

Joint Helicopter Command



EDA Helicopter
Conference 10 March 2009

Rear Admiral Tony Johnstone-Burt



Format

- q What is the JHC?
- q What are we doing?
- q The Nature of Future Warfare
- q Key Issues
- q The Way Ahead





My Intent

‘To ensure the JHC’s Battlefield Helicopter and Air Assault capabilities are resourced, structured and prepared – conceptually, morally and physically – for success in Afghanistan and then subsequent hybrid operations.’





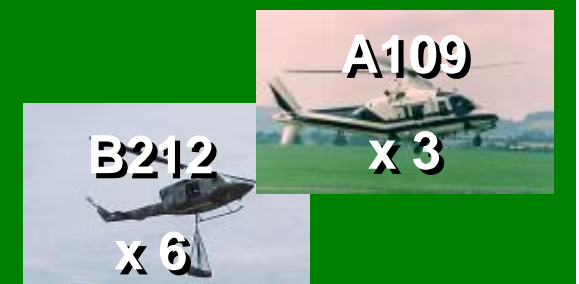
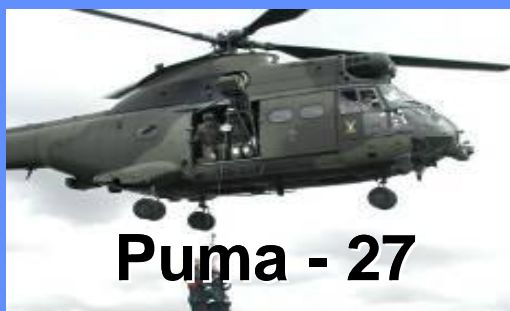
Overview of JHC

- q Emerged in 1998 as part of Strategic Defence Review
- q All battlefield helis in a single, Joint, unified command
- q Single budgetary chain through Army
- q Independent, yet integrated 2* HQ within HQLF
- q Assets:
 - m 280+ Helicopters
 - m 16 Air Assault Bde
 - m 15,000 Personnel
 - m Royal Navy, Army & Royal Air Force
 - m £100m+ Budget
 - m £1bn+ Equipment





