



Future USMC Operations & the Sea-Base

**Col R. M. Nixon, USMC
HQMC/LPV
23 Oct 2003**



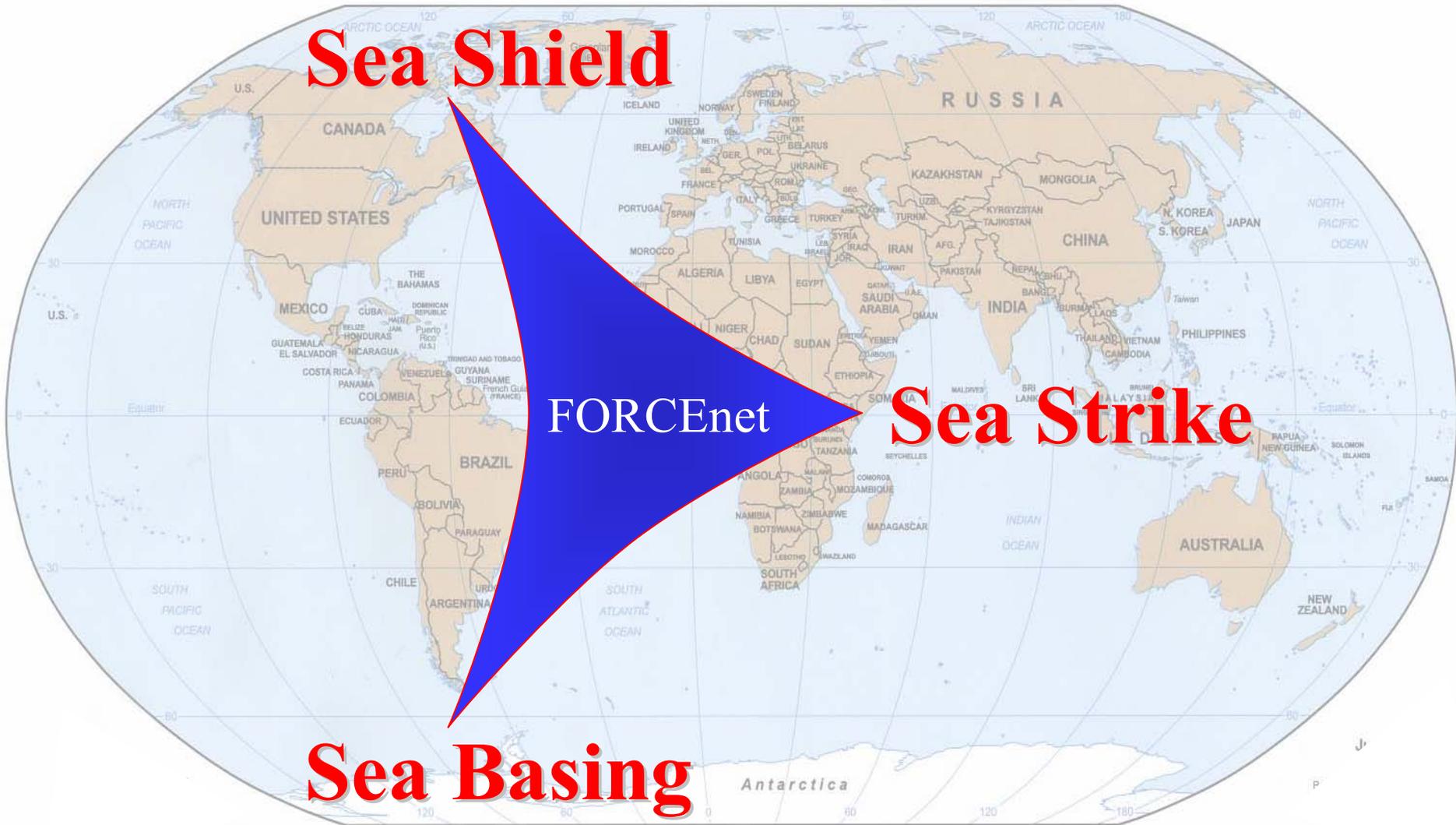
Marine Corps Vision

Characteristics of an *Expeditionary Force*:

