



# *Expeditionary Warfare Conference*

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**U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command**

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# Today's World

95% of international communications travels via underwater cables

70% of the world is water

21 of the world's 28 mega-cities are within 62 mi / 100 km of the sea

23,000 trading ships are underway daily

49% of the world's oil travels through 7 major sea chokepoints

95% of the world's commerce moves by sea

50% of the world's population lives within 62 mi / 100 km of a coast

**“...At the Geo-Strategic level, it's all about the littorals.”**



# Emerging Security Environment

## Sources of Stress



*Competition for resources, natural disasters, social unrest, hostile cyber activity, violent extremism (criminal, terrorist, religious), regional conflict, proliferations of weapons of mass destruction and advanced weaponry in the hands of the irresponsible are becoming all too common.*

*These challenges are harbingers of potential crisis around the world, and more specifically for naval forces in the littoral regions.*



# CMC Guiding Principles

## 1. EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN READINESS

- a. Deployed forward for deterrence and proximity to crises
- b. Poised and ready for rapid crisis response, with no tiered readiness
- a. Conduct operations under very austere conditions
- b. Self-sustaining in an expeditionary environment
- c. Leverages assets for rapid deployment

## 2. NAVAL FORCE

- a. Leverages sea as maneuver space
- b. Integrated into a larger Naval enterprise
- c. Preserve core amphibious competencies

## 3. MIDDLEWEIGHT FORCE

- a. Light enough for rapid deployment
- b. Heavy enough to prevail against littoral threats
- c. Command and control operations up to the MEF

## 4. FORCIBLE ENTRY IN DEPTH

- a. Capable of operations impact early
- b. Aggregates 2 brigades (MEBs) from the sea
- c. Allows for strategic flexibility & asymmetric advantage

## 5. INTEGRATED COMBINED ARMS FORCE

- a. Designed for combat employment as a MAGTF.
- b. Not every employment will include every function

## 6. MODERN FORCE

- a. Preserve qualitative edge over its opponents.
- b. Leverages technology and ISR to fight with precision
- c. Integrates aviation, fires, mobility, and logistics

## 7. LEADING EDGE OF THE JOINT FORCE

- a. Facilitates integration of GPF and SOF capabilities
- b. Integrates into joint force air and logistics operations in sustained conflict

## 8. FORCE BIASED FOR ACTION

- a. Agile: meets the needs of Geographic Combatant Commanders
- a. Standing MAGTF HQs for immediate employment
- b. Maintains a 1:2 deploy/dwell
- c. Integrates Reserve capabilities across a wide range of contingencies
- a. Trained to full range of missions
- b. Inherently adaptive but comprehensively trained

**“Value Proposition”:** A forward postured, agile expeditionary force focused on assuring littoral access and responding to crisis that can adapt for missions from theater security cooperation to major operations

