

Joint Fires

Combat Support Program's Quarterly Information Circular

DTCS Flat Screen Trainers delivered to the three Gun Regiments



Will Cross-Domain Battle become the norm for western militaries?

Requirements setting for the next generation of DTCS is under way

Results of April's LAND 17 Working Group at Victoria Barracks Melbourne



Short Range Ground Based Air Defence

**LAND 19
Ph 7B**

IAMD

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Introduction



LTCOL Andrew Langford
SO1 Joint Fires

The rubber has well and truly hit the road for the team within the JF Cell! We have taken two key projects to committee in our first six months. LAND 17 Ph 1C2 (Future Artillery Ammunition) achieved Gate 2 CMGR endorsement under the stewardship of CAPT Tony Mumford in May, and LAND 8115 (Mortar Ammunition) achieved Gate 0 endorsement under MAJ Rhys Myers' stewardship in June. These excellent efforts from both project leads will see new improved mortar ammunition and a generational leap forward in 155mm ammunition. A special thanks for the supporting efforts provided by LEOSPO, namely COL Mick Ahern, LTCOL Tony Furman and MAJ Jon Abundo.

Just when we thought we had done all our forming, storming and norming we experienced a reshuffle in MOD-A at the Director level. We welcome COL Hugh Meggitt as our new Program Director and wish COL Joanne Whittaker all the best in her role looking after LAND 200 and Force Protection.

MAJ Andy McDonell is busy finalising the requirements for LAND 17 Ph 2 (DTCS). He is also busy working behind the scenes on infrastructure and training systems, looking long and hard at the benefits of simulation. I must stress the vision and ambitions we have for simulation are not to replace the requirement for live fire, but rather to augment it! Thank you for your positive feedback on the first *Info Circular* and we are aiming to publish another one if not two before the year is out. — AL



LTCOL Charles Slinger
SO1 Air Land Integration

The RAA has had a fantastic start to the new year with LAND 19 Ph 7B (Short Range Ground Based Air Defence) achieving Government First Pass approval in February. CASG will now take the lead in coordinating a number of risk mitigation activities as the Project moves to Gate 2 in early 2019. Continued support and contributions from the RAA community over this period is critical and will ensure we develop the best possible capability solution for Army. MAJ Rhys Myers provides greater detail on the Project on page 4.

LAND 19 Ph Ph 7A (C-RAM) continues to conduct sustainment work packages aimed at mitigating system obsolescence. Much of this work is managed and coordinated by CASG. Over the next few months focus will be on both rationalising C-RAM C2 sub-systems (to simplify the amount of equipment types) and on mitigating WAVES obsolescence. 16 ALR and Saab will be heavily engaged across these two areas.

16 ALR and AHQ have also commenced work with Saab/Boeing to address a capability gap of the Air and Land Common Tactical Picture Interface between the GAMB and Vigilare. The proposed demonstration intends to provide two-way passage of air track data, allowing GAMB to contribute to the broader Link 16 network and the Recognised Air Picture.

In the next edition we'll provide an update on Army's contribution to C-UAS developments. — CS

Short Range Ground Based Air Defence

The ADF's air defence capability is postured for a generational shift over the next decade

LAND 19 Ph 7B - Short Range Ground Based Air Defence project is the lead project within the land based Integrated Air and Missile Defence (IAMD) program that has just achieved First Pass approval by Government. Phase 7B is focused on providing the Joint Force mobile tactical level protection from air and indirect fire threats, and being integrated into the higher IAMD capability.

The IAMD program is made up of LAND 19 Ph 7B and two RAAF projects - AIR 6500 Ph 1 Joint Battle Management System and AIR 6500 Ph 2 Medium Range Air and Missile Defence. The IAMD program is focused on the land component of IAMD but has strong links to RAN projects such as the DDG and Future Frigate programs, RAAF projects such as E-7 Wedgetail and JSF and Army projects such as LAND 200 and LAND 17.

AIR 6500 Ph 1 will provide high level C4I that will sit above the Phase 7B tactical system. It will have deployable C4I nodes and sensors as well as providing fixed C4I and sensors around continental Australia. Phase 7B will link into the C4I system, which will then link to the wider ADF and coalition force.

