Pacing Threats

Russia
- Capable nuclear near-peer adversary
- Seeks return to great power status
- Whole-of-Government approach to coercive competition
- Surpassed by China 2028-2030

China
- Rapidly modernizing nuclear near-peer
- Global ambitions
- Increasing global economic competition and confidence
- Surpasses Russia by 2028-2030

Ways of War are roughly similar
- Seek to prevail in competition phase
- Power across DIME-FL; focus on Information
- In conflict, contest all domains
- Nuclear deterrent

Major Differences
- Geography
- Capacity
- Competence / Momentum

Fundamental Changes

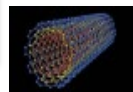*Laser Weapons*   *Synthetic Bio*   *RF Weapons*

Internet of Things   *Quantum*   *AI/Robotics*   *Energetics*
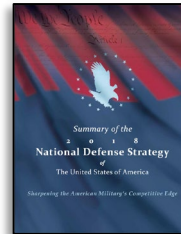
Power   *Hypersonics/Rail Guns*

Future investment trajectories could lead to strategic surprise & no clear relative advantage

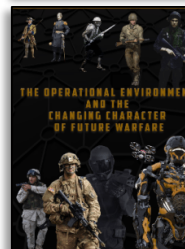---

List of References

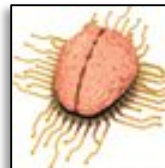**National Security Strategy**

National Defense Strategy

The U.S. Army in Multi-Domain Operations 2028

The Operational Environment and The Changing Character of Future Warfare

The U.S. Army Mad Scientist Initiative

For More Information

POC: Future OE Directorate,
(757) 501-6213

Version: 31 Jan 19

The Operational Environment to 2030

…re-emergence of long-term strategic competitors…

While we were engaged in the Middle East and South Asia, our adversaries were watching us and improving STANDOFF

Potential for Overmatch

Electronic Warfare

Cyber & Space

Fighting Vehicles
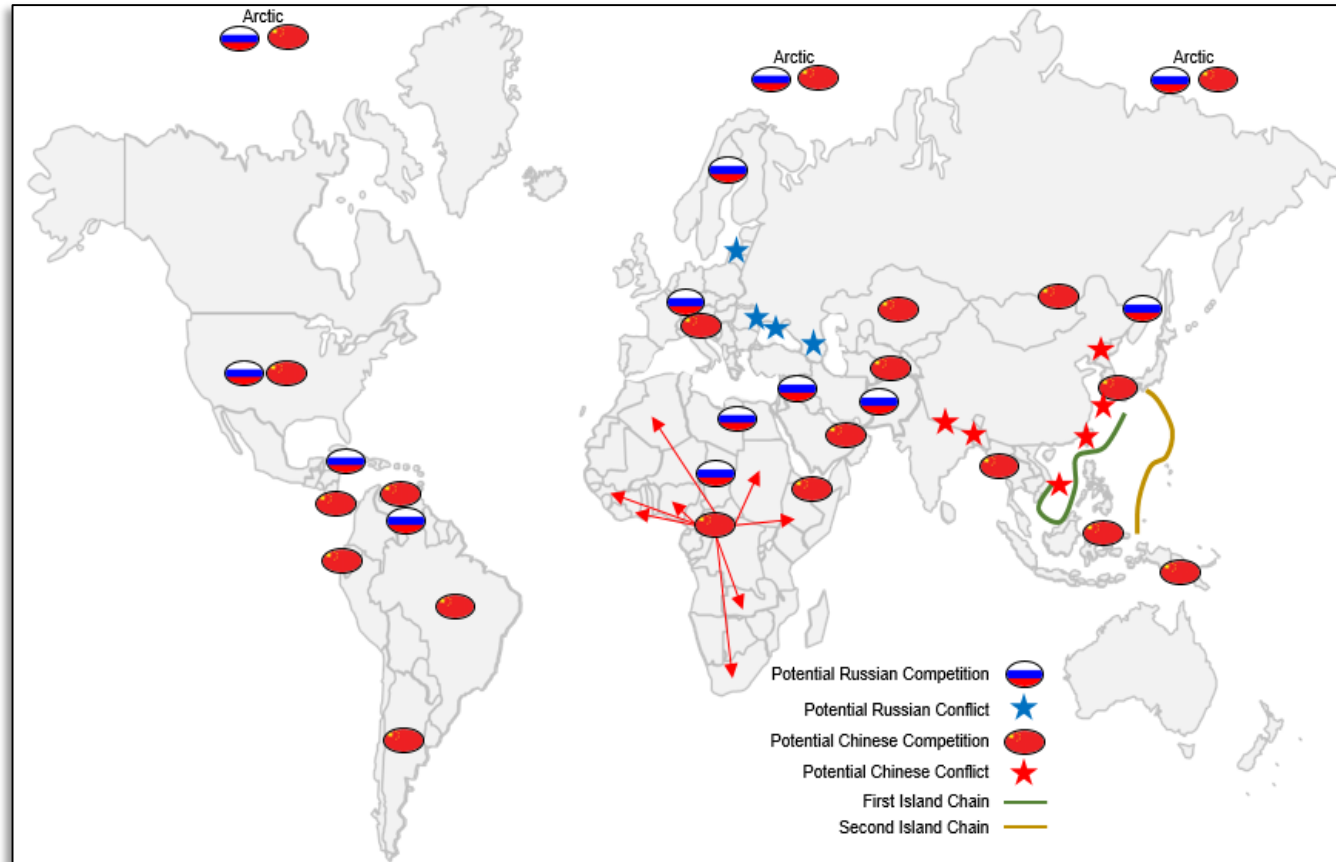

Air Defense

MRLS & Rockets

Artillery

Different investment focus -- increased potential for overmatch

The Operational Environment To 2030

Areas of Potential Competition and Conflict

Potential Russian Competition
Potential Russian Conflict
Potential Chinese Competition
Potential Chinese Conflict
First Island Chain
Second Island Chain

Conditions in the OE and the changing character of war have led to 17 Organizational Critical Gaps that could challenge us in large scale ground combat operations against a pacing threat

Future threat investment trajectories require we link "How We Fight" to "How We Will Fight" in Multi-Domain Operations