M2 LBB COUNTER UAS OVERVIEW

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PURPOSE: Converts the legacy M2 .50 BMG into a belt-fed, tungsten, steel, or lead-shot drone-defeat system that fills the close-in (0–300 yd) engagement gap with thousands of high-mass pellets per burst.

AMMUNITION:

- Payload Option: 3-ounce tungsten payloads per round in a plastic sabot/case.
  Custom Belt configurations (example): 9 – T – 9 – 5 – 9 – 2 repeating through the 100-round belt — a mixed-shot approach for layered effects.
  Pellet counts (per round):
  - #9 ≈ 1,086 pellets
  - #5 ≈ 318 pellets
  - #2 ≈ 162 pellets
  - T ≈ 69 pellets

(A 6-round burst ≈ 3,807 total projectiles.)

LINK & AMMO COMPATIBILITY:

- Uses standard M2 links and ammo cans (same manual of arms and reloading procedures as legacy .50 BMG). No special feed-system change required.
- Ammunition Handling: Belt-fed, same rate of fire as legacy .50 cal; reload rates and cans unchanged — simplifies logistics and training.

BARREL SWAP (INTEGRATION):

Operator-Level Modification Only: System requires barrel swap — no platform structural changes.

- Mounting: Fully compatible with existing M2 mounts — ring, pintle, RWS, vehicle turrets, and can be slaved to EO/IR cueing or used manually.

BALLISTICS & TEST DATA:

- Planned M2 Loading: ~1,650 ft/s muzzle velocity from a 45" M2-length barrel

EFFECTIVE RANGE - BY EFFECT/SHOT (Tungsten):

- **Inner ring (point defense)**: 0–125 yd -#9 shot: ~1,086 pellets — Highest hit probability against small / micro UAS from dense #9 shot. Best for rotor/mini-quad types.
  Short-medium: 125–200 yd - #5 shot: 318 pellets, #2 shot: 162 pellets — Mixed shot (#5 + #2) produces layered effects — numerous smaller pellets to damage avionics/propellers, medium pellets to damage structure. Very effective vs. Class 1–2 UAS.
  Long (edge of envelope): 200–300 yd - #2 shot: 162 pellets, T shot: 69 pellets — Hevier pellets (#2 & T) provide momentum and penetration needed to disrupt/disable larger Class-3 drones; destructive/stop effects become variable with drone size/speed.