

~~Top Secret~~

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23 April 2002

USDP _____

Subject: CJCS Capabilities briefing

Sir, attached is the final version of the Chairman's briefing for Wednesday to [REDACTED]

Very Respectfully,

ISH

Michael W. Isherwood

Lieutenant Colonel, USAF

Special Assistant to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

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4/23/02

→ Col. Isherwood

*This is
excellent!*

Very powerful.

Thanks.

Doug Feith

4/23/02

*Let's keep
copy in my*

huc.

DOD/DFOISR [REDACTED] CONTROL	
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Date: 27AUG2024

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OSD 1.4(d)



Ten Years of Improvement

US Military Capabilities

General Richard B. Myers

This briefing is classified ~~TOP SECRET~~

~~Classified by: Gen Myers~~
~~Reason: Y4~~
~~Declassify on: 24 Apr 2017~~

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Purpose



**New capabilities changed
the way US forces fight**

New capabilities since 1991:

- **Can move forces quicker**
- **Use better intelligence to find the enemy**
- **Allow quicker decision making to strike the enemy faster**
- **Provide more powerful and accurate weapons**





US Moves Faster

**More capable forces allow US to deploy quicker
and start combat sooner**

- **In 1991, the United States started combat after 24 weeks and required 450,000 troops in neighboring countries to support 258,000 soldiers in Iraq**
- **Today, the United States started combat after 3 weeks and required only 12,000 additional troops in region to support 200 soldiers in Afghanistan**
 - **US combined its new capabilities with Afghan partners to start combat sooner**
 - **Regional partners hosting US forces prior to September decreased the number of additional US forces required**



US Has Better Intelligence

**In 1991, gathering intelligence took days
Today, gathering intelligence takes hours**

	<u>1991</u>	<u>Today</u>
Target Photos	2-4 day delay	Immediately available
Focus on target	Single pass	Continuous "stare"
Enemy Tanks	Manual plotting	Instantaneous update
Target Update	Manual update	Immediately to pilots



US Battlefield Decision Making

In 1991, US forces relied on radio calls and manually updated maps
Today, US forces have instantaneous television-like displays of friendly and enemy positions

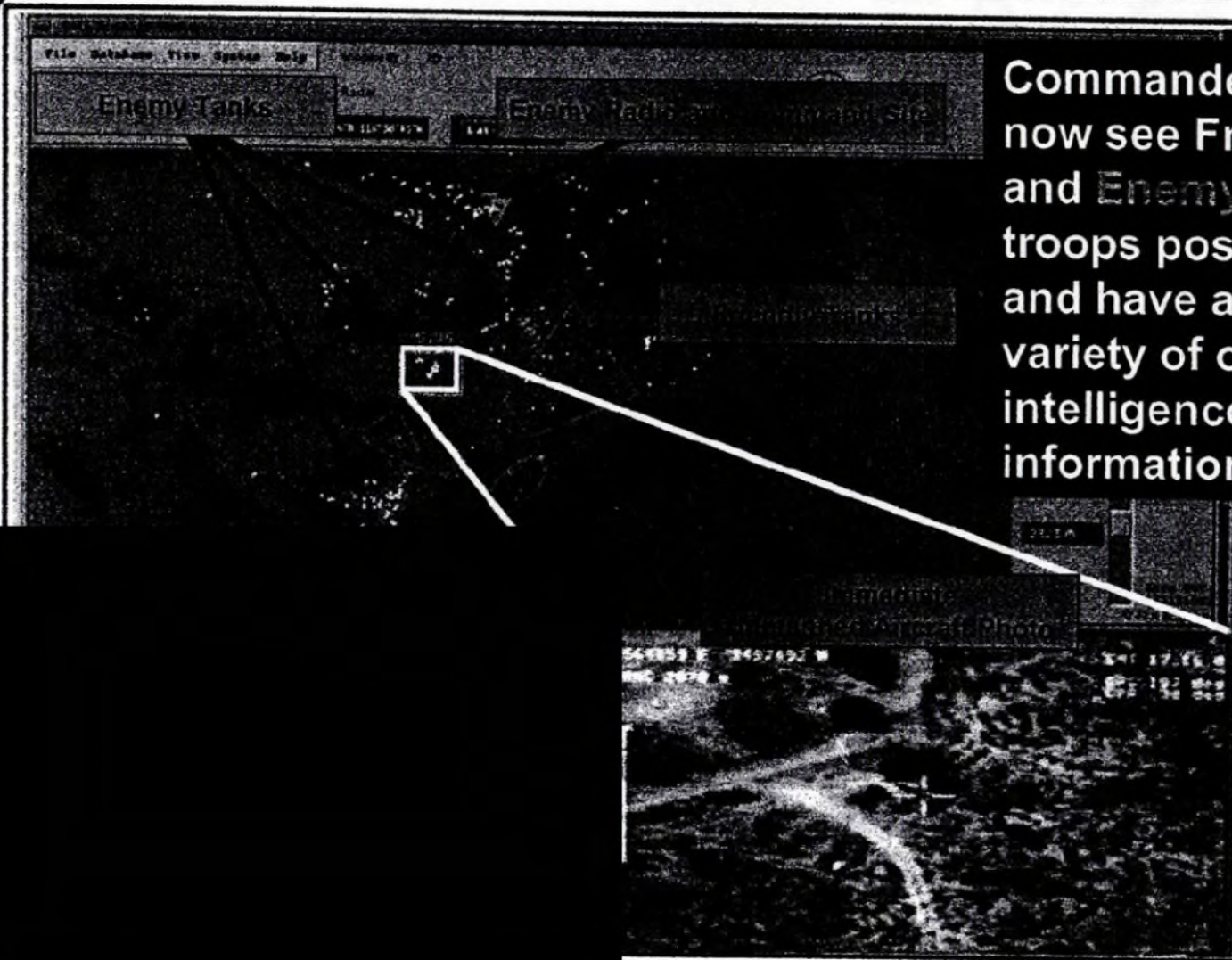
	<u>1991</u>	<u>Today</u>
Air mission planning	72 hours	24 hours
Attack unplanned target	72-48 hours	2-4 hours
Re-task aircraft	Rare inside 24 hours	100% within minutes
Battlefield awareness	Manual	Automatic data link

