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MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION
HQ USSF/FLDCOMs/C-FLDCOMs/DRUs and FOAs

FROM: SF/S3/4/7
2020 Space Force Pentagon, Ste 1040
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SUBJECT: Space Force Guidance Memorandum (SPFGM) 2026-05, *United States Space Force Command and Control: Operational Reporting, Mission Type Orders, and Situational Awareness*.

RELEASABILITY: There are not releasability restrictions on this publication.

By Order of the Secretary of the Air Force, this Guidance Memorandum (GM) is the first instance of a to-be published SF/S3/4/7 Space Force Instruction (SPFI). This GM implements Space Doctrine Publication (SDP) 5-0, Planning, and Department of the Air Force Policy Directive (DAFPD) 13-1, Command and Control (C2) Enterprise. It establishes organizational responsibilities, authorities, and processes for operational reporting, mission type order (MTO) dissemination, processing, and situational awareness (SA). Compliance with this memorandum is mandatory. To the extent its directions are inconsistent with other Department of the Air Force (DAF) publications, the information herein prevails IAW Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 90-160 (Change 1), Publications and Forms Management, and Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 90-161, Publishing Processes and Procedures.

COMPLIANCE: COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY.

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APPLICABILITY: This publication applies to all civilian employees and uniformed members of the United States Space Force and those with a contractual obligation to abide by the terms of DAF issuances, except where otherwise noted. This publication does not apply to the United States Air Force apart from Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard units performing space operations.

This memorandum becomes void after one year has elapsed from the date of this memorandum, or upon publishing of a new publication permanently establishing this guidance *United States Space Force Command and Control: Operational Reporting, Mission Type Orders, and Situational Awareness*, whichever is earlier.

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Chapter 1

OVERVIEW

1.1 Purpose. This SPFGM provides guidance for core Command and Control (C2) functions applicable to the HQ Space Staff, Institutional Field Commands (FLDCOMs), Component Field Commands (C-FLDCOMs), Direct Reporting Units (DRUs), Forward Operating Agencies (FOAs), associated C2 elements, and subordinate units executing United States Space Force (USSF). This guidance focuses on three primary C2 functions: DAF Operational Reporting (OPREP), Mission Type Order (MTO) dissemination, and Situational Awareness (SA). Emergency Action Program guidance will be provided as a separate classified guidance memorandum. These functions modernize the Service's C2 network, enable mission command, and support the USSF's role as an integrated member of the Joint and Combined Force.

1.1.1 Applicability. This SPFGM applies to HQ Space Staff, SFSWC, FLDCOMs/C-FLDCOMs, DRUs, FOAs, Deltas, their associated C2 elements, and their subordinate units.

1.2.1 Description. Effective C2 enables the application of space power. Commanders exercise both authority and responsibility to use resources and accomplish assigned missions. Commanders use control to gain and maintain situational awareness, make operational decisions, direct forces, and execute functions consistent with their authority. Timely, relevant, and available information allows commanders to make decisions and act more rapidly and effectively. USSF C2 operates as a commander-driven system at each echelon, using distributed, process-focused control to enable shared understanding, integration, and coordination. This approach is critical for enacting decentralized execution and mission command.

1.3.1 Naming Convention. USSF is using the following to enhance clarity and standardization within the C2 architecture.

1.3.1.1 Space Force Service Watch Cell (SFSWC) oversees and integrates the activities of subordinate Command Centers, units, and C2 Nodes. The SFSWC is the top of the Service C2 enterprise who acts on behalf of the Chief of Space Operations (CSO) to provide situational awareness, operational decision making, and dissemination of Service direction.

1.3.2.1 Institutional FLDCOM and Component FLDCOM, oversee and integrate the activities of subordinate units, including Installation C2 Nodes. These higher-echelon centers enable distributed, process-focused control, shared understanding, and decentralized execution. They act on behalf of their respective FLDCOM Commander to ensure alignment with strategic priorities and operational directives across the broader C2 enterprise and within their respective Command.

1.3.2.1.1 Examples of FLDCOM/C-FLDCOM Centers include, but are not limited to, Combat Forces Command and U.S. Space Forces – Indo-Pacific.

