

# Universal Communications Platform (UCP) Military Operations Case Study

The UCP easily connects to any communications network in our military forces as well as allied forces for critical interoperability increasing total situational awareness. With defense budgets under increasing pressure and the increased tempo of operations, the UCP is a crucial tool for operational deployments.

## Situation

A Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) in the Gulf of Guinea is tasked by U.S. Africa Command with reinforcing the U.S. Embassy in the capital city of a West African country. The MEU Commander and his staff send an initial assessment team to the embassy to assess the situation and report back the results. The MEU's forward command element (FCE) led by the MEU Executive Officer (XO) is tasked with conducting the assessment. The XO, assembles his FCE for movement. They are equipped with personal weapons, standard liaison equipment and a Universal Communications Platform (UCP) Tactical Deployable Unit (TDU) "Fly-Away Kit."

## Solution

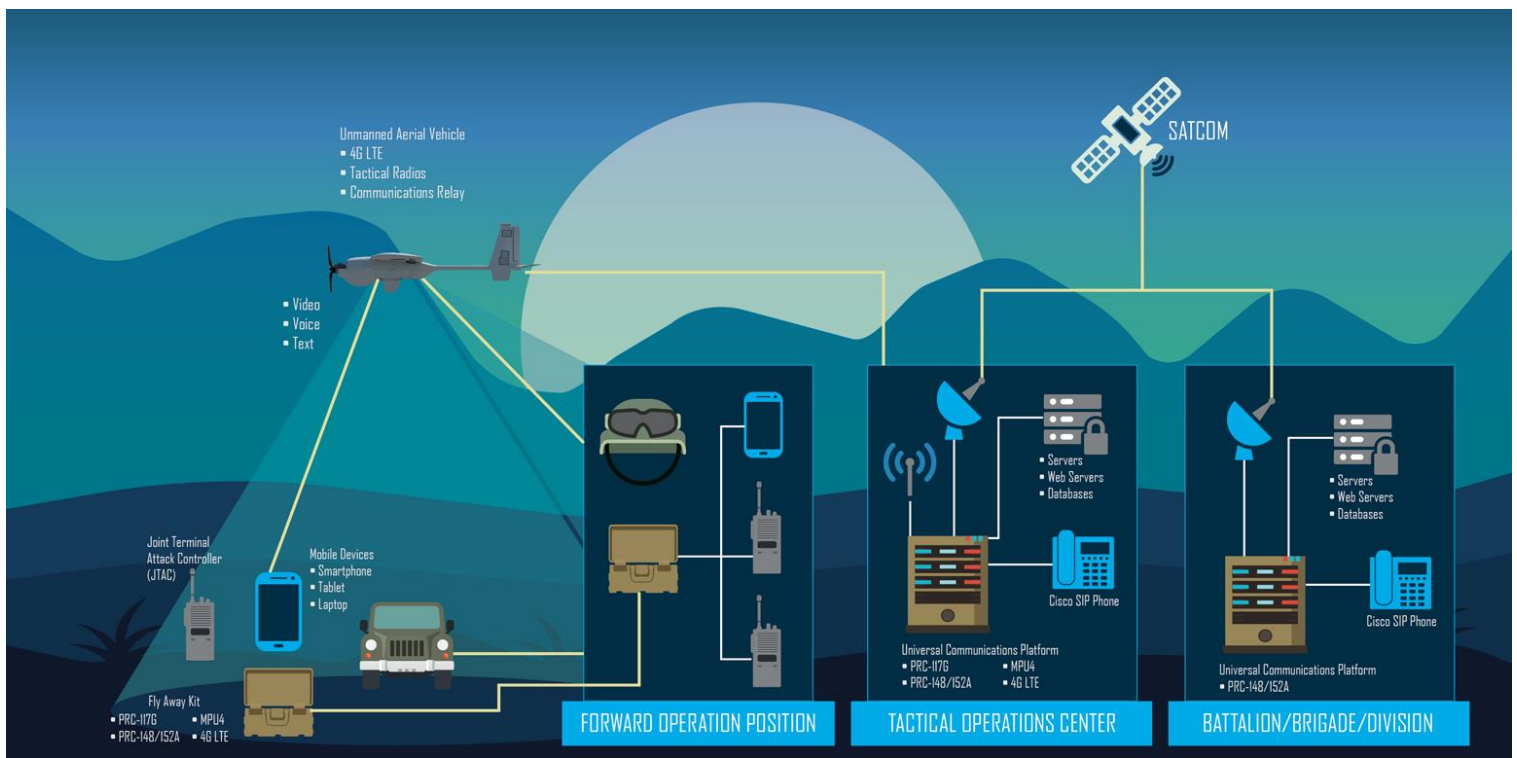
The TDU becomes a safe, "turn-key" operation when dealing with remote locations or limited or no infrastructure

- The TDU allows the assessment team to integrate tactical and land mobile radios in a seamless operation and provides push-to-talk cellular communications for any smartphone or windows device using a true end-to-end native APCO P25 Digital radio on these devices.
- The package can be connected to IP networks remotely via an USB air card, BGAN, or VSAT systems, and the TDU WI-FI system and router extends the capacity by allowing connectivity to multiple laptops and other devices.
- Within hours, the assessment team via the lightweight TDU has established communications between with the U.S. Embassy, host nation military and security forces, a well-respected Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), U.S. Africa Command via "over the horizon" AN/PSC-5 portable satcom terminal and the MEU staff.
- Military units are deployed, bringing with them several Tactical Deployable Units (TDU), mobile devices and radios to support tactical operations centers among multiple forces to be connected to a larger network for immediate communications

## Benefits

- The TDU is a luggage sized package that provides a true command center in a box which can be deployed by one person and fully operable in under 15 minutes.
- It can be connected to other TDUs to provide an ad-hoc communications network between and among installations or forward operating areas.
- It allows seamless communications between NATO and U.S. forces; can be interoperable with public safety entities as needed.
- Provides immediate interoperability among DoD forces as well as other U.S. Government entities such as U.S. embassies.
- The TDU software application provides Blue Force tracking.

- With its Wi-Fi capabilities and user-provided satellite communications, the TDU can also provide links for laptop/tablet users in a forward operating area.
- With the Consular Warden System contact information loaded into the TDU, the follow-on force will be able to rapidly disseminate information via Consular Warden Notices to all American Citizens (AMCITs) registered with the U.S. Embassy through the F-77 location forms.
- In addition, the assessment team has installed the contact numbers for the all of the persons comprising the Consular Warden System. The Warden system is comprised of private American citizens resident in a foreign country who volunteers to assist consular sections in disaster preparedness, welfare and whereabouts, and alerting fellow Americans to emergency situations.



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