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US Battlefield Decision Making



Commanders
now see Friendly
and Enemy
troops positions
and have a
variety of other
intelligence
information

OSD 1.4(c)

NGA 1.4(c)

Unclassified



US Air Capability

	<u>1991</u>
Targets per 4 fighters	1 target
Targets per B-52 bomber	1 target
Targets per B-1 bomber	
Targets per B-2 bomber	

**1 B-2 closed Qandahar Airfield
(and then destroyed 8 more targets)**

**In 1991, it would have taken
32 fighter aircraft to close Qandahar**

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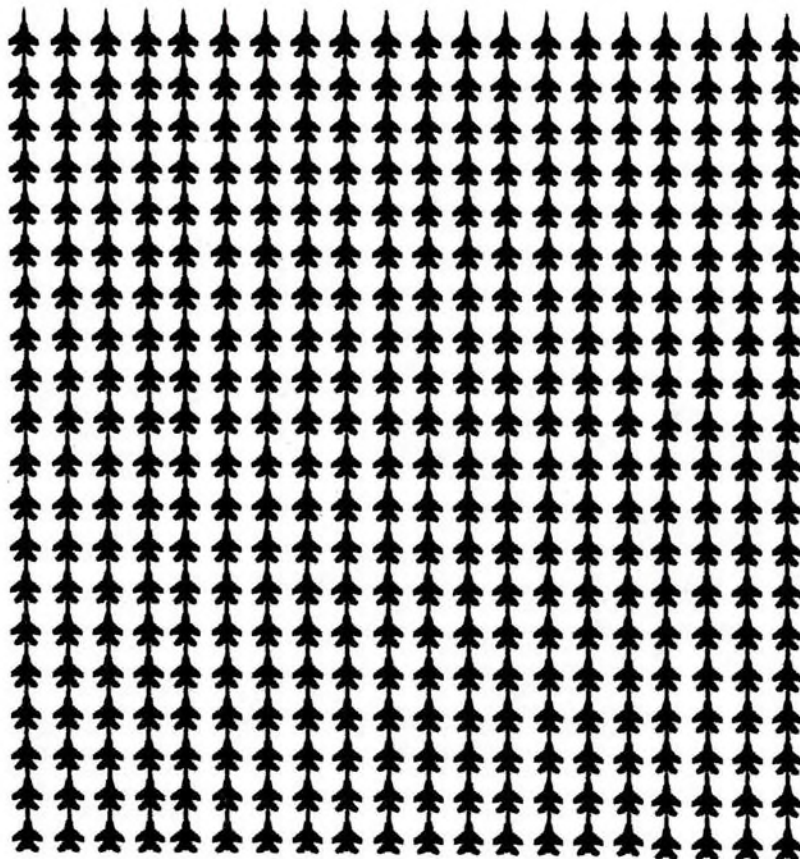
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US Air Capability

To hit Afghanistan's First Day's targets (159 targets)

