



# French Armed Forces Update



**FEBRUARY 2021**

The French Armed Forces are heavily deployed both at home and overseas. On the security front, the terrorist threat is still assessed as high in France and operation “Sentinelle” (Guardian) is still going on.

Overseas, the combat units are extremely active against a determined enemy and the French soldiers are constantly adapting their courses of action and their layout plans to the threat.

Impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, the French Armed Forces have resumed their day-to-day activities and operations under the sign of transformation and modernization.

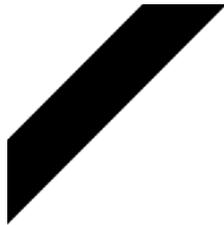


THIS DOCUMENT PROVIDES AN UPDATE ON THE FRENCH MILITARY OPERATIONS AND MAIN ACTIVITIES. THE FRENCH DEFENSE ATTACHÉ OFFICE HAS DRAFTED IT IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPEN PUBLICATIONS.

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## In Memoriam



On December 28, 2020, during an escort mission between Hombori and Gossi, three soldiers of the **1<sup>er</sup> Régiment de Chasseurs** were killed in action after the detonation of an improvised explosive device. Despite the provision of immediate care and their quick transportation to the hospital, **Brigadier Dorian ISSAKHANIAN**, **Maréchal des Logis Tanerii MAURI** and **Brigadier Quentin PAUCHET** (from left to right) died from their injuries.

