"Air Force ISR"

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Lieutenant General James: Thank you all for coming. I look forward to just talking a little bit about what's going on with Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance today.

First I'd like to start with just a little video.

[Video shown].

I hope that gave you a sense of the broad array of Air Force ISR. Obviously it's a worldwide enterprise and it faces a host of challenges every day.

You talk about intelligence, obviously that's a tricky term. I found that out when I was away with my wife for our anniversary down in Savannah, having a great dinner, enjoying a bottle of wine and she had two or three glasses and suddenly she blurts out, "Honey, I love you and I can't live without you." I thought, that's pretty nice after 33 years of marriage. Not bad. I got to thinking, two glasses of wine. Hmm, I said, "Honey, is that you talking or the wine talking?" She said, "That's me talking to the wine." So in the intelligence business you've always got to be careful about assumptions and making sure you get the right data and the right information.

What I'd like to do today is talk briefly about five things. First of all, just the state of the Air Force ISR enterprise, what's going on in that particular arena. Secondly, a little bit about the strategy. You all are aware of that and where we're headed, but I'll place that in the context of Air Force ISR. Thirdly, talk about the ISR review and where we are with that. The Secretary tasked us to do that about a year and a half ago. I'll give you some updates on that. Fourthly, talk about some collaborations we have ongoing amongst our joint, IC and international partners. And finally finish up with our people and what we're doing to make sure that they are the best possible ISR individuals that we can have.

First of all, just kind of where we are today with the Air Force ISR. Certainly as you know we continue to operate in Afghanistan. Over the last year in terms of, for example, our remote piloted aircraft capability, 57 Combat Air Patrols were flying. We've maintained that level of 57 Combat Air Patrols in

order to basically bring back the capability that we had in the surge over the last summer when we grew up to about 60 CAPs.

We've been in the middle of reconstituting our training program, reconstituting our weapons schools, and maintaining that 57 CAP capability for operations in Afghanistan and other parts of the MidEast.

We will come out of that 57 CAP plan in November. We will then continue to grow our capability, 58 CAPS in November, on to about 65 Combat Air Patrols by May of 2014. So we are on that glide slope. That's where we're headed. We're reconstituting our training and our weapons school program and all that is going according to plan.

In addition, we will continue to grow our Reaper fleet and gradually draw down the [inaudible] fleet over time. That's also in the baseline POM in terms of growing that Reaper fleet to 24 per year so that we can maintain that 65 CAP capability. Ultimately with the ability to service 85 Combat Air Patrols. That's the guidance that the Secretary of Defense has given us and that's, again, the glide slope we're on.

If you look at some of the other capability that we've pushed forward here, many of you are familiar with, for example, the MC-12 Liberty. That multi-INT platform that frankly is the most heavily flown airframe in the Air Force today. Basically we're flying the wings off that aircraft.

Recently over in Afghanistan, visiting a squadron over there and they're literally flying the plane, bringing it in, doing some quick maintenance on it, getting another crew on there and sending it out again. That's kind of the OpsTempo at which we're flying the MC-12. Simply because the demand signal from the ground forces is extremely high. They rely on that SIGINT, that EO, that IR capability all fused together there on the aircraft by that overwatch, by that intelligence, in day-to-day ops. So really a very sought after capability by the ground forces.

You can look at some of the other platforms that we've pushed over there. Gorgon Stare, for example, which is our wide area motion imagery platform capable of looking at a four kilometer by four kilometer square view. So that provides that persistent wide area ISR capability, again that the warfighter is finding very valuable. Whether it's just providing the overwatch, whether it's doing patterned flight, whether it's doing forensics after an event and being able to trace back and see what happened after something took place, where people come from, where people go to. So again, a very valuable capability that we've sent over into the theater over the last 12 months.

