

GERRIT "BLADE" DALMAN, MAJ, USAF  
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

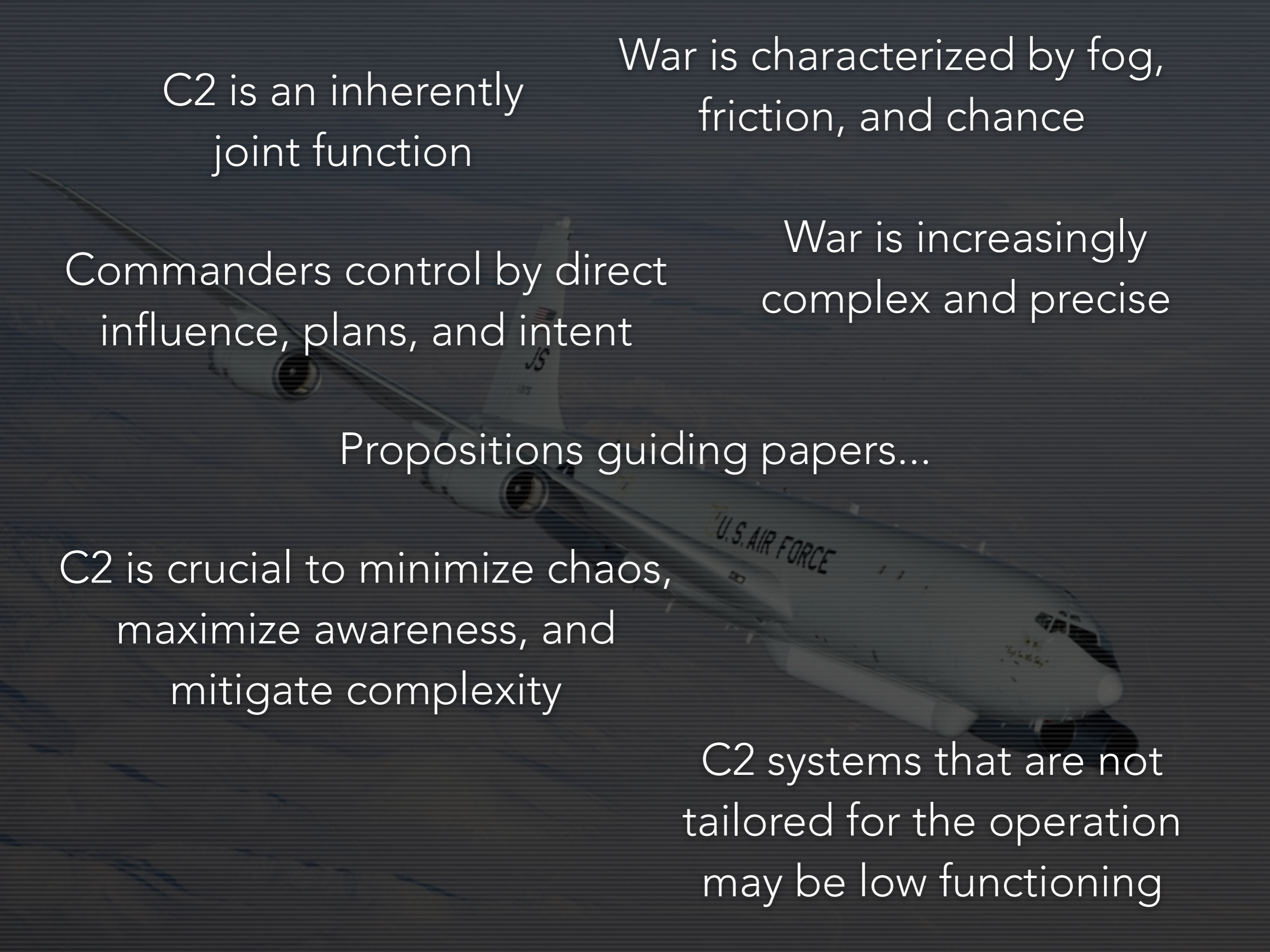
Commanders control by direct  
influence, plans, and intent

