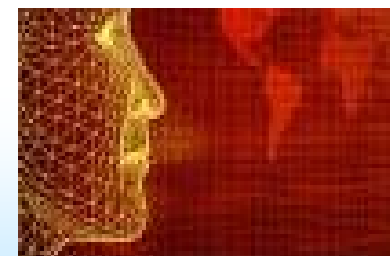
Satellites



Energy Directed



Cyber



Biometrics/Nano

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# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenge

## Precision and Information Synergy

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**INDUSTRIAL AGE**

**INFORMATION AGE**

**WARFARE**

**WARFARE**



“The most important tactical skill Airman will need in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century will be the ability to rapidly acquire, develop, and share information across the Joint Force, and at all levels of warfare”

Lt Gen David A. Deptula, DCS/ISR

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# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenge

*Precision and Information Synergy*

**INFORMATION Age Warfare: Find/Fix is the biggest challenge...**



**ISR is the “hub” of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Kill Chain....**

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# Info Age Warfare Tenets:

*Viewing ISR as indivisible...*

- Historically...
  - Surveillance & Reconnaissance  $\neq$  Intel
- Today's Information Age:
  - Surveillance & Reconnaissance are the inputs to the production of Intel, *and vice versa ...*
- “Flashy” technologies like UAS's & FMV add confusion
  - We forget how much integrated all-source, all-domain intelligence went into synchronizing that surveillance or reconnaissance capability at the right place at the right time to begin with ...



**Information age warfare demands that ISR  
be indivisible...**



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# Info Age Warfare Tenets:

## Viewing ISR as Operations...

- Info age demands an effects-based approach
  - Kill chain is now ISR dependent
  - Single platforms executing entire kill chain



Today, ISR is operations...

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# Info Age Warfare Tenets: Seeing ISR as “Multi-domain-ational”...

- ISR operates in ALL domains...
  - Land, Sea, Air, Space, Cyberspace
- ISR impacts all other mission areas:
  - Counter - Land, Sea, Air, Space, Cyberspace
- To be truly efficient, ISR demands integration of all domain feeds...
- Stovepiping ISR by domain or platform “ownership” produces needless duplication, rivalry; synchronization problems



Ultimately, decision makers care about the so what of intelligence;  
the where or who of collection is of little consequence



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# Info Age Warfare Tenets:

## *ISR is about Capabilities & Effects...*

- AF is transforming ISR with a capabilities and effects based approach
  - ISR enterprise need not necessarily involve only “intel” coded Airman to be intelligence
  - Example: Targeting pods use for ISR taskings
- A platform-based construct misses the opportunity to integrate, analyze and interpret information of value to warfighters/decision makers



**Making every sensor a shooter, and every shooter a sensor produces the capability, effects, and flexibility  
Info-age Warfare demands ...**



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# Precision & Information Synergy: F2T2EA of Zarqawi

## The Strike On Zarqawi

Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the leader of Al Qaeda in Iraq, was killed in an American air strike on a safe house near the town Hibhib.



Images of the strike from the Defense Department



- Coalition forces tracking Sheikh Al Rahman, a spiritual adviser to Mr. Zarqawi, determine that Rahman is going to meet him at 6:15 p.m. Wednesday at an isolated house north of Hibhib.
- Two F-16 jets are dispatched. The house is struck with two 500-pound bombs.
- Iraqi police arrive at the house first, followed by American troopers from the 4th Infantry Division.
- The soldiers find six victims of the blast: Zarqawi, Rahman, two other men, a woman and a child.
- Within a few hours of initially identifying Zarqawi, American and Iraqi forces conduct 17 raids in and around Baghdad, yielding what officials call a "treasure trove" of intelligence.
- At 3:30 a.m. Thursday morning, Zarqawi is positively identified using his fingerprints.



