



Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Program (JNLWP) Public Affairs MEDIA RELEASE

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DoD's Active Denial System Makes Public Debut at National Museum of the Marine Corps

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Quantico, Va. -- The Department of Defense's first non-lethal, directed energy weapon was displayed publicly for the first time at the dedication of the National Museum of the Marine Corps Friday. The Active Denial System is a long-range counter-personnel weapon that projects a focused millimeter wave beam to induce a sensation of heat on an adversary's skin, repelling the individual without causing injury. The ADS supports numerous military missions ranging from checkpoint security, perimeter security, area denial, port protection, infrastructure protection, and clarification of intent (identifying combatants from non-combatants). The ADS is a designated DoD Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration. The ACTD program expedites the transfer of advanced technologies and operational concepts into capabilities for the warfighter.

The ADS display was part of a broader exhibit of the Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Program (JNLWP). The JNLWP exhibit also showcased a variety of other non-lethal capabilities ranging from non-lethal munitions to systems for stopping vehicles and vessels. According to Col. Kirk Hymes, Director of the Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate (JNLWD) exhibition of non-lethal weapons at the opening of the Marine Museum was fitting.

"This museum is a fantastic display of our Marine Corps history. As the Executive Agent for the DoD's non-lethal weapons program, the Commandant of the Marine Corps oversees DoD efforts to develop new non-lethal weapons. The ADS is an excellent example of the non-lethal technological capabilities our Marines and other service members will have in the future," Hymes said.

The ACTD Program produced a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) integrated variant called System 1 which was displayed at the museum dedication event. System 1 has been used in a series of assessments to evaluate the military utility of this non-lethal, directed energy technology under a variety of simulated operational scenarios. These assessments took place at Creech AFB, Nev., in August 2005; Ft. Benning, Ga., in September 2005; and Eglin AFB, Fla., in April 2006.

System 1 is now beginning the Extended User Evaluation (EUE) phase of the ACTD process. The 820th Security Forces Group (SFG) at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., was designated as the host unit for the EUE. The ADS System 1 will be incorporated into their exercise and training schedule in order to provide additional warfighter feedback on the system's military utility.

Additional information on ADS can be found at: <https://www.jnlwp.com/activedenialsystem.asp>.



Marines and other attendees of the dedication ceremony of the National Museum of the Marine Corps were allowed to get a first hand view of ADS, DoD's first non-lethal, counter-personnel directed energy weapon system. Event attendees were able to meet with ADS operators and technological experts as well as operate an ADS simulator.