1.3.3.1 Installation C2 Node (previously known as Command Post) operates as the installation command center within the USSF C2 architecture. Installation C2 Nodes act on behalf of their respective installation commanders to facilitate communication, decision-making, and coordination between hosted entities. Installation C2 Nodes act as specialized endpoints for disseminating higher-level orders, support command directives, maintain situational awareness, and ensure timely operational reporting. This updated naming convention demonstrates the Space Force's commitment to modernizing its C2 network and supporting commander-driven decision-making at all levels.

1.1.1.1.1 Examples of Installation C2 Nodes include, but are not limited to, Space Base Delta 1, Colorado Springs Regional Command Post, and Space Launch Delta 45.

1.2.1 **Scope.** This guidance enables the proper application of the core C2 activities to include DAF Operational Reporting, MTO dissemination, and Situational Awareness.

1.2.1.1 DAF Operational Reporting: A well-established and properly functioning report system allows commanders and their staff at each echelon to convey shared understanding, integration, and synchronization necessary for sound and timely command decisions. Chapter 2 of this SPFGM guides reporting procedures and identifies organizational roles, responsibilities, authorities, and procedures for the Service. DAFI 10-206 will provide further guidance.

1.2.2.1 Mission Type Orders (MTOs): Commanders use Mission Type Orders as the primary mechanism to communicate strategic, operational, and tactical intent to subordinate units regarding their assigned missions. MTOs reflect the Space Force's core philosophies of commander-driven C2 and decentralized mission command, empowering subordinate units to adapt their actions to achieve the commander's intent. For this SPFGM, MTOs include Operation Orders (OPORD), Tasking Orders (TASKORD), Warning Orders (WARNORD), Planning Orders (PLANORD), Execute Orders (EXORD), Alert Orders (ALERTORD), Prepare to Deploy Orders (PTDO), Deployment or Redeployment Orders (DEPORD), and Fragment Orders (FRAGORD). Disseminating MTOs requires deliberate collaboration and unity of effort across HQ Elements, FLDCOMs/C-FLDCOMs, and subordinate units to ensure clarity, compliance, and operational effectiveness. Chapter 3 of this SPFGM outlines standardized procedures and responsibilities for processing, coordinating, and publishing MTOs. It provides detailed guidance on roles, responsibilities, authorities, and governance activities, including format standardization, adherence to the Space Planning Process, feedback adjudication, legal review, commander's approval, order publication, echelon coordination, and contingency planning for dissemination during crisis operations.

- 1.2.3.1 Situational Awareness (SA): Enables commanders and their staff to achieve shared understanding, integration, and synchronization across command echelons. SA provides information, analysis, and insight about assigned, attached, or allocated forces within a command's Area of Responsibility (AOR) to facilitate sound and timely decision-making. Chapter 4 of this SPFGM outlines the concept of SA within C2 and identifies organizational roles, responsibilities, authorities, and procedures for the Service.
- 1.2.4.1 Waiver Authority. SF/S3/4/7 manages the USSF enterprise C2 program. Subordinate units and organizations must initiate waiver requests using DAF Form 679, Air Force Publication Compliance Item Waiver Request/Approval. Units will submit requests via the Enterprise Task Management Software Solution (ETMS2) to the SF/S3/4/7 Workflow for coordination.
- 1.2.5.1 Commanders must enable all core C2 functions to support their mission and the USSF C2 enterprise via establishing a C2 element, accomplish all core C2 functions within their staff, or codify a Host Tenant Support Agreement (HTSA) or Memorandum of Agreement with an installation C2 Node to execute all core C2 functions on their behalf.

Chapter 2

OPERATIONAL REPORTING

2.1 Purpose. This chapter outlines organizational responsibilities and the main steps for operational reporting procedures within the USSF. It focuses on DAF Operational Reporting, including OPREP-3 Pinnacles, Beelines, and DAF Commander's Critical Information Requirement (CCIR). This guidance supplements DAFI 10-206, DAF Operational Reporting (OPREP).

2.1.1 Commanders' Roles and Responsibilities

2.1.1.1 Commanders must complete DAF Operational Reporting and System training within 60 days of assignment and complete annual refresher training.