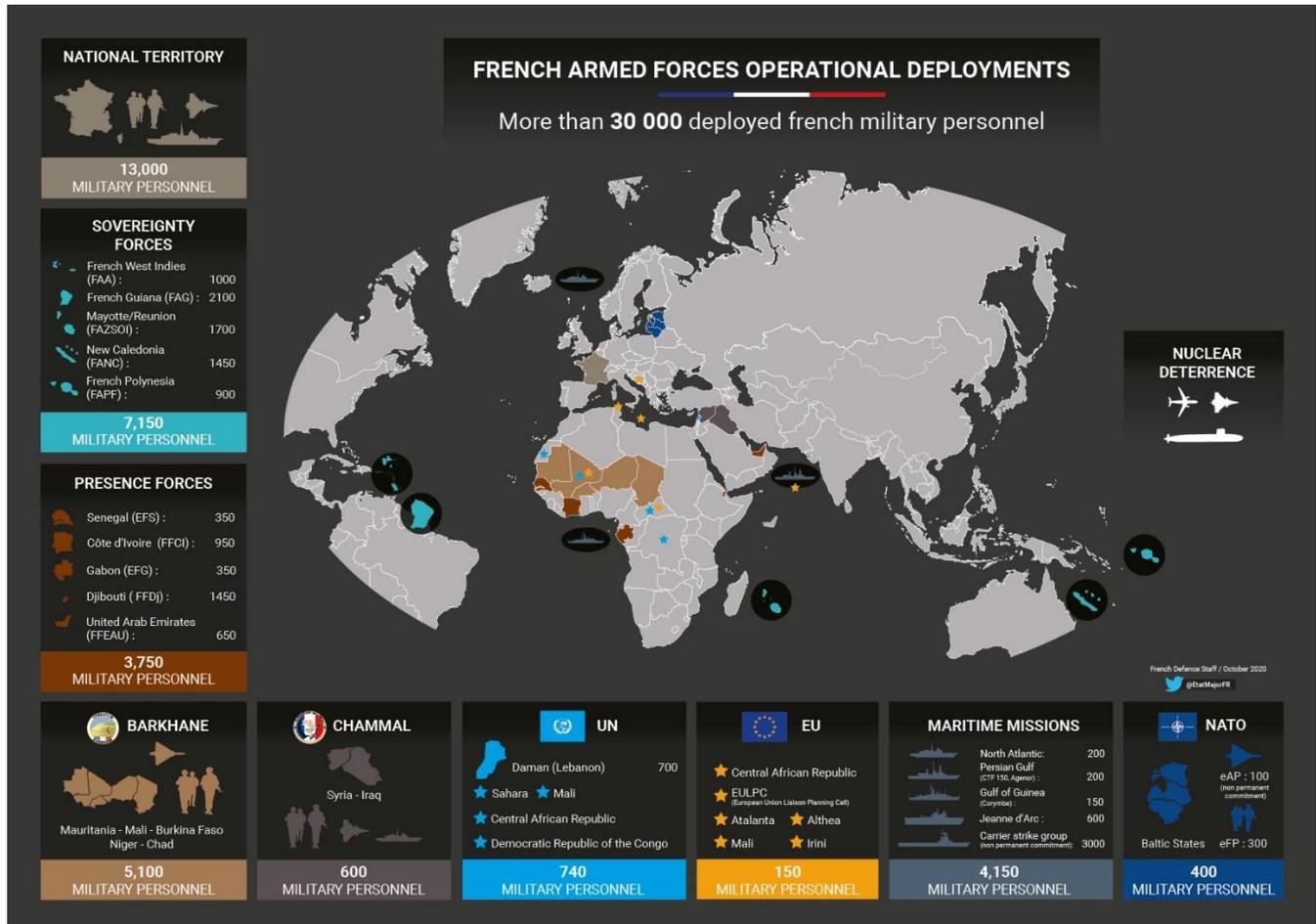


On January 3, 2021, **Sergent Yvonne HUYNH** (left) and **Brigadier Loïc RISSER** (right) from the **2<sup>e</sup> Régiment de Hussards** died in similar conditions during a recce patrol in vicinity of Menaka.



# 1 Operations

## Deployment of the French armed forces



Deployment of Army, Air Force, Navy and Gendarmerie

## Theater News

### CHAMMAL - Multinational joint operations in Syria and Irak

Launched in September 2014, at the request of the Iraqi government and in coordination with allied forces, operation CHAMMAL provides air and ground support as well as training to Iraqi forces committed against ISIS and other terrorist groups. The operation has been extended to Syria following the terrorist attacks in November 2015.



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France's contribution to the operations is mainly supported by two detachments of the French Air Force. Based in Jordan and in the United Arab Emirates, they participate to the allied air strikes against ISIS. Concerning the mentorship and the training support to the Iraqi Forces, the French Army contributes to the global efforts of the alliance after the reorganization of Operation Inherent Resolve's command structures.

### **BARKHANE - Global sub-saharan anti-terrorist mission**

Operation BARKHANE, which spans over five countries in the Sahel region of North Africa, started at the beginning of August 2014 after the completion of Operation Serval. With their main base located in the Chadian capital N'Djamena, the FR forces actively operate in Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Chad and Niger.

In the first days of January, Mrs Parly, Minister of the Armed Forces, reaffirmed the four pillars of France in Mali: fight the terrorist groups, reinforce the local forces, support the return of the state to the reconquered territories and support the development of the region.



On the battlefield, BARKHANE forces conducted a wide operation that embodies these objectives. Called ECLIPSE, this operation was comparable in size to BOURASQUE which took place in October 2020. It largely involved partners and allied troops.

Like Operation BOURRASQUE, Operation ECLIPSE engaged more than 3,400 soldiers including 1,500 French and 1,900 partners, among them, 900 Burkinabe, 850 Malians and 150 Nigerians.

Informed and supported by French and allied aircrafts, this force operated for a month in an area 400 kilometers wide and 200 kilometers deep straddling several borders. With almost 500 combat vehicles, helicopters, and tactical transport aircraft, it demonstrated great mobility that prevented the enemy from maneuvering.



## SENTINELLE & RESILIENCE - Homeland protection



Committing 10,000 soldiers across the country, operation SENTINELLE was launched to support the security forces in the aftermath of the November 2015 terrorist attacks. This operation is still ongoing.

The operation SENTINELLE still includes three responsive layers:

- ▲ a permanent operational force of 2,600 men, whose objective is to secure the most sensitive and vulnerable areas;
- ▲ a planned reinforcement echelon of 4,400 men, helping to secure occasional or seasonal events;
- ▲ a strategic reserve of 3,000 men in the hands of the French President.

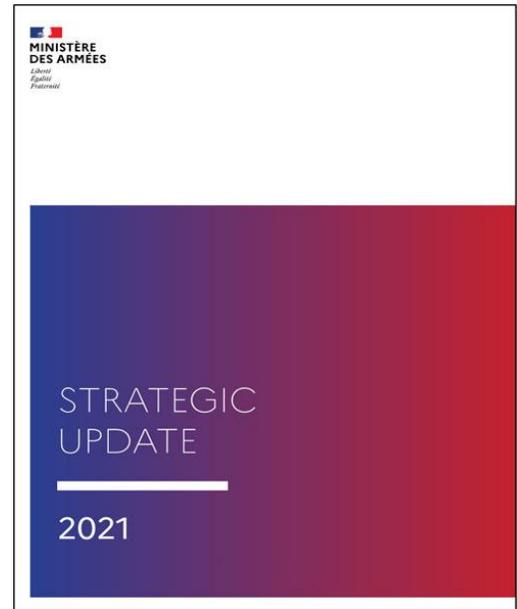
In order to support civil services committed in the fight against COVID-19, the Armed Forces have adapted the layout of operation RESILIENCE launched on March 26. Since the first days of January, the French Armed Forces provide logistic support to the beginning of the vaccination campaign, in particular in the overseas territories.