AIR 6500 Ph 2 will add medium range effectors to the AIR 6500 Ph 1 system. Phase 2 will leverage off work done by LAND 19 Ph 7B and look at longer range missile systems to be able to provide a greater level of coverage to static elements of the Joint Force such as APODs, HQs and more.

LAND 19 Ph 7B will undertake activities to reach Second Pass with Raytheon Australia and CEA Technology. Raytheon, in conjunction with Kongsberg, will provide the National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System (NASAMS) for risk mitigation activities. NASAMS is being presented in two forms.



Fig. 1. NASAMS Canister Launcher

An 'off-the-shelf' system (Fig. 1) that is in service with seven countries including the US, Norway and Spain. This system incorporates sophisticated C4I technology with sensor and launcher platforms. The key characteristics of this solution are that it fires the RAAF in-service AMRAAM missile from a 'canister' launcher that is deployed from a flat-bed truck. The entire system is vehicle mounted and provides coverage to mobile force elements.

An upgraded NASAMS called MEDUSA incorporating a wider missile fleet, better sensor technology and high mobility launchers will also be presented. This system can use the AMRAAM and AIM-9X missiles, with possible expansion into other missile systems with greater range as the capability evolves. It will also incorporate a High Mobility Launcher (Fig. 2) and a more sophisticated C4I system.

The two options are being evaluated in terms of capability and value for money. Both systems present a generational shift from Army's current Air Defence capability. The evaluation activities will also examine currently available Counter-Rocket, Artillery and Mortar technology to determine how each best fits into the IAMD capability and the Joint Force requirements.



Fig. 2. NASAMS High Mobility Launcher

CEA Technology will be part of the risk mitigation activities. CEA is an Australian Industry Capability that produces active electronically scanned array radar and communications technology, and has already built radars for the RAN's Anzac Frigates and have sold radars to the US Military for use as part of the JSF program. CEA has been asked to provide potential radar solutions that can be integrated into NASAMS system for consideration as a solution for Phase 7B. Figure 3 is an example of a CEA radar.

Both the Raytheon/Kongsberg and CEA Technology solutions will be evaluated in their ability to integrate into LAND 121 Ph 4 (Hawkei) and LAND 116 (Bushmaster) vehicle platforms as well as other B-vehicles. This integration work will be done as part of the activities leading to Second Pass.

Other activities investigating facilities, training, organisational structure and other FIC will also be evaluated prior to Second Pass. It should be noted that only First Pass has been achieved which means that Government has directed AHQ to conduct a number of activities to determine the best solution for Defence. Once the assessment has been made the final solution will then be presented to Government in 2019-20 for their endorsement prior to entering into contract negotiations.

The ALI Cell in AHQ and the LAND 19 Ph 7B project team are seeking your support as we develop this important capability. We seek your participation when asked, provide frank advice in return and, ultimately, show a united front within Army and to Industry - we've made the right decisions so far but there is still plenty of work to be done! — RM



Fig. 3. CEA Technology's Ground Based Multi Mission Radar

LAND 17 Working Group

The senior staff of the Gun Regiments, School of Artillery, CATC and CASG came together in April at Victoria Barracks Melbourne to participate in AHQ's first LAND 17 Working Group for the year. Chaired by SO1 Joint Fires, LTCOL Andrew Langford, this meeting provided an excellent opportunity for briefings, information exchange and idea propagation.

DARS-A

Digitally Aided Range Safety - Artillery (DARS-A) is an AHQ-initiated project from 2014 which aims to digitise the process of range planning and the production of Artillery traces. Qinetiq has been contracted to develop the software in close consultation with the School. After Qinetiq's presentation to the audience it was confirmed by all concerned that development should continue to version 3.0 of the product with the intention of rolling out the software to the RAA over the next 12-18 months. As a result of this decision a two-day user training session was held this month at the School to provide feedback to DARS-A's further development.

DARS-A is the RAA's first foray in digital safety which will help to inform decision-making on future development and acquisition of digital safety systems.

Delivery of remaining M777A2s

8/12 Regt has been preparing since the beginning of this year for delivery of the final four M777A2s. OPSO 8/12 confirmed that the Regiment will be ready to receive the four equipments from 01 Aug 17. Actions are currently underway with CASG and 8/12 Regt to facilitate this delivery.

