

Operational Maneuver From the Sea (OMFSTS)

Organizing Theory to Begin a Shaping Process of Proposal, Debate, Experimentation, & Verification:

- **Aim: Synthesize Sea-Air-Land Opns. into a Maneuver-Warfare Context.**
- **Idea: Achieve a Quick Decision or Secure a Safe Operating Area for Heavy Follow-on Forces via a Quick Combined-Arms, Ship-to-Objective, Operational-Level Maneuver.**
 - ✓ Use Maneuver at Sea as Part of Combined-Arms, Littoral Penetration Operation.
 - ✓ Increase Operational-Level Mobility By Configuring Forces & Doctrine for *Late Decision* on Littoral Penetration Point & *Reducing Ground Force's Footprint* Ashore.
 - ✓ *Quickly Penetrate* Littoral by Using Recon-Pull Tactics to Focus Several Deep Narrow Thrusts through Enemy Weaknesses.
 - ✓ Decrease Rear-Area Vulnerabilities by Basing Preponderance of C&C, Logistics, Fire Support, & Air at Sea.

Maneuver Warfare - *Key Concepts*

- **Commander's Intent**
 - ✓ Commanders Long-Term Vision of What He Wants to Do to the *Enemy*.
- **Surfaces & Gaps (Strong & Weak Points) and Multiple Thrusts**
 - ✓ *Recon-Pull*: Fwd Screen Finds or Creates Gaps & Larger Units Follow in an Expanding Torrent.
 - ✓ Idea: *Infiltrate & Penetrate* Enemy with *Multiple Thrusts*, Flowing Through Gaps & Around Surfaces.
- **Mission Tactics**
 - ✓ Contract -- Subordinate Agrees to Make Near-Term Actions Serve Superiors Intent & Superior Agrees to Give Subordinate Wide Freedom to Determine *How* Intent is to be Realized.
- **Main Effort**
 - ✓ Unifying Idea to Shape Commitment & Harmonize Subordinates' Initiative within Superiors' Intent.
 - ✓ Permits *Decentralization* of Tactical Command within Centralized Strategic Guidance @ All Levels From Theater to Platoon. (e.g., Company Commander assigns Main Effort to One Platoon, Other Platoons Shape their Actions to Support Main Effort).
 - ✓ Commander of Each Unit Can Change Main Effort at any Time (Maintains Operational Fluidity).
- **Large Reserve to Cope with Uncertainty & Exploit Opportunities**
 - ✓ Always Held in Defensive and Offensive Combat, and When Committed, It either Supports or Becomes the Main Effort.
- **Combined Arms**
 - ✓ Hit Enemy With 2 or More Arms Simultaneously in a Way that Defense Against One Arm Makes Him More Vulnerable to Other.

**Maneuver Warfare is Not a List of Principles,
It is a Way of Thinking That Focuses on the Enemy.**

**A Common Outlook for Speeding Up & Harmonizing the Differing Tempos & Rhythms
of the Observation - Orientation - Decision - Action Cycles (OODA Loops) at
Each Level of Organization, W/O Establishing Rigid Uniformity.**

