Headquarters U.S. Air Force

A Warfighting Domain
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AF Cyberspace Task Force
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DHARAN, SAUDI ARABIA, 25 Jun 1996:
Adversary Used: Commercial Comms for coordination
RF Detonation, Handheld wireless comms
We’re at war: Cyber is a battlespace

BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA, 27 Mar 1999:
Adversary Used: Mobile Communication, networked defense, electronic warfare
We’re at war: Cyber is a battlespace

PENTAGON, 11 Sep 2001:
Adversary Used: Internet for recruitment
International & cell comms for coord; Training on sims
We’re at war: Cyber is a battlespace

Hundreds of Jihadi Web Sites and Internet hosts, thousands of individual email accounts
We’re at war: Cyber is a battlespace

“The war is really not about Iraq or Afghanistan necessarily, it’s about this broader war that is really global in nature and has no borders. It uses things like the Cyber world to operate in.”

- General Lance L. Smith, USJFC Commander
Cyberspace: Vulnerabilities

- As the dominant global power, US is most vulnerable to attacks in this domain
- “Electronic Pearl Harbor”/ “E-Katrina”
  - Cyberspace provides a fulcrum to leverage physical attacks by disrupting/delaying/hindering US response
  - Cyber weapons can be Weapons of Mass Disruption / Mass Effect
- Anything we can do in Cyberspace can be done to us cheaper and faster
- Vulnerabilities are open to the world, available to anyone, anywhere, with the capability and intent to exploit them
- Cyberspace provides the means for organized attacks on our infrastructure, from a distance, at the speed of light
National Guidance

- 2003 National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace: *Protect against the debilitating disruption of the operation of critical information systems.*

- 2004 National Military Strategy: *Adversaries threaten the U.S. throughout a complex battle space...airspace, space and cyberspace.*

- 2006 Quadrennial Defense Review: *Cyberspace is increasingly critical and inseparable from our national power and interests....It is appropriate...to develop both a cyber power and a space power theory.*

- 2006 National Military Strategy for Cyberspace Operations: *As a war-fighting domain...cyberspace favors the offense.*
  - Offensive capabilities in cyberspace offer both the US and our adversaries an opportunity to gain and maintain the initiative
  - Cyberspace is a domain characterized by the use of electronics and the electromagnetic spectrum store, modify and exchange data via networked systems and associated physical infrastructures
SECAF/CSAF Guidance

- **Mission:** Deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests—to fly and fight in the Air, Space, and Cyberspace.

- **Vision:** Expand our leading role in Cyberspace...afford us offensive capabilities and deliberate target sets...and be at the vanguard of protecting the nation from an electronic “Pearl Harbor”

- **Priorities:**
  - *Win the Long War*
  - *Take Care of our People*
  - *Recapitalize the Air Force*
Cyber Mission

- Fly and fight in cyberspace

- Employ global cyber power to deliver sovereign options across the spectrum of conflict, as either a supported or a supporting component of a Joint Force

- Integrate full range of cyber effects in a 24/7/365 strategic context and deploy cyber strike packages to regional COCOMS

- Organize, Train and Equip Cyber Warriors
Cyberspace vs Mission Areas

- Cyberspace Domain
  - Net Ops
  - Net Centric Operations
  - C2
  - ISR
  - Electronic Warfare
  - Info Ops
  - Counterspace
  - Network Warfare
Its All About The Effects

Full Spectrum Dominance: Global effects at the speed of light
Cross-Domain Dominance = Sovereign Options

Synergies through integration and interdependence
Cyber is a *war-fighting domain*. The electromagnetic spectrum is the maneuver space.

Cyber is the United States’ Center of Gravity--the hub of all power and movement, upon which everything else depends. It is the Nation’s neural network.

Cyber superiority is *the prerequisite* to effective operations across all strategic and operational domains--securing freedom from attack and freedom to attack.
As Airmen

- We are the Nation’s *premier* multi-dimensional maneuver force, with the agility, reach, speed, stealth, payload, precision, and persistence to deliver global effects at the speed of sound and the speed of light.

- Our non-negotiable commitment is to deliver sovereign options for the United States through cross-domain dominance of Air, Space, and Cyber.

- Control of the Air, Space and Cyber domain is the sine qua non--the essential bedrock--for effective Joint operations.
Next Steps

- Evolve a coherent enterprise, with a warfighting ethos, capable of mission execution in peace, crisis and war
- Operationalize and integrate capabilities, systems, training, tactics, techniques and procedures that capitalize on the synergies of cross-domain dominance
- Foster force of 21st Century warriors, capable of delivering the full spectrum of kinetic and non-kinetic, lethal and non-lethal effects in the Air, Space and Cyber domains
Fly and Fight in Cyber

- Freedom from attack and freedom to attack
  - The first battle will be for control of all three domains
  - Dominating all three allows us to deliver the full spectrum of effects
- Cyber favors the offensive
  - Strategic Attack directly at enemy centers of gravity
  - Suppression of Enemy Cyber Defenses
  - Offensive Counter Cyber
  - Defensive Counter Cyber
  - Interdiction
- Global effects at the speed of light
  - Minimal CNN effect and need to rebuild

Without Cyber Dominance, Operations in all Domains at Risk
Upcoming Cyber Summit to discuss:

- Options for the Operational Command for Cyberspace to include scalability of force packages, ease of implementation

- Nature of Cyber domain, across the electromagnetic spectrum

- Plan to organize and train in preparation for presentation of forces

- Force development, including Air Force Specialty Codes referred to as Cyber

- Research, Development, and Acquisition