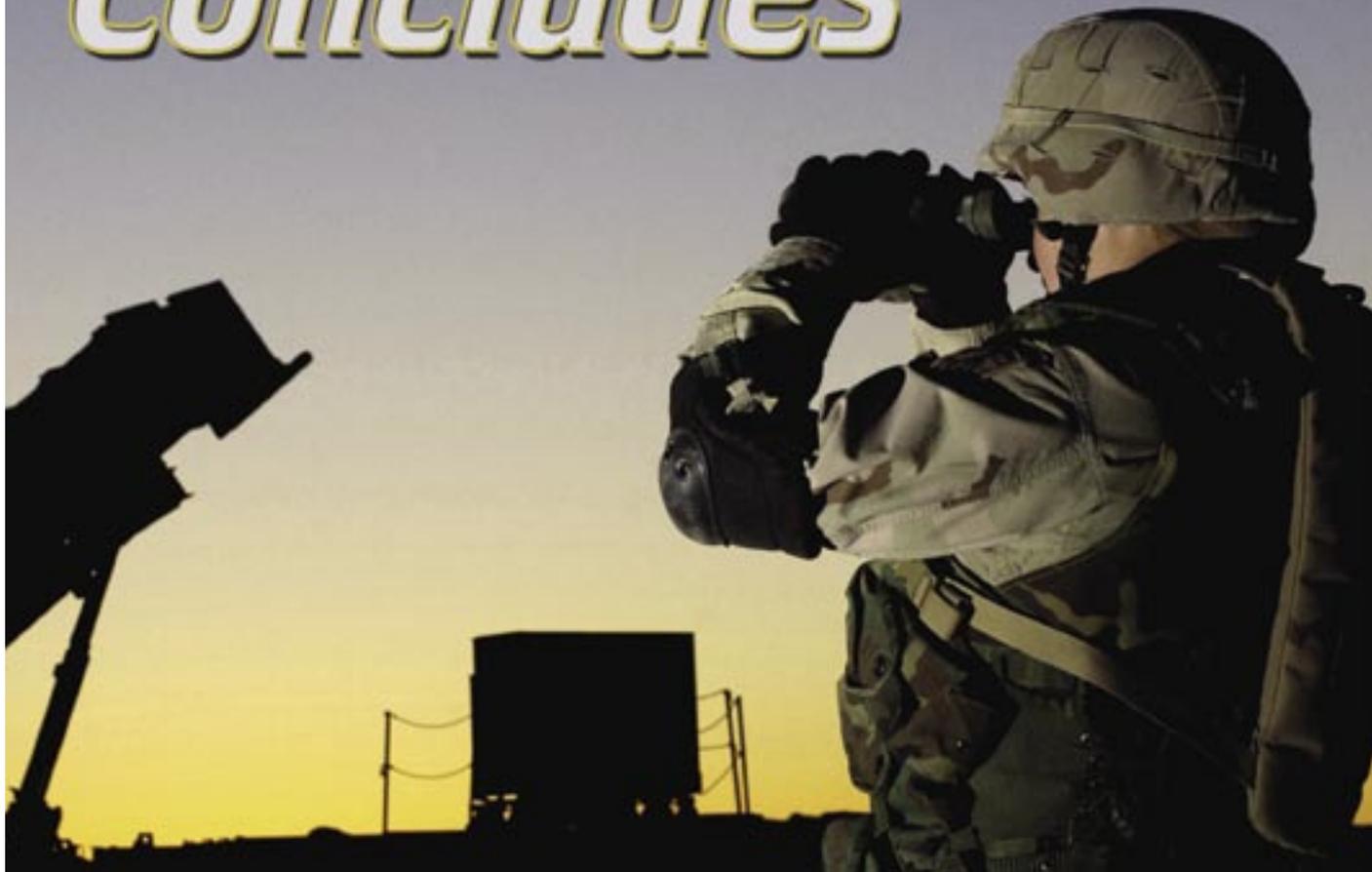


Joint Red Flag Concludes



THE TWO-WEEK JRF05 EXERCISE IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE LARGEST DISTRIBUTIVE EXERCISES IN U.S HISTORY WITH MORE THAN 10,000 PARTICIPANTS IN 44 DIFFERENT SITES NATIONWIDE.

By JENNIFER COLAZZI

The first U.S. forces and coalition Joint Red Flag exercise concluded April 2. One of the major undertakings of the exercise was the integration of live, virtual and constructive technologies into one seamless picture, officials said. Live training refers to people and aircraft actually performing an exercise mission; virtual training refers to crews participating in the exercise by using simulators; and construc-

tive forces are computer-aided simulations controlling a wider span of forces playing out on a computer station.

"The integration of live, virtual and constructive participants posed several challenges, but I believe we'll have a solution to the integration in the very near future. We attained about 90 percent of what we set out to accomplish," said Lieutenant Colonel James Murray, 12th Air Force project officer. "Some items went extremely well, and we learned a great deal along the way."