2.1.2.1 The first commander who becomes aware of an event requiring a DAF Operational Report (OPREP-3B or DAF CCIR) and can transmit, must submit the report via the Operational Reporting Tool. If unable to transmit, the commander must establish a Host Tenant Support Agreement (HTSA) or Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with an installation C2 Node to submit reports on behalf of the commander.

2.1.3.1 Commanders must follow guidance in Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Manual (CJCSM) 3150.03E, CJCSM 3150.05E, DAFPD 13-1, DAFI 10-206, the DAF Reporting Program Matrix, Reporting Program Templates (from HQAF/A34C and HQSF/S33P), and this memorandum.

2.1.4.1 Commanders must report events that meet DAF Operational Report criteria for assigned/attached forces, incidents on USSF installations, and allocated forces (e.g., Airmen supporting USSF in 4G Personnel Accounting Symbol codes).

2.1.5.1 Commanders must not report sexually based, alleged, or confirmed crime incidents via DAF Operational Reporting. DAFI 10-206 will provide further guidance.

2.2.1 Space Force Service Watch Cell (SFSWC) Roles and Responsibilities

2.2.1.1 The SFSWC must use the Operational Reporting Tool (OPREP Tool) to monitor operational reports. Each individual crew member must have an OPREP Tool account.

2.2.2.1 The SFSWC must ensure reports involving USAF personnel/assets are sent to the Air Force Service Watch Cell (AFSWC).

2.2.3.1 The SFSWC must notify the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and National Guard Watch of relevant DAF Operational Reporting events on behalf of USSF.

2.2.4.1 The SFSWC must develop a process to notify HQ Space Leadership and Staff of reportable events.

2.2.5.1 The SFSWC must advise lower echelons on OPREP-3 and DAF CCIR requirements to ensure reports are timely, concise, and include sufficient information to facilitate situational awareness and provide requests for information from DAF senior leaders.

2.3.1 FLDCOM Command Centers Responsibilities

2.3.1.1 FLDCOM Command Centers must use the Operational Reporting Tool (OPREP Tool) to monitor operational reports. Each individual crew member must have an OPREP Tool account.

2.3.2.1 The FLDCOM Command Centers must ensure reports involving personnel/assets with shared equity are sent to the relevant Field Command (FLDCOM) Command Center and relevant Major Command (MAJCOM) Command Center and maintain applicable CCMD and Headquarters Component CCIR matrix.

2.3.3.1 The FLDCOM Command Center must develop a process to notify FLDCOM Space Leadership and Staff of reportable events.

2.3.4.1 The FLDCOM Command Center must advise lower echelons on OPREP-3 and DAF CCIR requirements to ensure reports are timely, concise, and include sufficient information to facilitate situational awareness and provide requests for information from DAF senior leaders.

2.4.1 Installation C2 Nodes Responsibilities

2.4.1.1 Installation C2 Nodes must acquire accounts to process all OPREP-3B and DAF CCIRs in the Operational Reporting Tool and submit reports on behalf of any Commander unable to process reports.

2.4.2.1 Installation C2 Nodes must continuously monitor the Operational Reporting Tool.

2.4.3.1 Installation C2 Nodes must provide and track initial (within 60 days of assignment) and annual training for Delta Commanders and First Sergeants on processes, requirements, and system access.

2.4.3.1.1 AF/A3 and SF/S3, through the 1C3 Career Filed Management office, will develop and distribute a baseline DAF-level training for MAJCOM/FLDCOMs to supplement and distribute to their reporting elements. At a minimum, the training will include the DAF Reporting Program, Reporting Program Matrix, Information releasable in DAF Operational Reporting, and Tenant Commander responsibilities.

2.4.4.1 Installation C2 Nodes must report all OPREP-3Ps in accordance with DAFI 10-206 and submit reports requiring aggregated information (e.g., HURCON, TCCOR, DSCA, SITREP, readiness changes).

