



ASSOCIATION OF OLD CROWS ADVOCACY NEWSLETTER May 2019

USMC SIGINT Day Recap

On April 11, AOC Advocacy's SIGINT Industry Partnership Project (IPP) held its first USMC SIGINT Day on Capitol Hill. The event was comprised of two parts, a congressional panel discussion entitled "Winning the EMS: Assessing the Future of USMC SIGINT," and an Industry Solutions Forum (ISF). The panel discussion was hosted by Col Paul Cook (USMC, Ret.), Representative of the Eighth district of California and member of the House Armed Services Committee (HASC). He kicked off the event by recalling that during his time in the Marines, SIGINT was something talked about behind closed doors, not something discussed during basic training. Nowadays, SIGINT is a "game changer" on an increasingly congested and contested battlefield. Panelists included Mr. D. Guy Jordan, Assistant Director for Intelligence, USMC, Col Randolph Pugh, Commanding Officer, USMC Intelligence Schools, and Col Dave Burton, Program Manager, Intelligence Systems, USMC Systems Command. Each approached the discussion from different angles: overall policy for Mr. Jordan, training for Col Pugh, and equipment for Col Burton. This led to a robust discussion on how the Marines need to comprehensively tackle problems in the EMS.

The discussion around USMC SIGINT has become more prominent with the creation of the role of Deputy Commandant for Information (DCI). Col Burton highlighted that the biggest impact brought about by DCI LtGen Lori Reynolds is the development of a singular community of SIGINT and EW along with cyber and other effects. The Marine Corps is trying to "move beyond the old hub and spoke" model, according to Mr. Jordan. This is not only true for organizational purposes, but for capabilities as well. The biggest way industry can help with this is to develop "data correlation at the sensor," according to Jordan. These capabilities, says Burton, need to be able to operate at high frequency ranges, with variable bandwidth, and must jam and communicate simultaneously. Multifunction equipment is the future, and USMC suppliers would be wise to produce it sooner rather than later.

Col Pugh notes though that in order to be able to use this equipment, commanders need to be made aware of the problem. Many of them don't have experience in a denied environment. This is where training plays a huge role. Pugh envisions an EW attack team to disrupt commanders' stable EMS environment in a simulation. This will give them a taste of what our near-peer competitors are capable of and awaken them to the enormity of the problem. This, along with the new capabilities and technology described above, will be vital to making sure the Marines are prepared for the future fight in the EMS.

Immediately following the panel, speakers and attendees were provided the opportunity to attend in the ISF in the Rayburn Foyer. Government and military officials interacted with industry

USMC SIGINT Day Recap (cont)

partners who demonstrated and discussed their latest capabilities. Companies were able to speak to their technology solutions for the USMC with key stakeholders in a unique setting. A special thanks to SIGINT IPP partners **Motorola Systems** and **LGS Innovations/CACI** for their demonstrations during the ISF. Other SIGINT IPP partners supporting the event included **BAE Systems**, **Darkblade Systems**, **Harris**, **L3**, **Keysight Technologies**, and **Northrop Grumman**.

For more information or to join the SIGINT IPP, please contact Ken Miller, kmiller@crows.org.

Many thanks to Capitol Club member Leslie Gruis for her assistance with this recap!

EW Training Ranges Lacking

Despite USMC leaders urging for more EW training, it might not be adequate. On April 17, the Department of Defense Office of Inspector General released an audit of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM) training ranges for aviation across all Services. This report concluded that USINDOPACOM ranges had limited electronic warfare capabilities, at levels below required training ordinances. This study covered ranges in Japan, South Korea, Hawaii, Alaska, Nevada, and Arizona. These training facilities may have been sufficient for a Cold War-era operation but are no match for the EMS fight of today and tomorrow. The full report can be found [here](#).

We will see if the combination of this audit and the urging of military leaders has any impact on the FY20 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). AOC will be monitoring legislation for training modernization and will provide updates as necessary.

ICYMI: AOC gets shout out from USAF with the conclusion of the Enterprise Capability Collaboration Team (ECCT) on EMS superiority.

USMC SIGINT/EW Funding Highlights in FY20 Budget Request

The following is a sample of RDT&E programs for USMC SIGINT/EW that we are monitoring through the FY 2020 defense budget process. For more information on program funding levels in the defense budget, please contact Amanda Crowe, Congressional Affairs Manager, at crowe@crowds.org.

PE 0305242M, (U) Unmanned Aerial Systems Payloads

\$3.704 million for Project: RQ-1Payload Development

Activities: Management Services; Product Development; Support; Test and Evaluation

PE 030520M, (U) Distributed Common Ground/Surface Systems

\$6.188 million for Project: Distributed Common Ground System (DGCS-MC) SIGINT

Activities: Test and Evaluation; Product Development; and Support

PE 0602131M, Marine Corps Landing Force Technology

\$11.026 million for Project: Marine Corps Landing Force Technology

Activities: Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR); Command, Control, Communications, and Computers (C4)

PE 0603640M, MC Advanced Technology Demo

\$30.138 million for Project: Futures Directorate

Activities: Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) C4; MAGTF ISR

\$10.000 million for Project: Marine Corps ATD

Activity: C4

PE 0206313M, Marine Corps Comms Systems

\$10.454 million for Project: Command and Control Warfare Systems

Activities: USMC CREW-Management; USMC CREW-Product Development; USMC CREW- Support; USMC CREW- Test and Evaluation; MEGFoS-Product Development

USMC SIGINT/EW Funding Highlights in FY20 Budget Request (cont)

PE 0206625M, USMC Intelligence/Electronic Warfare Systems

\$14.974 million for Project: Intel Command and Control (C2) Systems

Activities: Communication Emitter Sensing and Attacking System (CESAS) Test and Evaluation/Product Development/Support; Counterintel and Human Intel Equipment (CIHEP) Test and Evaluation; Intelligence Broadcast Receiver (IBR) Product Development; SCI COMMS Product Development/Support/Test and Evaluation; Tactical Remote Sensor System (TRSS) Product Development; Tactical Signal Intelligence (SIGINT) Collection System (TSCS) Test and Evaluation; Terrestrial Collection Product Development

PE 0305232M, RQ-11 UAV

\$0.509 million for Project: Unmanned Air Systems (Intel)

Activities: Product Development and Support; Test and Evaluation (Operational Assessment)

New CSBA Report on NATO's Eastern Front

On March 28, the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments (CSBA) released "Strengthening the Defense of NATO's Eastern Frontier," a report on how the U.S. and Polish forces can better prepare for possible Russian aggression. Authors Billy Fabian, Mark Gunzinger, Jan van Tol, Jacob Cohn, and Gillian Evans make several recommendations, including the need to "increase key enablers." Key enablers such as ISR, EW, and CO are needed to overcome Russian A2/AD capabilities on the Eastern Front quicker. U.S. and NATO forces no longer have assured dominance of the EMS, as Russia has spent the past several decades invested in counter-C3ISR. In order to overcome this, Poland should invest in EW and CO capabilities to help mitigate this threat. Other recommendations made include enhancing U.S. military posture in Europe and increasing Polish readiness and modernization plans. The full report can be found [here](#).