Then certainly I don't want to just focus on the air domain. As you look at Air Force ISR capability today, we operate obviously in air, space and cyber, so if you think about space domain, we continue to improve our capabilities to integrate national technical means into our processing, exploitation and dissemination systems. We have national tactical integration cells throughout our enterprise that allow us to really bring that overhead data in. We're looking at utilization of things like overhead persistent infrared. That comes from our space-based infrared system. I'll talk more about that later. So that space-borne layer is also very important.

And finally the cyber. If you look at what we're accomplishing in cyber in terms of intelligence capability, it's very important.

If you were at the awards ceremony this morning you saw the intel squadron that was recognized for helping to identify and capture a whole bunch of bad guys. Again, based on work they had done in that domain. So a lot of opportunities, a lot of capability that we are continuing to harvest as we look across all three of those domains.

That's kind of the state of play, if you will. It's worldwide. It's not just focused on Afghanistan, but it's worldwide conducting those [inaudible] IR [inaudible] intelligence missions day in and day out very successfully, and feeding that all into that Distributed Common Ground System.

So as we look to the future, obviously we're all familiar with the strategy shift, if you will, the rebalance of the Pacific, and from an Air Force perspective and from an ISR perspective what does that mean?

Certainly when you think about DCGS, Distributed Common Ground System, our system allows us to move all this data around the world. It really doesn't matter where we're operating as long as we can ingest the data and bring that data into the DCGS system, that's what counts. That's what processing, exploitation and dissemination (PED) distribution has done.

So from that perspective, that rebalance of the Pacific is not a big deal. We already have DCGS sites in Korea, we have DCGS sites in Hawaii, and we can flex and move the data around the globe as we have to.

If you look at what DCGS is doing today, it's about 1.8 petabytes per month of data that we're handling, so it's a whole bunch of data.

     If you look at the number of missions that we're prosecuting
with DCGS, we've over the last year moved from prosecuting the
MC-12 Liberty data in theater, we're now bringing that back into
the DCGS system in order to prosecute that data here in CONUS.

     We're right in the middle of doing the same thing for Gorgon
Stare, that wide area motion imagery system that I talked about.
We're in the middle of bringing that data back from over in the
theater into DCGS. We can process that here and have fewer boots
on the ground in Afghanistan.

     So that worldwide DCGS enterprise really is the backbone of
what we do in terms of moving data around, bringing data to the
right place and prosecuting that data for the warfighter. Again,
I'll talk a little bit more about that as we talk about moving to
the future, but that rebalance in the Pacific from a data
perspective frankly is not a big deal in terms of how the Air
Force handles the data.

     As we look at things like AirSea Battle, as we look at
ultimately drawing down in Afghanistan, certainly I think there
will be additional airborne capabilities that will migrate toward
the Pacific. But again, that will just be dictated by Pacific
ISR folks [inaudible] and how they allocate resources. So as
that demand signal goes down we may see an increase in support
for PACOM, for SOUTHCOM, whatever the case may be as the
requirements dictate. And we will maneuver as required in order
to [inaudible] to be able to provide the ISR [inaudible].

     So from the Air Force ISR perspective that's really how we
think about the broad strategy in terms of executing that from an
ISR perspective.

     But as you think about moving from that non-permissive
environment of Afghanistan and moving into potentially a less
permissive environment no matter where that may be, whether it's
the Pacific, whether it's other nation states, whatever. That
does change the dynamic and that's the reason the Secretary asked
us last year to look at what does that mean for the Air Force,
what does that mean for Air Force ISR, as we move to that
potential.

     A couple of key points there that I'll hit. First of all,
at the end of the day as we look to the future it's not
necessarily about the sensor, it's not necessarily about the
platform, but it really is about the data.

     We want to have a system that can take all data, no matter
what the source, and ingest that into the processing node and
make sense out of it. So that kind of is the Holy Grail that we

think about. We call it sensor agnostic data, or sensor and
platform agnostic. Bringing that data into the system.

