



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
3000 MARINE CORPS PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-3000

MCO 3120.10A  
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MARINE CORPS ORDER 3120.10A

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps  
To: Distribution List

Subj: MARINE CORPS INFORMATION OPERATIONS

Ref: (a) Joint Publication 3-13, 'Information Operations,  
27 November 2012  
(b) MCWP 3-40.4, 'Marine Air-Ground Task Force  
Information Operations,' 01 July 2013  
(c) DOD Directive 3600.01, 'Information Operations,'  
14 June 2013  
(d) MCO 5311.1D  
(e) NAVMC Directive 3500.108  
(f) MCO 3900.15B  
(g) MCO 1200.17E  
(h) SECNAVINST 5400.15C  
(i) MCO 3070.2A  
(j) (U/FOUO) GENADMIN/CMC WASHINGTON DC PPO(SC) /151626Z  
NOV 11/USMC Process for Satisfying RFF with  
Aggregated Individuals (NOTAL)  
(k) Charter for the Command Element Advocate Board (CEAB)  
(l) SECNAV M-5210.1

1. Situation.

a. Marine Corps forces must remain capable of operating effectively against myriad potential adversaries in a highly complex operating environment. Future developments in information-related capabilities (IRC), in conjunction with improvements in the other warfighting areas, will be leveraged by forward-deployed commanders to enable decisive action. Reference (a), JP 3-13, *Information Operations*, defines Information Operations (IO) as, "The integrated employment, during military operations, of IRCs 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." At the Service level, in reference (b) the Marine Corps defines IO as, "the integration, coordination, and synchronization of all actions taken in the information

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environment (IE) to affect a relevant decision maker in order to create an operational advantage for the commander." As such, IO has the potential to influence action and relationships to affect the warfighting capabilities of enemy forces and social structures in the area of operation. Integration of IRCs into all aspects and phases of planning and execution is essential to mission success.

b. The Marine Corps will incorporate IO into training, operations, and exercises in order to facilitate the coordination and synchronization of actions taken to affect a decision-maker or group and to achieve an operational advantage for the commander. IO will be an essential part of our routine operations in expeditionary and joint environments. References (a) through (c) provide the doctrinal foundation for Marine Corps IO.

2. Cancellation. MCO 3120.10.

3. Mission. To promulgate IO policy, guidance, and organizational responsibilities in order to facilitate IO development and integration throughout the Marine Corps.

4. Execution.

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. Organize, train, and equip the Marine Corps for the successful conduct of IO. The endstate is a Marine Corps that can effectively integrate IRCs within a combined arms construct, across the range of military operations, throughout all phases of an operation, to achieve an operational advantage.

(2) Concept of Operations. The Marine Corps will:

(a) Enhance IO capability and capacity through the development of comprehensive IO policy; focused IO training and education; operational support; tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) development; and formulation of IO requirements.

(b) Provide commanders with IO planning and Information Operations Intelligence Integration (IOII) in order to improve both the understanding of the IE and the affect of IO on target audience behavior.

(c) Incorporate IO into operational planning.

(d) Coordinate with Headquarters, Departments, Services, Joint Commands, and Agencies to support Marine Corps IO.

(e) Educate all Marines on IO doctrine, Tactics Techniques, and Procedures (TTP), and the incorporation of IO into planning processes, operations, and exercises.

b. Subordinate Element Missions.

(1) Deputy Commandant, Plans, Policies and Operations (DC, PP&O) shall:

(a) Serve as the Marine Corps' advocate for IO.

(b) Establish and manage Marine Corps IO plans and policy consistent with references (a) and (c).

(c) Serve as the Marine Corps' point of contact to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Joint Staff, Services, Combatant Commands (CCMDs), and other agencies regarding IO plans and policy matters.

(d) Coordinate all IO Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and support with Marine Forces Command and Marine Corps Information Operations Center (MCIOC) consistent with reference (d).

