

LASER GUIDED MAVERICK THEORY OF OPERATION

A laser beam is pointed at the target by either a ground or airborne designator device, and the reflected energy provides the acquisition and guidance signal for the MAVERICK (figure 1). The MAVERICK seeker searches a broad sector forward of the attack aircraft, typically covering an area over 7 miles across and over 10 miles ahead. Immediately on detection of the properly coded signal, MAVERICK automatically locks on and tracks the target. When launched, it guides precisely to the designated spot.

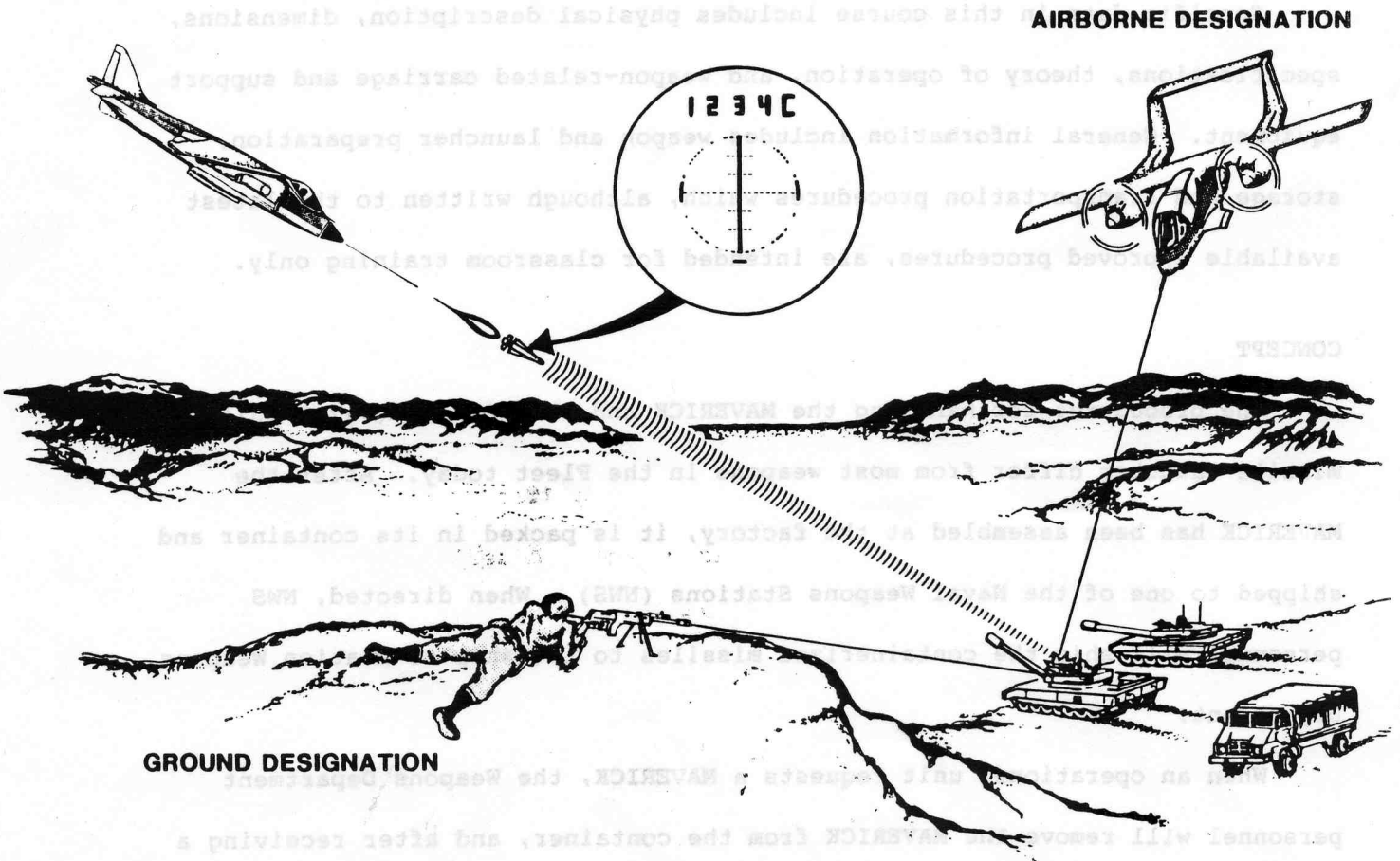


Figure 1. Laser Guided MAVERICK Launch Operations.