Future of rotary wing – The Italian Army perspective

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ROME, 19 NOVEMBER 2015
Anticipated Operational Environment

Lessons Learned

The Future enhancement of Army Aviation

Conclusions
Lessons Learned

SELF PROTECTION
SLOWER AND MORE VULNERABLE THAN FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT

Rotors
Engines
Transmission
Crew Stations
Tail Booms
Lessons Learned

PLAY TIME & SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

PRECISION STRIKE & SELECTIVE ENGAGEMENT

SPECIAL FORCES

COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT
Future Challenges of Air Manoeuvre

Air Manoeuvre future challenges

- Mobility in a complex terrain («urban canyon»)
- Self-protection
- Increased number of threats (IR, RF, EW, cyber, etc.)
- 3D deconfliction

Air manoeuvre provides a preeminent physical and psychological advantage

The threat of employment of Air Manoeuvre units has a great strategic value and deterrence effect
Enhancement of Air Manoeuvre Assets

**IMPROVE:**
- Performance
- C4I Integration
- Self-Defence Systems
- Digital Sensors
- Precision Strike
- Support to Special Ops

**MULTIROLE**
Evaluate the use of new platforms such as tilt-rotor aircraft.
...increased playtime, re-supply capabilities, persistent surveillance, situational awareness and extended sensor coverage over an area (birds high view).
Enhancement of Air Manoeuvre Assets

Tactical flexibility
Operational flexibility
Increased payload
Increased efficiency
Risk mitigation

R-UAV

C3
ISTAR
Tactical air resupply
Change detection
Combat support
US Manned – Unmanned Force Transition – long term

- Mission
- Surveillance
- Communication
- Sustainment/Cargo
- MEDEVAC
- Attack

Near Term

Far Term
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Enhancement of Air Manoeuvre Assets

- C4I
- Speed & Autonomy
- Precision Strike
- Selective Engagement
- Self-Protection
- Multirole
- Air Resupply
- Special Forces