

The View From (Army) Space...

By COL James R. Pierson

Change is all about us. The theme of this quarter's *Army Space Journal* is "How the Army's Strategic Role in Space is Changing." The "new" U.S. Strategic Command was created from the Unified Command Plan of 2002 that merged U.S. Space Command with U.S. Strategic Command. U.S. Strategic Command's mission set now includes Space, global strike, global integrated ballistic missile defense, command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and information operations in addition to its nuclear deterrence mission. U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command's or SMDC/ARSTRAT's mission focus also was enlarged to plan, integrate and coordinate global strike, integrated missile defense, C4ISR and information operations. The constant in all this change is that the responsibility for conducting Space operations has not changed. As we organize for newly assigned missions, we must keep our eye on the ball as it pertains to Space operations.

We see significant change pertaining to Space operations. What's exciting is that almost each and every one of us — FA40 Space Operations Officers — will be somehow involved in shaping these changes. Let me take the time to highlight just a few of the changes that I see from my foxhole.

Starting at the top, there are two concepts that are critical to the warfighter's future, and these are Joint Operations Concept and Joint Operating Concepts. If you have not had a chance to read and study these documents, I highly encourage you to take the time (www.dtic.mil/jointvision/secdef_approved_jopsc.doc, www.dtic.mil/jointvision/joc.htm). These joint concepts that are shaping many of our future capabilities, are also followed closely by the Army's focus

areas. These focus areas are a major way in which the Army links its current and future force. One of these focus areas, modularity, is already having a major impact on Space operations. The Army has decided that the 3rd Infantry Division will be refitted as a Unit of Employment (UEX) by the summer of 2004. SMDC/ARSTRAT is actively involved in determining the correct mix of Space support to the refitted division, and it is highly likely that FA40s will be embedded within the division force structure on a permanent basis. These changes will necessitate revised doctrine, tactics, techniques and procedures, and new force structure.

Additionally, as an outgrowth of Operation Iraqi Freedom lessons, we are planning to use the Joint Expeditionary Force Experiment '04 and other upcoming exercises, experiments and wargames as a venue to explore the Army's contribution to the Space Authority for coordination of theater Space operations. As an outcome of Total Army Analysis-11, we fully expect that the force design for the 1st Space Brigade headquarters, Space control companies and additional Army Space Support Teams will be approved. This force structure, set to begin in fiscal year 2006, will allow for a deployable brigade headquarters to support or lead the theater Space coordination authority, manning of Space control systems as they become available, and additional manning for Space support to armies, corps and our future force.

During the Army's latest Program Objective Memorandum build cycle, we successfully briefed Army senior leadership on the Space control mission and future Army capabilities, that will be required over the next decade. However, in an environment of highly constrained resources, while continuing to conduct Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, and transforming to a future force, it will be an uphill



CPT Daryl Breitbach and SGT Andrew Vorhies from Army Space Support Team 2 are setting up the 1.8 m dish of the Space Support Element-Toolset Lite, the primary communications package of the ARSS Teams. ARSST 2 supported RSOI from CP Oscar, Korea and ARSST 1 supported the exercise from CP Tango, Korea. *Photo by SGT Seung-mo Jang*

fight to obtain the necessary resources required for this critical mission area. It is incumbent on every FA40 to continue to communicate the value of Space (and the emerging Space control mission) to the leaders across our vaunted Army.

Tomorrow's Space Cadre

Who should make up the Space cadre of the future? Currently, the cadre is comprised of FA40s, but we are researching and redefining the make up of the Space cadre of the future, and it will likely include Soldiers other than FA40s, as well as civilians. In reference to FA40s, I recently participated in the signing of an agreement between SMDC/ARSTRAT and Webster University to give graduates of the FA40 Space Operations Officer Qualification Course 15 hours of graduate credit. These hours from Webster University can be applied towards a Space Operations graduate degree. Toward the end of this fiscal year, we will begin conducting installation, logistics and environment in addition to other coursework.

Upcoming Developments

Stay tuned for information on the High Altitude Airship, or HAA, a concept that is beginning to emerge as a near-Space platform capable of performing a variety of conventional Space missions. Other developments to keep an eye on are the growing importance of Blue Force Tracking and spectral imagery, and the fielding of Space-based infrared system, multi-mission mobile processor and Space-based radar later this decade.

In closing, I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at the FA40 training conference in early June 2004. I anticipate that this event will be highly educational and fulfilling based on the formal agenda and networking that will occur.

Let's keep our eye on both the 25-meter and 300-meter Space target.