Live Fire of Guided 155mm ammunition

There is a clear requirement to conduct live fire with Course Correcting Fuse (CCF), Excalibur and SMArt 155 as soon as practically possible. Direction from HOR is that such a demonstration should occur in

first half of 2018. This allows the required time for technical issues to be addressed, unit scheduling, and planning for senior officer viewing at the demonstration.

ULACs & Future ULACs

There are currently four lines of effort in the development of a *future* Unit Load Carrier (ULC), including the current improvements being made to the inserts of the in-service ULAC.

Of these future ULCs the most advanced project is being run by RPDE Task 59 - an innovation arm of the ADO. Prototype development is occurring with both BAE and Sea Box International. Critical Design Review has occurred for both prototypes and initial testing of the BAE version will occur at the School in late July. The same will occur with the Sea Box design soon thereafter. Provisional Design Acceptance is anticipated to occur prior to end of year, with delivery of both prototypes to 1 Regt in December for user trials to occur in Q1-Q2 2018.

Air Portable CP Solution

4 Regt is continuing to develop its prototype solution for an air and sea portable Command Post. Based on a 750kg trailer, the demonstrated concept provides a powered AFATDS solution that is capable of being under-slung or embarked on aircraft or ship.

Next LAND 17 Working Group

The next working group will occur at Gallipoli Barracks in August, with 1 Regt hosting.



LAND 17 Working
Group
15 Aug 17
at Gallipoli Barracks

LAND 17

Infrastructure

Schedule

Construction on the DTCS simulator buildings, additional M777 and Land 121 vehicle hangars, and RPS stores is due to commence in June.

Watpac have been engaged to for the northern work package at 1 Regt, 4 Regt, and 8/12 Regt. St Hilliers are engaged to build at the School of Artillery, 2 Cdo, SASR, 4 Sqn and P&EE at Port Wakefield.

Start up meetings have commenced between the project team, builders and respective units to continue the established engagement at unit level.

The fit-out of the simulator buildings will occur after the finish dates listed in the table below. It is anticipated the School of Artillery will be first to have the DTCS simulators installed, however the schedule for all other locations is still to be determined at this time. AHQ will provide this direction to Rockwell Collins, through CASG, after consultation with receiving units. — AM

Works Package One - Watpac			
	Start Up Meeting	Works Start	Works Finish
Gallipoli Barracks	Tue, 20 Jun 17	Tue, 04 Jul 17	Wed, 28 Feb 18
Lavarack Barracks	Tue, 23 May 17	Wed, 14 Jun 17	Tue, 27 Feb 18
Robertson Barracks	Wed, 24 May 17	Wed, 14 Jun 17	Tue, 06 Mar 18
Works Package Two & Three - St Hilliers			
Bridges Barracks	Mon, 15 May 17	Thu, 08 Jun 17	Wed, 07 Mar 18
Holsworthy Barracks	Fri, 23 Jun 17	Tue, 11 Jul 17	Mon, 12 Feb 18
P&EE Port Wakefield	Tue, 15 Aug 17	Fri, 18 Aug 17	Mon, 13 Nov 17
RAAF Williamtown	Fri, 21 Jul 17	Wed, 09 Aug 17	Fri, 09 Mar 18
Campbell Barracks	Thu, 22 Jun 17	Thu, 10 Aug 17	Fri, 09 Feb 18

Digital Terminal Control System

Requirements setting for the next generation of the Digital Terminal Control System (DTCS) is currently underway. LAND 17 Ph 2 has the responsibility of providing the next generation of DTCS to JTACs, JFOs and MFCs within FORCOMD, and JTACs within SOCOMD and RAAF. It continues to be an ambitious task to furnish a digital system which caters to the needs of this broad range of users whilst communicating across the Land, Air and Maritime domains.

Building on the foundation work of previous project members, the first DTCS User Working Group for the year was held at Victoria Barracks in Melbourne on 19 April. Attendance by more than 40 people across six Defence Groups saw representation from AHQ, FORCOMD, 1 Div, SOCOMD, RAAF, Navy, CASG, VCDF Gp and DSTG which allowed for informed discussion and decision making to occur.

