

# The Third Offset Strategy and Implications for White Sands Missile Range

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White Sands Missile Range  
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U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command





# WSMR Mission

Provide Army, Navy, Air Force, DoD, foreign allies, and other customers with high quality services for experimentation, test, research, assessment, development, and training in support of the Nation.

## Major Range and Test Facility Base (MRTFB)

- *National Defense Authorization Act 2003 (NDAA 03) established MRTFB funding rules:*
- *Funding for indirect costs associated with test events is not chargeable to DoD test customers*
- *Only direct costs directly attributable to a specific test can be charged to DoD test customers*
- *Ranges/Capabilities are available to commercial and foreign military users on a fully reimbursable basis*

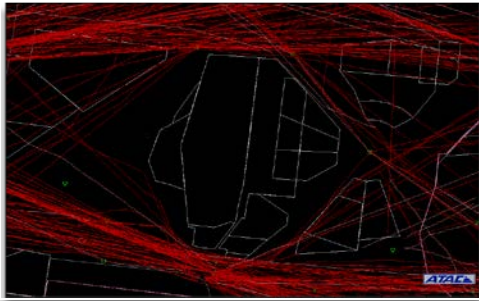




# A National Treasure



"WSMR Shadow"



- Land area
- Air space
- Frequency

Northern Call-Up Area

Western Call-Up Areas

White Sands Missile Range

Ft. Bliss

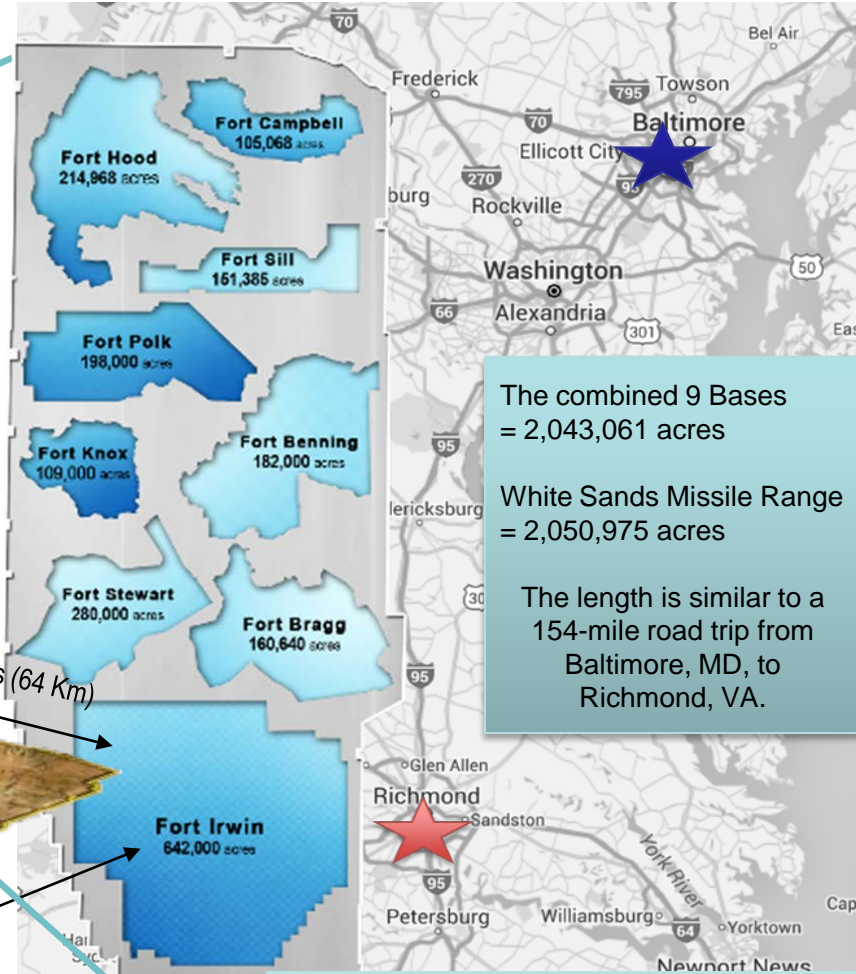
~100 Miles

~183 Miles  
(294 Km)

**Dry / Clear Atmosphere**

Avg. RH- 42%, Avg. Rainfall 11.7"

Avg. Visibility 30 km



The combined 9 Bases = 2,043,061 acres

White Sands Missile Range = 2,050,975 acres

The length is similar to a 154-mile road trip from Baltimore, MD, to Richmond, VA.