Today, 13,000 soldiers, airmen and sailors are deployed in France mainland and overseas territories in the frame of these two operations.

## 2 French Armed Forces highlights

The 2017 Defense and National Security Review, which is the base of the current Military Investment Act 2019 – 2021, has just been updated to consider the impact of the SRAS COV-2 pandemic and the fast evolution of the global environment. In this strategic publication, the French ministry of the Armed Forces highlights ten major points:

- ▲ A contested international order and security environment: the erosion of the traditional security mechanisms increases the risk of local or global escalation
- ▲ Persistent threats to French interests: in addition to structural and cyclical factors (global demographic pressure, migrations, pandemic), terrorism, WMD proliferation and strategic competition between great powers are still present
- ▲ Tougher competition between great powers with the return of strategic intimidation including military and non-military assets and courses of action related
- ▲ Emboldened regional powers in the Middle East and in the Mediterranean trying to seize opportunities and reinforce their strategic positions
- ▲ Hybrid and multifaceted strategies combining military and non-military assets, direct or indirect approaches, legal and illegal courses of action
- ▲ The risk of a strategic downgrade for Europe and France: the absence of reaction might definitely prevent France and Europe from answering the global challenges they face
- ▲ An agile Defense: considering the points developed above, France must adapt its strategy using tools as its Military Investment Act and build a strong capacity in cyber, space energy and artificial intelligence
- ▲ Take up global challenges through a strong European project based on shared interests, building a strong European pillar of Security and Defense consistent with NATO
- ▲ Contribution to the Nation's resilience: in addition to the permanent mission, support the Nation during crisis periods and promote the spirit of unity throughout the national community
- ▲ Prepare the Future by stepping up the current efforts towards Ambition 2030: streamlining the efforts to reach one main objective, building a more robust and more capable defense system.

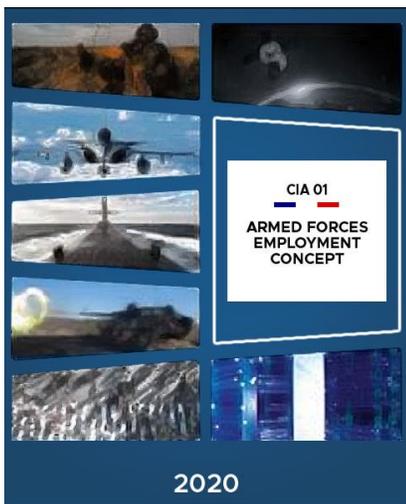


## French Defense top priorities for 2021

In complement to the Strategic review, Mrs Florence Parly, the French Armed Forces minister, defined the main objectives and challenges for the French Defense in 2021 and 2022:

- ▲ Maintaining France's financial effort in the defense sector for 2021 is the first priority, despite the economic crisis caused by the pandemic in 2020. By realizing this key objective, the French Armed Forces Ministry pursue three goals: a) support the national recovery plan through its spending, b) fuel its modernization and c) allow France to respect its commitment for national and global security. As planned by the Military Investment Act 2019 – 2025, the ministry budget will increase by €1.7 billion to reach €39.21 in 2021. A large part of this effort, €1.1 billion is dedicated to equipment acquisition
- ▲ Fighting against terrorism is the second priority for the French Armed Forces in 2021. To achieve this goal, the reinforcement of partnerships and alliances is critical
- ▲ Reinforcing cooperation in Europe by preparing initiatives in the defense domain in the framework of the French rotating presidency of the European Council
- ▲ Enhancing alliances of France with its main partners.

## The French Armed Forces employment concept



The French Chief of the Joint Staff has updated the ARMED FORCES EMPLOYMENT CONCEPT, in light of major strategic shifts.