2.5.1 Sequencing.

- 2.5.1.1 Designated USSF and USAF Commanders use the DAF OPREP-3 reporting processes to report significant events and incidents to the appropriate level(s) of command. DAF CCIRs are used to notify the SECAF, Chief of Staff of the Air Force (CSAF), and/or Chief of Space Operations (CSO) about significant events or incidents that meet DAF-level reporting criteria but fall below the threshold for national or international-level interest. SECAF, CSAF, and CSO determine these criteria based on the DAF Operational Reporting Matrix.
- 2.5.2.1 Installation C2 Nodes use OPREP-3P synchronous transmission will be accomplished in the NMCC – NJOIC chatroom (dod_njoic) on SIPR and followed with an immediate phone call to the JS J3 (Comm: 703-693-5860; SVOIP: 302-221-3889; DRSN 80-228-2689). These procedures are applicable to OPREP-3WP exercises.
- 2.5.3.1 The NMCC-NJOIC and CCDRs use the OPREP-3 WHITE PINNACLE report to exercise OPREP-3 procedures and measure report timeliness. The NJOIC executes this exercise and sends it to the C2 Element.
- 2.5.4.1 Commanders use the OPREP-3 BEELINE report to notify the SECAF, CSO and/or CSAF about significant events or incidents that meet DAF-level reporting criteria but are not of national-level interest at the time of the report. If the information is later determined to be of national interest, units may submit the report to the NMCC NJOIC without the PINNACLE identifier.
- 2.5.5.1 Commanders use the DAF CCIR report to notify the SECAF, CSO, and/or CSAF about significant events or incidents that meet DAF-level reporting criteria but fall below the threshold for national or international-level interest. The SECAF, CSAF, and CSO determine whether the events meet immediate notification criteria.
- 2.5.6.1 Echelons below the HQ/SF level must develop and implement reporting requirements for their Area of Responsibility for events and incidents that do not meet or exceed national or DAF-level interest. FLDCOMs, DRU, and FOA must not use the flag words PINNACLE, BEELINE, or DAF CCIR as conventions. If units later determine that the information is of national or DAF-level interest, they must submit the report to the appropriate higher headquarters C2 element.
- 2.6.1 **Reporting.** The following reporting criteria reflect current DAF policy and may change with future updates to DAFI 10-206. When submitting a report, reference DAFI 10-206 for the most current information.

2.6.1.1 DAF Operational Reporting synchronous reports are due within 15 minutes of the incident. DAF Operational Reporting asynchronous reports are due within 1 hour of the incident. OPREP-3 PINNACLE NUCFLASH synchronous reports are due within 5 minutes of the incident, and asynchronous reports are due within 1 hour of the incident.

2.6.2.1 Upon receipt of an OPREP-3 WHITE PINNACLE, commanders through their designated C2 Element will submit a WHITE PINNACLE acknowledgment report to the NJOIC Battle Captain by either synchronous or asynchronous means, whichever is faster. The standard for WHITE PINNACLE exercises is 20 minutes.

2.6.3.1 DAF-CCIR synchronous reports are due within 30 minutes of the incident. DAF-CCIR asynchronous reports are due within 4 hours of the incident.

2.6.4.1 Open DAF Operational Reporting/DAF CCIRs. When seven calendar days have elapsed from the Initial Report, and additional information cannot be obtained, a final report will be transmitted. The applicable Service Watch Cell will determine whether to close the report or grant an extension. If an extension is granted, the Service Watch Cell, in coordination with the report originator, will establish a new suspense date.

2.7.1 Transmission.

2.7.1.1 Reports may be submitted as Initial, Initial/Final, Follow-Up, Final, and Corrected Copy reports. Initial reports should contain as much information as is available at the time of submission. If sufficient information is available at the time of submission, the report can be submitted as an Initial/Final report. If sufficient information is not available at the time of Initial report submission, submit Follow-Up reports until all information is gathered or the situation has subsided. Once all report criteria are satisfied or the situation has subsided, submit a final report. Corrected Copy reports will be used to correct errors in previously submitted reports.

2.7.2.1 Reports in the OPREP-3 tool consist of two parts: synchronous and asynchronous. The synchronous report refers to technologies such as chat rooms and telephones that provide an immediate acknowledgement of the message by the appropriate higher headquarters element. The asynchronous report refers to technologies such as the Operational Reporting Tool and the Defense Message System (DMS) / Automated Message Handling System (AMHS), in which messages are received for review and distribution by the appropriate higher headquarters element. The Operational Reporting Tool provides the capability for synchronous and asynchronous reporting. Additional transmission guidance is in DAFI 10-206.