- **Agile and flexible force**
- **Capable of a broad range of military objectives**
- **Deploy rapidly**
- **Enter objective though forcible means**
- **Sustain itself for an extended period of time**
- **Withdraw quickly**
- **Reconstitute rapidly**

General J. L. Jones
CMC
What's in a Word?
AFJI - Oct 2000

SEA POWER 21





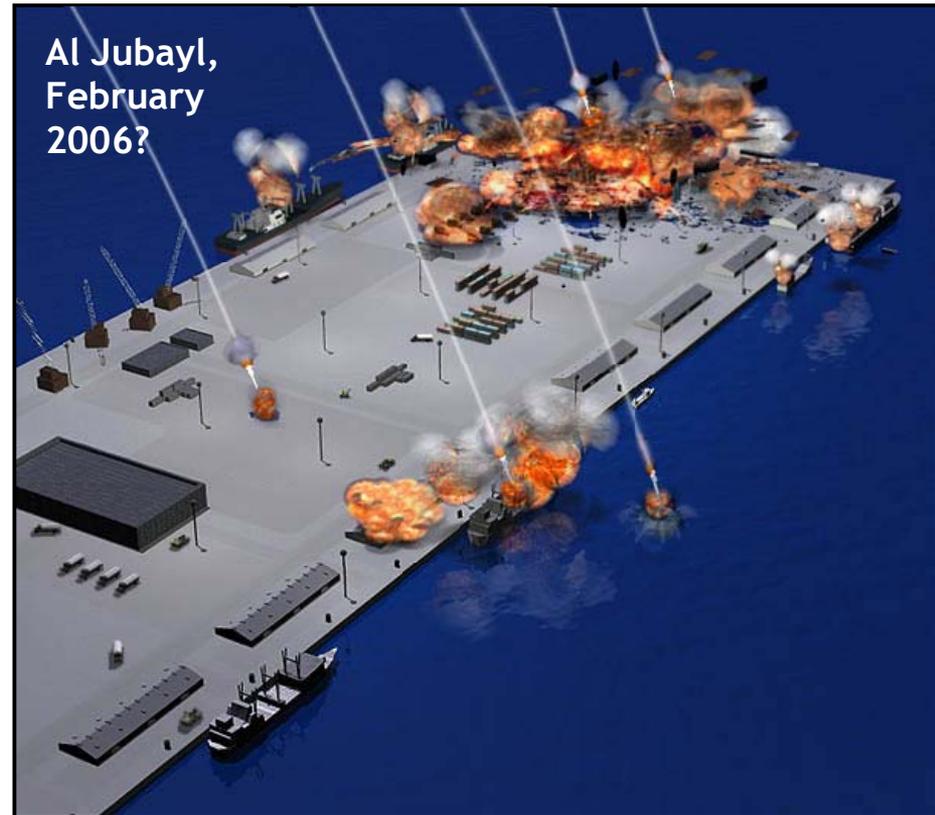
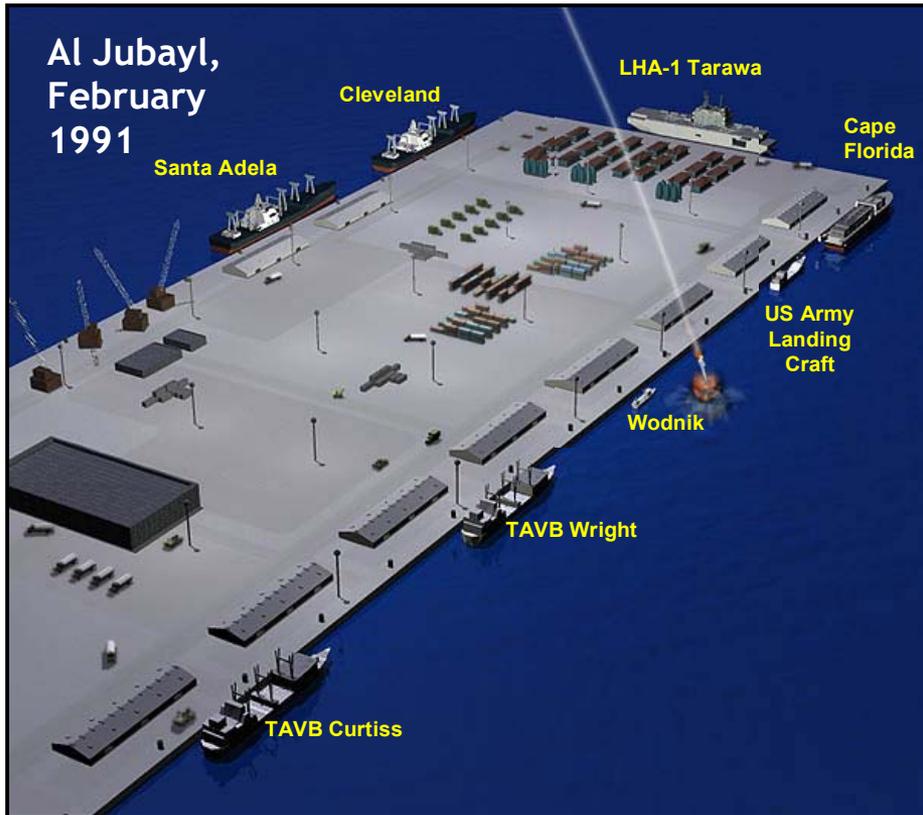
Why A Sea-Base?