Key outcomes:

- **Task:** FORCOMD, SOCOMD and RAAF to provide updated User Requirements to AHQ by 30 Jun 17.
- **Decision:** Version 3 of DTCS to be rolled out in Q1 2018 which will replace the PCIDM with a software modem plus further software updates.
- **Consensus:** to continue pursuing the best way for Land 17 Ph 2 to maximise support to SOCOMD and RAAF within project scope.

Further consultation

AHQ will be working on User Requirements in July and August. A final round of consultation with representatives from FORCOMD, SOCOMD and RAAF will occur in mid-August.

Simulation Success

The three Gun Regiments have all received their Flat Screen Trainers (FST) with the roll-out successfully completed by CASG and Rockwell Collins in May.

Not only do these simulators replace the IFACT but now allow for DTCS connectivity for JFTs to train in the digital environment.

Certification

Certification of these newly installed systems is anticipated to occur by end of June. This will allow qualified JTACs and JFOs to maximise currency opportunities in accordance with the respective MOAs.

In mid-June 1 Regt had its new FST assessed by MAJ Ross Wehby (ADF JTAC Standards Officer) who is the Joint Fire Support Executive Steering Committee's (JFS ESC) authorised assessor within Australia. It is anticipated that certification of the FSTs at 4 Regt and 8/12 Regt will be contingent upon success at 1 Regt.

Additional Flat Screen Trainers

2 Cdo Regt and SASR are set to receive two additional FSTs that have been purchased through opportune AHQ funds. These two systems will also receive JTAC MOA accreditation.

Guardian Trial

CATC have been authorised by AHQ to commence the Guardian Trial supported by Rockwell Collins. The final report is expected by end of July, and will inform AHQ's decision on the future of Guardian.

Variable Message Format (VMF)

Even when our fire control systems are running the same stack configuration, VMF threads can still struggle to get through. A dedicated coalition working group has been addressing this problem for the last 12 months.

The Digital Aided Fire Support Working Group (DAFS WG) led by the J6 division of the Joint Staff in Suffolk, Virginia, has been addressing this problem with the help of a multinational contingent to staff an engineering proposal.

AHQ's SO1 Joint Fires is the co-sponsor of DAFS Engineering Proposal #1 (ECP #1), with the lion's share of the technical work provided by two Australians - Mr Les Bayley from the ADF Tactical Data Link Authority (ADFTA) based in Fyshwick, and Mr Ian Burch from Rockwell Collins Australia who is based in Los Angeles.

The problem

For those who are familiar with the numerous VMF stack options that currently exist (*A/C/C* and *B/D1/D1* are two examples) and the stacks proposed for future release it would be no surprise that interoperability between fire control systems is exceptionally challenging. One such example is the difficulty that recently plagued the exchange of VMF messages between the DTCS (Rockwell Collins) and the Anzac Class' Data Link Processor (Saab). Staggered software upgrades between these two systems led to the inability for message transfer to occur. Only through bilateral work between the two companies was this problem overcome.

The solution

DAFS ECP #1 proposes a clear international standard which allows engineers to develop software to standardised parameters for VMF standard fire mission threads.

The aspiration is that systems can be classed as 'DAFS ECP #1 Compliant'. Such a standard would assist capability managers, acquisition teams and industry providers a greater freedom of action because it reduces the burden of bilateral efforts between stakeholders. The end result is capability delivered with greater assurance in quicker time.

Is your fire control system ECP #1 compliant?

- aspirational question

Why the Australian involvement?

Whilst VMF is internationally recognised as a key component of Digital Aided Close Air Support (DACAS), the same cannot be said for digitally aided fires. For this reason AHQ has been investing effort to ensure that ECP #1 is pushed through the time-consuming staff process. The benefit of such involvement is the opportunity it presents to shape message threads which incorporate elements of RAA procedures.

Timeline

The formal document is in the final stages of drafting at this time. It will be provided to the DoD's Joint Deployable Analysis Team at Eglin AFB in Florida in July for analysis at Bold Quest 17-2 in October this year. — AM

Cross Domain Fires in Multi-Domain Battle

‘Multi-Domain Battle has the potential to transform our military in much the same way AirLand Battle did in the aftermath of the Vietnam War. We had great success with that doctrine in Operation Desert Storm but today’s enemy is forcing us to change the way we fight.’