2.8.1 Format

2.8.1.1 Proper formatting of all OPREP-3 PINNACLE, BEELINE, and DAF-CCIR and all other reports, such as Situation Report (SITREP), Hurricane (HURCON), Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness (TCCOR), Defense Support of Civil Authorities

(DSCA), etc., is contained in CJCSM 3150.03E, DAF Reporting Program Matrix, and DAF Reporting Program Templates.

2.8.2.1 These reports are typically handled at the Installation C2 element, as they include information from multiple units or organizations. Additional guidance is in DAFI 10-206.

Chapter 3

MISSION TYPE ORDERS PROCESSING

- 3.1 **Purpose.** This chapter defines standardized procedures and responsibilities for processing, coordinating, and publishing Mission Type Orders (MTOs) to ensure clarity, compliance, and operational effectiveness.
- 3.1.1 **Designated Authority.** The unit must designate a single office as the responsible authority for coordinating all MTOs. This office is accountable for implementing the procedures outlined in this policy. Typically, the lead office responsible for Operations fulfills this role.
- 3.1.1.1 Core Responsibilities and Procedures. The designated MTO coordination office shall be responsible for the following:
- 3.1.2.1 Format Standardization. Organizations will develop and maintain their own format to meet commanders' desires and intent.
- 3.1.3.1 Space Planning Process. Ensure that, whenever possible, the staff utilizes the Space Planning Process in accordance with SDP 5-0 during order development.
- 3.1.4.1 Feedback Adjudication. Establish and manage a method to coordinate with all staff sections and adjudicate feedback. This process shall utilize a Comment Resolution Matrix (CRM) or an equivalent system.
- 3.1.5.1 Legal Review. Institute a formal process to coordinate with and obtain review from the applicable legal authority, to include the Judge Advocate, General Counsel, or any other legal counsel associated with the command.
- 3.1.6.1 Commander's Approval. Maintain a clear and documented method for the Commander, or an officially appointed designee, to approve the final content and authorize the release of an MTO.
- 3.1.7.1 Order Publication and dissemination. The S3 or S33 of organizations is responsible for publishing and disseminating approved orders. The organization will determine the method of dissemination at its discretion.
- 3.1.8.1 Retention and Continuity. Organizations must retain an archive of disseminated MTOs which can be referenced across the organization.
- 3.1.9.1 Echelon Coordination. Maintain a mechanism to coordinate with the next higher echelon for MTO support if tasking requirements are determined to be outside the unit's command relationship.

3.1.9.1.1 Publication and Contingency. Enforce a standardized method of publishing MTOs that incorporates a Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency plan to guarantee dissemination during crisis operations.

Chapter 4

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

4.1 Purpose. This chapter outlines roles, responsibilities, and high-level sequencing essential for effective SA to optimize C2 within USSF. *JP 1 Vol 2, The Joint Force, and SFDD-1, The Space Force*, provide the foundational guidance for SA.

4.1.1 Roles and Responsibilities.

4.1.1.1 HQ USSF, FLDCOMs/C-FLDCOMs, DRU, FOA, and Delta Commanders will:

4.1.1.1.1 Maintain SA of assigned, attached, or allocated forces to accomplish the mission within their designated areas of responsibility.

4.1.1.2.1 Define and codify command relationships with superior, lateral, and subordinate commanders and their respective C2 elements to implement control inherent to command.

4.1.1.3.1 Define SA requirements for their respective C2 elements or staff to support commander-driven C2 and shared understanding.

4.1.1.4.1 Formalize a C2 node, command center, or staff as their designated C2 Element.

4.1.2.1 SFSWC, FLDCOM/C-FLDCOM Command Centers, and Installation C2 Nodes will:

4.1.2.1.1 Identify information impacting a commander's assigned, attached, or allocated forces in support of their mission and alert their commander and staff based on the commander's requirements.

4.1.2.2.1 Provide SA, shared understanding, and coordination to other C2 elements within the C2 enterprise when they identify information impacting assigned, attached, or allocated forces within their AOR.

4.1.2.3.1 Analyze information impacting assigned, attached, or allocated forces within their AOR to provide insights to their respective commanders and staff, enabling sound and timely decision-making.