Desert Storm Force



Enduring Freedom Force



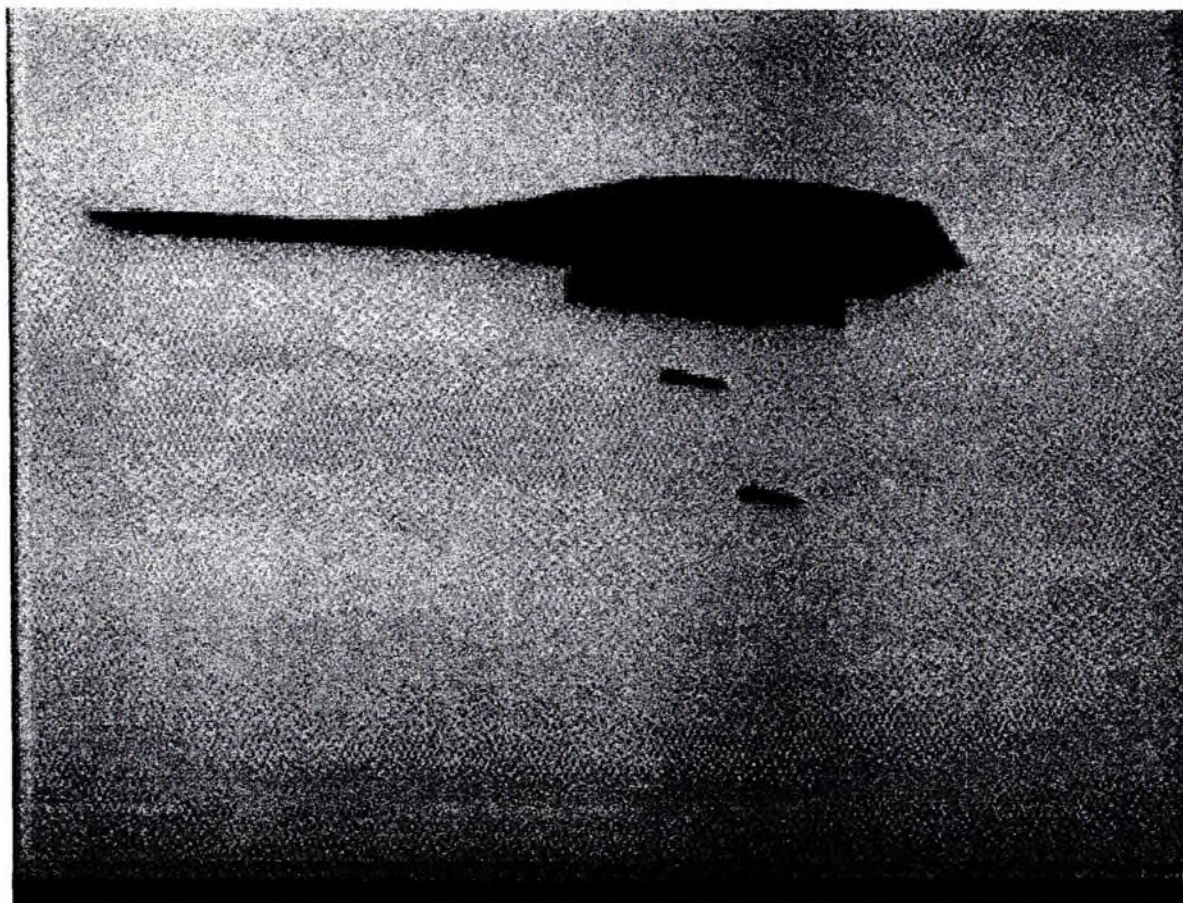
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US Air Capability

US Forces now have all-weather weapons ... any target ... any time



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New US Intelligence and Weapons in Action

OSD
1.4(c)

JS 1.4(g)

NGA
1.4(c)



- ① 2040: Observe VIP bus driving to meeting place
- ③ 2310: Observe re-location to 2nd meeting place
- ④ 0058: Missile hits 2nd meeting place