In a pitch to the attendees of the US Army Fires Conference at Fort Sill in May, TRADOC Commanding General, David Perkins, presented a compelling case for a new doctrine of Multi-Domain Battle.

Formally released by TRADOC in October last year, General Perkins is proposing this concept as a replacement to the now outdated doctrine of AirLand Battle (FM 100-5).

Why the change?

General Perkins identified three ways the enemy is forcing us to change:

- Fracturing our ability to carry out AirLand Battle
- Keeping the Americans at arms length through A2AD (Anti-Access/Area Denial)
- Fixing Americans and partners in place to reduce their freedom of action

‘We now realise that we can’t fight in only two domains at a time (air-ground; air-sea; ground-sea), rather we need to create temporal windows of superiority to exploit in any of the domains. We need to present multiple dilemmas in different locations.’

What is Multi-Domain Battle?

Multi-Domain Battle seeks to integrate joint inter-organisational and multinational capabilities to **create windows of domain superiority** and preserve Joint Force freedom of manoeuvre. In difference to AirLand Battle which focused on Phase 3 operations, Multi-Domain Battle covers Phase 0 through to Phase 4.

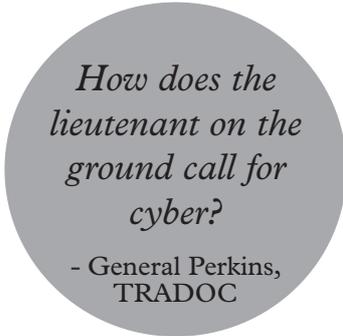
Cross-Domain Fires

‘Fires has a significant role to play. The assumption of air supremacy is now defunct due to the A2AD effort which is fracturing the AirLand Battle concept; at best we can have temporal windows of superiority.’

The aim is to exploit temporary domain superiority by synchronising cross-domain fires and manoeuvre to achieve physical, temporal, positional and psychological advantage.

Rear Admiral Mark Montgomery, J3 USPACOM, remarked by video-link that ‘we need our fires capability to be long range, fast, networked, sustainable and cheap - we need a quiver of missiles, and the US Army and the Marine Corps can contribute to that.’

‘Air platforms and munitions are vulnerable to attack on GPS, and ships are now highly challenged by A2AD. Fires are centre of gravity for what land forces can offer PACOM both right now, and into the future.’



How does the lieutenant on the ground call for cyber?

- General Perkins, TRADOC

Work to be done

But there are many questions that need to be answered. What are the roles of the domains? Of the headquarters? How far does artillery need to fire? How do the headquarters support the lieutenant on the ground? How does that same lieutenant call for cyber? What needs to be taught at the schools, how, and to what depth?

From the floor Brigadier John Mead OBE, Commander 1st Brigade Royal Artillery asked how do coalition partners plug and play into this Multi-Domain Battle concept?

General Perkins responded by acknowledging that it looks rather expensive (referring to the diagram below), but one key way is through fires because of its macro-approach to the battlefield.

A senior German Air Force Officer asked about ways to train for Multi-Domain Battle. 'Make the most of the synthetic training environment' General Perkins stated first up, 'and getting involved in the AWA [Army Warfighting Assessment].'