The total number of missions flown to combine this picture was immense, Murray said. "We flew an incredible number of sorties during the execution of this exercise," he explained. "Of the 24,000 sorties flown, 3,500 to 4,000 were live combat training missions, 6,000 to 7,000 were flown as virtual sorties and 18,500 [were] constructive sorties. We really pushed the

limits of the personnel and systems. They each performed remarkably."

The simulation and coalition training of the exercise was also a great achievement, said Lieutenant Colonel Mark Horn, the 505th Exercise Control Squadron commander at Hurlburt Field, FL. "Joint Red Flag was an unqualified success from the joint exercise control group perspective," he said. "This was the first large-scale distributed exercise control event ever attempted from the 505th Command and Control Wing, including our sister service partners. Many lessons learned and takeaways will allow us to build a better [exercise] the next time around."

As with any major training exercise, there are ways to make the next Joint Red Flag better. "There are a number of items we can improve on now that we have completed this huge exercise," Murray said. "If I have to pick one item to improve



The Air Force's Air Combat Command at Langley Air Force Base linked a number of traditionally separate training events at Nellis AFB, Kirtland AFB, Fort Hood, and Fort Bliss. [USJFCOM photos]

on, it would be how we integrate the full training events and the venue-specific training. If we had done this a bit better during the first week of this exercise, we could have been totally successful.

"The smoothing of the flow of information among all participants, U.S. and coalition, is an area we plan to focus on in the future. We did a great job and can look forward to only getting better. This has been a tremendous exercise and has allowed us to take the first of what I hope

are many more strides toward fully joint and combined training events."

The relationships formed with the Army, Marine Corps and Navy will streamline the process of including them in both joint and Air Force-focused exercises in the future, Horn said. Another instrumental part of the exercise was the relationships formed with coalition allies, said Major General Floyd C. Williams, the Combined Forces Air and Space Component commander.

The joint training achieved will have a direct impact on how wars are fought in the future. Incidents of friendly fire will be reduced in the future thanks to hands-on training with coalition allies. "By working hand-in-hand with our allies, we will be saving many lives," Williams said. "By training together, we learn how to fight together, significantly reducing the cross-cultural learning curve and enabling us to field a more capable and lethal combined coalition force."

"Our coalition allies did a great job," Williams continued. "The steps taken here are giant leaps in ensuring our continued relations with our allies carry on well into the future." ★

Editor's note: Colazzi is a reporter for U.S. Joint Forces Command Public Affairs. This article was written for Military Training Technology and distributed in the USJFCOM's newslink.

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Army "Firsts" at JRF05

By Marty Kauchak
MT2 Editor-at-Large

Joint Red Flag 05 (JRF05), according to Air Force Chief of Staff General John Jumper, was the largest distributed mission operations event in history with 34 sites and 18 virtual simulators linked together.

It provided its primary U.S. Army training audience, 32nd Army Area Missile Defense Command (32nd AAMDC) and 4th Infantry Division (4 ID), with an invaluable opportunity to jointly train in scenarios that replicated real-world tactical and operational missions. Other "firsts" were recorded during JRF05.

The event was the first time that an Army composite air missile defense battalion (Patriots and Avengers) participated in a live training event at the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTRR).

JRF05 also provided the first opportunity for the 32nd AMDC to train alongside its 12th Air Force counterparts in the Combined Air Operations Center (CAOC). From its divisional headquarters, the 4 ID trained with its joint and multina-

tional partners in the Joint Force Land Component Command organization.

Dr. Paul Mayberry, deputy undersecretary of defense for readiness, who has policy oversight of the department's Training Transformation (T2) program, visited a number of JRF05 venues, and was pleased with the quality and scope of joint training he observed. "Kudos to U.S. Joint Forces Command, and the Air Force's Air Combat Command, the event executive agent, for making this Joint Red Flag an outstanding joint training experience," Mayberry said.

Mayberry noted in particular the inclusion of Army air defense units in the live training scenarios at NTRR, and placed this milestone in context of T2 and one of its three tenets—joint national training capability (JNTC).

"During my visit to the CAOC, I saw the Army-Air Force team work through the intricacies of air missile defense scenarios. This helped to validate our investments in T2 and JNTC, whose events allow our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines to experience challenging joint tasks for the first time in a training environment—not on the battlefield."

Dan Gardner, director of readiness and

training, plans and programs, within the Office of the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Readiness, also visited JRF05 venues at Nellis Air Force Base. Gardner reflected how this JNTC event's training audience addressed blue-on-blue avoidance and other Operation Iraqi Freedom lessons learned.

"This JRF enabled live fighter aircraft, head-quarter elements and the 32nd AAMDC units in the field to be integrated in the JNTC's evolving live, virtual and constructive environment. These warfighters trained together in an operational environment; honed their joint tactics, techniques and procedures; focused on all aspects of the air missile defense kill chain; and discussed how to avoid friendly fire incidents in combat. This was a very significant accomplishment."

