

University of Maryland

Project Management Symposium

NEXT SESSION

PMP Education for the US Military to Reduce Wasted Time, Money, and Energy

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PROJECT MANAGEMENT
CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE

A.J. CLARK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
Civil & Environmental Engineering Department

This session will be recorded.

Project Management Symposium

PMP Education for the US
Military to Reduce Wasted
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Project Management and the Military

- Thirty-two years in the US Army
 - From enlisted “ditch digger” at Fort Polk, Louisiana to Colonel in the Pentagon to Contractor with the US Army and Dept of Defense
 - From “do-er” to Army-wide project manager
- Seen every aspect of projects



The Military and Projects



- The Lower Enlisted
- The “Do-ers”
- The “Ditch-Digger”
- “The Muscle”



- The Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO)
- The “Supervisors”
- The “Backbone”



- Government Service
- Civil Servants
- Both “Do-ers” and Leaders



- The Commissioned Officer
- The “Idea-People”
- Know “the why”





The Problem

The United States military has thousands of projects, programs, and portfolios often managed by personnel who are not familiar with or not qualified to use Project Management Professional (PMP) best practices resulting in wasted time, money, and energy and yielding poor quality.





The Problem...Expanded

- Too few PMP-certified leaders
- PMP fundamentals used as cliches, incorrectly, or out of scope
- PMP concepts used incorrectly



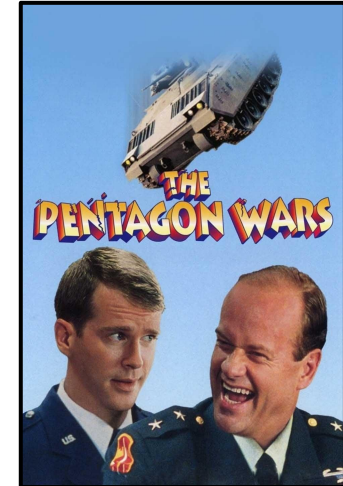
The Problem Exhibited



**US Army spent billions
on a new helicopter
that now will never fly**
- *Defense News*



**U.S. Military Struggles to
Stop Osprey Crashes
After Decades of Flaws**
- *WSJ*



**M2 Bradley Fighting
Vehicle Design Debacle**
- *"Pentagon Wars" Movie*





Complexity – Military vs Business

Iraq, Syria, & Afghanistan

Wicked

New System Development

International Pipeline

Start-Up Business

World War II

Complex

New Product or Business Line

Unit Deployments

Complicated

Expand or Modify Product or Business Line

Re-Supply at Sea

React to Business Disruptions

Simple

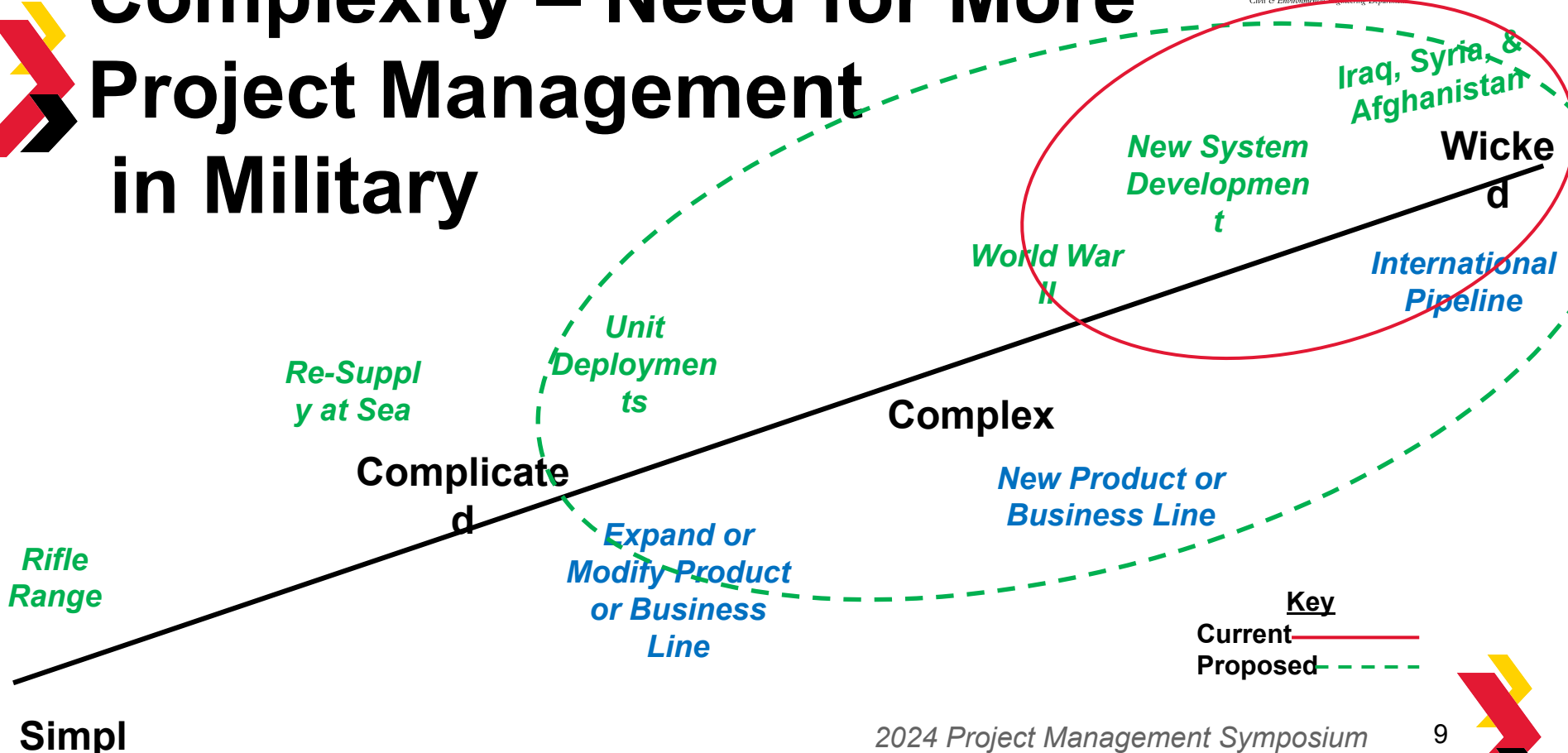
Rifle Range

Day-to-Day Operations





Complexity – Need for More Project Management in Military





Possible Solutions

- Unit-level professional development programs
- Promote Project Management degrees and certifications alongside technical degrees
- Teach Project Management at the US Military Staff, Senior NCO Schools, and Command colleges





Benefits to the US Military

- Raises the PMP “Water Level”
- Saves time, money, and energy
- Increases quality





What Can You Do?

- You are in or work with the military
 - Pursue PMP, Agile, SCRUM Master, Change Management, Quality Management certifications
 - Pursue Masters Degrees in Project Management or related fields
- Urge teammates, subordinates, military leaders to pursue project management degrees/certifications





Questions?

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Evaluate Session