If you look at some of the non-traditional ISR types of
things that we talked about today. From a data perspective, look
at what's happening in the Middle East. Look at those YouTube
videos that you don't get from any other source. That's
virtually real time, they take video, they post it, and suddenly
you can see what's happening right there at the center of the
action. So if you think about operating in those types of
domains, it's all about getting access to all sorts of data. And
for us, that means that we have to continue to think beyond the
airborne layer. So if you look at the airborne layer and if you
look at the space layer, if you look at the cyber layer, if you
look at what I would call [inaudible] source. These are all areas
that we are going to have to be thinking about in terms of the
ability to turn this data into that Distributed Common Ground
System enterprise.

Start with the airborne layer, you think about the A2AD
environments, anti-access area denial environments. What are we
doing? Certainly you have to think about penetrating airborne
platforms. Things like the F-22, things like the F-35, which I
would offer are tremendous ISR systems. If you look at their
capabilities in terms of the sensors and the arrays they have
onboard, these may be some of the only airborne systems that we
are operating in an A2AD environment. So how do we think about
bringing that data off of those platforms and into the
intelligence system? They weren't necessarily built for that nor
designed for that. And that's one of the items, frankly, that
we're going to be talking about here this fall with the senior
leadership of the Air Force, is that non-traditional ISR way
ahead and getting some four-star engagement on that to understand
where does that take us.

We had the Scientific Advisory Board do a study on this as
well this summer from the non-traditional ISR perspective. And
they basically gave the report out to the Secretary and the Chief
a couple of weeks ago and hopefully they'll release that out to
the community. So we are thinking pretty hard about that non-
traditional ISR capability and how do we get our arms around
that. And ultimately I think we'll even get away from the term
non-traditional ISR. Because, as I said, it's all about the
data, sucking up data from an ISR source. I think the
demarcation between traditional and non-traditional, whatever you
want to call it, will become very blurred.

We're doing this today. You talk to General Goldfein over
in theater. He is actually making sure that those platforms,
those pod capabilities, the Stryker pods, LITENING Pods,

whatever, they will often have ISR tasking to go along with other taskings they may have.

Recently we had an F-15 mission to provide overwatch to the convoy and ISR both. Feeding that data back into the head nodes that allowed us to make sure that this convoy traveling down the route, the F-15 was out ahead, and we actually took care of some bad guys based on that information and made sure that convoy got through successfully. So a great example of using an F-15, which is not a traditional ISR platform to execute operations in support of the warfighter on the ground, to bring that data in.

In addition for the airborne layer, the penetrating piece, I would offer that we also have to think about how do we do better standoff operations with the airborne platform. Looking into the area that is contested, staying out of harm's way. And we're doing a lot of good work in that area. AFRL, for example, is looking at some LIDAR systems that will [inaudible] into a country and stay outside the threat to provide very accurate LIDAR measurements from an airborne platform.

So those are the types of things as you think about the airborne layer, as you think about an A2AD environment, that we are going to be engaged in. Standoff, penetration, non-traditional ISR platforms, bringing all of that together.

Again, you've got those other layers. The space layer. How will we continue to better integrate national overhead capabilities within the airborne ISR [inaudible]? So as I said, we have national technical integration cells within DCGS and also within our AOCs, and their charge is to help us be better at merging all these capabilities into one platform. So we're definitely focused on that and definitely expanding that capability as we move forward to bring that capability to bear.

Another arena is OPIR, Overhead Persistent Infrared. If you look at what the space-based infrared system can do for us today beyond a missile warning capability, it's pretty impressive. As you look at what it can see from an IR perspective.

So how do we continue to develop systems and capabilities that can take advantage of that information? Again, there's a team that continues to work on that out at Buckley Air Force Base and we continue to drive that into the ISR system because there's space-based infrared that is persistent. That can be very timely. That can be very important information that perhaps we're not going to get any other way in a denied environment. So that space layer will continue to increase in importance, in my opinion, as we operate in that A2AD environment.

