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MARINE CORPS BULLETIN 5400

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps
To: Distribution List

Subj: ESTABLISHMENT OF INFORMATION AS THE SEVENTH MARINE CORPS WARFIGHTING
FUNCTION

Ref: (a) Department of Defense (DoD) Strategy for Operating in the
Information Environment, June 13, 2016
(b) Joint Publication 1 Extract w/CH-1, July 12, 2017
(c) Secretary of Defense (SECDEF) Memo, September 15, 2017
(d) Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) Information Environment (IE)
Ops Concept of Employment, July 6, 2017
(e) MCBul 5400, "Redesignation of Marine Expeditionary Force
Headquarters Groups to Marine Expeditionary Force Information
Groups," June 13, 2017
(f) Joint Concept for Integrated Campaigning, March 16, 2018
(g) MCDP 1-0 w/CH-1, "Marine Corps Operations," July 26, 2018
(h) Joint Publication 3-13, "Information Operations," November 20,
2014
(i) Marine Corps Reference Publication 1-10.2, "Marine Corps
Supplement to the DoD Dictionary of Military and Associated
Terms," August 19, 2013
(j) SECNAV Notice 5210
(k) SECNAV M-5210.1
(l) MCO 5210.11F
(m) 5 U.S.C. 552a
(n) SECNAVINST 5211.5E

Encl: (1) Glossary of Terms

1. Purpose. To establish *Information* as the seventh Marine Corps
warfighting function, per references (a) through (n).

2. Background. Due to the increasing importance of information in the
current and future operating environments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs
of Staff established *Information* as the seventh Joint function in July 2017.

3. Establishment

a. The Marine Corps, in alignment with Joint doctrine, is hereby
establishing *Information* as the seventh Marine Corps warfighting function.

b. The Marine Corps *Information* warfighting function is described as the
management and application of information and its deliberate integration with

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other warfighting functions to influence relevant actor perceptions, behavior, action or inaction, and support human and automated decision making. The *Information* warfighting function helps commanders and staffs understand and leverage the pervasive nature of information, its military uses, and its application across all operational phases and the Range of Military Operations (ROMO). This function provides the Marine Corps with the ability to integrate the generation and preservation of friendly information while leveraging the inherent informational aspects of all military activities and Service level operations to achieve Marine Corps objectives.

4. Action. Operating successfully across the conflict continuum requires a Marine Corps capable of understanding the emerging competition continuum, applying overwhelming lethal force when needed, conducting Operations in the Information Environment to achieve military advantage, and operationalizing Phase 0. The establishment of *Information* as the seventh warfighting function is intended to integrate and maximize IE capabilities, resources, and activities across the Marine Corps in support of the Service, the Joint Force, and the Combatant Commands. It will also leverage the inherent informational aspects of military operations, from tactical to strategic efforts, to support the Nation's defense, increase competitive advantage, and achieve mission objectives.

a. Deputy Commandant for Information

(1) Develop and implement a strategy to integrate *Information* as a warfighting function within the Service.

(2) Identify policy requirements and/or amendments needed to meet the intent of this Bulletin.

b. Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration

(1) Update Marine Corps doctrinal publications to incorporate the *Information* function description.

(2) Incorporate the new information lexicon into formal school programs of instruction.

5. Administration and Logistics

a. Records Management. Records created as a result of this Bulletin shall be managed according to National Archives and Records Administration approved dispositions per references (j) and (k) to ensure proper maintenance, use, accessibility and preservation, regardless of format or medium. Refer to reference (l) for Marine Corps records management policy and procedures.

b. Privacy Act. Any misuse or unauthorized disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) may result in both civil and criminal penalties. The Department of the Navy (DON) recognizes that the privacy of an individual is a personal and fundamental right that shall be respected and protected. The DON's need to collect, use, maintain, or disseminate PII about individuals for purposes of discharging its statutory responsibilities will be balanced against the individuals' right to be protected against unwarranted invasion of privacy. All collection, use, maintenance, or dissemination of PII will be in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (reference (m)) and implemented per reference (n).

c. Reserve Applicability. This Bulletin is applicable to the Marine Corps Total Force.

d. Cancellation Contingency. This Bulletin is cancelled one year from the date of publication or when incorporated into Marine Corps doctrine, whichever comes first.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert B. Neller". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Robert B. Neller
Commandant of the Marine Corps

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Glossary of Terms

Competition Continuum: In accordance with reference (f), the notion of a competition continuum is a construct primarily intended to guide military actions. It provides a model that offers an alternative to the obsolete peace/war binary with a new model of cooperation, competition below armed conflict, and armed conflict. These are not mutually exclusive conditions. They are states of relationships with other actors that can exist concurrently.

Information Environment: The aggregate of individuals, organizations, and systems that collect, process, disseminate, or act on information. (DoD Dictionary. Source: JP 3-13)

Information Joint Function: As described in reference (b), the Joint Information Function encompasses the management and application of information and its deliberate integration with other joint functions to change or maintain perceptions, attitudes, and other elements that drive desired behaviors and to support human and automated decision making. The information function helps commanders and staffs understand and leverage the pervasive nature of information, its military uses, and its application during all military operations. This function provides Joint Force Commanders the ability to integrate the generation and preservation of friendly information while leveraging the inherent informational aspects of all military activities to achieve the commander's objectives and attain the end state.

Marine Corps Information Warfighting Function: Encompasses the management and application of information and its deliberate integration with other warfighting functions to influence relevant actor perceptions, behavior, action or inaction, and support human and automated decision making. The information warfighting function helps commanders and staffs understand and leverage the pervasive nature of information, its military uses, and its application across the ROMO. This function provides the Marine Corps with the ability to integrate the generation and preservation of friendly information while leveraging the inherent informational aspects of all military activities and Service level operations to achieve Marine Corps objectives and attain the desired end state.

Operations in the Information Environment (OIE): In accordance with reference (d), OIE is the integrated planning and employment of MAGTF Naval, Joint, and Interagency information capabilities, resources, and activities that enhance the Marine Corps single-battle concept and provide defensive, offensive, exploitative effects and support in order to operate, fight and win in and through a contested information environment.

Phase 0 Operations: In accordance with reference (g), Phase 0, shaping operations, involve those ongoing and routine Joint, Interagency, and Multinational activities conducted to assure or solidify friendly relationships and alliances and/or deter potential adversaries.

Warfighting Functions: The seven mutually supporting military activities integrated in the conduct of all military operations. The seven warfighting functions are command and control, fires, force protection, information, intelligence, logistics, and maneuver. Upon promulgation of Marine Corps Doctrinal Publication 1-0 with Change 2, this modified description is approved for inclusion in the next edition of reference (i).