Appendix B: Service Mission Area Descriptions and Definitions

Army

Mission Command—The mission command warfighting function develops and integrates those activities enabling a commander to balance the art of command and the science of control. It is also a fundamental philosophy of command that places people, rather than technology or systems, at the center. Under this philosophy, commanders drive the operations process through their tasks of understand, visualize, describe, direct, lead, and assess; develop teams, both within their own organizations and with joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational partners; inform and influence, inside and outside their organizations; and determine the appropriate degree of control for decentralizing decision-making and execution. The commander leads the staff’s tasks under the science of control. The four primary staff tasks are conduct the operations process (plan, prepare, execute, assess); conduct knowledge management and information management; conduct inform and influence activities; and conduct cyber/ electromagnetic activities.

Movement and Maneuver—The movement and maneuver warfighting function is the related tasks and systems that move and employ forces to achieve a position of advantage in relation to the enemy and other threats. Direct fire and close combat are inherent in maneuver. This function includes tasks associated with force projection related to gain a positional advantage over the enemy. For the purposes of the encroachment and capability assessments discussed in Chapter 3 of this report, each range will be assessed for its ability to support three movements and maneuver task areas:

- Infantry
- Armor
- Aviation

Intelligence—The intelligence warfighting function is the related tasks and systems that facilitate understanding of the enemy, terrain, and civil considerations. It includes the synchronization of collection requirements with the execution of tactical tasks such as reconnaissance, surveillance and related intelligence operations. The warfighting function includes specific intelligence and communication structures at each echelon.

Fires—The fires warfighting function is the related task and systems that provide collective and coordinated use of Army indirect fires, air and missile defense, and joint fires through the targeting process. For the purposes of the encroachment and capability assessments discussed in Chapter 3 of this report, each range was assessed for its ability to support two fire support task areas:

- Field Artillery
- Air Defense Artillery

Sustainment—The sustainment warfighting function is the related tasks and systems that provide support and services to ensure freedom of action, extend operational reach, and prolong endurance. The endurance of Army forces is primarily a function of their sustainment. Sustainment determines the depth and duration of Army operations. It is essential to retaining and exploiting the initiative.

Protection—The protection warfighting function is the related tasks and systems that preserve the force so the commander can apply maximum combat power to accomplish the mission. Preserving the force includes protecting personnel (friendly combatants and noncombatants), and physical assets of the United States, host-nation, and multinational military and civilian partners. For the purposes of the encroachment and
capability assessments discussed in Chapter 3 of this report, each range was assessed for its ability to support three protection task areas:

- Engineering
- Chemical
- Military Police

Marine Corps

Individual Level Training—The set of core and core plus skills associated with the USMC Individual Training Standards (ITS) for each element of a Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF). Accordingly, the Individual Level training range provides and supports the most basic training environment associated with the MAGTF Aviation Combat Element (ACE), Ground Combat Element (GCE), and Combat Logistics Element (CLE). The Individual Level training range also reinforces basic infantry combat skills and supports those specific training requirements and skills associated with progressive USMC ITS and the program of instruction at each USMC Formal School.

Unit Level Training—The set of friendly force small unit offensive and defensive tactics and operations associated with expeditionary MAGTF forces against hostile or potentially hostile forces. The Unit Level training range supports all types of aircraft, weapons, special operations (SPECOPS) forces, landing forces, and ground forces employed in concerted military efforts described by the Marine Corps’ Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare (EMW) doctrine, which includes Operational Maneuver from the Sea (OMFTS) and Ship to Objective Maneuver (STOM). It includes tactics and operations associated with all training phases of small unit level missions of a MAGTF.

Marine Expeditionary Unit Level Training—The set of friendly force offensive and defensive tactics and operations associated with expeditionary MAGTF forces against hostile or potentially hostile forces. The MEU Level training range supports all types of aircraft, weapons, SPECOPS forces, landing forces, and ground forces employed in concerted military presence and engagement efforts described by the USMC’s EMW doctrine, to include OMFTS and STOM.

Marine Expeditionary Brigade Level Training—The set of friendly force offensive and defensive tactics and operations associated with small-scale contingency expeditionary MAGTF forces against hostile or potentially hostile forces. The MEB Level training range supports all types of aircraft, weapons, SPECOPS forces, landing forces, and ground forces that will be employed in concerted crisis response military efforts that are characterized by high-density, high-risk operations.

Navy

Strike Warfare (STW)—The set of friendly force air, surface, subsurface, and land-based offensive tactics and operations associated with identifying, targeting, and engaging fixed, mobile, and time-sensitive land-based targets using air-to-ground (A-G) weapons. The STW range also supports tactics and operations associated with manned and unmanned Tactical Airborne Reconnaissance, Unmanned Combat Air Vehicles, Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses (SEAD), Close Air Support (CAS), and engagement of fixed and mobile land-based targets using naval surface gunfire and sea-launched cruise missiles.

Electronic Combat (EC)—The set of friendly offensive and defensive tactics and operations associated with Electronic Attack and Electronic Protect activities. The EC range function supports identifying, degrading, or denying hostile forces the effective use of their battlefield surveillance, targeting radar and electro-optical systems, communications, counter-fire equipment, and electronically fused munitions. It is a subset of C2 Warfare.

Anti-Air Warfare (AAW)—The set of friendly force offensive and defensive surface-to-air (S-A) and air-to-air (A-A) tactics and operations associated with defending friendly air, surface, and land forces from emergent hostile air threats, whether launched from air, surface, or subsurface platforms. The AAW range function also supports the set of friendly force offensive A-A tactics and operations associated with gaining and maintaining air superiority or air supremacy of the battle space. The AAW range function supports the use of electronic decoys and electronic jammers used by friendly forces for the purpose of counter-targeting against airborne threats.

