



Whitney, Bradley & Brown, Inc.

Helping Our Clients Make Better Decisions



Transforming Mine Warfare

Rear Admiral (ret) Paul Ryan



Variables

- **Shrinking dedicated MCM/AMCM force**
- **LCS unknowns**
- **LCS MCM training**
- **Future role of MCMRONs in all-LCS force**
- **Mine Warfare training in all-LCS force**
- **Whither MineWarCom?**
- **Mine Warfare Center of Excellence**
- **Naval Station Ingleside: BRAC and realignments**



Shrinking Dedicated MCM/AMCM Force

- **MHC decom**
 - All MHCs expected to decom between FY06 and FY08
- **MH-53 life extension**
 - Partially funded
- **No follow-on to MCM-1 class planned because of LCS**

**WILL LCS MCM CAPABILITY BE READY
WHEN WE NEED IT?**



LCS Unknowns

I believe LCS will give us real MCM/AMCM capability, but...

- **How much faith can we put in the projected LCS build rate in a fiscally challenged shipbuilding budget?**
- **Is MCM focused mission package capability ready?**
 - **RMS and AQS-20 sonar IOC: FY07**
 - **ALMDS, AMNS, OASIS IOC: FY08**
 - **RAMICs IOC: FY10**
 - **LMRS cancelled in favor of MRUUV, IOC: FY11**
- **Can we count on the planned MCM focused mission package purchase rate?**
 - **1st delivers in FY07 (but what will it really be able to do?)**
 - **2nd delivers in FY09**
 - **Fiscally optimistic projections for additional mission packages**

DO WE NEED A HEDGING STRATEGY?



LCS MCM Training

- **Expected initial LCS homeports: Norfolk and San Diego** (module storage sites probably co-located)
 - Where do ships train when MCM focused mission package embarked?
 - No dedicated MCM ranges except for Ingleside and Panama City
 - Who are the mine warfare experts? Who are the trainers?
 - Where/how do MCM mission crews train and maintain proficiency when not embarked?
 - May be a different issue for later flights of LCS
 - Where will aviation detachments train?
 - How does MCM OIC train his/her “crew”?

IS MCM A “PICK-UP” GAME?



Future Role of MCMRONs

- **Currently responsible for ships, pre-deployment training, and AOR expertise**
 - RON 1 – Western Pacific
 - RON 2 – CONUS, Med, follow-on force
 - RON 3 – CENTCOM
- **What does an MCMRON do without ships?**
 - Establish AOR offices at new USW Center of Excellence?
 - Become part of numbered fleet staff?
 - Supervise MCM focused mission package on and off-ship training?

WHERE WILL AOR EXPERTISE RESIDE?



Whither MineWarCom?

IAW proposed BRAC realignment, CMWC and COMOMAG will be relocated to a new Undersea Warfare Center of Excellence

- **Will CMWC retain its individual identity and still be a deployable wartime staff?**
- **Will CMWC personnel be subsumed into an expanded Fleet ASW Command?**
 - **Will mine warfare get the dedicated attention it needs or will CMWC personnel be tasked to work ASW issues?**
- **Are we “undoing” the mine warfare lessons learned from Desert Storm?**
- **Would the TYCOM “lead-follow” model work?**
 - **CMWC retains unique identity but subordinated to USW command (the same way COMNAVSURFLANT subordinated to COMNAVSURFOR)**

IS THERE VALUE IN A CMWC?



Mine Warfare Center of Excellence

The Mine Warfare COE was established by CNO Kelso after Desert Storm

- Has the Mine Warfare COE proven its worth?
 - How did we do in Operation Iraqi Freedom?
- Is there synergy in having the ships, all 3 MCMRONs, HM-15, Mine Warfare Training Center, and Mine Warfare Command in Corpus/Ingleside?
 - Pre OIF “big deck of opportunity” embark on USS Kearsage
 - OIF pre-deployment training of ships, MCMRONS and HM-15
 - Deployment preps and timeline coordinated by CMWC N-3 and N-5
 - How will mine warfare experience and lessons learned get back to people who need it?
 - Where will our few mine warfare experts go?

**ARE WE SETTING OURSELVES UP FOR A
LESSON “RELEARNED”?**



Naval Station Ingleside

Proposed BRAC closes NSI. Remaining MCMs and support move to San Diego. Mine Warfare Training Center “consolidated” with Fleet ASW Training Center. CMWC and COMOMAG “relocated” to a new USW COE. HM-15 moved to Norfolk.

- **Mines and submarines both reside underwater, but...**



Naval Station Ingleside

Proposed BRAC closes NSI. Remaining MCMs and support move to San Diego. Mine Warfare Training Center “consolidated” with Fleet ASW Training Center. CMWC and COMOMAG “relocated” to a new USW COE. HM-15 moved to Norfolk.

- **Mines and submarines both reside underwater, but...**
- **Baseball and football are both played on grass!**

**IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
ASW AND MCM?**



Naval Station Ingleside

Proposed BRAC closes NSI. Remaining MCMs and support move to San Diego. Mine Warfare Training Center “consolidated” with Fleet ASW Training Center. CMWC and COMOMAG “relocated” to a new USW COE. HM-15 moved to Norfolk.

- **Mines and submarines both reside underwater, but...**
- **Baseball and football are both played on grass!**

**IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
ASW AND MCM?**

It's more than just the active sonar equation!



Whitney, Bradley & Brown, Inc.

Helping Our Clients Make Better Decisions



Questions