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OF THE AIR FORCE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
POLICY DIRECTIVE 10-7

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Operations

INFORMATION OPERATIONS (IO)

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This publication implements Department of Defense Directive (DoDD) 3600.01, *Information Operations*; DoDD 3700.01, *DoD Command and Control (C2) Enabling Capabilities*; DoDD 5100.01, *Functions of the Department of Defense and its Major Components*; DoDD 5205.02E, *Department of Defense Operations Security Program*; Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) S-3604.01, *Department of Defense Deception Activities*; DoDI O-3607.02, *Military Information Support Operations*; DoDI 3608.11, *Information Operations Career Force*; DoDI 3608.12, *Joint Information Operations (IO) Education* and DoDI 8560.01, *Communications Security (COMSEC) Monitoring*. This Department of the Air Force Policy Directive provides a means by which the United States Air Force (USAF) and United States Space Force (USSF) will utilize Information Operations to enhance resiliency, responsiveness and agility of operations. In addition, it will enable support to and achievement of Department of Defense (DoD), Combatant Commander's and other Commander's objectives and effects. This publication applies to civilian employees of the Department of the Air Force (DAF) and uniformed members of the United States Space Force, Regular Air Force, the Air Force Reserve, the Air National Guard, and contractor personnel except where noted otherwise. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the office of primary responsibility using the Air Force Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication; route Air Force Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. Ensure all records generated as a result of processes prescribed in this publication adhere to Air Force Instruction 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance*

Program, and are disposed in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule, which is located in the Air Force Records Information Management System.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This document has been substantially revised and needs to be completely reviewed. Major changes include assigning lead command responsibilities to Air Combat Command (ACC) and Space Operations Command (SpOC), and incorporating the information joint function and the *Department of Defense (DoD) Strategy for Operations in the Information Environment*.

1. Overview. This directive establishes DAF policy for Information Operations (IO), to include Deception Activities, Military Information Support Operations (MISO), Operations Security (OPSEC) governance and management. This directive also establishes policy for Communication Security (COMSEC) monitoring governance and management. From hence forth, use of the term 'Information Operations' includes Deception Activities, MISO, and OPSEC governance and management capabilities. In addition, this directive designates USAF and USSF Major Command and Field Command roles and responsibilities for these capabilities in support of objectives and effects. The management, planning and execution of IO is an operations function. IO and aforementioned included capabilities will reside together in the operations and/or plans element of an organization. For those organizations with no traditional operations or plans element, the commander or director shall determine the most logical element to place IO activities. COMSEC monitoring will be conducted only by organizations authorized to execute COMSEC monitoring missions.

2. Policy. The DAF will:

2.1. Integrate IO concepts into military strategy, plans, operations, exercises, functional and professional military training, communications architectures, information processing, systems development, and professional education.

2.2. Develop concepts, policies and procedures that enable friendly forces to leverage information to achieve desired objectives and effects across the range of military operations and throughout the competition continuum.

2.3. Organize, train, and equip forces to provide operationally proficient specialists in IO. Planners will support combatant and component commanders to gain and maintain an information advantage and achieve the commander's desired operational objectives and effects.

2.4. Only conduct information operations within the appropriate approval authority.

3. Responsibilities. This directive establishes the following responsibilities and authorities:

3.1. **Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force (SAF/AA).** Will coordinate with Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (AF/A3) and the Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Operations (known as the Chief Operations Officer (SF/COO)) on all IO policy.

3.2. **Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisitions, Technology and Logistics (SAF/AQ) will:.**

3.2.1. Serve as the office of primary responsibility for the Science & Technology and Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation aspects of IO acquisition activities. Provide direction, guidance and supervision over all matters pertaining to the formulation, review, approval and execution of relative plans, policies, and programs.

3.2.2. Participate in the DAF IO governance structure.

3.2.3. Advocate for IO capabilities acquisition in accordance with the DAF Corporate Structure process.

3.2.4. Manage funds allocated for acquisition programs within the Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation appropriation.

