Shaping the Future of Maritime Civil Affairs

Lessons Learned from the Maritime Civil Affairs Teams: 2006-2014

Presented to the 2014 Civil Affairs Association Symposium
Rosemary Speers, Ph.D.
Principal Research Scientist
Center for Naval Analyses (CNA)
Overview of Presentation

- Overview of maritime civil affairs (MCA)
  - Core competencies
  - Support to maritime strategy

- MCAST Command history

- Examples of MCA operations

- Next steps for MCA capabilities
MCA Core Competencies

- Maritime civil affairs (MCA) is a complementary capability to land-based civil affairs that addresses civilian-military operations in littoral environments
  - MCA focuses on operations at the land-sea interface or in riparian areas

- Functional specialty areas include:
  - Port operations
  - Marine resources
  - Harbor/channel maintenance
  - Fisheries
  - Maritime security

- MCA capabilities support maritime strategy and maritime domain awareness

- Navy MCA efforts may be integrated with USCG and USMC to support tri-service Maritime Security Cooperation Policy (January 2013)
MCA Support to Maritime Strategy

FORWARD PRESENCE
Develop relationships, building trust and gaining information key for future operations.

DETERRENCE
Execute missions and activities to support GCC security cooperation plans and activities.

MARITIME SECURITY
Create networks to mitigate threats short of war, including piracy, terrorism, and trafficking.

HA/DR
Mitigate human suffering as the vanguard of civil military coordination in response to crises. Deploy CMOC.
MCAST Command History

- Maritime Civil Affairs Group (MCAG) established in 2006 under Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) to conduct maritime civil affairs

- Similarly, Expeditionary Training Command (ETC) established under NECC in 2007 to conduct expeditionary maritime security training (mil-mil)

- In 2009, MCAG and ETC merged to form new Maritime Civil Affairs and Security Training (MCAST) Command, but remained under NECC
  - MCAST Command had dual missions for MCA and security force assistance (SFA)

- Both MCAG and MCAST deployed MCA Teams (MCATs)
  - 4-6 personnel per team, both Active duty and Reserves
  - Missions lasting up to 6 months
  - Requests for MCATs from GCCs, Global Fleet Stations, etc.

- MCAST closed May 16, 2014
  - OPNAV Notice 5400 (Dec 2013) directed closure of MCAST Command
  - Disestablishment is “the result of the assumption of command mission by other Department of Defense agencies”
Types of MCA Operations

• Enduring / Expeditionary
  – Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA)
  – Joint Special Operations Task Force – Philippines
  – OEFCCA (Caribbean Central America) ISO SOCSOUTH

• Global Fleet Stations
  – Africa Partnership Station
  – Pacific Partnership Station
  – Southern Partnership Station

• HA/DR
  – Hurricane Sandy (Dec ‘12)
  – Operation UNIFED RESPONSE (Haiti Earthquake Jan ’10)
  – Airline Crash – Comoros (Jul ’09)
  – Haiti Hurricane (Oct ’08)
Global MCAST Operations

- MCAST Command
- Security, Partnership, Stability

Map showing Global MCAST Operations with various regions and deployments marked:
- SOC SOUTH
- SPS SWIFT
- CONTINUING PROMISE
- UNIFIED RESPONSE
- SOUTHERN PARTNERSHIP STATION
- CJTF HOA
- AFRICA PARTNERSHIP STATION
- AFRICA PARTNERSHIP STATION
- JSOTF-P
- PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Marked regions include:
- MCA Team deployments
- MCA Planners
MISSION SUCCESSES

• Maritime Security
  – Counter Piracy. Established Community Watch on the Water (CWOW) IOT enable fishermen to patrol their own waters

• Gaining Access
  – Opened access to ungoverned spaces to Kenya and Tanzanian governments and US Embassy

ISO REGIONAL SECURITY AND STABILITY

• MCATs directly supported CJTF-HOA mission and objectives
  – “to conduct operations in East Africa region, to build partner nation capacity in order to promote regional security”
  – “as a part of a comprehensive whole-of-government approach are aimed at increase our African partner nation’s capacity to maintain a stable environment, with an effective government that provides a degree of economic and social advancement to its citizens.”
Global Fleet Stations

2008-2014:
• **Africa Partnership Station**
• **Pacific Partnership**
• **Continuing Promise**
• **Southern Partnership Station**

• Build Host Nation Capacity
  – Assist with HA/DR activities
• Enhance Maritime Security
  – Connect partner nation authorities and populace to counter illicit activities
• Execute Whole-of-Government approach ISO security and stability ops

