

INTERDICT # 55  
28 May '71

## INTERDICTION WORKING GROUP REPORT<sup>1</sup>

Chairman: Robert F. Robinson, Hqs. USAF (AFGOAL)

The initial session was devoted to some historical perspectives and some definition of air interdiction. The major point raised was that Interdiction includes more than destruction of supplies. Some of the significant historical contributions have had their greatest impact in the disruption of enemy operations resulting in the delay in the arrival of forces and in the undependability of supply arrival. One reason for the proliferation of definitions appears to be the confusion between the function of interdiction and the interdiction mission. The group agreed that only the function of interdiction should be the subject of analysis.

--- Lt. Michael Fahey (AFCSA) presenting "*Another Approach to Air/Ground Tradeoffs*." The focus was on the need for a simple analytical framework in which to address the tradeoffs between "*tactical*" interdiction and close air support.

--- Mr. Volluz presenting a paper on "*The Structure of Tactical War*". The thrust of this report was directed at the necessity for examining the function rather than missions and the requirement for developing a methodology for valuing targets. In this regard a specific example was given --- in which the value of a target was proportional to the amount of manpower support it received throughout the many echelons of the force. Additionally this value was a function of the distance (in time) from the FEBA at some specified point.

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<sup>1</sup> Excerpts from the PROCEEDINGS -- 25<sup>th</sup> Military Operations Research Symposium, June 1970. U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn. (pp.237-239)

--- After the formal presentations and discussions were over, the members of the Interdiction Panel discussed the "*Interdiction Problem*" with an eye towards determining those areas which need further study. The Panel concluded that there was certainly a need for examining:

- a. New approaches.
- b. Extensions of the work presented by Fisher, Volluz, and Fahey.
- c. The Force-Mix implications of the interdiction mission and trade-offs with close air support and other tactical air functions. Specifically the panel decided that the next MORS panel on interdiction should focus its attention on *Measures of Effectiveness for Interdiction*.