2006 Planning Meeting



7 Jun 06

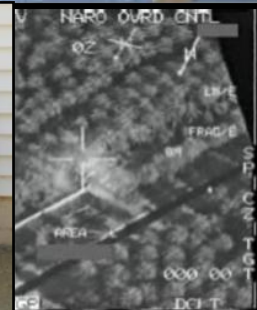
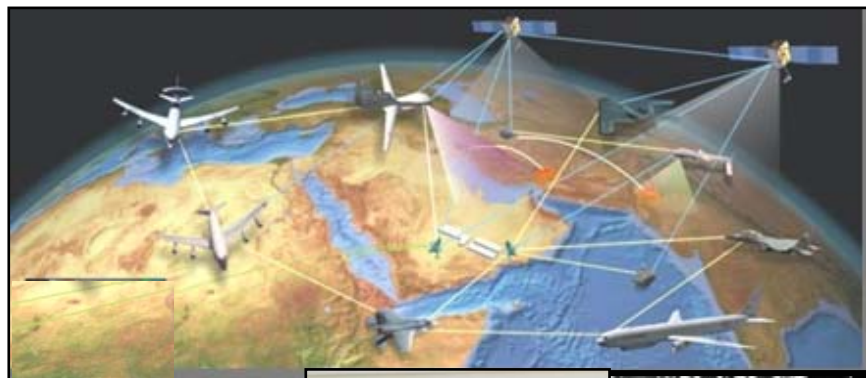
The New York Times; satellite image from DigitalGlobe via Google Earth



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# Information Age Warfare ISR: What We Need From You ...

- 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Threat Counters...
- Precision Targeting ...
- Information Fusion ...



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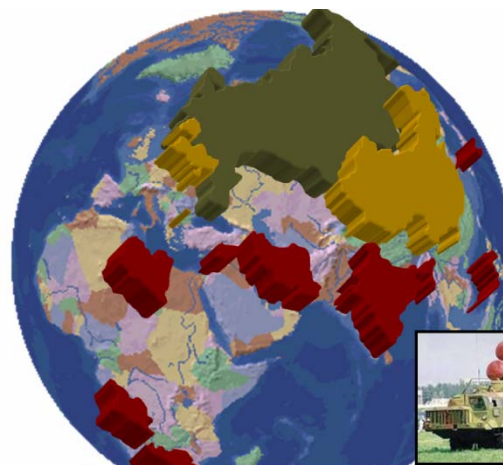
# 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Threat Counters

## Anti-access/Area-denial “access”

- Advances in AA/AD technology are spreading ...
- Increasingly to areas of the world we need to gain ISR “access” too ...
- Range, reach, endurance, survivability, low observability must be present at the start of ISR systems concepts..not “add ons” after the sensor is proven ...