• Enhanced Partner Navy relationships with key leaders and communities ashore
• Provided access to civil populace in littorals ISO mission objectives
• Conducted key assessments of previous port calls
Community Watch on the Water (Kenya)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITERIA:</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011 &amp; Future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PN Public Perception</td>
<td>Gov’t beating fishermen up</td>
<td>Fishermen learning BLS/ trusting govt</td>
<td>Fishermen and gov’t officials relying on each other</td>
<td>PN is now concerned about its citizens in the littoral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Conditions</td>
<td>Zero economic / stability impact</td>
<td>Teams learning how to have impact on economic growth/stability</td>
<td>Improved econ growth / stability</td>
<td>Area of improved econ growth / stability increases; move to next region/country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Team learned where efforts should be made</td>
<td>Team began implementing trust measures--BLS</td>
<td>Team used BLS to get buy-in for CWOW</td>
<td>Team increased CWOW scope to include maritime security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence</td>
<td>Team learned what issues should be addressed</td>
<td>Team learned how to engage Key Leaders</td>
<td>Team successfully engaged Key Leaders to begin CWOW</td>
<td>CWOW replace with KMA (Kenya Maritime Authority), influence now with regional officials; RMAC*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Mission Objective progression</td>
<td>Objective: Obtain experience</td>
<td>Objective: Conduct CMO. Investigate expansion of AOR. Awaited CJTF approved mission statement</td>
<td>Objective: Conduct CMO throughout the Coast Province</td>
<td>Objective: CWOW (now KMA) Transitions to PN control</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: MCAST Command - Security, Partnership, Stability
Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief

- Hurricane Sandy ‘12: CMOC, MCAT, and CMO Cell deployed ISO NECC AFP; Embarked aboard USS SAN ANTONIO ISO relief operations
- Haiti Earthquake ‘10: 2 MCATs, 1 MCA Planner; established CMOC ISO JTF
- Airliner Crash (Comoros) ‘09: US EMB lead for recovery efforts.
- Haiti Hurricane ‘08: 1 MCAT: Coordination of relief efforts; supported CMOC

RAPID DEPLOYMENT CAPABILITIES

- 24-Hour Worldwide Rapid Response
  - 4 PAX Rucksack and Pelican Case
- 96-Hour CMOC and MCAT
  - Assist HA/DR efforts within 96-hours
  - Adaptive and tailored to the mission

CONTINUOUSLY READY FOR ENGAGEMENTS

- Ensure MCAST included in HA/DR Operations Plans (OPLANs)
- Continue building HA/DR networks
- Had MCAST Planners at several Navy commands, including NAVCENT; NAVAF; SOCAF (NSW); PACFLT; CTF73

MCAT aboard USS GUNSTON HALL en route to support APS diverted to assist in Haiti relief efforts.
Summary and Next Steps

• MCA provides an enduring maritime presence, accomplishing strategic effects at the tactical level with low cost
  – Links vital maritime resources to the civil populace and authorities
  – Helps build partner nation capacity to counter piracy and illicit trafficking
  – Provides access to previously ungoverned spaces in the littoral environment
  – Enhances interoperability with partner navies

• Due to closure of MCAST, persistent demand for MCA (such as from Global Fleet Stations and Marine Construction Battalions) now must be met by other means
• Also seeing suppressed demand as commands halt requests for a capability that has been disestablished
• Currently working with OPNAV N515 to archive MCAST materials, gather best practices and lessons learned, and develop courses to action to reconstitute and maintain the Joint capability for MCA
Opportunity for future CWOW programs?

CWOW programs can be implemented in Indonesia and Philippines

Counter Piracy and Illicit Fishing
- Supports PACFLT’s primary objectives
- Fosters partnerships between fishing communities and local authorities related to Maritime Security issues
- Supports marginalized coastal communities susceptible to VEO
- Program developed, implemented, and proven in Kenya*

Create Networks between Naval, Local Security Forces and Citizens.
- Employs rural fishing communities as the eyes and ears of the local government in the service of enhancing Maritime Security
- Constructs customized systems, specifically tailored to PN infrastructure.

* Farrell and Wagner, “Community Watch on the Water: Relationship Building on the Kenyan Coast” USAFRICOM and CJTF-HOA Research, 2011
Enduring Presence – Minimal Costs
HIGH RETURN ON INVESTMENT

$36.6M
Annual O&S cost of a single LCS sea frame in constant FY 2010 

$913K
Annual cost for deployed MCAT

* BASED ON Department of Defense, Selected Acquisition Report (SAR), LCS, as of December 31, 2012

* BASED ON FY-13 FUNDING
Questions?

Rosemary Speers, Ph.D.
CNA (Center for Naval Analyses)
speersr@cna.org

Phyllis Mihalas, Ph.D.
Fleet Forces Command