3.3. **Deputy Chief Information Officer (SAF/CN) will:.**

   3.3.1. Ensure networks that operate as part of the Department of Defense (DoD) Information Network are architected or acquired to enable the continuous monitoring, collection, and analysis of information that resides on and traverses DoD electronic communications systems.

   3.3.2. Participate in the DAF IO governance structure.

3.4. **Department of the Air Force General Counsel (SAF/GC).** Will, in coordination with DAF/JA, serve as legal counsel for matters pertaining to DAF COMSEC monitoring and notice consent activities.

3.5. **The Judge Advocate General (DAF/JA).** Will advise Secretarial, Air, and Space Staff on IO, in coordination with SAF/GC when appropriate. DAF/JA provides functional oversight to legal offices responsible for advising USAF and USSF components on IO.

3.6. **Director of Public Affairs (SAF/PA) will:.**

   3.6.1. Participate in the DAF IO governance structure.

   3.6.2. Ensure Public Affairs professionals are able to integrate Public Affairs core competencies, capabilities, activities and missions, such as counterpropaganda, into strategy development, operational planning and execution.

3.7. **Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower, Personnel, and Services (AF/A1) will:.**

   3.7.1. Coordinate with AF/A3 and the IO career field manager on the development of team guidance.

   3.7.2. Monitor accession, training, education and career development for the IO career force.

   3.7.3. Participate in the DAF IO governance structure.

3.8. **Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Cyber Effects Operations (AF/A2/6) and Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Technology and Innovation, (known as the Chief Technology and Innovation Officer (SF/CTIO)) will:.**

   3.8.1. Integrate and synchronize IO into the full range of Information Warfare policy, oversight, and guidance (AF/A2/6 only).

   3.8.2. Provide policy and guidance to support the DAF's capability to detect and mitigate OPSEC violations on its information networks.

   3.8.3. Provide policy and guidance for DAF notice-and-consent activities.

   3.8.4. Oversee Communication Security monitoring training.

   3.8.5. Participate in the DAF IO governance structure.

3.9. **Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (AF/A3) and Chief Operations Officer (SF/COO) will:.**

3.9.1. Co-serve as the offices of primary responsibility (OPR) for oversight of DAF IO doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel and facilities considerations. The AF/A3 and SF/COO will serve as the senior service Information Officers and representatives.

3.9.2. Develop doctrine, policy and guidance for IO.

3.9.3. Ensure IO, MISO, Deception Activities, and OPSEC requirements and capabilities are integrated across the Air Force, where applicable, in accordance with DoDD 3600.01, *Information Operations*; DoDI O-3607.02, *Military Information Support Operations (MISO)*; DoDI S-3604.01, *Department of Defense Military Deception*; and DoDD 5205.02E, *Operations Security (OPSEC) Program.*

3.9.4. Develop and advocate for IO investment priorities.

3.9.5. Serve as the senior DAF officers for IO, horizontal integrators, and service representatives for IO-related functions when interfacing with Department of Defense and other government agencies.

3.9.6. Coordinate with AF/A2/6, the Director of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (SF/S2), and SF/CTIO to integrate and synchronize IO with the full range of Information Warfare capabilities, policy, oversight, and guidance.

3.9.7. Oversee all IO and related training for the IO career force to include military and civilian personnel.

3.9.8. Coordinate with SAF/PA to ensure public affairs capabilities and requirements are factored into all Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and Education considerations, where applicable, in accordance with DoDD 5122.05, *Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs*, and DoDI 5400.13, *Public Affairs Operations* in accordance with applicable law, DoD policy and authorities.

3.9.9. If necessary, charter and chair a DAF governance structure to develop strategy and investment recommendations, in coordination with AF/A2/6, SF/COO, SF/S2, and SF/CTIO (AF/A3 only).

3.9.10. Serve as the DAF IO Functional Authority and Program Manager for designated IO and related capabilities and programs, to include the functional management for the 14F Air Force Specialty Code career field.

