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Bringing 5G Capacity, Capabilities to the Battlespace

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Today modern battlefield networks are increasingly responsible for not only voice communications but also large and varied data, including still images, video, sensor data, maps, situational awareness data, and inventory information. These networks must gather all that data, send it for analysis by remote compute resources, then distribute the fruits of that analysis back to the battlefield.

Unlike traditional military communications systems built for single channel voice-based command and control, 5G is designed to provide high-speed data connections to many devices and users simultaneously – it is not solely, or even primarily, about voice communications. It's about acquiring and distributing intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) data and running applications like the Android Team Awareness Kit (ATAK).

Nokia has developed a suite of product solutions code named "Banshee" in partnership with Fenix Group, Inc. Banshee is an all-in-one 4G/5G network that fits the physical requirements for troops to be able to carry in the battlespace. When Banshee is switched on, it provides 4G/5G coverage for the deployed warfighters to use off-the-shelf smartphones to connect to each other, acquire video feeds from drone-mounted cameras, access ISR data, and monitor the underlying biometrics (heart rate, blood pressure, etc.) of those in the network, among other capabilities.