Advanced Air-to-Air Systems



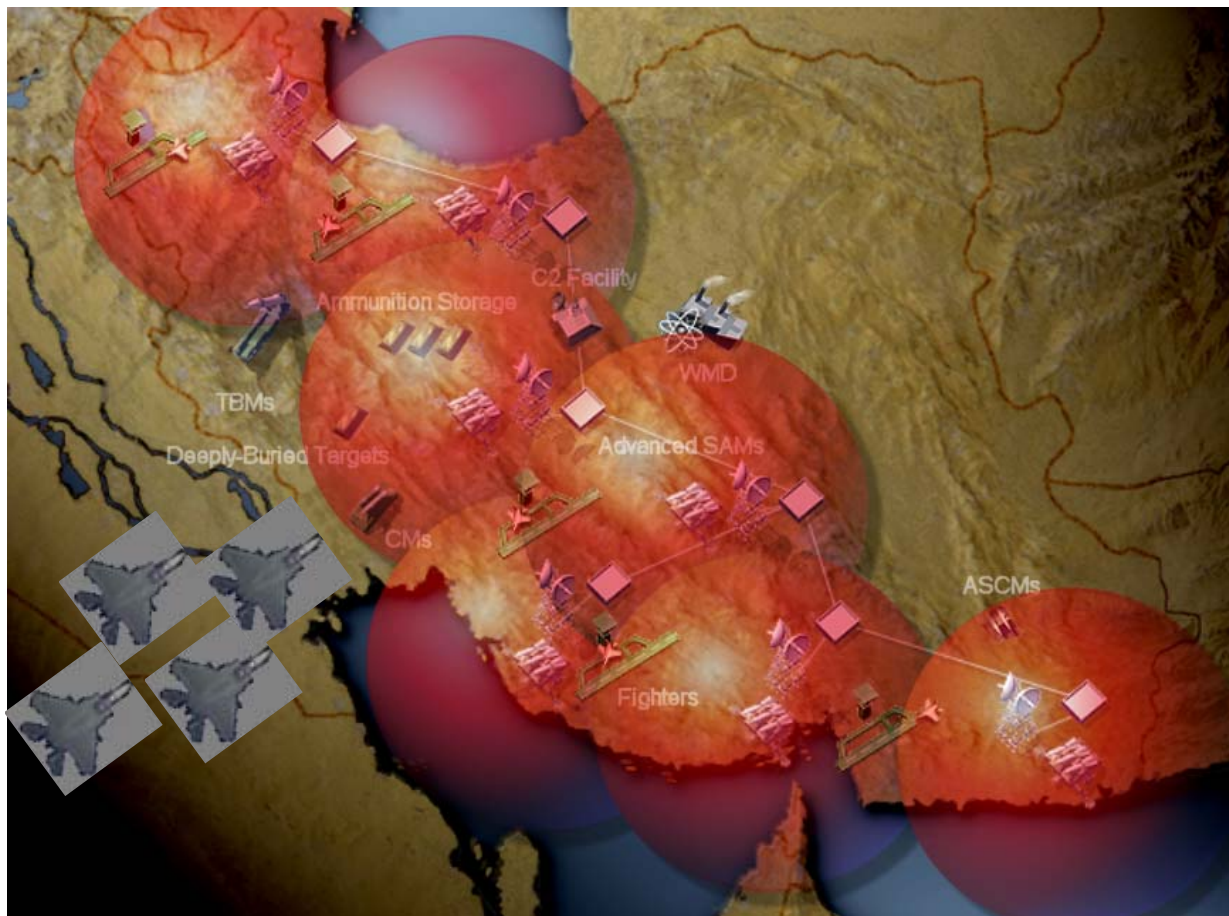
Advanced Surface-to-Air Systems





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# 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Threat Counters: Stand-off sensors