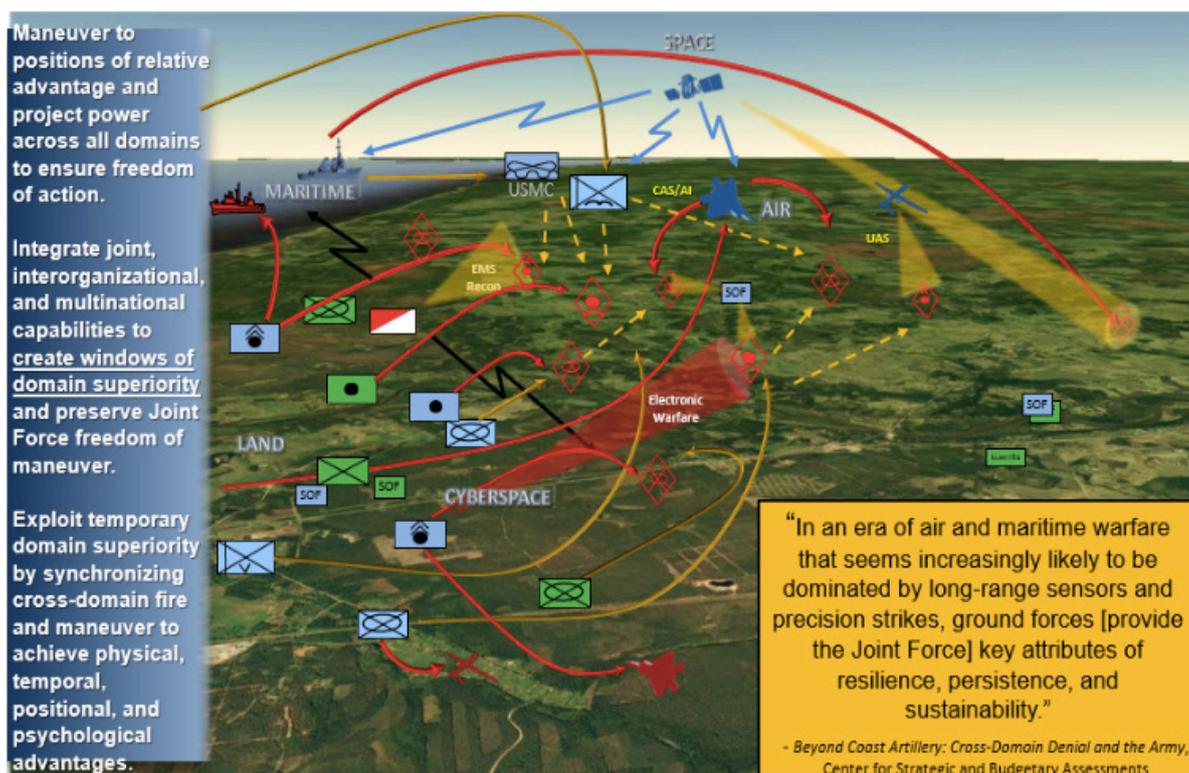
Another question from the floor asked 'how do we do Ground-Maritime coordination - do we need something similar to the BCD [Battlefield Coordination Detachment]?' In response, Rear Admiral Montgomery was emphatic in the need to train how we fight, and went on to highlight the superior granularity of the JFAC's Master Attack Plan when compared to the JFMC's plan.

'We need our fires capability to be long range, fast, networked, sustainable and cheap - we need a quiver of missiles, and the US Army and the Marine Corps can contribute to that.'

*Rear Admiral Mark Montgomery,
J3 USPACOM*

From here

It's important to remember that Multi Domain Battle is still conceptual doctrine put forward by US Army TRADOC. It is receiving significant attention within the other services of the US Military and in the NATO community. — AM



Current focus of the Future Land Warfare Branch

Major Andrew Ludlow from the Future Land Warfare Branch highlights the focus of work for this year.

As a result of the First Principles Review and the restructure of AHQ, Future Land Warfare Branch was established at the beginning of 2017. This was done by taking elements of Strategic Policy, Force Design, Experimentation and combining them with the Army History Unit, the Australian Army Research Centre and the ABCANZ program.

So what does this mean? Broadly, the Branch is responsible for designing the Army's Future Force, post what is funded in the Defence White Paper 2016, and developing the concept of how the Army will fight as part of the Joint Land Force. This requires detailed interaction with Defence Science and Technology Group, industry and the other services to gain insights into emerging and disruptive technologies, and joint capabilities. This includes technologies like directed and novel energy weapons (laser, microwave, rail gun) for such purposes as C-UAS, C-RAM, IAMD and joint fires; Joint C3 and battle management systems, and network integration; targeting; and future



US Army - Phaser Directed Energy Weapons

ISTAREW systems, but also how these systems contribute to the Joint Force.