War is increasingly  
complex and precise

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



DALMAN, KOPP, REDMAN

# THE IMPERATIVE TO INTEGRATE AIR FORCE C2 SYSTEMS INTO MARITIME C2 PLANS



# PROBLEM



“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”

# THESIS



“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



SOUTHCOM

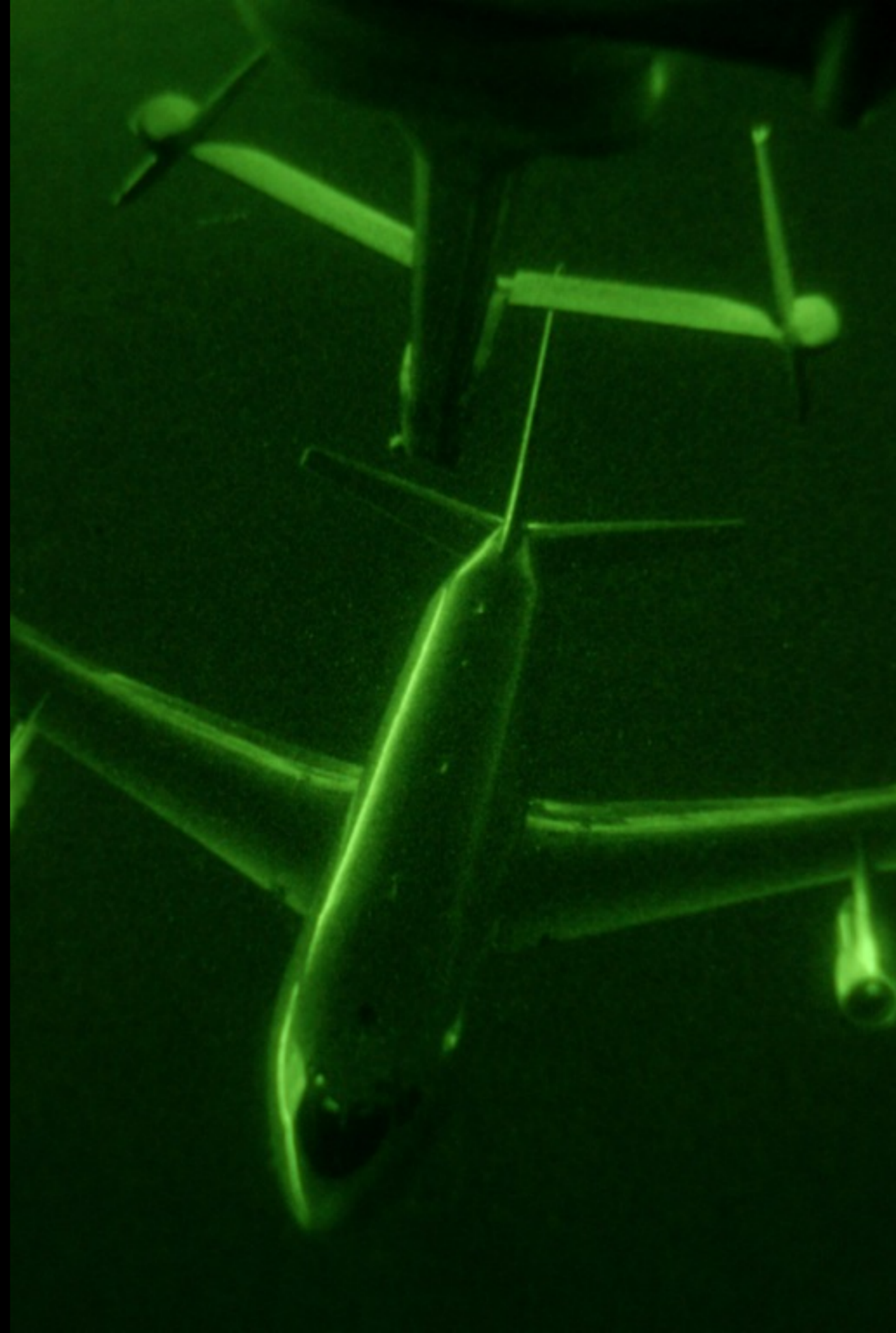


LITERATURE & INTERVIEWS

CENTCOM

# 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



# CENTCOM

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?