This document is the starting point of all French doctrine. This paper describes first how the global context is analyzed based on the three principles of warfare: freedom of action, concentration of effort and economy of resources established by Marechal Foch in the beginning of the XXth century. It focuses then on the main missions, before ending on the subject of integration. The topic of multidomain operations is then detailed by the French joint staff.

After having read this document, the reader will conclude that the French vision of global evolutions is very similar to the American one. It shouldn't come as a surprise then that the French forces will maintain their posture in the world but also increase their presence in space, and in cyber, as they

seek to build a more holistic approach to overcome these challenges.

The French joint staff evaluates that confrontations will take place in all domains. Moreover, conflicts will be more brutal, in a high intensity framework. It will be necessary to work with allies and partners ready to contribute to a peaceful world.

To face a complex and changing environment, France must have all the tools to maintain its rank in the world.

### 3 Ethical considerations for tomorrow

To the question “What is the French Ministry of the Armed Forces’ vision on Augmented Soldier exploration?”, the answer is: “YES to Ironman exoskeleton, NO to Spiderman genetic alteration”.



New technologies increasingly enable military forces to exploit competitive advantages in grey zones. Among these, human augmentation developments raise unprecedented issues, opportunities and risks. Ethics is at the core of the French thinking and cannot be overlooked – even for coping with the threats posed by the undiscerning use of new technologies by some of our challengers.

Imitating would lead to a drift and erosion of the nation’s values. The French armed forces must not accept this, instead they must find a way to retain a strategic advantage in this increasingly important

area of competition without compromising its ethical foundations.

In response to this challenge, the French Ministry of the Armed Forces has established an ethics committee to tackle some fundamental questions: what world do we want tomorrow? What ethics today for which forces tomorrow? These questions are much more pertinent with the growth of invasive augmentations that surpass familiar technologies such as night vision goggles, exoskeletons, vaccines, or caffeine.

With the work of the ethics committee, the Armed Forces ministry clearly states that invasive augmentations are not on its agenda. The committee will help France maintaining its operational superiority without undermining its core values and international commitments. Its recommendations however are in no way set in stone: the French armed forces do not dismiss the concept of augmented soldiers as a whole.

Instead, it seeks to carefully consider the modalities of their implementation, making the commitment to always seek alternatives to invasive transformations. Moreover, augmentations chosen for further exploration must comply with some basic criteria:

- ▲ the mutations must get an approval from the user;
- ▲ they must be reversible because a soldier career is not for life;
- ▲ they must not compromise sanity or security.

In summary, the French minister stated that it is a “yes to Ironman exoskeleton, no to Spiderman genetic alteration”.

However, this reflection must not refrain from acting, and French engineers are currently exploring devices allowing unprecedented capabilities, such as radars dedicated to behind-the-wall monitoring and discrete communications through vibration belts.



# 4 Leaders of tomorrow

## The French Ecole de Guerre Terre / the French Army Staff College

*“The reality of the battlefields is that you don’t have time to study there. You do what you can, with what you know. Therefore, to achieve a little, you have to know a lot and know it well.”*

The French Army Staff College was created in 1876 and is headquartered within the “Ecole Militaire” in the very heart of Paris. A class counts 85 French military students, 12 international military students and 20 French civilian attendees. They are organized in 6 class groups managed by 12 senior mentors. The objectives of integrating civilians in the class is to bring together high-level executives from different professional backgrounds. They are invited to many activities aimed both at civilians and military personnel.

120 people (lecturers, tactical and operational exercises advisors, witnesses, project counsellors, direct support) constitute the crew dedicated to the training.

20 to 30% of initially recruited Army career officers attend War College (Ecole de Guerre) after a selection exam at the rank of major.