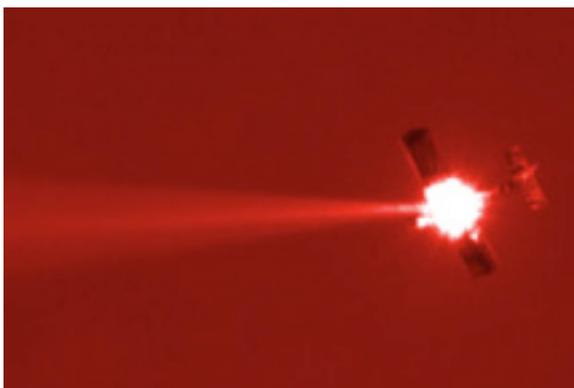
The focus of effort for this year will be the development of a C-UAS strategy for type one and two UAVs. This is due to emerging operational requirements with the coalition efforts against Daesh, but also the proliferation of low cost, simple to use unmanned technologies, including weaponised and swarming systems that have the potential to threaten Australian soldiers on operations. Potential solutions to some of these systems include high energy lasers, microwave weapons (such as the US Army Phaser), and electronic countermeasures. By informing this area for Army, the capability to adapt and defeat emerging technologies significantly increases.



A high energy laser mounted on a remote weapons station

The focus will then shift to a review of the land joint fires and effects system, with a view to designing the future force beyond 2027. This component will require input from all the RAA units, especially with regards to the effects the joint fires and effects system needs to deliver, and also the potential structure of RAA units to force generate these capabilities.

— AL2



Laser effects against a UAV

Snapshot

Future Artillery Ammunition (FAA)

LAND 17 Ph 1C2 has completed its tender process and is now making its case to Government to purchase a new suite of ammunition (not precision or anti-armoured) for the M777A2. The capability of the likely suite of ammunition will significantly increase the range and lethality of our weapon systems and thus their utility in the battlespace. By the end of the year this project aims to have Government approval allowing acquisition and introduction into service. CASG will be conducting a number of activities over the next 12-18 months at Port Wakefield and Woomera to test and certify the new ammunition. Watch this space! — RM

8/12 Regt to receive its remaining allocation of M777s

8/12 Regt is postured to receive the final four M777s in Q3 this year. This will complete the rollout of the main equipments under LAND 17 Ph 1C1.

Solar Blanket Battery Charger

A one-off provision of 55 solar blanket battery chargers are set for delivery to the Gun Regts in August this year (18 per Regt, 1 for SoArty).

On the back of CASG user trials done by 1 Regt and 4 Regt in Nov 2016, AHQ has funded the purchase of 55 kits, for purchase and delivery through Diggerworks (MAJ Matt Haar). This will provide a *limited* capability to JFTs with the primary purpose of informing LAND 17 Ph 2 (DTCS).

JFExC Limited Objective Exercise

The LOE that was scheduled for September in Canberra this year will no longer occur at its intended scale - 4 Regt is now *off the hook* for providing support.

Headline 17

Headline is an annual activity sponsored by the AHQ Land Warfare Lab. This year its focus will be on Anti-Acess/Area-Denial (A2AD) which is aligned with Multi-Domain Battle (see page 10). The activity will take place in Brisbane toward the end of the year and be assisted by SMEs from Army, RAAF, RAN, Coalition Partners with staff effort being supplied by from ACSC-J.

Future Events

LAND 17 Working Group

Convenor: LTCOL Andrew Langford

Date: 15 August 2017

Time: 0900-1600

Place: Gallipoli Barracks (Monash Centre)

Target Audience:

- COs, RSMs, MGs
- CASG

BOLD QUEST (17-2)

Army's commitment to Bold Quest is starting to take shape with the latest planning conference having occurred at Savannah, Georgia in late May. LTCOL Peter Meakin from VCDF Group continues to represent ADF interests by identifying and pursuing opportunities for Service involvement.

CASG will have lead on testing of DTCS (v3) and DAFS ECP #1, whilst 16 ALR will support AIR90 in the testing of IFF. SOCOMD and RAAF will have representation in the DACAS space.

The personnel support bill for DTCS and ECP #1 testing will continue to be considered by CASG and AHQ as the Bold Quest plan continues to evolve. An allocation of positions to FORCOMD is likely to be promulgated in August.

The AHQ POCs are LTCOL Charles Slinger (ALI) and MAJ Andrew McDonnell (JF).

Dates: 16 Oct-02 Nov 17

Location: Savannah, Georgia

Attendance: To be determined

Areas of focus: DTCS, AFATDS, 16 ALR support to AIR90 IFF testing



Army