3.9.11. In coordination with other career field managers, AF/A3 and SF/COO will be responsible for functional oversight, force development, and talent management of the IO career force (military members and civilian employees) with respect to the performance of IO activities.

3.9.12. Require all DAF IO staffs, units, and career force personnel to complete annual Intelligence Oversight training, in coordination with AF/A2/6 and SF/S2.

3.10. **Deputy Chief of Staff, Strategy, Integration and Requirements (AF/A5) and Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Strategy and Resourcing (known as the Chief Strategy and Resourcing Office (SF/CSRO)) will:.**

3.10.1. Coordinate with AF/A3 and SF/COO on policy and strategy issues related to Electromagnetic Warfare operations in the Information Environment.

3.10.2. Participate in the DAF IO governance structure.

3.11. **Air Combat Command (ACC), Space Operations Command (SpOC), and Space Training and Readiness (STAR) Delta (Provisional) will:.**

3.11.1. Perform lead command responsibilities and functions for IO (e.g. MISO; Deception Activities; OPSEC) and COMSEC monitoring (ACC and SpOC only).

3.11.2. Lead the development of intelligence and Cyberspace integration into IO and related activities (ACC and SpOC only) .

3.11.3. Support integration of IO into exercises and Air Force Warfare Center's academic training (ACC only).

3.11.4. Develop, update, and maintain IO and related capability training course information to the Joint Training Course Database according to Joint Staff guidance (ACC and STAR Delta (Provisional) only).

3.11.5. Provide administration, management, and oversight of the 14F Air Force IO career field initial skills training course (ACC only).

3.11.6. Serve as the office of primary responsibility for the distributed-learning and in-residence Information Operations Integration Course to include Air Force Operations Security Course, Operational Military Deception Course, U.S. Army Information Operations Integration Course-Military Information Support Operations, U.S. Army Special Operations Command Psychological Operations Qualification Course, or other similar validated courses and establish course requirements and student eligibility criteria (ACC and STAR Delta (Provisional) only).

3.11.6.1. Coordinate with the respective Air Education and Training Command (AETC), ACC, Air National Guard and STAR Delta (Provisional) schoolhouses to refine, modify, review, validate and approve course objectives and education requirements.

3.11.6.2. Resource and execute travel funding for Regular Air Force and Space Force military and civilian employee students. Resource courseware development efforts beyond lesson sustainment (e.g., substantial syllabus revisions) for all DAF IO, Deception Activities, MISO and OPSEC courses. ACC will also fund student attendance for the U.S. Army Information Operations Integration Course-Military Information Support Operations and Psychological Operations Qualification Course courses. ACC may fund additional courses based on validated and budgeted requirements.

3.11.6.3. Resource and execute travel funding for Space Force military and civilian employee students as required (STAR Delta (Provisional) only).

3.11.7. Provide global recommended sourcing solutions and feasibility risk analyses as defined by the current Global Force Management Implementation Guidance and Joint Staff directives in support of Force Provider responsibilities (ACC and SpOC only).

3.11.8. In coordination with appropriate functional authorities, ensure sufficient and proficient IO and related capabilities are available to Air Force Forces, Space Force Forces, Air Operations Centers, Operations Centers and Space Delta 5 (ACC and SpOC only).

3.11.9. Manage, maintain, provide and resource reach-back support for IO (ACC and SpOC only).

3.11.10. Coordinate, test and evaluate emerging IO capabilities for operational forces, national agencies, and the acquisition community (ACC and STAR Delta (Provisional) only).

3.11.11. Develop IO tactics, techniques and procedures for joint and DAF operational planners in support of current and future operations (ACC and SpOC only).

3.11.12. Manage, resource and provide OPSEC reach-back support for awareness, education, planning, readiness training, assessments, and operational support to the DAF OPSEC program (ACC and STAR Delta (Provisional) only).

3.11.13. Provide support and conduct OPSEC External and Program Management Assessments on behalf of Headquarters Air Force (ACC only).

3.12. **Air Education and Training Command (AETC) and STAR Delta (Provisional).** Will participate in, and chair when appropriate, Utilization and Training Workshops and DAF Training Planning Teams, when addressing IO training requirements.

