Air-Sea Battle: Concept and Implementation

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28 July 09 GDF Update tasking—Secretaries of the Air Force and the Navy will:

“Collaborate to develop a comprehensive Air-Sea Battle concept and associated initiatives to counter emerging anti-access/area denial (A2/AD) challenges.”

20 February 12:

“Air-Sea Battle mitigates access challenges by moving beyond simply de-conflicting operations in each war fighting domain ...”
ASB Terms of Reference

**Anti-Access (A2)**
Action intended to slow deployment of friendly forces into a theater or cause forces to operate from distances farther from the locus of conflict than they would otherwise prefer.

*A2 primarily affects Movement to a theater.*

**Area Denial (AD)**
Action intended to impede friendly operations within areas where an adversary cannot or will not prevent access.

*AD primarily affects Maneuver within a theater.*

**Air-Sea Battle Problem Statement**
Adversary capabilities to deny freedom of action in and access to the global commons for Joint/Coalition forces are increasingly advanced and adaptive. These A2/AD capabilities challenge Joint/Coalition freedom of action by causing forces to operate with higher levels of risk and at greater distances from areas of interest. Joint/Coalition air and naval forces must maintain freedom of action by shaping the A2/AD environment to enable concurrent or follow-on operations.
ASB Central Idea: NIA-D3

**Networked:** C2 of Cross-Domain Operations; Enable JFC forces Control

**Integrated:** Air, Naval & Land Capabilities Tailored to Missions or Operations

**Attack In-Depth:** Project Forces Through Denied Space Zones

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**Enemy A2/AD Strategy & Capabilities**

**LOE 1:** DISRUPT C4ISR networks  
**Result:** Gain Decision Advantage

**LOE 2:** DESTROY Enemy Capabilities  
**Result:** Regain Freedom of Action

**LOE 3:** DEFEAT Enemy Employed Weapons  
**Result:** Sustain Offensive Operations

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NIA Describes The “HOW”... D3 Describes The “WHAT”
Shaping the A2/AD Environment

- Information Operations
- Electronic Warfare
- Cyber Operations
- Strike Operations
- Information Operations
- Electronic Warfare
- Defensive Maneuver
- Defensive Fires
- Resiliency Operations

- Disrupt
- Destroy
- Defeat

- Find
- Fix
- Track
- Target
- Engage
- Assess

Integrity - Service - Excellence
How Low Signature Forces & High Signature Forces Work Together to Shape an A2/AD Environment

1) 5th Generation Aircraft find C4I Target
2) Target passed to C2 Node
3) C2 Node passes Target to AOC/MOC
4) MOC passes Target to SSGN
5) SSGN Launches Missile at C4I Target
6) 5th Gen Aircraft refine Target Info
7) Missile destroys C4I Target
8) Effect shapes A2/AD Environment
Implementing ASB

- **Air-Sea Battle Office** (established 1 Nov 2011)
  - Tasked by the Service Vice Chiefs to ADVOCATE, FACILITATE, ASSESS, and REPORT on ASB implementation

- **Office Focus** – Multi-Service Force Development (capability and proficiency)
  - Informed by the collaborative development of DOTMLPF actions
  - Provide proficient forces to Combatant Commanders to deter and, if necessary, defeat an adversary employing A2/AD capabilities and strategy

- **Key Enablers**
  - **Institutional Commitment**: Enduring organizational model and service cultures committed to formal and continuous collaboration
  - **Conceptual Alignment**: Integrated capabilities to accomplish Combatant Commander operational objectives in A2/AD environment
  - **Programmatic Collaboration**: Mutually informed investment strategies – complementary where appropriate, redundant when necessary, and with built-in interoperability
Recent Activity

- **ASB Implementation Workshop (Feb 12):**
  - Reviewed Red Effects Chains & established Working Groups
  - Output formed basis of the “FY13 ASB Implementation Master Plan”
  - 66 Recommended Actions for the Services in FY13 *(In staffing)*