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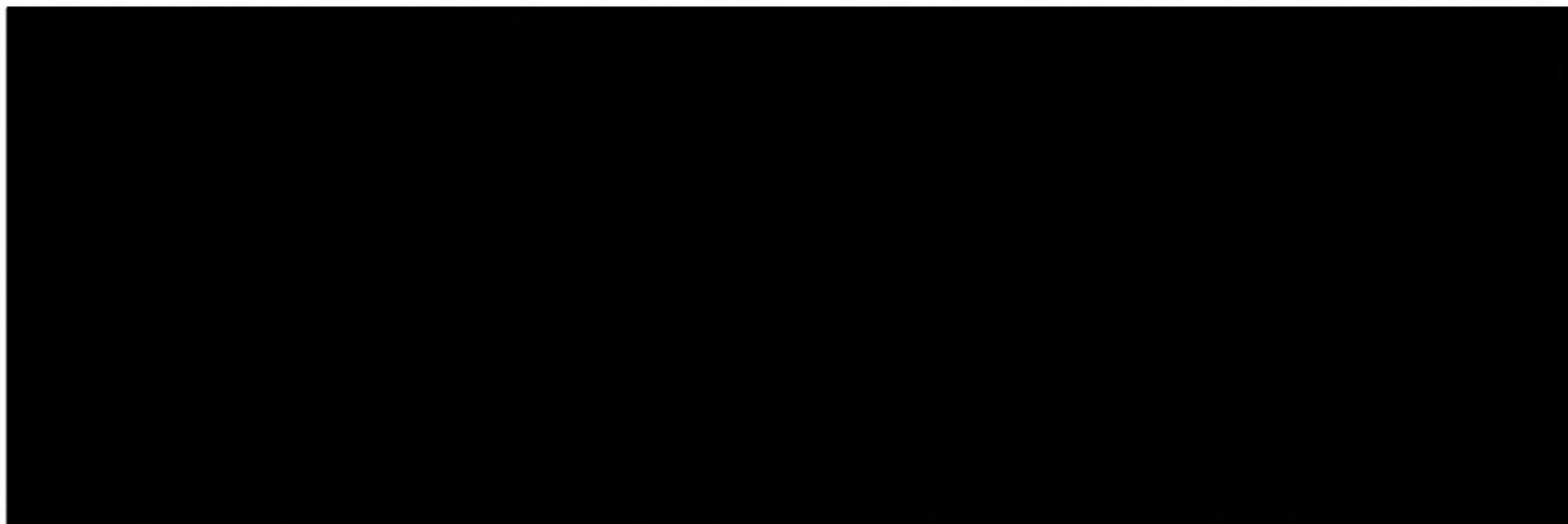
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New US Intelligence and Weapons in Action

Immediate Attack Coordination

- Intelligence tells commanders where meetings take place
- Unmanned aircraft tracks vehicles ... commanders observe and approve strike
- A mosque is in the vicinity ... but never damaged
- Aircraft destroys vehicles while talking with commander



JS 1.4(g)

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US Special Forces

US Special Forces: Anywhere ... Anytime

JS 1.4(g)

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US Special Forces

Special Forces fought side-by-side with Afghan partners to achieve mutual goals

- **■ brave Americans with each Afghan unit**
- **US provided supplies, advice, intelligence and air support**

OSD 1.4(a)



Afghanistan

7 October 2001

Taloqan

Konduz

US troops in country 0

Bamian Kabul

Jalalabad

Herat

Qandahar

Assessment:

- Al Qaida actively utilizing camps and operating freely
- Opposition controls less than 20% of country ... very weak

9 Weeks Later

9 December 2001

Taloqan

Konduz

Kabul

Jalalabad

US troops in country 2,500

Herat

Qandahar

Results:

