



Targeting and Collateral Damage



5 March 2003



Avoiding Unintended Non-Combatant Casualties

“America is a friend to the people of Iraq. Our demands are directed only at the regime that enslaves them and threatens us. When these demands are met, the first and greatest benefit will come to Iraqi men, women, and children.”

*President Bush
Cincinnati, OH
7 Oct 02*

“Saddam Hussein regards the Iraqi people as human shields, expendable when their suffering serves his purposes”

*President Bush
Nashville, TN
10 Feb 03*

“We will try in every way we can to spare innocent life. The people of Iraq are not enemies.”

*President Bush
Nashville, TN
10 Feb 03*



Definitions...

- **Collateral Damage (CD) and Unintended Casualties occur when:**
 - Sites intended to be protected are damaged or destroyed
 - Facilities with both military and civilian purposes are targeted
 - Non-combatants are injured or killed
 - Non-combatant structures are damaged or destroyed

Collateral damage and unintended casualties also occur as a result of weapon system malfunction, human error, and the fog of war



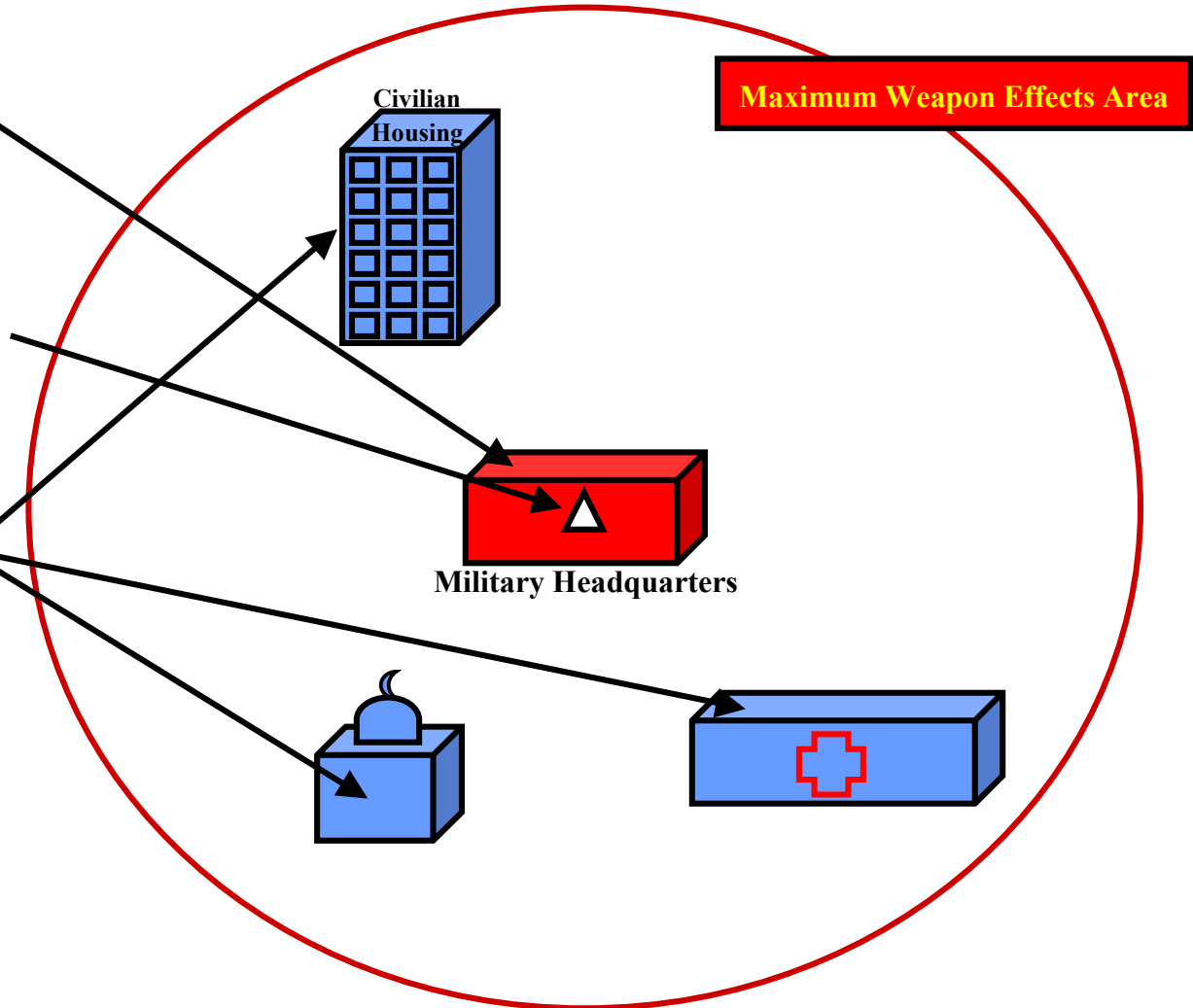
Target Decisions...