Saudi: 1991



Why Change?

Application of **Anti-Access**



Seabasing: Phased Deployment

- **Forward-deployed forces provide initial enabling capabilities:**
 - **Support for Joint Advance Force Ops**
 - **Limited forcible-entry capabilities**
- **ATF, CVBG, MPF(F), and CLF (Amphibious Strike Group) form the initial networked seabase**
- **Seabase prepared to accept and project additional forces**

Strategic Agility to Deter Forward

Seabasing: At-Sea Arrival & Assembly

- **Additional forces arrive in-theater via strategic lift**
- **Move intra-theater via HSV, V-22, and other means**
- **Networking enables en-route collaborative planning and rehearsal**
- **Seabasing maximizes forward combat capability with minimal reinforcement and effect on PERSTEMPO**



Multiple Methods of Force Closure

Seabasing: Selective Offload

- V-22 and high-speed surface craft allow task-organization at the seabase
- Materiel handling capabilities of MPF(F) platforms enable selective off-load
- MPF(F) provides selected equipment for specific missions

STOM

Humanitarian Assistance



Tactical Flexibility for Multiple Missions

Seabasing: Integrated Power Projection

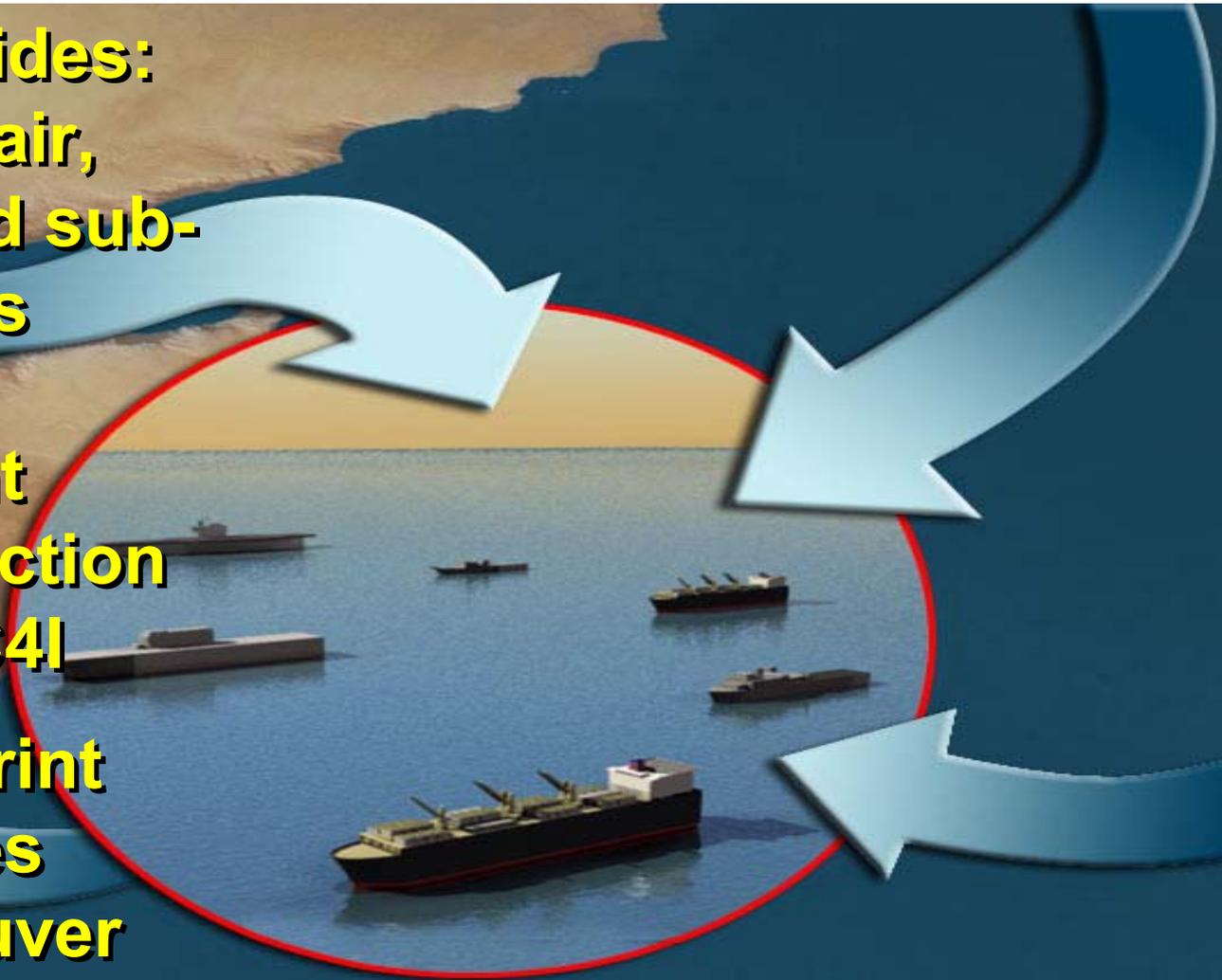
- **Selected forces maneuver directly from Seabase to operational objectives deep inland**
- **Integrated air, surface and sub-surface fires**
- **Integrated sustainment**