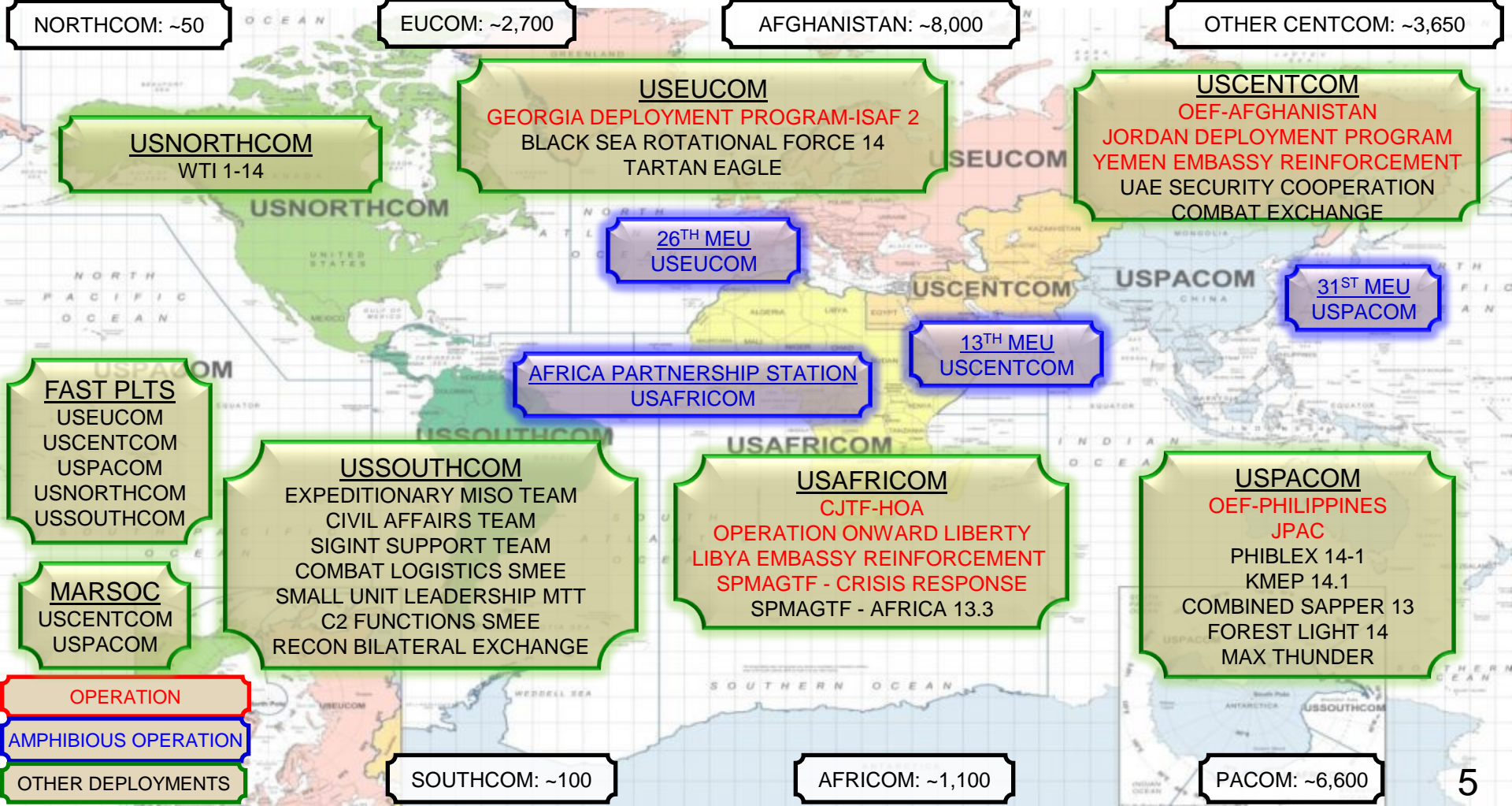


# Current Force Posture

(As of 24 Oct 13)

Operations  
~14,150
 + 
 Amphibious Ops  
~6,700
 + 
 Exercises  
~900
 + 
 TSC  
~450
 = 
 Total Deployed  
~22,200

