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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
WHY IS MANNED AIRBORNE TACTICAL C2 NECESSARY?
C2 is an inherently joint function

War is characterized by fog, friction, and chance

War is increasingly complex and precise

Commanders control by direct influence, plans, and intent

Propositions guiding papers...

C2 is crucial to minimize chaos, maximize awareness, and mitigate complexity

C2 systems that are not tailored for the operation may be low functioning
COUNTERLAND
“C2 IN AFRICA: THREE CASE STUDIES BEFORE AND AFTER TAC C2”

COUNTERSEA
“THE IMPERATIVE TO INTEGRATE AF C2 SYSTEMS INTO MARITIME C2 PLANS”
“Those far distant, storm-beaten ships, upon which the Grand Army never looked, stood between it and the dominion of the world.”

– A.T. MAHAN
“the sea service’s organic airborne C2 platforms are limited in endurance, persistence, and capacity”

“tactics currently emphasize the defensive, with a ship-centric bias”
“Maritime commanders build maritime plans, but only Air Force systems possess the range, endurance, persistence, and capacity to provide sustained tactical command and control of the air-to-surface battle.”

“when a carrier is absent, en route, or unable”
METHOD

- C2 Systems:
  - People
  - Competencies
  - Platforms
  - Technologies
  - Doctrine

- C2 Plans:
  - Intent
  - Authorities
  - Functions
  - Tasks
  - Effects
RESEARCH FINDINGS

• Literature supports problem
  • Hawkeye air refueling
  • Two-ship Hawkeye
  • DASC(A)
  • No USCG solution
  • Coalition lack of carriers
• Operational/exercise experience with solutions
SOUTHCOM

Introduced parallel processing
Solved problems below the JOC level
Provided more timely assessments
Extended command past organic reach
WAY FORWARD
REPLICATE SUCCESSES

• Planning efforts
  • Update/unify doctrine
  • Review OPLANS
  • Consider during deliberate and dynamic planning

• Educational venues
  • Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center
    • Carrier Airborne Early Warning Weapons School
  • Surface Warfare Officers School
    • Command Department Head Course
  • Naval War College
    • Joint Force Maritime Commander Course
SOLUTION

“The maritime component is the proper authority for commanding operations in the maritime domain”

“The Air Force must enable supported maritime commanders [with more than just bombs]”
Questions/Discussion?