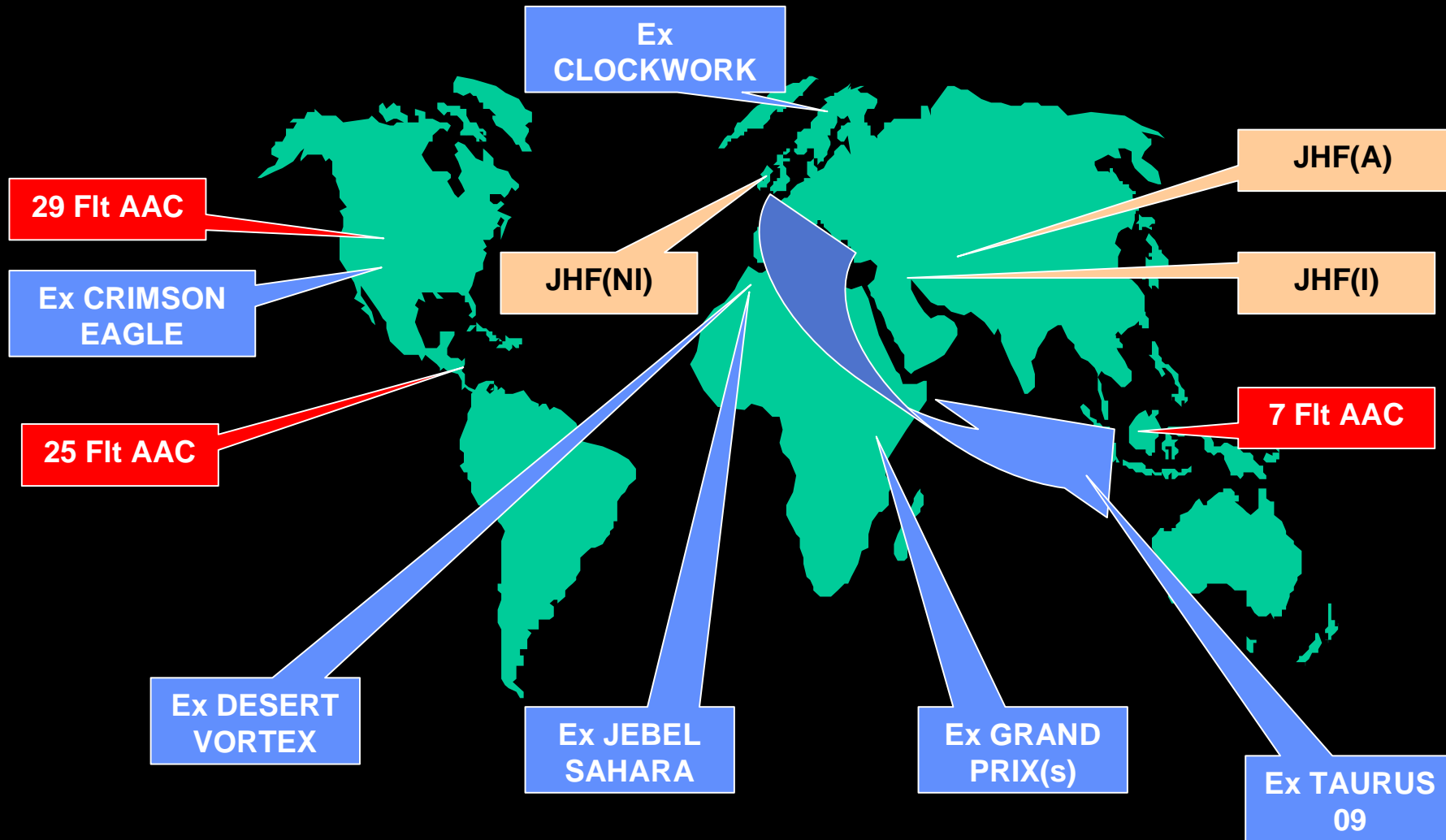
Forward Fleet – Mar 2009



Total 282



Current Operations 2009





Deployed on Operations*

q Platforms

- m 7 Islander
- m 8 Gazelle
- m 11 Lynx
- m 6 Sea King
- m 5 Merlin
- m 6 Puma
- m 9 Apache
- m 12 Chinook
- m 64+ Platforms**

q Personnel

- m 47 crews Out of Area
- m 500+ Personnel Deployed



* Does not include additional Standby for SF/CT
in/from UK or Belize/Canada/Brunei



The Strategic Challenge

Hybrid Wars are polymorphous by their nature as are their antagonists. Using both states and a variety of non-state actors they incorporate a range of different modes of warfare including conventional capabilities, irregular tactics and formations, terrorist acts including indiscriminate violence and coercion, and criminal disorder.

Its chief characteristics – simultaneity, convergence and combinations....

*Frank Hoffman – Conflict in the 21st Century:
The Rise of Hybrid Wars*



Aviation in Future Land Warfare

- q The Hybrid Warrior's exploitation of:
 - m Dense Urban Terrain & Population.
 - m Access & Freedom of movement.
- q BH & AA formations' flexibility and adaptability enabling:
 - m Mobility, Speed & Force Protection.
 - m Agility, Reach & Lethality.

= Swing-role, 'instant' response & ideal antidote to Hybrid Warrior's strengths.





The Key Issues

Campaign Approach – Reinforce resilience and sustainability across all lines of development

People



Support



Aircraft



Training



So What?

Optimising and balancing the output by:

- Resilience at home, when training and when in theatre.
- Improved non-op reliability, esp depth.
- Improve repair and overhaul of spares.

People



Match resource to commitment by:

- Additional personnel.
- Improving retention.

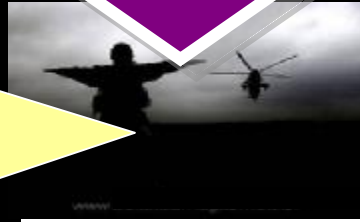
Support



Optimising and balancing the output by:

- Theatre Entry Aircraft available for training (Train as we fight).
- Pre-deployment Training/Environmental Training.

Training



Aircraft



Match resource to commitment by:

- Additional Theatre Entry Aircraft.
- Reduce types and variants of aircraft.



The Way Ahead

- q **MOD/Defence Industry Relationship.**
 - m Time for a rethink.

- q **Joint/Combined co-operation.**
 - m In critical need of development.

- q **Weaving the Tapestry together.**

- q **Headmark – Increased Resilience and Sustainability.**
 - m Centre of Gravity – People.
 - m Main Effort – Success on Operations.



Questions



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JHC Vision

- q **The JHC delivers a truly Joint, robust and sustainable world-class Battlefield Helicopter and integrated Air Assault capability for Defence across the spectrum of hybrid operations.**
- q **Highly trained, well equipped, innovative, flexible and dynamic it is a fully integrated Command which draws from and enhances best practice from all four Services.**
- q **By 2020 we need to have developed an end-to-end philosophy, which encompasses both people and equipment.**
- q **We will position ourselves to be in as few bases as possible, flying the minimum number of types whilst meeting all the mandated defence outputs.**