(e) Advocate for the inclusion of adequate instruction and formal training in all aspects of IO in the curricula of Service and Joint formal schools.

(f) Serve as the Marine Corps point of contact to the Joint Staff and OSD on Joint Information Operations Range matters.

(g) As Occupational Field (OccFld) Manager:

1. Serve as OccFld Manager for all 0510, 0520, 0521, 0550, 0551, 8016, and 8834 Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) matters in accordance with reference (d).

2. In coordination with Manpower and Reserve Affairs (M&RA) provide recommendations and advice regarding

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staffing of personnel to Joint and Interagency billets by pay grade and MOS in support of IO requirements.

3. Annually review reference (e) to ensure Mission Essential Tasks (MET) and standards for assigned MOSs are correct. Provide updates to Training and Education Command (TECOM) per established routing and timeline standards.

(2) Deputy Commandant, Combat Development and Integration (DC, CD&I) shall:

(a) Conduct all combat development activities for IO within the context of the Marine Corps Force Development System (MCFDS) and the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System (JCIDS) in accordance with reference (f).

(b) Coordinate the assignment of personnel to serve as members or observers on commissions, boards, advisory groups, or committees external to the Marine Corps that require Marine Corps representation on IO related requirements or integration matters.

(c) Develop, validate, and publish IO related requirements, concepts, studies, doctrine and TTPs and ensure implementation in applicable Marine Corps training programs.

(d) Conduct mission area analyses for all mission areas related to IO and ensure Marine Corps capabilities that contribute to IO are included in appropriate simulations, models, exercises, and defense planning scenarios.

(e) Establish priorities for acquisition of IO-related equipment and work collaboratively with Marine Corps Systems Command (MARCORSSYSCOM) to integrate and develop capabilities that contribute to IO within the MCFDS.

(f) In coordination with PP&O and MCIOC, develop and maintain the Marine Corps Tasks (MCT), Mission Essential Tasks (METs), and Mission Essential Task Lists (METL) that guide Marine Corps IO training, execution, and assessment.

(g) Support the IO and Military Information Support Operations (MISO) Occupational Field Manager and TECOM in the development of training, education and billet requirements. This includes the identification of MOS and billet requirements for IO instructors to support those programs.

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(3) Commanding General, Training and Education Command (CG, TECOM) shall:

(a) Coordinate with PP&O (PLI) and MCIOC on all matters pertaining to and supporting IO related training and education.

(b) Provide student Temporary Additional Duty (TAD) funding to attend Marine Corps approved IO MOS producing training and education courses.

(c) Provide programs of instruction in order to meet IO and MISO MOS requirements in accordance with references (e) and (g).

(d) Ensure Marine Corps IO related training and education is complementary to Service, Joint, OSD, inter-agency and foreign/allied training and education.

(4) Deputy Commandant, Manpower and Reserve Affairs (DC, M&RA) shall:

(a) Designate and track qualified officers that choose IO related electives while at Intermediate and Top Level School equivalent IO courses.

(b) Ensure appropriately trained personnel are assigned to IO billets in accordance with available assignable inventory and other staffing requirements. In cases which result in a non-IO MOS qualified Marine being assigned to an IO billet, coordinate with CG, TECOM, to ensure Marines have completed IO MOS formal training requirements prior to arrival at the gaining command.

(c) Manpower Management Officer Assignment (MMOA) will report Additional MOS (AMOS) in Marine Corps Total Force System (MCTFS) upon completion of formal training required for MOS 0510, 0520, 0521, 0550, 0551, 8016, and 8834 in reference (g).

(5) Deputy Commandant, Programs and Resources (DC, P&R) shall:

(a) Ensure Marine Corps Information Operations Program (MCIOP) Future Years Defense Plan (FYDP) resource requirements, if any, are submitted and presented to the Headquarters and Support Program Evaluation Board (PEB). All

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other IO programs will compete for FYDP resources in the Program Objective Memorandum (POM) development process through their appropriate PEB(s).

