ARMY WARFIGHTING CHALLENGES

As of 1/31/2017

Enduring first-order problems, the solutions to which improve the combat effectiveness of the current and future force.

1. Develop Situational Understanding
How to develop and sustain a high degree of situational understanding while operating in complex environments against determined, adaptive enemy organizations.

2/3. Shape the Security Environment
How does the Army influence the security environment and engage key actors and local/regional forces in order to consolidate gains and achieve sustainable security outcomes in support of Geographic Combatant Commands and Joint requirements.

4. Adapt the Institutional Army and Innovate
How to improve the rate of innovation to drive capability development and deliver DOTMLPF-P solutions to the warfighter at a pace that meets operational demand within the existing constraints of the acquisition and budgeting processes.

5. Counter Weapons of Mass Destruction
How to prevent, reduce, eliminate, and mitigate the use and effects of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high yield explosives (CBRNE) threats and hazards on friendly forces and civilian populations.

6. Conduct Homeland Operations
How to operate across multiple domains and with multiple partners to defend the homeland and mitigate the effects of attacks and disasters.

7. Conduct Space and Cyber Electromagnetic Operations and Maintain Communications
How to assure uninterrupted access to critical communications and information links (satellite communications [SATCOM], positioning, navigation, and timing [PNT], and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance [ISR]) across a multi-domain architecture when operating in a contested, congested, and competitive operating environment.

8. Enhance Realistic Training
How to train Soldiers, leaders and units to ensure they are prepared to accomplish the mission across the range of military operations while operating in complex environments against determined, adaptive enemy organizations.

9. Improve Soldier, Leader and Team Performance
How to develop resilient Soldiers, adaptive leaders, and cohesive teams committed to the Army professional ethic that are capable of accomplishing the mission in environments of uncertainty and persistent danger.

10. Develop Agile and Adaptive Leaders
How to develop agile, adaptive, and innovative leaders who thrive in conditions of uncertainty and chaos and are capable of visualizing, describing, directing, and leading and assessing operations in complex environments and against adaptive enemies.

ARMY WARFIGHTING CHALLENGES CONTINUED...

11. Conduct Air-Ground Reconnaissance and Security Operations
How to conduct effective air-ground combined arms reconnaissance and security operations to develop the situation rapidly in close contact with the enemy and civilian populations.

12. Conduct Joint Expeditionary Maneuver and Entry Operations
How does the Army deploy and project forces, conduct forcible and early entry, and set conditions across multiple domains to rapidly transition to offensive operations to ensure access and seize the initiative.

13. Conduct Wide Area Security
How do Army forces establish and maintain security across wide areas (wide area security) and across multiple domains to protect forces, populations, infrastructure, and activities necessary to shape security environments, consolidate gains, and set conditions for achieving policy goals.

14. Ensure Interoperability and Operate in a Joint, Interorganizational and Multinational Environment
How to integrate joint, interorganizational, and multinational partner capabilities and campaigns to ensure unity of effort and accomplish missions across the range of military operations.

15. Conduct Joint Combined Arms Maneuver
How to conduct combined arms air-ground maneuver to defeat enemy organizations and accomplish missions in complex operational environments.

16. Set the Theater, Sustain Operations, and Maintain Freedom of Movement
How to set the theater, provide strategic agility to the joint force, and maintain freedom of movement and action during sustained and high tempo operations at the end of extended lines of communication in austere environments.

17/18 Employ Cross-Domain Fires
How to employ cross-domain fires to defeat the enemy and preserve freedom of action across the range of military operations (ROMO).

19. Exercise Mission Command
How to understand, visualize, describe, and direct operations consistent with the philosophy of mission command to seize the initiative over the enemy and accomplish the mission across the range of military operations.

20. Develop Capable Formations
How to design Army formations capable of rapidly deploying and conducting operations for ample duration and in sufficient scale to accomplish the mission.

Army Warfighting Challenges Online:

- Public site (not requiring a CAC or password) at: http://www.arcic.army.mil/Initiatives/armywarfightingchallenges
- Learn more at the NIPRNet milWiki site: https://www.milsuite.mil/wiki/AWFC
- Collaborate at milBook at: https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/army-warfighting-challenge-awfc-group
- SIPRNet collaboration at: https://intellipedia.intelink.sgov.gov/wiki/Army_Warfighting_Challenges