Lastly the cyber layer. If you look at what we do in cyber today, we've got a whole host of people that are basically operating the network, making sure the network is up and running, making sure the network is operating. But the reality is, that is not how most of us think of cyber ops. We think of cyber ops as computer network exploitation, computer network operations and computer network defense. From a cyber perspective and from an ISR perspective a lot of the work that is done today is what I would call cyber ISR. It is people who are looking at the networks, understanding the networks, mapping the networks and staying on those networks to understand what's going on in those networks. And that is all work that is done within the ISR domain.

So we will continue to expand that capability. I recently visited some of our folks that execute that operation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. These kids are very impressive folks. They understand this stuff. They understand the networks. They understand how to execute operations on the networks. And frankly, you can be very proud of them.

So bringing all that together in an A2AD environment is absolutely essential in conducting these intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance operations [inaudible].

So that is what we're about, continuing to expand those capabilities, continuing to improve those capabilities, and being smart about how we do it.

That was kind of part one of that ISR review. Two other key points out of that for the Secretary. Number one is our communications networks. If you look across the Air Force ISR enterprise the comm infrastructure grew up fairly piecemeal and fairly stovepiped, whether it was the U-2 comm infrastructure, the Predator/Reaper comm infrastructure, Global Hawk, RJs, they all kind of grew up separately, and frankly, we are trying to get our arms around how should that overall architecture come together.

So one of the tasks that the Secretary laid out was for Air Force Space Command to lead the charge in number one, understanding the current communications network that we have for ISR and then really understanding what that to be architecture should be and ultimately understanding what a should be architecture could be if we had sufficient resources [inaudible].

So we briefed the Secretary at the end of July on the current status of that. We're wrapping up kind of the as is architecture so we have a good understanding of all the links and nodes, the various networks. Whether it's SATCOM, whether it's CEL down to a Rover, whether it's fiber across the DCGS system.

There's a whole host of things out here that we are trying to understand. Once we do that, then by the end of the year the commitment is to come back to the Secretary, lay out here is that to be architecture that we can implement with the FYDP dollars that we currently have in the budget.

Then beyond that we want to take a look at what we call the should be, that isn't necessarily constrained by the FYDP dollars. Obviously we can't be unconstrained. We can do things a little bit differently in terms of moving data around, making sure that data has assured on-board processing, all those sorts of things, what does that should be architecture [inaudible]?

So that is kind of the communications layer that we're very much engaged in. Trying to really map that out, define that holistic architecture, and then start to implement that as we move forward.

A third piece the Secretary said is important is this processing, exploitation and dissemination. Those things that go on within that Distributed Common Ground System enterprise day in and day out. You've all probably seen articles about drowning in data and all the data that we created and those sorts of things. The little factoid I often use for people is the next generation of Gorgon Stare will produce 85 years of high definition video in one day. So how do you handle that?

Recently Rand did a study essentially that said hey, keep doing business the way you're doing it now, we'll require 100,000 analysts to process all this data by [2015]. It was interesting, CNN got ahold of that and said hey, that sounds like a good story, so they did a little piece on this, actually I guess last week or the week before last, and of course they talk about how the Air Force can use what reality TV has learned in terms of handling video and lots of video shots and putting it all together. So the example they used are the Kardashians and Honey Boo Boo. [Laughter]. My daughter sent me an email. "Hey dad, there's really high [inaudible] there." [Laughter].

But the point was that we absolutely are going to have to have better ways of handling all this data. So again, we're developing that road map for the Distributed Common Ground System way ahead as well as [inaudible] tools way ahead and laying out those things that we need to do.

If you look at DCGS today we have already implemented a service oriented architecture construct within DCGS that allows us to really put those adaptations and those systems on board that SOA architecture fairly easily. We have actually put in a lot of new tools over the last year, for example allowing us to handle multiple streams of video, allowing us to layer various

information layers on top of one another for the analysts very easily. So those are the types of things that we're trying to get at in working with our partners in order to execute these intelligence operations with these massive quantities of data that we're going to be facing.