- **ASB POM Inputs**
  - Informed POM13 & 14 for both AF and Navy
  - Prioritizing initiatives for POM15 based on joint capability shortfalls

- **Influenced AF, Navy, & USMC Title 10 Wargames**

- **FY14 ASB Implementation Workshop (29 Oct - 2 Nov 12)**
  - Focus on Blue Mission Areas in A2/AD environment
  - Reform Working Groups – work on operational gaps & solutions
  - Combatant Command influence & Higher Classification work
Cyclic Engine of Implementation

- Implementation Master Plan
  - Warfighter Review
  - Wargame & Study
  - Codify & Train
  - Experiment & Exercise

Proficiency

DOTMLPF

Capability

TTPs

Conceptual
Practical

UNCLASSIFIED
Funding Challenges

- New Defense Strategic Guidance and PB13 funding reductions drove:
  - Force Structure: Reductions in line with strategy, accepts some risk
  - Readiness: Enhanced to ensure smaller force ready to act
  - Modernization: Substantive reductions, preserved only essential programs (includes ‘Big 3’: LRS, F-35, KC-46A)

- Sequestration/further reductions will require strategy change (force structure), reduced readiness, or drive obsolescent equipping of the force

- ASB Programmatic Collaboration across the Services essential to success
  - Leverage sister Service investments
  - Coordinate investments to produce what can’t be developed alone
  - Minimize need for “new” programs through inter-Service cooperation
Building Toward Proficiency

ASB Initiatives
- Countering Long Range IADS
- Operational Integration

TACTOM Example to Date
- Tactical Tomahawk/Net Enabled Weapon
- Tomahawk Communication in A2/AD
- MOC-AOC TLAM Strike Planning

Joint/Coalition Large Force Exercises
- Red Flag 13-3

CCDR Exercises
- Terminal Fury
- Valiant Shield
- Northern Edge

Doctrine/Unified Joint Task Lists

Training Requirements

Concept
- Experiment
- Exercise

Devise / Refine TTPs
Codify & Train

Proficiency

FEEDBACK
Questions & Discussion
BACKUP
Building ASB Capability

- Collaboratively identify capability gaps and DOTMLPF proposals relative to the ASB Concept (“NIA-D3” Central Idea)
  - Warfighter IPLs, Service Intel Assessments & analytics (M&S), Wargames, ASB SME teams
- Assess efficacy of DOTMLPF proposals and shortfalls
  - Service analytics, Wargames, Experiments & Exercises (Service & Joint)
- Advocate for high priority solutions in Service POMs
  - Promulgate prioritized solution initiatives to counter the A2/AD threat, informed by formal programmatic collaboration between the Services, vetted through PACOM, CENTCOM, and STRATCOM.
- Top 5 Initiative Categories in PB-13 (as reported in ASB NDAA):
  - Advanced Electronic Warfare
  - Undersea Dominance
  - Long-range Strike / Countering Long-range IADS
  - Multi-Domain Command & Control (C2) / Intelligence, Surveillance, & Reconnaissance (ISR)
  - Air Base Resiliency
UNCLASSIFIED

A2/AD Operating Environment

Networked ➔ Integrated ➔ Attack in Depth ➔ Disrupt ➔ Destroy ➔ Defeat

SPACE DOMAIN
- Commercial
- Coalition

CYBERSPACE
- Military / Gov't Comm and PNT
- Military / Gov't Early Warning
- Adversary C2

AIR DOMAIN
- Military / Gov't Comm and PNT
- Early Warning
- Commercial

UNITED STATES
- A2/AD Operating Environment
- Networked
- Integrated
- Attack in Depth
- Disrupt
- Destroy
- Defeat

MARITIME DOMAIN
- Permissive (Low Risk)
- Contested (High Risk)
- Highly Contested (Extreme Risk)

Includes Adversary Anti-Access/Area Denial Strategies

Highly Contested (Extreme Risk)