**Stable / Mild Climate**

20yr Avg. Temperature.

Winter Summer

High	61°F	92°F
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Low	36°F	69°F
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# Previous Offset Strategies

## “First Offset Strategy”

- Emphasis on *nuclear deterrence to avoid the large increase in defense expenditures* necessary to conventionally deter Warsaw Pact forces during the 1950s.

## “Second Offset Strategy”

- Following the Vietnam War, U.S. tolerance for defense expenditures plummeted while Warsaw Pact forces outnumbered NATO forces by three to one in Europe.
- DoD sought *technology to “offset” the numerical advantages* held by U.S. adversaries.
  - Emphasized: Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) platforms; Precision-Guided Weapons; Stealth; and the expansion of space’s role in military communications and navigation.
  - Guided by a long-range research and development plan that enabled U.S. and allied forces to hold adversary forces at risk long before they could bring superior numbers to bear.
- *Shaped, in many ways, the U.S. military of today.* Key resulting systems include:
  - Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) found on the E-2s and E-3s
  - F-117 stealth fighter and its successors
  - Modern precision-guided munitions
  - Global Positioning System (GPS)
  - Significant enhancements in reconnaissance, communications, and battle management

2<sup>nd</sup> Offset Strategy  
Tested  
at WSMR in 1982





# The Third Offset Strategy

DoD developing a "Third Offset Strategy" to offset growing disadvantages U.S. forces.

- Technologies will include **robotics, system autonomy**, miniaturization, big data, and advanced manufacturing
- Next-generation power projection platforms like **unmanned autonomous strike aircraft, Long Range Strike - Bomber**, undersea warfare systems and **non-line of sight communications**





# Innovation Opportunities

## Prototyping and Experimentation

Autonomy & Robotics

Strong WSMR  
Test Role

Biomedical

Electronic Warfare / Cyber

Possible WSMR  
Test Role

Future of Computing / Micro-electronics

Hypersonics

Strong WSMR  
Test Role

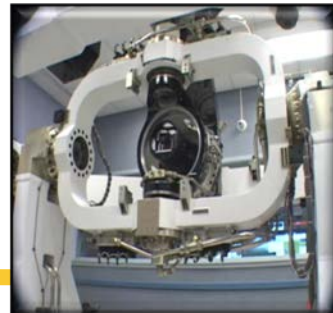
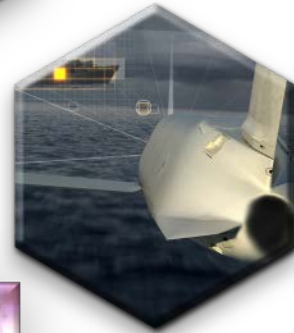
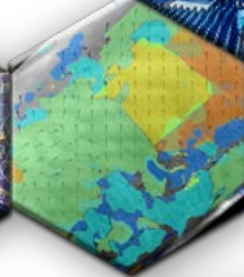
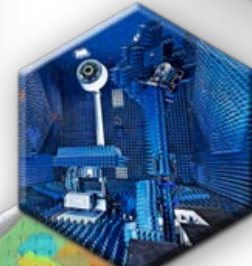
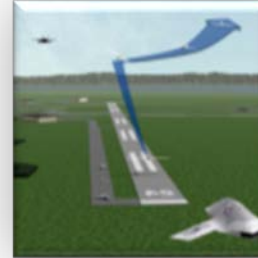
Directed Energy