Anti-Surface Warfare (ASUW)—The set of friendly force air, surface, and subsurface offensive and defensive tactics and operations associated with detection, surveillance, and engagement of contacts, critical contacts of interest, and hostile at-sea surface forces. In addition to traditional training against large ships, the ASUW range function also supports a variety of training activities against small boats, and fast-moving surface vessels. The ASUW range function may also support offensive tactics and operations against designated surface targets located in ports, harbors, and anchorages.

Mine Warfare (MW)—The set of friendly force air, surface, and subsurface offensive and defensive tactics and operations associated with mine-laying and Mine Counter Measures (MCM). Offensive minelaying operations aim to dislocate the enemy war efforts and improve the security of friendly sea lines of communications by destroying, or threatening to destroy, enemy seaborne forces. MCM includes active measures (to locate and clear mined areas), passive measures (to include small object avoidance and ship routing around high threat areas), and self-protective measures (ship signature reduction).
Amphibious Warfare (AMW)—The set of friendly force offensive and defensive tactics and operations associated with providing expeditionary forces capable of projecting power ashore from the sea to accomplish a specific objective. The AMW range function may support establishing and sustaining landing forces ashore for extended periods or putting landing forces ashore only for a short period of time before withdrawing them. The AMW range function supports virtually every type of ship, aircraft, weapon, SPECOPS force, and landing force employed in concerted military efforts described by the Operational Maneuver from the Sea (OMFTS) doctrine, which includes Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare, and Ship to Objective Maneuver. As a result, the AMW range function supports tactics and operations associated with all phases of ESG and MEU missions using OMFTS, including both amphibious assault and vertical assault tactics. The AMW range function does not support specific post-landing tactics and operations.

Anti-Submarine (ASW)—The set of friendly force air, surface, and subsurface offensive and defensive tactics and operations associated with countering hostile and potentially hostile submarine threats. The ASW range function may support open-ocean, choke point, and littoral anti-submarine missions, including detection, classification, surveillance, localization, tracking, and attack.

Naval Special Warfare (NSW)—The set of friendly force air, surface, subsurface, and land-based offensive and defensive tactics and operations associated with the five principal NSW missions: Combating Terrorism, Counter Proliferation, Special Reconnaissance, Direct Action, and Unconventional Warfare. The NSW range function supports identifying, targeting, and engaging fixed, mobile, and time sensitive land-based targets using the entire inventory of NSW weapons.

Air Force

Strategic Attack—Offensive action conducted by command authorities aimed at generating effects that most directly achieve our national security objectives by affecting the adversary’s leadership, conflict-sustaining resources, and strategy.

Counterair—Operations to attain and maintain a desired degree of air superiority by the destruction, degradation, or disruption of enemy forces. Counterair’s two elements, offensive counterair (OCA) and defensive counterair (DCA), enable friendly use of contested airspace and disable the enemy’s offensive air and missile capabilities to reduce the threat posed against friendly forces.

Counterspace—Kinetic and non-kinetic operations conducted to attain and maintain a desired degree of space superiority by the destruction, degradation, or disruption of enemy space capability. Counterspace operations have an offensive and a defensive component.

Counterland—Air and space operations against enemy land force capabilities to dominate the surface environment and prevent the opponent from doing the same. Counterland is composed of two discrete air operations for engaging enemy land forces: air interdiction, in which air maneuver indirectly supports land maneuver or directly supports an air scheme of maneuver, and close air support (CAS), in which air maneuver directly supports land maneuver.

Countersea—Specialized collateral tasks performed in the maritime environment such as sea surveillance, anti-ship warfare, protection of sea lines of communications through antisubmarine and anti-air warfare, aerial minelaying, and air refueling in support of naval campaigns with the objective of gaining control of the medium and, to the extent possible, dominating operations either in conjunction with naval forces or independently.

Information Operations (IO)—Actions taken to influence, affect, or defend information, systems, and/or decision-making of an adversary’s “observe-orient-decide-act” (OODA) loop while protecting our own.

Electronic Combat Support—Actions involving the use of electromagnetic and directed energy to control the electromagnetic spectrum or to attack the enemy across the electromagnetic battlespace. The operational elements of electronic (EW) warfare operations are electronic attack, electronic protection, and EW support.

Command and Control—The battlespace management process of planning, directing, coordinating, and controlling forces and operations. It involves the integration of a system of procedures, organizational structures, personnel, equipment, facilities, information, and communications designed to enable a commander to exercise authority and direction across the range of military operations.

Air Drop—Air Drop is the delivery of personnel and materiel from an aircraft in flight to a drop zone (DZ). Most airdrop procedures use parachutes to deliver loads to the ground, such as heavy equipment, container delivery systems, and personnel. Another airdrop procedure is free fall delivery. This involves dropping relatively small items, such as packaged meals or unbreakable objects like hay bales without the use of a parachute. Airdrop allows commanders to project and sustain combat power into areas where a suitable ALZ or a ground transportation network may not be available.

Air Refueling—The in-flight transfer of fuel between tanker and receiver aircraft.

Space lift—The delivery of satellites, payloads, and materiel to space.
Special Operations—The use of special airpower operations (denied territory mobility, surgical firepower, and special tactics) to conduct the following special operations (SPECOPS) functions: unconventional warfare, direct action, special reconnaissance, counterterrorism, foreign internal defense, psychological operations, and counterproliferation.

Intelligence, Surveillance & Reconnaissance—Activities involving the systematic observation of air, space, surface, or subsurface areas, places, persons, or things, by visual, aural, electronic, photographic, or other means; obtaining specific information about the activities and resources of an enemy or potential enemy through visual observation or other detection methods; or by securing data concerning the meteorological, hydrographic, or geographic characteristics of a particular area; and the resulting product of such activities.