Stand-off sensors for ISR capabilities in denied areas

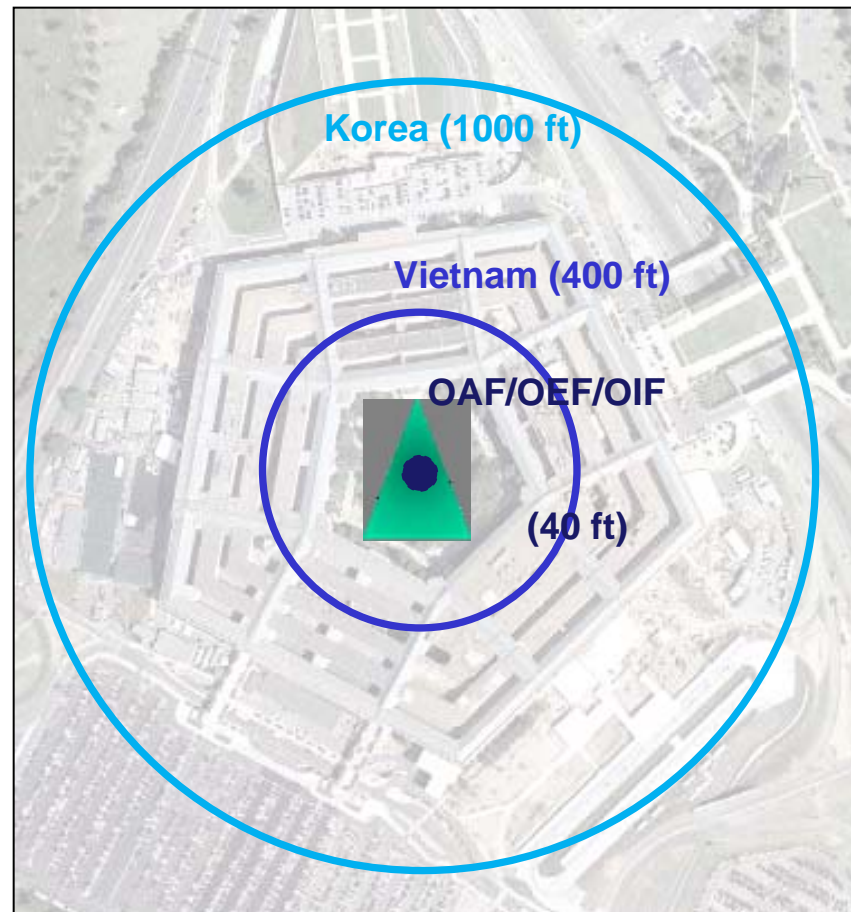




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# Precision Targeting: Target Mensuration

- Precision weapons are no good without precision coordinates
- Expect 212,000 GPS / INS guided weapons by 2015
- Can take 20-minutes to 3+ hours to mensurate each point
- What ISR needs:
  - Automated point mensuration capabilities / systems



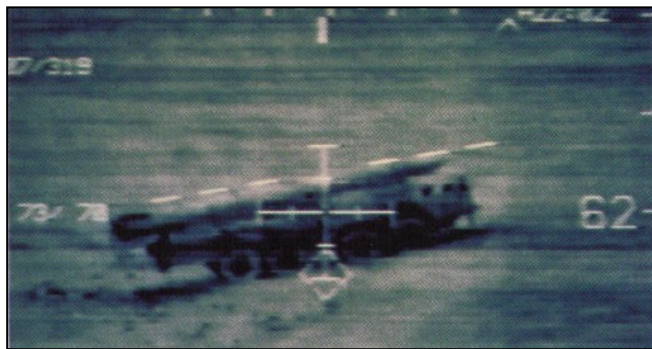
MK 84 class bomb, Med Alt



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# ***Precision Targeting: Highly Mobile Targets***

- **Desert Storm “Scud Hunt” demonstrated the difficulties**
- **Future moving away from fixed to mobile targets**
- **What ISR needs:**
  - **Time-sensitive, time-critical, responsive flexibility ...**
  - **Automatic sensor integration ...**
  - **Automatic data base/pattern of life “tip offs” ...**





# Precision Targeting: Hardened and Deeply Buried Targets

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- Assess Hard and Deeply Buried Target effects ...
  - Even if weapons penetrate, may be difficult to cause substantial damage due to internal design
- Often used for WMD-related technologies
  - Counter WMD without collateral damage...
- How will we know it was destroyed ?