Strong WSMR  
Test Role

Manufacturing

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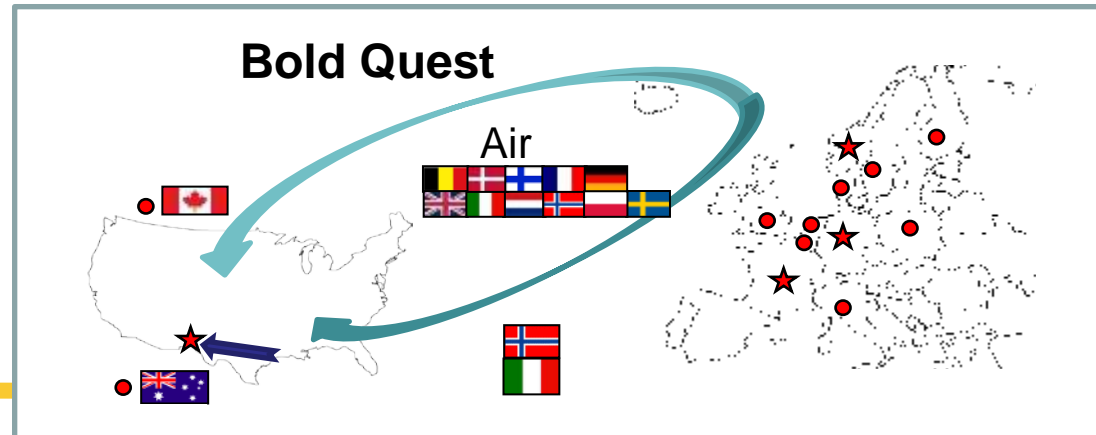
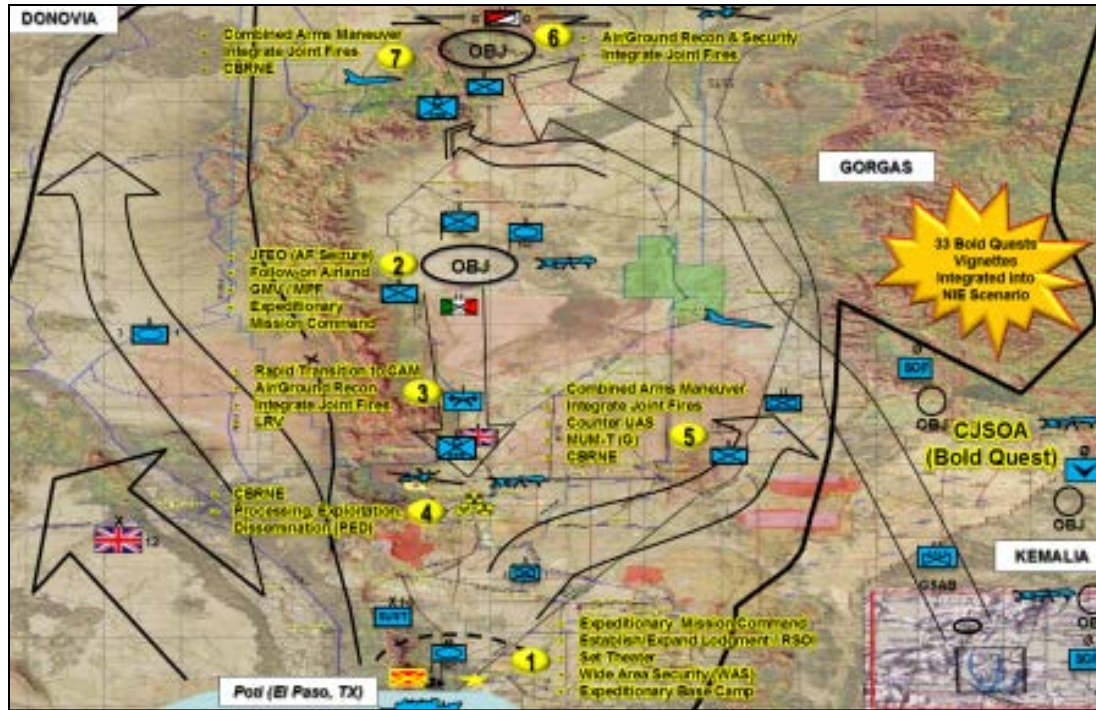
Possible WSMR  
Test Role







# Non-line Of Sight and Networked Systems Testing





# WSMR Laser Testing Video

Distribution A:

Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

OPSEC review conducted on 10 February 2013.