NORTHCOM: ~50
EUCOM: ~2,700
AFGHANISTAN: ~8,000
OTHER CENTCOM: ~3,650



**FAST PLTS**  
 USEUCOM  
 USCENTCOM  
 USPACOM  
 USNORTHCOM  
 USSOUTHCOM

**MARSOC**  
 USCENTCOM  
 USPACOM

**OPERATION**

**AMPHIBIOUS OPERATION**

**OTHER DEPLOYMENTS**

**SOUTHCOM: ~100**

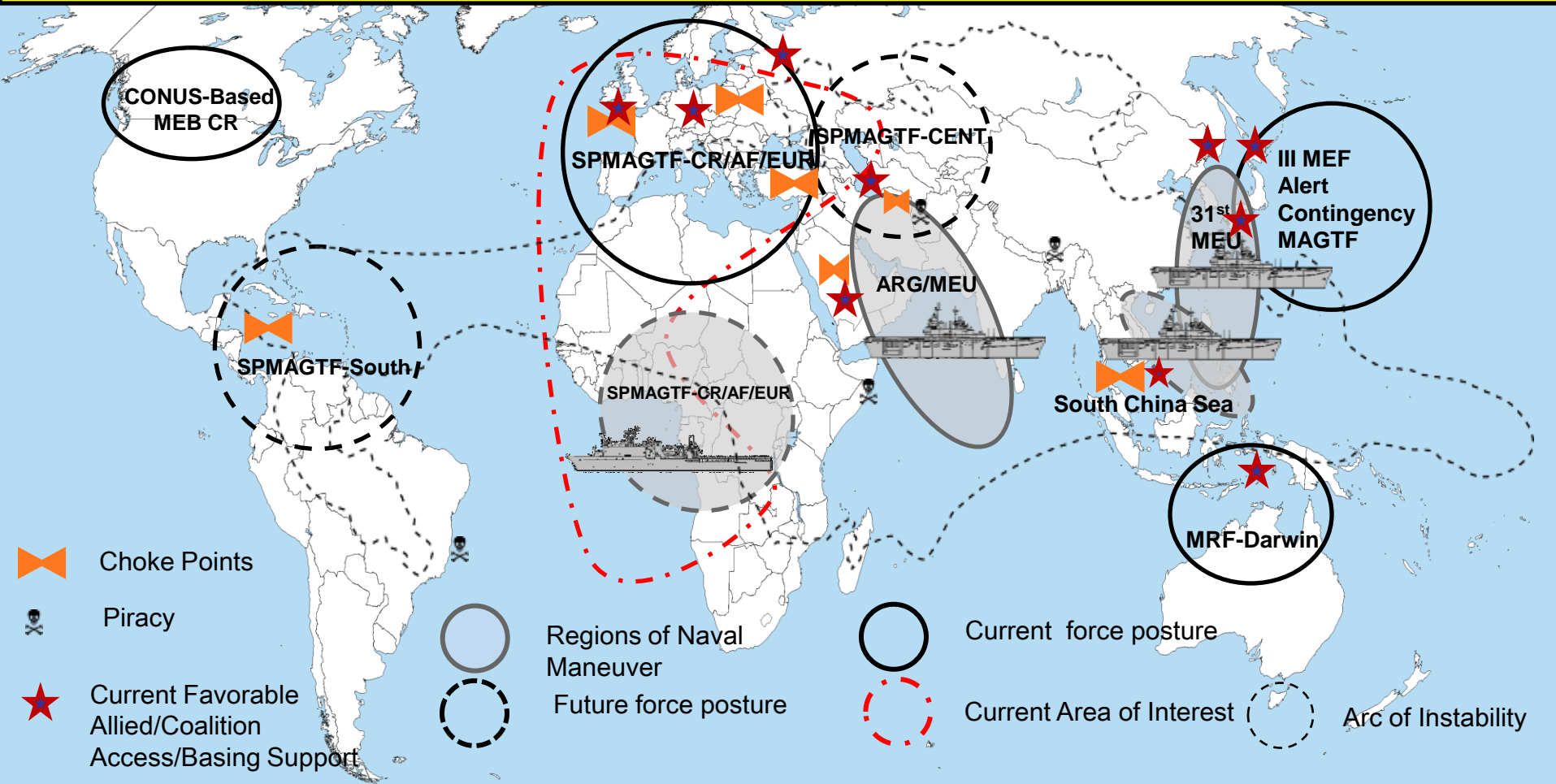
**AFRICOM: ~1,100**

**PACOM: ~6,600**



# Future Force Posture

The Nation's Crisis Response Force forward deployed and poised to respond within the arc of instability and within regions of anticipated future conflicts.