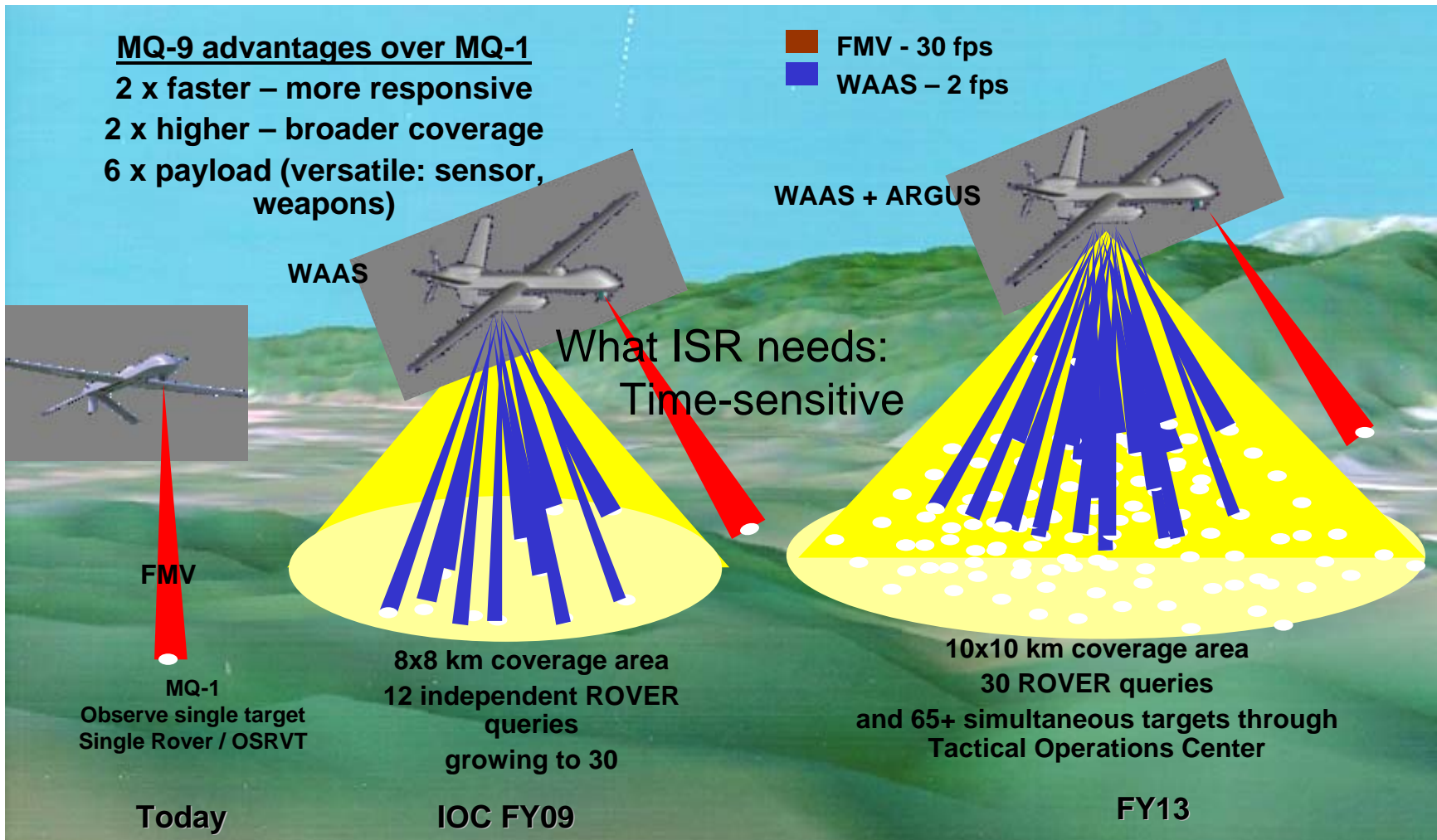
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# Information Fusion: Wide Area Airborne Surveillance

## MQ-9 advantages over MQ-1

- 2 x faster – more responsive
- 2 x higher – broader coverage
- 6 x payload (versatile: sensor, weapons)