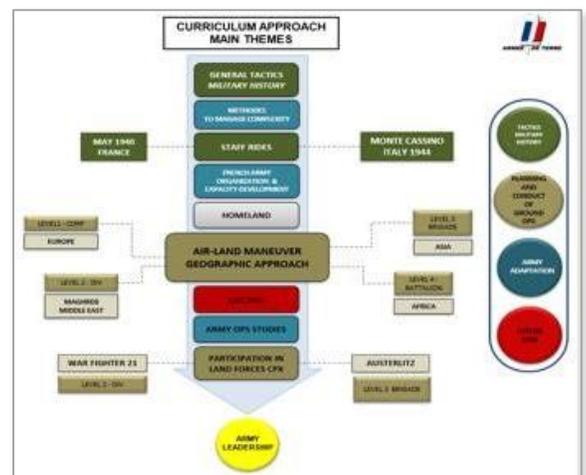
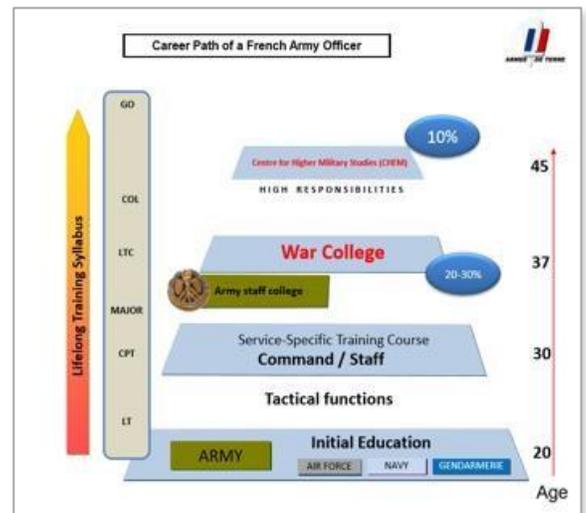
For the selected Army officers, this Joint year is preceded by the Army Staff College year, “l’Ecole de Guerre-Terre”.

The education follows four main pillars:

- ▲ Leadership, which also encompasses warrior ethics.
- ▲ Large-scale combat operations which are developed at all level, through plans and execution, with a specific focus on the division level.
- ▲ Military history and geography, to enhance the understanding of the environment of Land Operations.
- ▲ Studies on organization, governance, challenges, future capabilities of the Army structures.

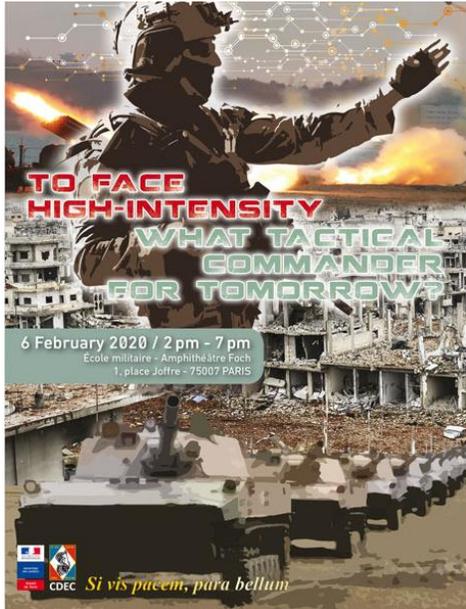
The program is 43 weeks long (33 directed learning, 10 dedicated to personal project). 9 tactical exercises are led from levels 1 to 4, with 2 Land forces level exercise and 2 staff rides (Italy 1944, France 1940). CGSC and Ecole de Guerre Terre are working to strengthen their partnership through a common exercise, “CAVAIGNAL” (from the name of the former French Fort on the hills of what is going to become Leavenworth later).

The working language is French (2+ level). English is practiced for some exercises and lectures.



The average age is 37 years old, and the average ranks are Majors or Lieutenant colonels. The next course will take place from 27 AUG 2021 to 21 JUL 2022.

## Which tactical chief do we need and want tomorrow?



On February 6, 2020, the École Militaire hosted the annual Military Thought Symposium on the theme "Facing high intensity, which tactical leader tomorrow? ".

Initiated by the French Army Chief of Staff, conducted by the CDEC<sup>[1]</sup> and its director Major General Michel Delion, this event is part of a wider cycle designed to renew military thinking within the French Army. The distinguished guests of this fourth edition were Member of Parliament and President of the National Defense and Armed Forces Committee, Françoise Dumas, General François Lecointre, Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces (CEMA<sup>[2]</sup>), and Lieutenant General Bernard Barrera, Major General of the French Army (MGAT<sup>[3]</sup>).

The discussion brought together other high-level speakers to answer two fundamental questions: "Is high-intensity warfare just high-tech war?" and "between rupture and continuity, can the leader of today claim to be the leader of tomorrow?", starting with the following definition of high intensity warfare: "a sustained confrontation

between maneuvering, armed, and aggressive masses challenging each other in depth, within different environments, in all the fields of conflicts, both physical and immaterial, and whose objective is to defeat the power of the adversary".