# The Corps in Transition

Escalating Security Environment

Steady-State Activities → Crisis Response Operations → OPLAN/CONPLAN Operations



Forward / Engaged  
MEB CE, SPMAGTFs



MEB composites  
forward and rapidly-deploying  
SPMAGTFs, ARG/MEUs, GRF

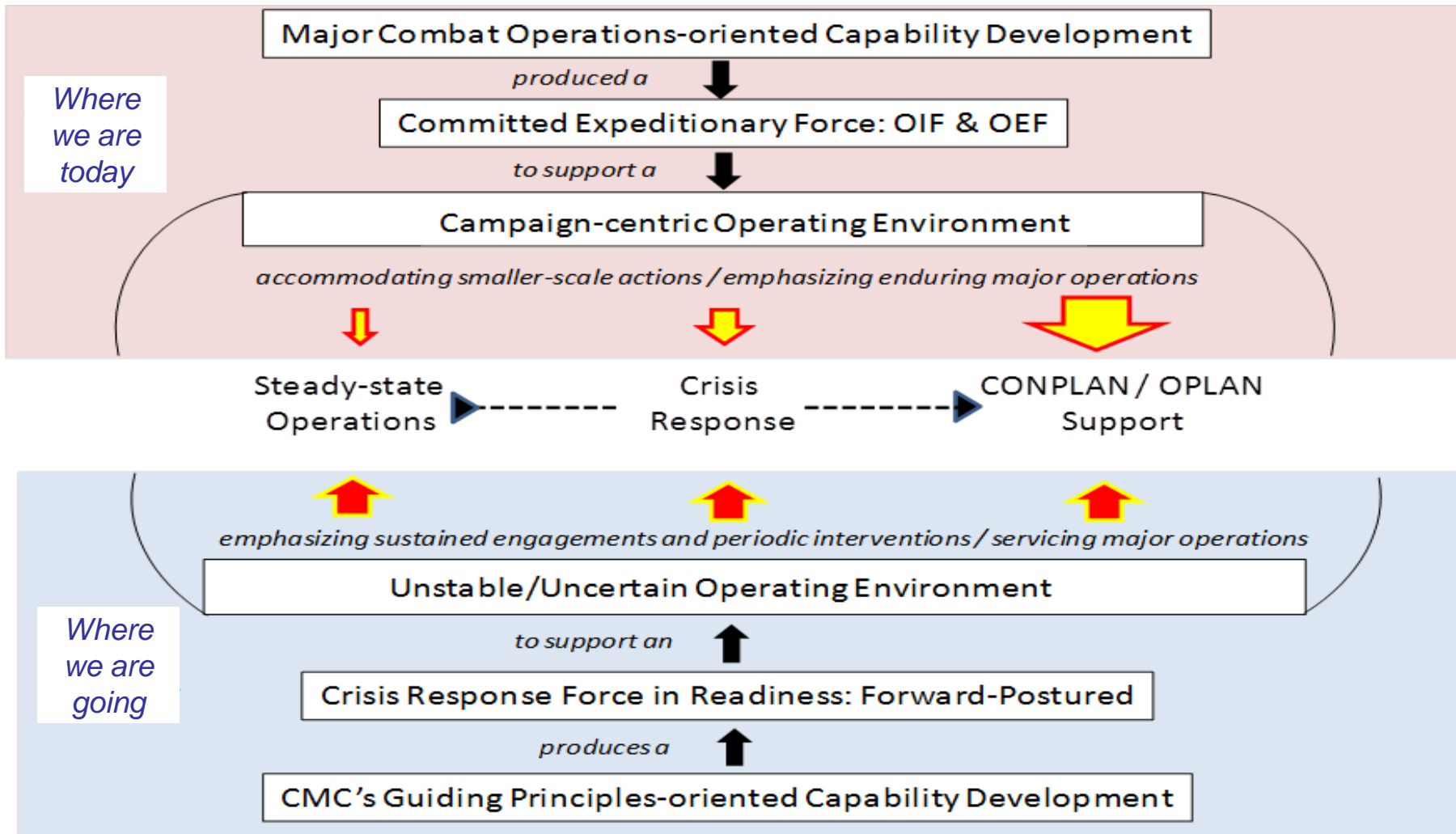


MEB composites  
forward, rapidly-deploying, and  
reinforcing SPMAGTFs, ARG/MEUs, GRF,  
MPS up to regimental/group size units

Scalable MEB Response



# Moving Forward







# ***Assured Access benefits more than just our Nation's security***

## **Global Access Benefits:**

- Enables support to friends, allies, partners
- Facilitates economic opportunity
- Supports environmental protection initiatives