4.1.2.4.1 Coordinate with commanders and their staff to refine SA, shared understanding, and coordination requirements to enable enhanced C2 and mission command.

4.1.2.5.1 Support the authority and direction of properly designated commanders over assigned, attached, or allocated forces to accomplish the mission.

- 4.1.2.6.1 Provide SA related to current operations, status, readiness, geopolitics, and risk to assigned, attached, or allocated forces.
- 4.1.2.7.1 Develop and execute shared understanding processes across commanders, Command Center or C2 Nodes, and staff to facilitate sound and timely decision-making.
- 4.1.2.8.1 Develop and disseminate information across their respective command echelon and the larger C2 enterprise via OPSUMs and communication transmissions.
- 4.1.2.9.1 Understand the commander's mission, intent, and forces within the current operational context to provide analysis and insight that enable sound and timely decision-making, direction of forces, or SA across the C2 enterprise.
- 4.1.2.10.1 Develop process-focused means to enact commander-driven C2 while enabling decentralized execution through mission command and shared understanding across assigned, attached, or allocated forces.

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References:

CJCS, CJCSM 3150.03E, *Joint Reporting Structure Event and Incident Reports*, 22 Feb 2022
CJCS, CJCSM 3150.05E, *Joint Reporting System Situational Monitoring Manual*, 29 Aug 2022
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USAF, *DAF Reporting Program Matrix*, 3 Apr 2025
USAF, *DAF Reporting Program Templates*, 3 Apr 2025
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USSF, SDP 3-0, *Operations*, 19 Jul 2023
USSF, SDP 5-0, *Planning*, 20 Dec 2021
USSF, SFDD 1, *The Space Force*, 3 Apr 2025
USSF, *Space Warfighting – A Framework for Planners*, Mar 2025

Prescribed Forms

None

Adopted Forms

DAF Form 679, *Air Force Publication Compliance Item Waiver Request/Approval*
DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Product*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AF - Air Force
AFI - Air Force Instruction
AFSWC - Air Force Service Watch Cell
ALERTORD - Alert Orders
AMHS - Automated Message Handling System
AOR - Area of Responsibility
C2 - Command and Control
CCIR - Commander's Critical Information Requirement
C-FLDCOM – Component Field Command
CJCS - Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
CJCSM - Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Manual
CSAF - Chief of Staff of the Air Force
CSO - Chief of Space Operations
DAF - Department of the Air Force
DAFI - Department of the Air Force Instruction

DAFMAN - Department of the Air Force Manual
DAFPD - Department of the Air Force Policy Directive
DoD - Department of War
DODD - Department of War Directive
DODI - Department of War Instruction
DRU - Direct Reporting Unit
DSCA - Defense Support of Civil Authorities
DTG - Date-Time-Group
ETMS2 - Enterprise Task Management Software Solution
EXORD - Execute Orders
FLDCOM - Field Command (Institutional)
FOA - Field Operating Agency
FRAGORD - Fragment Orders
HQ - Headquarters
HURCON - Hurricane Condition
MAJCOM – Major Command
MTO - Mission Type Order
NJOIC - National Joint Operations and Intelligence Center
NMCC - National Military Command Center
OPORD - Operation Orders
OPREP-3 – Operational Reporting Type 3
OPSUM - Operations Summary
PLANORD - Planning Orders
SA - Situational Awareness
SDP - Space Doctrine Publication
SECAF - Secretary of the Air Force
SECWAR - Secretary of War
SF/S3/4/7 - Space Force Chief Operations Officer
SF/S3/4/7/S33 - SF/S3/4/7 Current Operations Division
SFSWC - Space Force Service Watch Cell
SITREP - Situation Report
SPFGM - Space Force Guidance Memorandum
SPFI - Space Force Instruction
TCCOR - Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness
USAF - United States Air Force
USSF - United States Space Force
WARNORD - Warning Orders

Terms

Air Force Service Watch Cell (AFSWC). AFSWC is a command center C2 element performing C2 functions at the HQ Air Force echelon of command.