(b) Coordinate the submission of IO budget data exhibits and supporting narratives by MCIOC to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation (OSD CAPE) via the Select and Native Programming Data Input System (SNaP). Validate Marine Corps budget data prior to submission.

(6) Director of Intelligence (DIRINT) shall:

(a) In coordination with CD&I and PP&O, continue development of intelligence processes that support IO.

(b) Provide support, when necessary, to MCIOC with intelligence characterization of the IE and assessment of IO effects within the IE through the Marine Corps Intelligence Activity (MCIA) and the national Intelligence Community.

(c) As the Service Proponent for the National Intelligence Program (NIP), Military Intelligence Program (MIP) and Consolidated Cryptologic Program (CCP), provide representation for all MIP, NIP, and CCP programs that contribute to IO.

(d) As the Service proponent for intelligence, ensure IO and intelligence support to IO is addressed in appropriate Marine Corps Intelligence doctrine and at the Marine Corps Intelligence Schools.

(7) Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command (COMMARCORSSYSCOM) shall:

(a) Conduct research, development, and acquisition activities to satisfy requirements validated by the Marine Requirements Oversight Council for IRCs.

(b) Identify, research, and evaluate potentially useful new or improved technologies that can support IO and advise DC, CD&I and DC, PP&O on what may be achievable through the development, enhancement, and exploitation of those technologies.

(c) Provide technical support for the development of capability requirements documents.

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(d) Provide technical support for assessing IO Urgent-Universal Need Statements identified through the Urgent Needs Process, to include the Joint Urgent Operational Needs Statement (JUONS).

(e) Provide technical authority, engineering, configuration management and lifecycle support for IO related equipment and services in accordance with reference (h).

(8) Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Information Operations Center (MCIOC) shall:

(a) Serve as the MOS Manager for 0510, 0520, 0521, 0550, 0551, and 8834 MOSs in accordance with reference (d).

(b) Provide IO SME to other Marine Corps staff agencies, as required.

(c) Support the planning and incorporation of IO into Operations Plans (OPLANs) and Concept Plans (CONPLANs), as required.

(d) In support of Marine Corps Operating Forces' IO planning and operations:

1. Provide deployable IO Planning Teams (IOPT) or IO SMEs to train organic staff or augment as needed and assist in preparation for and during operational deployments and training, as directed.

2. Provide deployable Expeditionary MISO Teams (EMTs) or Detachments (EMD) to plan and conduct MISO in support of operational deployments and training, as directed.

3. Provide support to deployed Marine Air-Ground Task Forces (MAGTF), Marine Components and the Supporting Establishment through regionally aligned support teams, which enables collaborative IO planning through information sharing, access to modeling and simulation, IOII, and submission of IO related lessons learned to Marine Corps Center for Lessons Learned (MCCLL).

4. Coordinate with the MAGTF Space Officer to support the planning and integration of space-based capabilities into MAGTF operations.

5. Support planning and integration of Special Technical Operations (STO) capabilities into MAGTF operations.

6. Serve as the Marine Corps Operations Security (OPSEC) Support Element, providing OPSEC materials, expertise, assessment, and planning support to Marine Corps commands in accordance with reference (i).

7. Ensure that all IO support to deployed forces in an operational theater is coordinated and integrated with the Center for Advanced Operational Culture Learning (CAOCL), Marine Corps Security Cooperation Group (MCSCG) and MCIA's deployed programs and initiatives.

8. Support global force management allocation planning. Provide COMMARFORCOM, through PP&O, with force and individual commitment, readiness, availability, deployment and redeployment information in accordance with reference (j).

(e) In support of and in coordination with CD&I:

1. Provide IO SMEs for the review of all doctrinal publications relating to IO.

2. Chair the IO Operational Advisory Group (OAG), providing functional input to the Command Element Advocacy Board (CEAB). Update reference (k) in accordance with CEAB requirements.