## **Versatile, always ready naval forces are:**

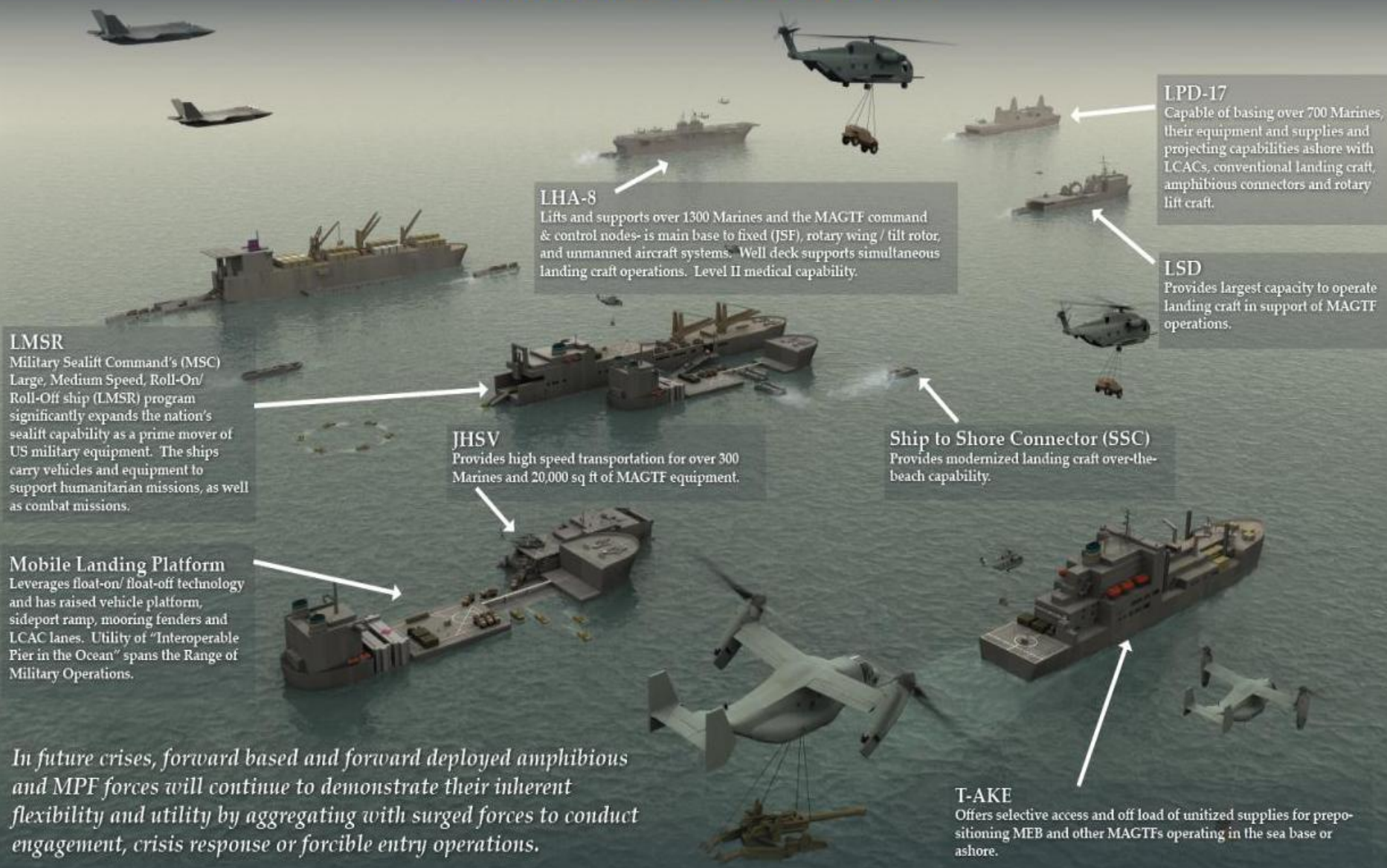
- Flexible, sea-based, "floating military bases," no SOFAs required!
- Energy efficient, self-contained, "whole of government" oriented
- As capable for disaster response as they are for force projection
- Cost effective

***Amphibious, Expeditionary Forces Are The Key!***



**CAN WE AFFORD NOT TO PRESERVE OUR ABILITY TO PROJECT POWER?**

# Present and Future Seabasing Capability



**LHA-8**  
Lifts and supports over 1300 Marines and the MAGTF command & control nodes- is main base to fixed (JSF), rotary wing / tilt rotor, and unmanned aircraft systems. Well deck supports simultaneous landing craft operations. Level II medical capability.

**LPD-17**  
Capable of basing over 700 Marines, their equipment and supplies and projecting capabilities ashore with LCACs, conventional landing craft, amphibious connectors and rotary lift craft.

**LSD**  
Provides largest capacity to operate landing craft in support of MAGTF operations.

**LMSR**  
Military Sealift Command's (MSC) Large, Medium Speed, Roll-On/Roll-Off ship (LMSR) program significantly expands the nation's sealift capability as a prime mover of US military equipment. The ships carry vehicles and equipment to support humanitarian missions, as well as combat missions.

**JHSV**  
Provides high speed transportation for over 300 Marines and 20,000 sq ft of MAGTF equipment.

**Ship to Shore Connector (SSC)**  
Provides modernized landing craft over-the-beach capability.

**Mobile Landing Platform**  
Leverages float-on/ float-off technology and has raised vehicle platform, sideport ramp, mooring fenders and LCAC lanes. Utility of "Interoperable Pier in the Ocean" spans the Range of Military Operations.

**T-AKE**  
Offers selective access and off load of unitized supplies for prepositioning MEB and other MAGTFs operating in the sea base or ashore.

*In future crises, forward based and forward deployed amphibious and MPF forces will continue to demonstrate their inherent flexibility and utility by aggregating with surged forces to conduct engagement, crisis response or forcible entry operations.*