Considering these questions and the fact that large scale combat operations will be the next metric for armed forces in the 21st century, the participants drew the following reflections:

- ▶ Global mobilization of the nation is essential, particularly for the economy and the defense industry. More than the mastering of new technologies on the battlefield, deep moral and intellect will be critical to frame and implement new technologies through revised doctrine, training and organization. In this field, the mobilization of proactive leaders might make the difference for more robust and agile structures.



[1] CDEC = Centre de doctrine et d'Enseignement du Commandement = Doctrine and Teaching Center for Leadership

[2] CEMA = Chef d'Etat-major des Armées = Armed Forces Chief of Staff

[3] MGAT = Major Général de l'Armée de Terre = Major General of the French Army

- ▲ If the technological approach can prevail at the lower levels, it seems totally insufficient for the upper ones. From the brigade and above, leaders must complete their approach integrating surprise, incertitude and a dynamic risk evaluation in their thinking and planification;
- ▲ Adapt the selection of the military elite based on intellectual capacities and warrior spirit to let more room to some atypical profiles. The goal is clear: create a favorable context for a more living military thinking, even during peace time when administrative considerations can sometimes prevail upon the adaptation and the efficiency of the military tool;
- ▲ Biological, physical, intellectual and psychological resilience as more than ever, leaders must resist to increasing sources of pressure and stress;
- ▲ A complete and continuous education that could be considered as the “natural augmentation” of the leader.

In the future, the leader will always be distinguished by certain fundamental skills, such as the ability to give meaning to the action and the ability to adapt himself and his organization. He will also remain a fighter, a leader of men, at ease both at the tactical, operational and strategic level, within national or multinational operations. However, his “augmented intelligence” and his ability to manage and exploit an ever-increasing mass and flow of information would be two new abilities to be cultivated both individually and collectively.

## 5 Innovation corner



### MMP - Positive feedbacks for agile firing modes

MBDA has carried out the first firing of an MMP missile from an ARQUUS Sabre special forces vehicle, as part of a firing campaign implemented with the support of the French Army and of the Direction Générale de l'Armement (DGA - French Procurement Agency).

The firing was carried out at the Canjuers military camp, south east of France. The experiment was focused on the transition phase from the 'lock-on-before-launch' mode to the 'fire-and-forget' mode

allowing the vehicle to be fully mobile after firing. For this very first tests, the target, a tank, was located at around 3,500 meters.

The next step, completed early January, consisted in the teaming between the NX70, a drone produced by NOVADEM, and the MMP. Carried out in the same conditions, the aim was to test the detection and the guiding of the MMP fired from different light vehicles, and from the IMPACT turret for some of them (Integrated MMP Precision Attack Combat Turret). Adaptable to a large array of vehicles, this turret offers a great flexibility of use for the armed forces.

More than simple tests of new equipment, MBDA and the DGA, carried out the first steps of the evaluation of a global system and solution to provide a smarter and more lethal solutions to the troops on the battlefield.

## Small drones - A global approach in France

On January 12, 2020, France ordered 300 small drones from the Parrott company. This is an illustration of the French position on this topic. Even if a lot of people wanted quickly to introduce the small unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) into the forces when they appeared, the French Armed Forces Ministry decided to identify first the ends before choosing the ways to accomplish its missions and to be able to decide if this tool could be useful or could be just a toy.



France began to study its strategy because, as explained by Everett Dolman, “the strategist determines the means” and not the opposite. The services have published doctrines about these UAS. A lot of applications were identified and several recommendations for the next acquisitions written. For example, this type of product could be interesting to a commando who needs an Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance tool against a terrorist threat in the desert. But another UAS could also be a communication transmitter or launch a smoke device and decoys. With these missions, some technical requirements (quality of the sensor, light, compact...) were published with cyber security applications. Finally, a long-term contract was signed to provide a good product for the forces. Moreover, under the terms of the contract additional orders could be made in the future. At the same time France has already created a school to train the future pilots of these UASs. Furthermore, the center for test and evaluation will test this UAS to confirm that the requirements have been met. For example, the Air Warfare Center of Mont de Marsan has a dedicated team in charge of the small UAS.

Finally, France has applied a global approach and follows the strategic guidance for buying a means appropriate for its needs because “it is imperative to remember that the application of technology should be guided by sound strategy.”

## Additive manufacturing technology in the French Navy

Developed over the course of several decades, additive manufacturing technology – better known as 3D printing – is now spreading rapidly. This disruptive technology, with vast applications, is already present in the defense sector, mainly in the domains of logistics and industry.

