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JOINT MEMORANDUM

From: Deputy Commandant, Combat Development and Integration
       Deputy Commandant for Information

Subj: DEFINITIONS FOR INFORMATION RELATED TERMS

1. The Marine Corps will formalize "Operations in the Information
Environment" (OIE) and "military information power" as terms to frame all-
domain maneuver, competitive advantage, and combat power. This memo
establishes terms to communicate with precision and consistency, based on a
common focus and a unified message across the Marine Corps. Establishing
these terms will provide a clearer application of information as a
warfighting function and increase the Marine Corps' versatility in conflict
and in the competition continuum.

2. <u>Operations in the information environment (OIE)</u>

    a. Marine Corps OIE are defined as actions taken to generate, preserve,
or apply military information power in order to increase and protect
competitive advantage or combat power potential within all domains of the
operational environment.

    b. Marine Corps OIE are persistently conducted in global campaigns
throughout the competition continuum and during armed conflict to support
Naval, Service, Combatant Command, and Joint force objectives in the
information environment (IE) across all domains. In all cases, Marine Corps
OIE are planned and executed in accordance with the following seven
functions/tasks:

        (1) Assure enterprise C2 and critical systems

        (2) Provide information environment battlespace awareness

        (3) Attack and exploit networks, systems, and information

        (4) Inform domestic and international audiences

        (5) Influence foreign target audiences

        (6) Deceive foreign target audiences

        (7) Control OIE capabilities, resources, and activities

    c. Marine Corps OIE are planned and executed using the means provided by
the following six capability areas:

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      (1) Electromagnetic spectrum operations (EMSO)

      (2) Cyberspace operations

      (3) Space operations

      (4) Influence operations

      (5) Deception operations

      (6) Inform operations

3. <u>Military information power</u>

    a. The Marine Corps information warfighting function solidifies a Service perspective recognizing the necessity of military information power, by making its generation, preservation, and application through OIE the commander's business.

    b. Military information power is defined as the total means of force or information capability applied against a relevant actor to enhance lethality, survivability, mobility, or influence.
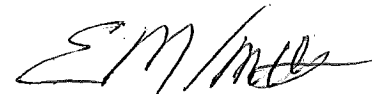
4. <u>Other terms in use</u>

    a. <u>Information warfare (IW)</u>. IW is a commonly used term which does not adequately address all seven functions of OIE. The Marine Corps is not adopting the term IW. The Marine Corps recognizes the Navy's use of the term as a subset of actions within a broader OIE construct.

    b. <u>Information operations (IO)</u>. IO is a legacy term used to describe an integrating function. The Marine Corps' information warfighting function eliminates the need for a specialized function to integrate information into operations. Warfighting functions are themselves integration elements that aid the commander and staff in planning and executing all operations. IO and OIE are not equivalent terms. We are formally decommissioning IO as a doctrinal term. This will require a full DOTLMPF-P analysis.

    c. <u>Information environment operations (IE Ops)</u>. IE Ops was a term introduced in the 2017 Information Environment Operations Concept of Employment. OIE replaces IE Ops to align with current Joint and Department of Defense conventions.

5. These terms are authoritative, and are provided here to support the doctrine development process. All Marines are expected to apply these definitions in communication products, to include: briefings, correspondence, and presentations.

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