3.13. **Air Force Materiel Command and Space & Missile System Center/Space Systems Command will:.**

3.13.1. Develop acquisition guidance for IO mission systems.

3.13.2. Provide the subject matter expertise necessary to assist the Air Force Materiel Command centers, the Program Managers, Air Force Forces, Space Force Forces, Air Operations Center/Operations Center and Space Delta 5 to explore alternative developmental courses of action for new capabilities, as well as ensuring integration of IO into weapon systems' Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation.

3.13.3. Ensure that IO mid-term and long-term research and technology shortfall issues are adequately addressed through Air Force Research Laboratory.

3.13.4. Ensure AF/A3 and SF/COO is well informed of all relevant Science & Technology and Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation efforts to include other Major Command and Field Command IO organizations.

3.14. **Air National Guard will.**

3.14.1. Maintain the Information Operations Integration Course advanced distributed learning per the Air Force instructional system development process. Maintain course integrity, joint perspectives and alignment with DoDD 3600.01, *Information Operations*; DoDI O-3607.02, *Military Information Support Operations (MISO)*; DODI S-3604.01, *Department of Defense Military Deception*; and DoDD 5205.02E, *Operations Security (OPSEC) Program.*

3.14.2. Coordinate on IO education and training with ACC, STAR Delta (Provisional), AETC and Air Force Reserve Command.

3.15. **All Major Commands and Field Commands, Direct Reporting Units/Offices, and Field Operating Agencies will.**

3.15.1. Coordinate with ACC/SpOC to develop new IO initiatives into Joint or Air Force/Space Force experimentation and acquisition activities.

3.15.2. Appoint Major Command and Field Command functional area managers and program managers for IO. Direct Reporting Units, and Field Operating Agencies are only required to appoint program managers.

3.15.3. Assist Air Staff and the Office of the Chief of Space Operations (referred to as Space Staff) in the performance of their Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and Education responsibilities, as required.

3.15.4. Provide an IO annual Operations and Maintenance budget (e.g., manpower, investments, Air Force Forces, Space Force Forces, Air Operations Center/Operations Center IO Teams, etc.) to AF/A3, SF/COO, ACC and SpOC.

3.15.5. Organize, train, and equip IO career force and capabilities, to include readiness assessment and evaluation functions, and lead integration of appropriate authorized and approved IO into all mission areas.

3.15.6. Integrate IO into strategic planning processes and assist with the development of IO guidance, enabling concepts and understanding of relevant authorities.

3.15.7. As appropriate, assist Combatant Commands, Component Major Commands and Field Commands, Component Numbered Air Forces, or Air Operations Centers/Operations Centers with synchronizing and deconflicting IO effects with other respective Functional and Geographical Major Commands or Field Commands.

3.15.8. Coordinate with AF/A3 or SF/COO on all exercise and training requirements associated with IO.

JOHN P. ROTH
Secretary of the Air Force (Acting)

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

National Telecommunications and Information Systems Security Directive (NSTISSD) No. 600, *Communications Security (COMSEC) Monitoring*, 10 April, 1990

DoD Directive (DoDD) 3600.01, *Information Operations*, 2 May 2013

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Air Force Doctrine Annex 3-61, *Public Affairs Operations*, 10 September 2020

AFI 10-401, *Air Force Operations Planning and Execution*, Incorporating Change 4, 13 March 2012

AFI 10-701, *Operations Security*, Incorporating Change 1, 9 June 2020

AFI 10-704-S, *Military Deception (MILDEC) Program*, 9 January 2015

AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, 23 March 2020

Prescribed Forms

None

Adopted Forms

Air Force Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACC—Air Combat Command