The machine absolutely has to help the analysts. If you've been to a DCGS site you'll see an NCO sitting there watching full motion video constantly, when we're doing overwatch, when we're supporting a mission, whatever the case may be. That frankly, folks, is not an efficient use of the gray matter between your ears. The machine has to be able to assess that video, determine if things have changed or not, and then alert the human so they do something about it.

Again, we're putting that into place in DCGS in terms of the ability to easily add applications on top of that SOA architecture. We're working very much with AFRL, at the MIT Lincoln Lab, with DARPA, you name it, whoever is out there with a good idea. Certainly commercial industry. They've got a lot of things they already do in this world. So bringing that all together so that we can process and handle all this data much better than we do it today.

A couple of things we are doing within A2. Number one, from a network perspective we're actually creating a network division that will be responsible for DCGS and the networks that support it. So we're right in the middle of putting that organization together because we believe that that focus on DCGS and the networks is absolutely essential to getting our arms around it.

Secondly, we're putting a greater emphasis on S&T, science and technology development. If you look across the ISR enterprise, whether it's DoD, IC, joint, whatever the case may be, commercial, frankly, you could not find anyone that really has their arms around what all is going on across the community from an S&T perspective. So we're working very hard to put organizations in place in A2 that will be out there constantly understanding the state of play from an S&T perspective. What's Lincoln Lab doing? What's DARPA doing? What's AFRL doing? What's the NRO doing? What's NSA doing? So that we understand the art of the possible from an S&T perspective and then allow us to invest [inaudible] in order to bring those capabilities to bear and ensure [inaudible].

Those are really three areas, again, within the Secretary's ISR review that we continue to work. In our next in-person update, it will be at the end of the year. As we walk through where we are in each of these road maps, each of these technology development efforts, and get his perspective on that.

A fourth area is collaboration. We all recognize, I think, that we don't do any of this alone anymore. First of all it's always going to be a joint operation. Second of all, in general we're going to be involved with our allies. So there's really three areas that we have focused on from a collaboration perspective. First I will talk about our allies. A lot of tremendous work went on across the ally domain. I was down in Australia a few months ago. We are doing a lot of great work with the Australian government, setting up the ability for them to have their own DCGS, Distributed Common Ground System processing there in Australia. And we are pretty much very far along with that, just working some final hardware issues actually to allow them to get the data and execute those DCGS PED missions in support of missions for them as well as missions for the coalition.

We've had that capability in place for quite a while in the United Kingdom, something called Crossbows. So now we're bringing that to the Australians as well. I think that will be a tremendous success.

In addition the Australians are supporting us in the MC-12, flying in Afghanistan. They have pilots that are actually flying for us in Afghanistan and we will continue to do that [inaudible]. So a great partnership there with the Australians.

If you look at the United Kingdom, as I said, we already have a DCGS node there that helps us out processing all those data. They are also purchasing their own Rivet Joint signals intelligence aircraft. I was down in Greenville, Texas a few months ago to see that first aircraft [inaudible] construction. It's pretty amazing how they're taking an old tanker and turning it into an RJ signals intelligence platform. Thousands of miles of wire running all over the airplane. That airplane is on schedule to be delivered to the UK. We're also in the middle of kind of working out the approval process, if you will, for the United Kingdom operators to actually operate that without American presence on board, on board from a classification perspective. As you might imagine, there are a few wrinkles with that, so we actually had some dialogue with the CIO here about a week ago to start the process of once they get that UK aircraft, how do we make sure they can access the data they need to access? That's ongoing.

They'll be standing up the capability at Waddington to fly RPAs this fall within the UK, so we'll be over there supporting them on that front.

Just a tremendous partnership there with our key allies. We will continue to nurture that and make sure that we operate together, no matter what the scenario is.