3. Provide IO subject matter expertise at IO conferences, OAGs, and other venues concerning IRCs, per reference (k).

4. Provide IO SMEs to support review and development of Service input to Defense Planning Scenarios.

5. Provide IO SME support to bi-annual Service capability development process, including formulation of capabilities that contribute to IO, gaps, and solutions for inclusion in Service capability documents.

6. Provide IO SME support to Capability Development Directorate led functional capability based assessments which have IO equities.



7. Provide IO SME support to appropriate integration divisions to facilitate the development of cross-functional capability requirements.

8. Provide IO input to the Marine Corps Task List (MCTL) in order to guide all Marine Corps IO training, execution and assessment.

9. Support the selection, prioritization and assessment of Program of Record, limited production and non-Program of Record IRC technology development and evaluation projects, as required.

(f) In support of TECOM:

1. Coordinate with other Service, Joint, OSD, inter-agency and allied IO training institutions to ensure IO training meets requirements identified for IO Marines in reference (h) and in compliance with reference (e).

2. Develop, assess and maintain IO unit training and unit IO certification standards for use during unit pre-deployment training.

3. Provide IO SME input to the development of resident and non-resident Marine Corps IO courses of instruction supporting training to Marine Corps commanders and their staffs, and provide IO SMEs as part of the IO training continuum.

4. Provide IO SMEs to review primary and secondary IO programs of instruction.

(g) Provide liaison with other Services, IO organizations and agencies for IO knowledge base standardization and interoperability.

(h) In coordination with DC, PP&O, participate in future program reviews and POM builds.

(i) Collaborate with the DIRINT, C4, MARCORSYSCOM, and Marine Corps Warfighting Lab (MCWL) to leverage emerging technologies that have the potential to satisfy MAGTF IO related requirements.

(j) Annually review reference (g) to ensure requirements for assigned MOSS are correct. Provide updates to TECOM per established routing and timeline standards.

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(k) In conjunction with the Advocate, submit and present Marine Corps Information Operations Program (MCIOF) FYDP resource requirements to the Headquarters and Support PEB.

(l) Submit IO budget data exhibits and supporting narratives to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation (OSD CAPE) via the Select and Native Programming Data Input System (SNaP). Coordinate with DC, P&R Operations and Maintenance Budget Formulation Branch (RFO) for validation of Marine Corps budget data prior to submission to OSD CAPE.

(9) Operating Force Commanders shall:

(a) Conduct and supervise IO planning in support of the unit's mission in accordance with IO doctrine.

(b) Assign IO personnel, per Table of Organization (T/O) or unit requirements, for IO mission planning, integration, execution, and assessment in support of MAGTF, MARFOR, and Joint tasking.

(c) Ensure assigned IO personnel receive training per Training and Readiness (T&R) standards and billet formal training requirements per reference (g).

(d) Submit training requirements for T/O assigned personnel to CG, TECOM via annual Training Input Plan process and inform PP&O of requirements. In event of formal training shortfalls, coordinate with MCIOC to obtain resident formal training seats or mobile training support.

(e) Submit requests for MCIOC augmentation for exercises and operational support requirements via formal message traffic in accordance with reference (l).

(f) Incorporate IO MCTs, METs, and METL into the unit training program and ensure training requirements adhere to established guidelines.

(10) Coordinating Instructions. Subordinate elements shall support the MCFDS, doctrine development, policy development, the Total Force Structure Process, and the JCIDS process as required.

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5. Administration and Logistics.

a. Submit recommended changes to this Order, with complete justification, to Commandant of the Marine Corps (PP&O/PLI) via the chain of command.

b. Records created as a result of this Order shall include records management requirements to ensure the proper maintenance and use of records, regardless of format or medium, to promote accessibility and authorized retention per the approved records schedule and reference (1).

6. Command and Signal.

a. Command. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Total Force.

b. Signal. This Order is effective the date signed.



R. L. BAILEY

Deputy Commandant  
Plans, Policies and Operations

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