AF—Air Force

AFI—Air Force Instruction

CJCSI—Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction

COMSEC—Communications Monitoring

COO—Chief Operating Officer

DAFPD—Department of the Air Force Policy Directive

DoD—Department of Defense

DoDD—Department of Defense Directive

DoDI—Department of Defense Instruction

HAFMD—Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive

IO—Information Operations

JP—Joint Publication

MISO—Military Information Support Operations

OPSEC—Operations Security

PA—Public Affairs

SF—Space Force

SpOC—Space Operations Command

STAR—Space Training and Readiness

USSF—United States Space Force

Terms

Communication Security (COMSEC)—A component of Information Assurance that deals with measures and controls taken to deny unauthorized persons information derived from telecommunications and to ensure the authenticity of such telecommunications. COMSEC includes cryptographic security, transmission security, emissions security, and physical security of COMSEC material. (Committee on National Security Systems Instruction No. 4009; DoDI 8560.01)

Communication Security Monitoring—The act of listening to, copying, or recording transmissions of one's own official telecommunications to provide material for analysis in order to determine the degree of security being provided to those transmissions. (NSTISSD No. 600, *Communications Security Monitoring*)

Cyberspace—A global domain within the information environment consisting of the interdependent network of information technology infrastructures and resident data, including the Internet, telecommunications networks, computer systems, and embedded processors and controllers. (Joint Pub 3-12) NOTE: synonymous with cyber when used as an adjective.

Deception Activities—DoD deception activities may be employed to mask, protect, reinforce, exaggerate, minimize, distort, or otherwise misrepresent U.S. technical and operational capabilities, intentions, and operations, as well as DoD research, development, testing, evaluation (RDT&E), services, and acquisitions programs and activities. There are three categories of Deception Activities; Joint Military Deception (MILDEC), Deception in Support of Operations Security (DISO), and Tactical Deception (TAC-D). For further clarification see AFI 10-704 (S), *Military Deception (MILDEC) Program.*

Functional Area Manager—The principal advisor to their respective commander/functional director/Deputy Chief of Staff on the management and oversight of all personnel and equipment within a specific functional area to support operational planning and execution. Responsibilities may include developing and reviewing policy; developing, managing and maintaining Unit Type Code(s); developing criteria for and monitoring readiness reporting; force posturing, analysis, and execution activities which are crucial to the management and execution of our Air Force readiness programs (AFI 10-401, *Air Force Operations Planning and Execution*).

Influence—The power to change or affect someone or something.

Information—Conveys or represents a particular arrangement or sequence of things. Information is stimuli that have meaning in some context for its receiver.

Information Environment (IE)—The aggregate of individuals, organizations, and systems that collect, process, disseminate, or act on information. (JP 3-13, *Information Operations*)

Information Operations (IO)—The integrated employment, during military operations, of information-related capabilities in concert with other lines of operation to influence, disrupt, corrupt, or usurp the decision-making of adversaries and potential adversaries while protecting our own. Also called IO. See also electromagnetic warfare; military deception; military information support operations; operations security. (JP 3-13, *Information Operations*)

Information Operations Career Force—A force consisting of units, staff elements, and individual military professionals in the Active and Reserve Components, and DoD civilian employees who conduct or directly support the integration of information related capabilities against adversaries and potential adversaries during military operations as well as those who train these professionals (DoDD 3600.01).

Military Information Support Operations (MISO)—Planned operations to convey selected information and indicators to foreign audiences to influence their emotions, motives, objective reasoning, and ultimately the behavior of foreign governments, organizations, groups, and individuals in a manner favorable to the originator's objectives (JP 3-13.2, *Military Information Support Operations*).

Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR)—The office is responsible for ensuring the training is valid and current to include directly supporting Headquarters Air Force with either Information Operations, Deception Activities, Military Information Support Operations or Operations Security efforts.

Operations Security (OPSEC)—A capability that identifies and controls critical information, indicators of friendly force actions attendant to military operations, and incorporates countermeasures to reduce the risk of an adversary exploiting vulnerabilities. Also called OPSEC. (JP 3-13.3, *Operations Security*)

Public Affairs (PA)—Communication activities with external and internal audiences. Also called PA. See also command information; public information. (JP 3-61, *Public Affairs*).