- FMV - 30 fps
- WAAS - 2 fps

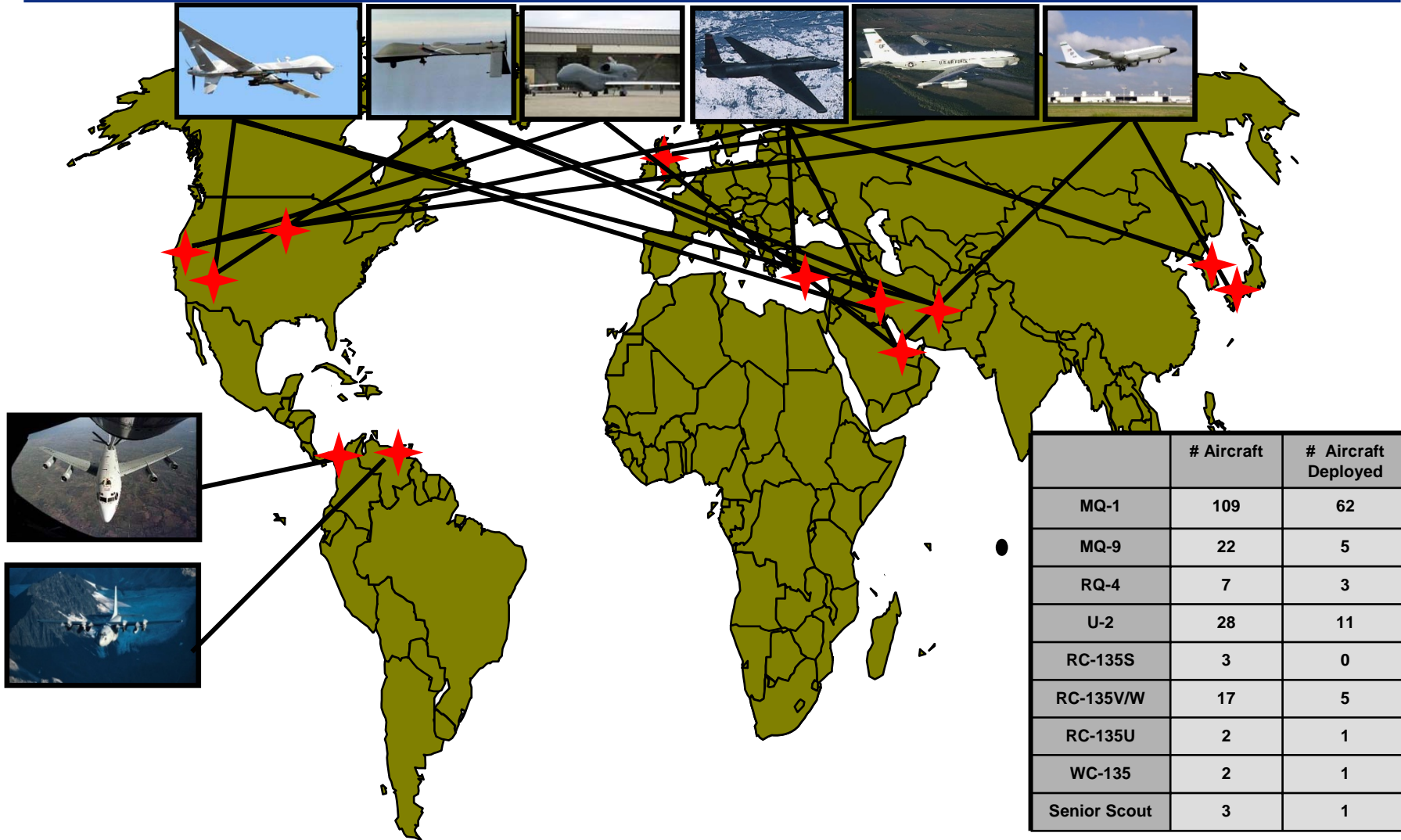


*How do we handle the upcoming tsunami of data?*



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# Information Fusion: Instantaneous dissemination



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# End State: Optimized Kill Chain

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**Sensor-Shooter integration: We must integrate all ISR data in moments, not minutes or hours**

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# Take Aways ...

- Need your help to solve 21<sup>st</sup> Century ISR - Precision Strike challenges...
- Must view ISR as:
  - Indivisible
  - Operations
  - “Multi-domain-anotional”
  - Capabilities and Effects
- Must solve the problems of:
  - ISR vs. 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Threats
  - Precision Targeting
  - Information Fusion



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*Fly – Fight – Win*



**...Questions?**