# Other Examples



Unmanned autonomous strike aircraft

Long Range Strike – Bomber



Others: Deep Learning, Human Machine collaboration,  
Human Machine Combat, Assisted Human  
Operations



# WSMR Vision 2046 Preliminary Conclusions

## Future Testing needs for Country/WSMR

- Autonomous and Self-Learning (AI)
  - Robotics, Unmanned, Man in the Loop
- Long-Range Weapons and Hypersonics
- Directed Energy Programs
- Network Testing
- Swarm
- Cloud Computing Systems
- More Safari/Expedition support
- Unique Targets
- More “Systems of Systems” Testing
- Nuclear Threats and Weapons Modernization

## Some Current Challenges/Constraints

- Infrastructure Obsolescence and Maintenance
- Current Budget and Resource/Business Model
- Encroachment (Spectrum, Land Buffer, 10-1 Series)
- LRC, MICC, and CPAC support





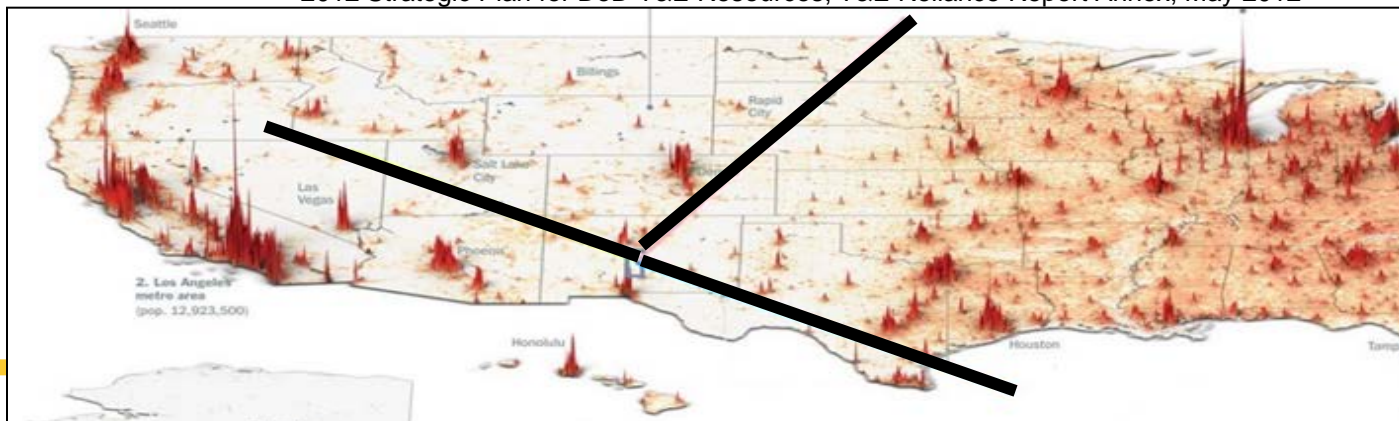
# WSMR Vision 2046

## Initial Analysis/Assessment

### Some Initial Thoughts/Assessments

- Change our Resource Model
- Develop Longer Off-range Corridors
- Test Environment Characterization and Situational Awareness
- Develop Flight Safety Innovations – e.g., Geo Fences
- Additional Mobile and Remote Capabilities
- Improve Test Cost Management & Real-time Cost Awareness
- Enhance Communications (VOIP, wireless, unobtrusive)
- Define, Recruit, Develop, New Skill Sets Needed For Testing – Obtain Direct Hire Authority