Jointness. A lot of great work [inaudible] going on across the joint domain. A lot of great dialogue with the Army right now on how we can support each other through that processing, exploitation, and dissemination perspective. For example, when they have their intelligence folks, their PED folks, that are back to garrison and not executing a mission forward, why can't they come be a part of DCGS? We're actually going to try that. So General Jeremiah and I have had this dialogue and we'll continue to push that capability. I think there's a lot of opportunity here. We're going to meet with Dr. Pinkers on Wednesday for our intel off-site with him, and all the services. A lot of agenda items there, we'll talk about how we better integrate across the services from the intelligence perspective.

Again, we recognize that we absolutely have to do that.

Thirdly, integration across the intelligence community. The intel community is very broad. When you think about all the folks that are out there -- NGA, NSA, DIA, et cetera. But we're engaged in every one of those organizations to make sure we are coherent, we are in synch, we're going down the same path. For example, a lot of good work at NGA, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. We actually have a senior civilian there on staff that lives there at NGA, and makes sure that we are harvesting all the capability that can possibly apply with DCGS. Making sure we understand where they're going from a GEOINT perspective, and bringing all that to bear for the Air Force problems that we deal with.

So a lot of good work in the collaboration environment and it will continue to be one of our priorities.

Lastly, as you heard the Secretary this morning, none of this happens without [inaudible], not only in the U.S. Air Force but across the intelligence community, across the world, and across our allies.

Last Tuesday I was out at Monterey. If you want to see some folks that are fired up, these are young, basically just out of high school, just out of basic training, and they are there learning Farsi, Pashtu, you pick it, Chinese, et cetera. This is hard stuff, and yet these young men and women are absolutely excited about serving their nation, serving the Air Force, and making a difference for their country. I had the opportunity to have lunch with them. These are 18 and 19 year olds, and yet they're there talking about it. I said why did you do this? Why did you come into the Air Force? It's really heartening to hear them talk about I just wanted to do something for my country. That was a very standard response from these young men and women.

As you know, this is all volunteer. They don't have to do any of this, and yet they're there doing a very hard thing. As you all know, learning a language is not easy. Learning some of these languages is very difficult. Yet they're out there because they recognize this is a real [inaudible], we never know where we're going to be called upon to serve. They're going to have the skill sets to allow us to operate successfully in those particular domains [inaudible].

That is certainly a focus for us, making sure we take care of those young men and women with the absolute best technology, the best tools we can provide them, the best training that we can provide them, and making sure that they are successful in executing the missions that we give to them on a daily basis.

With that, I would just like to wrap up by saying it's a tremendous honor for me to be a part of this [inaudible]. If you look across what these young men and women do day in and day out, and it's around the world, it's every theater, it's every day. I tell the story about the young lady who was in one of our organizations. We had the MiG shootdown over Syria. The Turkish MiG shootdown. This was the person that actually drew in all sources of intelligence, put together a complete picture, a video picture that gave [inaudible] and that immediately made it up to the Joint Staff and ultimately to the White House to say here's what happened. It was that young lady that put that together, bringing all this to bear, to frankly make sure that this nation did the right thing [inaudible]. That's what we're all about day in and day out. I hope you [inaudible].

Thank you.

Question: Two layers. First of all, to identify myself, I'm a press guy, so we all [inaudible]. I'm sitting here [inaudible].

Two questions. The Australians [inaudible] DCGS now, is that correct?

Lieutenant General James: Correct.

Question: What will they be able to do with that that they can't now [inaudible]?

And two, stepping back from that. DCGS' idea of doing things globally is very powerful, but as we look to cyber threats and satellite threats, that of course is a whole lifeline we have to protect as well, and that brings vulnerability to [inaudible].

Lieutenant General James: Okay, to your first question, I would just answer that as you look at what DCGS is, it really is

that system that brings together multiple sources of information that doesn't necessarily exist [inaudible]. I think that's what that will bring to our allies, the ability to access multiple sources of information and fuse that information together in a way that you can't use in other ways in a very rapid and real time manner. That's really what I think DCGS is bringing to the allies.