- **For each military target, the potential for Collateral Damage is reviewed and a decision is made regarding:**
 - **Targets likely to result in non-combatant casualties**
 - **Targets likely to result in damage to non-combatant structures**
 - **Targets that affect protected sites**
 - **Targets that serve both a military and civilian purpose**
 - **Targets in close proximity to known Human Shields**



Target Assessment... Non-Combatant Casualties and Non-Combatant Facilities (An Example)

- Each target is identified and characterized
- Aimpoints are selected for Precision Guided Weapons to achieve the desired military objective
- Collateral Damage Concerns are identified within the maximum weapon effects area



Assessment: High Potential for Collateral Damage



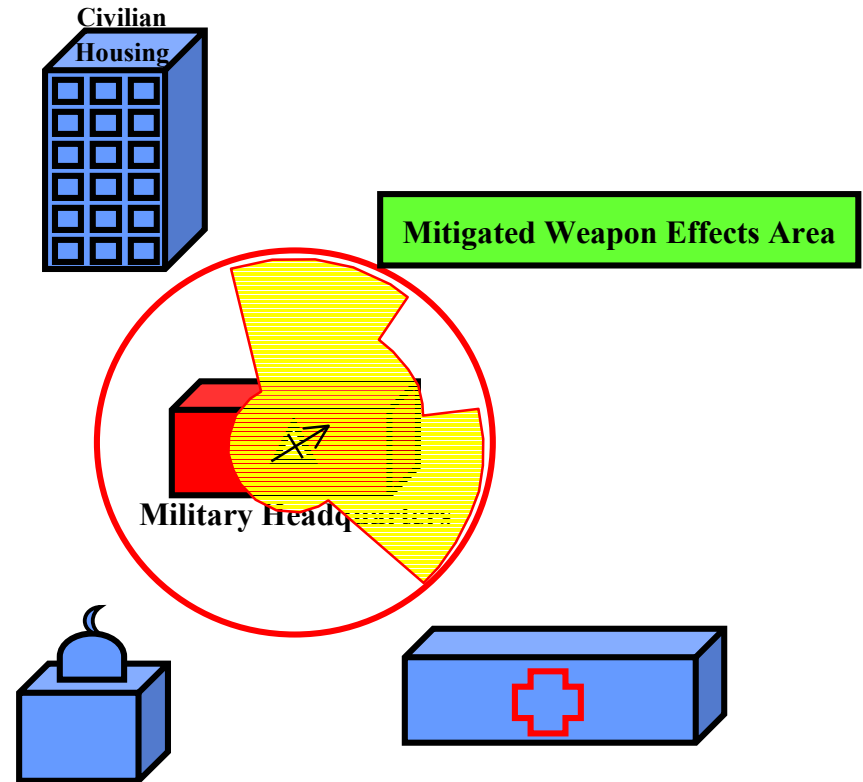
Target Assessment... Mitigation of Collateral Effects

- **Ways to reduce collateral damage...**

1. Employ smaller weapons
2. Employ different fusing
3. Shift aimpoints
4. Limit attack angles and azimuths
5. Time attack to periods of low occupancy

- **In this case... collateral damage is mitigated to Low**

In every case, desired weapons effects are achieved

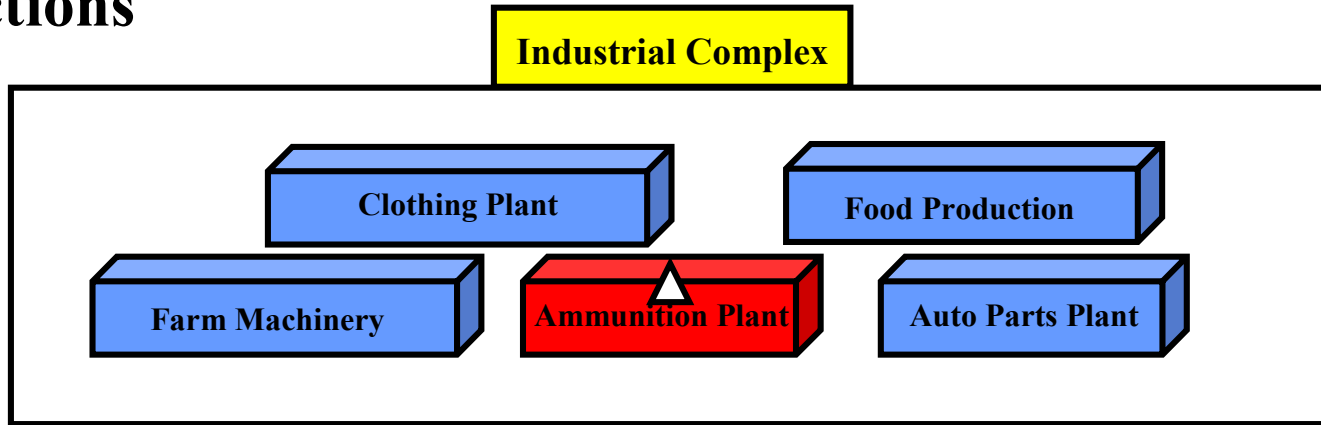


Assessment: Low Potential for Collateral Damage



Target Assessment -- Dual Use Facilities

- In some cases, facilities perform both military and civilian functions



- Assessment of each target weighs mission value against predicted non-combatant casualties

Dual use facilities are legitimate targets, but we want to **minimize** non-combatant casualties ...



Other Mitigation Techniques...

Provide “Early Warning”

- Leaflets, radio broadcasts, and television advisories for civilians to stay away from sites associated with military
- Advise media/organizations to vacate selected sites immediately
- Broadcast radio advisory regarding selected specific targets

Warnings allow non-combatants to make informed decisions to enhance their safety... they should be taken seriously!



Other Mitigation Techniques...

- **Significant efforts have been taken to identify and record facilities the coalition intends to protect from military strikes**
- **Categories of facilities considered include:**
 - **Diplomatic Facilities**
 - **Public Services**
 - **Non-Governmental Organization Facilities**
 - **Medical Facilities**
 - **Civilian Education Institutions and Facilities**
 - **Religious Facilities**
 - **Historically Significant Sites and Facilities**

...military use of protected sites constitutes “abuse”

...makes sites legally subject to attack