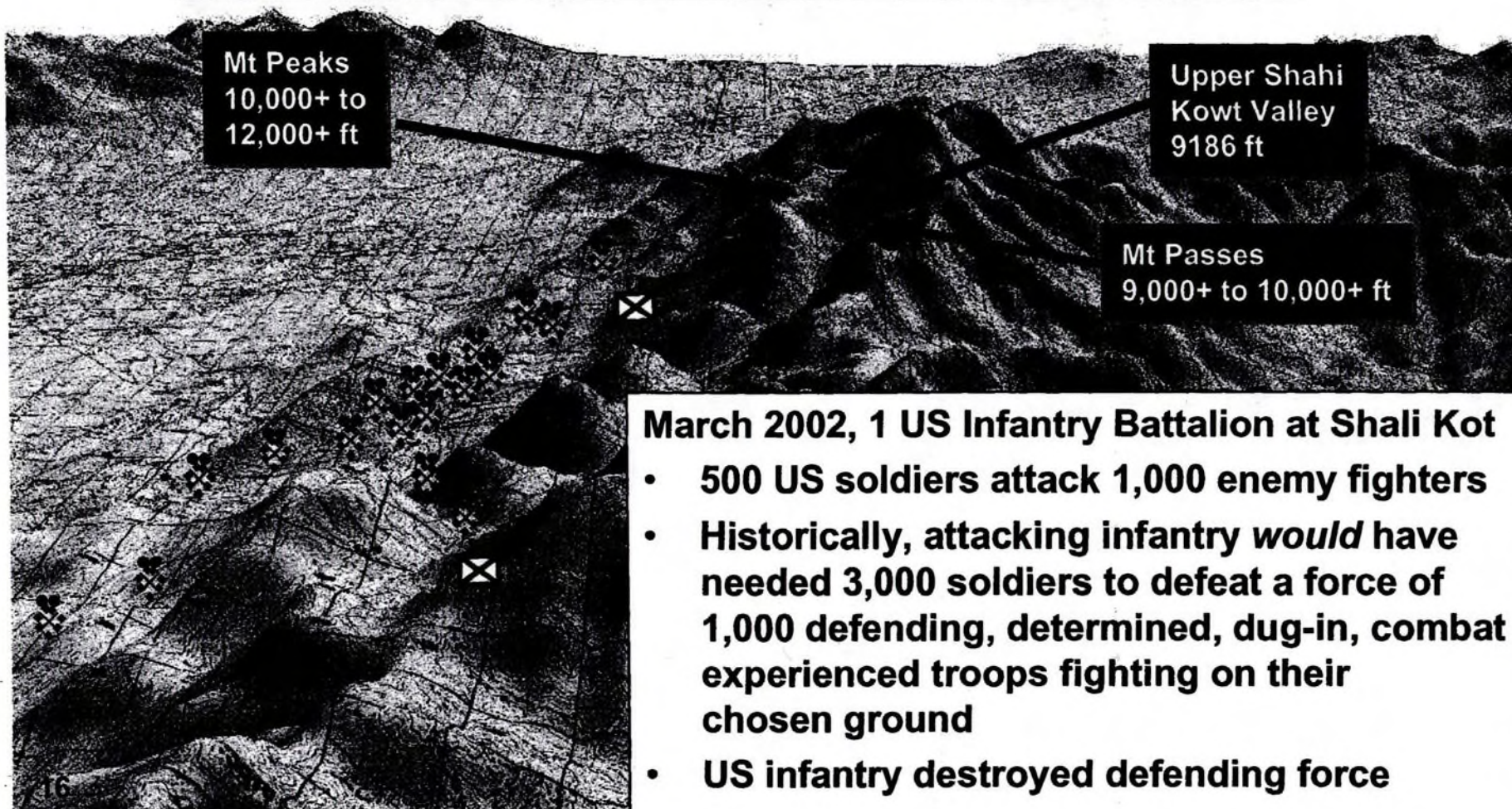
- Taliban removed from power
- New government in control
- Al Qaida on the run

US and Afghan partners achieved their objectives in 9 weeks
while Soviets failed to achieve their objectives in 10 years



US Ground Forces

US soldiers destroyed an enemy force twice their size



Mt Peaks
10,000+ to
12,000+ ft

Upper Shahi
Kowt Valley
9186 ft

Mt Passes
9,000+ to 10,000+ ft

March 2002, 1 US Infantry Battalion at Shali Kot

- 500 US soldiers attack 1,000 enemy fighters
- Historically, attacking infantry *would* have needed 3,000 soldiers to defeat a force of 1,000 defending, determined, dug-in, combat experienced troops fighting on their chosen ground
- US infantry destroyed defending force

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US Army Capability

1991

Tanks (M1A2)

- Firing rate

Armor Vehicles

- First round on target

Artillery

Apache



OSD 1.4(g)

JS 1.4(g)





Iraqi Forces 1991 - 2002

OSD
1.4(c)

NGA
1.4(c)

Iraq

Strengths

- Has new Fiber Optic command system

Weaknesses

- Pilot flying hours down 67%
- Aging Weapon Systems
- Unrealistic training
- Poor morale


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Force Comparison

OSD
1.4(a)(c)(g)

- **During the same time, Iraqi forces have decayed**

- **In 1991, a recently victorious Iraqi force surrendered by the thousands in a conflict they started**
 - **Today, 10 years of sanctions, corruption, and tyranny have seriously weakened the morale of the Iraqi military**

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Conclusion



When US commits forces, it accomplishes its stated objective

- **Today ...**
 - **US has 60,000 troops deployed in the region**
 - **US forces are faster and more accurate**
 - **US forces have much improved intelligence which allows them to attack faster**
 - **US employs fewer forces with greater lethality and results**
- **Ten years ago ...**
 - **US deployed 540,000 troops to join the coalition against Iraq**
 - **US destroyed 33 Iraqi aircraft while losing only 1 US aircraft in aerial combat**
 - **US destroyed 3,100 Iraqi tanks while losing only 9 US tanks**



Back-Up Slides

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