- **Netted Battleforce operations**



Assuring Access without Land Based Airfields and Ports

Seabasing: Persistence and Sustainment

- **Seabase provides:**
 - Persistent air, surface, and sub-surface fires
 - Precision sustainment
 - Force protection
 - Seamless C4I
- **Minimal footprint ashore enables greater maneuver**



Enhanced Speed and Freedom of Action

Seabasing: Reconstitution at Sea

- Provides ability to continue missions in the theater
- Supports multiple, concurrent, overlapping missions
- Supports the at-sea arrival of additional forces

Next Mission

First Mission

Operational Maneuver - Operational Reach

MPF FUTURE:

The Foundation of an Enhanced Network Sea Base

Operational Maneuver – Operational Reach



“Sea Basing is about projecting sovereignty around the world...I believe that this will be more important than ever in the 21st century.”
CNO Jun 02

Tactical Flexibility for Multiple Missions



Enhanced Speed and Freedom of Action



“We cannot deter aggression, nor defeat future adversaries, solely with military capabilities based at home. Regional engagement requires presence, and there is no such thing as truly effective ‘virtual presence.’”

CMC Mar 02

Assuring Access Without Land Based Airfields and Ports







Seabasing: *Operational Concept of Choice*

Faster Force Closure

Bypasses Anti-Access

Reduced PERSTEMPO

Higher OPTEMPO

Greater Maneuver