        Your second point is certainly valid in terms of as you think about the communications link and nodes and all these things that we have to have to operate in a global enterprise, absolutely one of the tasks that Air Force Space Command has is how do you assure that you're going to be able to move all that data around? And yes indeed, we are looking at that to make sure that you have that assured communication. There are ways to do that.

        Question: Is there any forecast in increasing the Liberty fleet?

        Lieutenant General James: No. We have a program of record. We have bought the Liberties we're going to buy, and the dollars -- Pardon me?

        Question: [Inaudible]?

        Lieutenant General James: Apparently the Air Force is looking at putting some of those into the Guard. Primarily making it a Guard mission, although that's still obviously being worked given the various questions about Guard/Reserve capabilities to deal with all that. But we have bought the number we're going to buy and we will continue to try and support those across the globe.

        Question: [Inaudible]?

        Lieutenant General James: To be honest, I can't give you a good answer other than to say we're bringing it into the DCGS enterprise. I can't remember if there's one unit that's going to focus on Gorgon Stare. The 13th. So it will be the 13th Reconnaissance Squadron that has that as their primary mission.

        Question: I'm curious what the future holds for some of the legacy ISR platforms, U-2, E-3, EA-8, what role will those play as the [inaudible] Liberty?

        Lieutenant General James: I think the legacy platforms are going to be with us. When you look at the current Air Force plan in the President's budget, it said that we will continue to operate the U-2 for the foreseeable future. U-2 is a great airframe. Again, most of those airframes were built in the '80s

and '90s. It's not, people talk about the U-2 of the 1950s.
These are not airframes that were built in the 1950s. They were
built in the '80s. And [inaudible] glass cockpits. So they're
good airframes. The airframe is good for way out, 2040 and
beyond. We continue to upgrade its capabilities, the electronics
capabilities, the sensor capabilities. So I believe the U-2 is
going to be with us for a while. We look at Rivet Joint, which
is our premier airborne signals intelligence platforms. Again,
it's going through its Block 10 upgrade right now. The biggest
upgrade we've done [inaudible] history. We're putting in wideband
global satcom so we'll have the ability to off-board data and we
can perhaps take some of the analysts, probably never all, but
some of the people off that jet and begin to import that data
back to Omaha or other places.

        So in general, those larger, if you will, airborne legacy
platforms are going to be with us for a while. We'll continue to
upgrade them.

        Question: As a reporter I'd also ask, Global Hawk Block 30.
We're now hearing that there's a contract with Northrop to keep
flying those to 2013 while we figure out whether we're keeping
them or not. Can you give us any visibility on what
place[inaudible] that is?

        Lieutenant General James: Obviously we don't have firm
guidance from Congress right now because there is no National
Defense Authorization Act. The intent of Congress so far in
general has been that they would like us to keep flying the
Global Hawk. Right now we're planning to fly them until we get
definitive guidance from Congress in the National Defense
Authorization Act. So that's kind of if you go quarter by
quarter we will continue to operate Global Hawk until we get
guidance in the law.

        Question: [Inaudible]?

        Lieutenant General James: From a DCGS perspective one of
the things we have is what we call capabilities, planning and
analysis process. It looks across the broad ISR spectrum and
says what are our needs and gaps. And certainly one of those
needs and gaps is this automated [inaudible]. So one of the
things we're doing is we're working with AFRL to help understand
the state of the technology to help us be a filter because
frankly, there are a lot of people out there with ideas or a
product which may or may not work. We've also stood up in AFRL a
thing called [EC Tab X] which is basically a head experimental
system where we can actually take proposed tools and operate them
on the system with an analyst in the loop to understand is this
something that's worthy for us to invest in. Then we're working
with folks down at Warner-Robbins which is really our SPO right

now while we're in the sustainment mode to make sure that we have rapid acquisition processes so if there is a good application that makes sense that's been validated and meets the requirement, then we can [inaudible]. So I think there's a good requirements process, a good S&T exploitation to understand the process, and we're trying to move to a more rapid acquisition process. Bring those applications in fairly rapidly.

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