

Sensor Enabled Counterfire

“Tipping the response scale”





Agenda



- ✓ Evolving Counterfire: Reactive → Pro-active
- ✓ Sensor Game Changers
- ✓ Long Term Implications
- ✓ Summary



Evolving Counterfire: Reactive → Pro-active



- ✓ Counterfire – “Yesterday”
 - ✓ Traditionally reactive
 - ✓ Sensors designed to rapidly acquire & enable response to indirect fires (IDF)
 - ✓ Works reasonably well against “conventional” enemy
 - ✓ Other sensor availability & suitability to detect enemy IDF systems limited
 - ✓ Blue forces assumes a level of risk
- ✓ Today’s Counterfire Environment
 - ✓ “Non-standard” enemy – templating challenge
 - ✓ Distributed & asymmetric operations – fleeting targets
 - ✓ Enemy indirect fires: Tactically irrelevant but strategically problematic
- ✓ Counterfire – “Today”
 - ✓ Focused on mitigating IDF attacks shifts to a pro-active counterfire emphasis
 - ✓ Sensor proliferation

Sensors are Counterfire Game Changers

The Future of Fires Begins Here



Sensor Game Changers



- ✓ Sensor improvements and proliferation within the BCT battle space
- ✓ Persistent or near persistent surveillance sensors:
 - ✓ Aerostats
 - ✓ Fixed sensors
 - ✓ UAVs
 - ✓ External sensor feeds
- ✓ Leveraging adaptive and creative templating
 - ✓ Anthropology based assessments
 - ✓ Human terrain mapping
 - ✓ Forensics

Increase pro-active counterfire opportunities

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Long Term Implications



- ✓ Sensor enablers:
 - ✓ Shifts counterfire balance between pro-active & reactive
 - ✓ Expands both response opportunities and options
- ✓ Improve templating process tools
- ✓ Re-scope counterfire understanding & application
- ✓ Pro-active counterfire will push the sensor integration envelope
- ✓ Networking sensors:
 - ✓ Automated sensor integration & decision making aids
 - ✓ Overcome stovepipe & interoperability challenges
 - ✓ Increase sensor “awareness” & “intelligence”

Networked sensors yields greater capability

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Summary



- ✓ Sensor enabled counterfire tips the response scale
- ✓ Reactive counterfire diminished but not eliminated
- ✓ Pro-active counterfire:
 - ✓ Sensor enablers are key
 - ✓ Agile and adaptive templating process
 - ✓ Response options increase
 - ✓ Force protection enhanced
- ✓ Must leverage existing sensor capability
- ✓ Demand future sensor capability plug in to a sensor network
- ✓ Networked sensors yield greater capability

Today's counterfire experiences are relevant tomorrow

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