2012 Strategic Plan for DoD T&E Resources, T&E Reliance Report Annex, May 2012





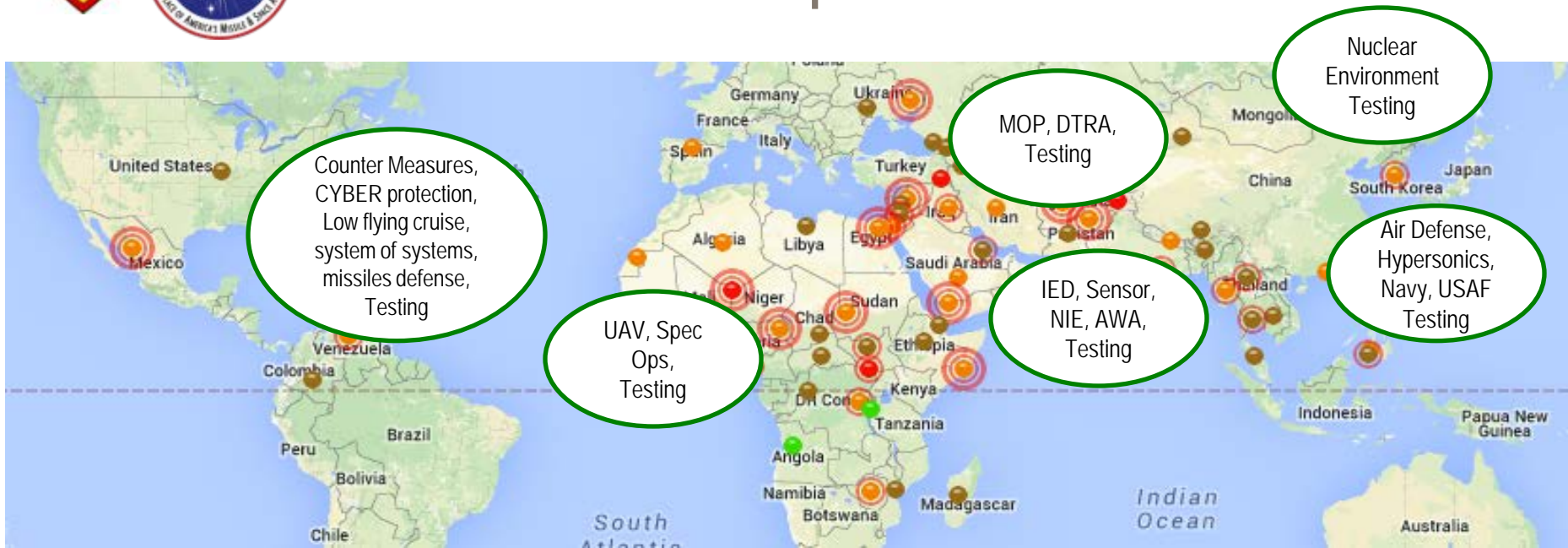
Questions?







# World Wide Conflicts And Related Testing Requirements



*World Wide Threats are diverse and complex. They vary from low tech IED to high tech hypersonic weapons. WSMR remains a critical, and sometimes the only, test range that can support testing needs.*

*Future threats like hypersonic weapons and proposed defensive systems such as lasers systems will increase WSMR importance*



# Autonomy & Robotics

## Huge Role for Testing!

### Autonomous Learning Systems

- Delegating decisions to machines in applications that require faster-than-human reaction times

### Human-Machine Collaborative Decision Making

- Exploiting the advantages of both humans and machines for better and faster human decisions

### Assisted Human Operations

- Helping humans perform better in combat

### Advanced Manned-Unmanned System Operations

- Employing innovative cooperative operations between manned and unmanned platforms

### Network-enabled, autonomous weapons hardened to operate in a future Cyber/EW Environment

- Cooperative weapon concepts in communications-denied environments

Simulation coupled with **multiple** open air tests on a large range is only way to test these systems