Navies, seeking to increase their autonomy and resilience at sea, are directly interested in this technology. This technology can create rapidly and efficiently the critical parts that could take months to conventionally make and transport. In the future, a sea-based 3D printer will allow less dependence on land-based naval shipbuilding expertise and support, even if quality control remains a key challenge.



In the French Navy, the first embarked additive technology has been experienced in 2018 onboard the Landing Platform Dock (LPD) “Dixmude”. As a first step, this test and evaluation was based on cooperation between both the technical teams of the crew and the land-based industrial company.



Moreover, in March 2020 models of parts from the combat aircraft “Rafale” were 3D printed on board the French aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle during its 5 months “Foch” mission. The 3D-printed fuel tank drain control unit was directly fitted to the aircraft.

Finally, as an example of a rare land-based fleet support capability, in the very beginning of 2021, the French Navy minehunter “Andromede” was fitted with an additive manufactured propeller during its major technical stop in Brest. As it is not a test campaign, this 2.5-meter-diameter propeller is intended to remain until the end of life of the ship (this was an industrial cooperation between Naval Group company, and the French Fleet support service).

## NATO selects Thales to supply its first defense cloud for the armed forces

NATO has selected Thales to provide the first certified defense cloud solution that can be deployed in the theatre of operations in less than 24 hours. Nexium Defence Cloud from Thales was selected after a worldwide competitive tendering process in which the company used its defense systems integration expertise.

With this contract, the Group enters a new market sector and demonstrates its capacity to integrate the best of civilian and commercial technologies available and adapt them to the needs of the



Alliance's armed forces. Nexium Defense Cloud is the most compact, highly integrated and modular solution available today. It includes all the components of military command posts (cabinets, servers, data storage media, supervision system, etc.) and meets performance requirements in terms of size, weight and power (SWaP) to simplify deployment and minimize the logistics footprint.

## Military applications and perspectives for Artificial Intelligence



Founded in 1996, Masa Group was at the beginning a spin-off of the bioinformatics laboratory of the Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS). The company, initially specialized in applied mathematics, robotics and biology, quickly opted for a daring diversification.

In 2001, it designed and developed in partnership with Ubisoft, a military strategy video game, Conflict Zone, equipped with an artificial intelligence engine, "Direct AI", very advanced for the time. In this game released on Playstation 2 and PC, the enemy adapts precisely to the behavior of the players. Moreover, they also must cope with non-military actors such as journalists, NGOs,

crowds of civilians. Emmanuel Chiva, current director of the Defense Innovation Agency (AID), was at the time one of the company's leaders.

Starting from this base and several patented algorithms, Masa Group has used advanced AI technologies to develop the heart of its two more famous software. Wargame tool Sword, which is used by around fifteen armies around the world essentially for simulation purposes. For its part, Synergy has been developed to provide analysis, modeling and decision-making solutions to governments and private groups for crisis management following natural disasters or attacks.

Despite military simulation being a niche market, it is essential to the armed forces. Sword enables to train forces, model military doctrines but also to test new equipments in a simulated conflict.

In this software, the entire combat environment is recreated: armored vehicles, helicopters, armaments, sensors, weather, combat units on the ground. The armies can thus train on different scenarios in a virtual way. Facing them, the enemy also displays coherent decisions thanks to the artificial intelligence developed by the French group.

Unlike many players in the sector, this AI is not based on the famous "machine learning". According to Marc de Frisch, MASA Group general manager, the French company "offers a good old-fashioned AI, based on a strong analysis of behavior and biological observation".

In the medium and long term, the next steps will be the integration of the AI in robots designed for surveillance missions and the robotic platforms that will surround major ground equipment such as the Main Ground Combat System.

## 6 The Foreign Legion

### For the service of France



The Foreign Legion allows France to have, since 1831, a fighting troop composed of foreigners whose characteristics and qualities are now globally known and recognized. Created for the needs of those times and initially devoted to the role of guarding the French colonial empire, it is hard to imagine that the Foreign Legion would go on to inscribe on its flags the names of the most glorious battles in the history of France.

In 190 years of existence and over two centuries marked by the bloodiest wars of

humanity, 40,000 legionaries fell for France, faithful to their mottos “Legio Patria Nostra” and “Honor and Loyalty”. A unique institution in the world, the Foreign Legion still allows today foreigners to bear the arms of France.