Command and Control (C2). The exercise of authority and direction by a properly designated commander over assigned and attached forces in the accomplishment of the mission. A handful of key guiding principles should inform the development of C2 approaches, including

commander-driven decisions delivered by command at echelon through the principles of mission command. C2 must be designed to allow a shared understanding of information between commanders and their staff. It must be process-focused, integrate and synchronize with other components/partners, allow for robust coordination, and utilize decentralized execution.

Command and Control Element. According to DAFPD 13-1, *Command and Control (C2) Enterprise*, defines the SFSWC as the C2 element for the Service, Joint Operations Center as the C2 element for each respective Combatant Command, FLDCOM Command Center as the C2 element for each respective institutional and component Field Command, Installation C2 Node as the respective C2 element servicing the installation.

Commanders. Are properly designated individuals who can exercise authority and direction over assigned and attached forces. Commanders are inherently a terminal point in the C2 architecture and transition point to execute Mission Command and Battle Management at the Delta and Squadron echelons. Commanders at the FLDCOM and Service echelons utilize their respective Command Center or Service Watch Cell to support their command authority and direction.

Commander's Critical Information Requirement (CCIR). A DAF CCIR is a message used by any USSF or USAF unit to notify the SECAF, CSAF, or CSO with information on significant events or incidents that meet DAF-level reporting criteria but fall under the threshold for national or international-level interest requirements at the time of report, and do not meet immediate notification criteria as determined by the SECAF, CSAF, or CSO.

FLDCOM/C-FLDCOM Command Centers. FLDCOM/C-FLDCOM Command Centers are the higher-echelon command centers responsible for overseeing and integrating the activities of subordinate units, including Installation C2 Nodes. These centers are critical for enabling distributed, process-focused control, shared understanding, and decentralized execution, ensuring alignment with strategic priorities and operational directives across the broader C2 enterprise.

Installation C2 Node. The Installation C2 Node (previously known as Command Post) serves as the operational-level command center within the broader United States Space Force Command and Control architecture, maintaining 24/7 staffing to ensure continuous mission command authority. It acts as a specialized endpoint or pass-through junction, facilitating communication, decision-making, and coordination between different levels of command-and-control forces. The Installation C2 Node is responsible for disseminating higher-level orders, generating directives, receiving and elevating operational reporting as required, and ensuring timely and effective communication. These nodes are subordinate to their respective FLDCOMs/C-FLDCOMs, ensuring alignment with higher-echelon priorities and directives while supporting decentralized execution. Integrated into the broader command and control architecture, examples of Installation C2 Nodes include, but are not limited to, Space Base Delta 1, Colorado Springs Regional Command Post, and Space Launch Delta 45.

Mission Command. A philosophy that empowers subordinate decision making and decentralized execution appropriate to the situation. This approach preserves decision space, which permits lower echelons of command flexibility to adapt to and address the rapidly changing operational environment while maintaining the operational or strategic commander's intent. Mission command recognizes the potential for uncertainty during planning and execution and allows freedom of action for lower-echelon commanders to exploit opportunities and counter threats.

Mission Type Order (MTO). An order issued to a lower unit that includes the accomplishment of the total mission assigned to the higher HQ.

Operational Reporting. Notifications sent to the appropriate command level regarding significant events or incidents of interest. This process involves generation and dissemination of reports of significant interest to national leaders, CSAF, CSO, USSF intermediate commanders, and their staff. OPREP 3/CCIR reports are the formats utilized. These reports provide the information necessary for timely operational decisions, ensuring that all relevant parties are informed and can act accordingly.

OPREP-3. The OPREP-3 reporting system is used by commanders at any level of command to report significant events and incidents to the appropriate level(s) of command.

Situational Awareness (SA). SA provides real-time knowledge and understanding of the space operational environment. This includes status, activities, capabilities, and intentions of friendly, adversarial, and neutral assets across the AOR. It integrates timely, accurate, and actionable data to inform decision-making and ensure operational advantage. This enables effective mission execution, threat identification, and risk mitigation in contested, degraded, or operationally limited environments.

Situation Report (SITREP). A SITREP is a form of status reporting that provides commanders and other decision-makers with a quick understanding of the current situation, such as the status of an operation, incident, or operational challenge to performing the mission.

Space Force Service Watch Cell (SFSWC). SFSWC is a command center C2 element performing C2 functions at the HQ Space Force echelon of command.