Initiating between her and the legionnaire a pact whose terms have changed but whose substance remains the same: asylum in exchange of serving the country, “wherever the fight beckons”. This is the reason “Honor and Fidelity” is inscribed on the emblems of the Foreign Legion regiments since 1920. Each volunteer signatory of this pact can be recognized in the flag of France. Despite France not being their native country, the foreign volunteers take the oath to be ready to give their life for it, in the reciprocal respect of the given word. Made of combined arms troops supervised by French officers, the Foreign Legion is made up of non-commissioned officers and enlisted members serving in a foreign capacity.

The organization of the Foreign Legion consists of a coherent system in line with the status of the service as foreigner governed by the decree of September 12, 2008. Strong of more than 9,000 soldiers, it represents 11% of the global Land Force. It also integrates reserve units and civil personnel which brings the volume to more than 10,000 people integrated into the contingents of the Foreign Legion.

Its recruitment is made up of volunteers from 150 different nationalities spread across the 5 continents. The officers are mainly French, the progression is based on merit and the atmosphere is one of a family. In the Foreign Legion, French is more than just a working or official language. It is in fact one of the most powerful vectors of a



successful system of integration for the foreigners who have chosen deliberately to serve France until the sacrifice of their life if necessary.

Discipline, cult of the mission, respect and solidarity based on its Code of Honor are the cardinal values cultivated by the Legionnaires. A modern force totally integrated in the French Army, the Foreign Legion performs the same missions as the other land units and has begun its appropriation of SCORPION. Of all the fights, of all the operations, it draws its strength from its traditions, its esprit de corps, its discipline, its permanent training, wealth and the commitment of the men who serve it.

Proud of a rich past and confident in its future, ready to face the operational challenges of an unstable world, present on national territory, in overseas operations and abroad, in all theaters of operations, it is today, more than ever, at the service of France.

## Proud of their traditions

### The celebration of Camerone

Every April 30, the Foreign Legion celebrates its cardinal values and the memory of its fallen with the celebration of Camerone. During this battle which occurred in 1863 in Mexico, 60 legionnaires commanded by captain Danjou resisted to death to 2,000 Mexicans.

### The white képi

Legionnaires wore a kepi with a khaki-color cover in Algeria and Morocco before WWII. With time, due to the frequent washing and sun shining, the covers became white. In Paris on July 14, 1939, the white kepis (khaki kepis with a removable white cover) were officially used by legionnaires in the parade for the first time. A kepi with the white cover has been integrated as a prescribed cap for the Legion in 1959. However, a khaki cover for kepi was still used during instruction until the 1970s. Today, legionnaires use only white (non-covered) kepis.

### The tradition shoulder pads

Used for the first time in 1868, the tradition shoulder pads, or “épaulettes de tradition”, have been integrated to the Parade dress uniform since 1946. The Foreign Legion uses epaulettes in green and red colors, which are its official colors.

You can find all French Foreign Traditions on:  
<http://foreignlegion.info/traditions>



## Solidarity, gratitude and recognition as duty

The Foreign Legion has always taken care of its wounded. At its beginnings, in 1833, it set up in Algeria, rest centers to accommodate its sick and wounded soldiers of the various French overseas military campaigns. In 1934, General Rollet created the House of the Legionnaires in Auriol. In 1954, the Foreign Legion acquired the Danjou's Domain, in Puylobier, and installed there the Institution for Invalids of the Foreign Legion to cure the wounded from Indochina and Algeria.

In 2010, in the same spirit of solidarity and gratitude, the Legion decided to establish a day of the wounded in all Legion regiments. Despite the tempo, this is a special time to act for the wounded. It was during this same period (2011) that the Foreign Legion Wounded Monitoring Commission (CSBLE) was created. Organization designed to serve those who served France, the commission is the essential brain coordinating the action of internal actors and external actors. Today it manages a volume of 187 wounded and sick and supports families. Working in close coordination with the French Army services, it complements their actions.



## 7 Calendar

- April 5-16, 2021** Exercise Warfighter 21.4 in Fort Hood, Texas– involvement of the 3<sup>rd</sup> French Division
- June 21-27, 2021** Le Bourget Paris Air show 2021 has been CANCELLED due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- July 2, 2021** Commemorative Seminar for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Operations Desert Storm/Daguet to be held at the Embassy of France in Washington, D.C.