



SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

(as of September 17, 2013)

Theme: The changing face of the Pacific Information Environment.

Objective: The purpose of this conference is to examine the contested and congested information environment across the Pacific Region and discuss how multinational information operations can help shape conditions for continued stability and peace within the region. The conference will provide a venue for increased awareness of Asia-Pacific issues and an opportunity for networking, a multinational exchange of ideas, and partnership building within the region.

Background: In 2011, President Obama directed his national security team to make America’s “presence and mission in the Asia-Pacific a top priority.” The Indo-Asia-Pacific stretches from California to India. It encompasses over half of the Earth’s surface and well over half of its population. This region is culturally, socially, economically, and geo-politically diverse. The nations of the Indo-Asia-Pacific include five of seven U.S. treaty allies (i.e. Australia, Japan, Korea, Philippines, and Thailand), three of the largest economies in the world (i.e. U.S., China and Japan), and seven of the ten smallest (i.e. Tokelau, Niue, Tuvalu, Futuna, Nauru, Marshall Islands, Palau), the most populous nations in the world (i.e. China, India, and Indonesia), and the largest Muslim-majority nation (i.e. Indonesia). One-third of the world's bulk cargo and two-thirds of its oil shipments now pass through the Indian Ocean. Regional cooperation to ensure the safety and security of these vital trade routes will become increasingly important over coming decades. All these aspects, taken together, result in a unique strategic complexity, magnified by a wide, diverse group of challenges that significantly stress the security environment. To be successful, we must thoroughly understand the constantly changing information environment and the people who comprise that environment. This conference will examine the Indo-Asia-Pacific challenges, multinational partnerships, evolving concepts, and the means by which information is passed in the context of the information environment to explore options to help shape conditions for continued stability and peace within the region.

Introduction

COL Dave Grohoski, USA (Ret)

Opening

Lt Gen Robert Elder, USAF (Ret), Research Professor, George Mason University; AOC President

Keynote Address

LtGen Terry G. Robling, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific

LtGen Robling will discuss the most significant challenges that the Information Environment poses within the Pacific Region. He will address how the COCOM plans to involve itself with the competition for themes and narratives among the various audiences within the region.

Partnership Outreach

Mr. Austin Branch (*Invited*)

Mr. Austin Branch recently served in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict. He will address partnership outreach efforts from OSD with US Pacific partners. He will discuss the role of Public Diplomacy and Strategic Communications. Lastly, he will describe how information operations can help shape conditions for continued stability and peace within the region.

Asia-Pacific Challenges

Representative from Republic of Korea Army

Focus Questions: What support does ROK need from this group of IO professionals (of all nations) to help achieve their objectives for stability and security? How does Korea plan and conduct “influence/information operations” in the region?

Asia-Pacific Challenges

Representative from Japan Self Defense Force

Focus Questions: What support does the JSDF need from this group of IO professionals (of all nations) to help achieve their objectives developing IO? What are the priorities for development of IO capabilities in the JSDF? What is the vision for the future in terms of integrating IO as a staff integrating function and war-fighting or operations function?

Asia-Pacific Challenges

LTC Psalm Lew, Head Plans, Army Information Centre with the Singapore Armed Forces

Focus Questions: Singapore can be considered a hyper-connected information society. How does Singapore Army operate in and through social media platforms like Facebook? What role does social media play for managing information activities focused on Command Information and Public Information? How does the Singapore Army use social media to inform audiences of its various activities and operations in support of communication objectives?

Information Activities In Support of Disaster Response Operations

Representative from Taiwan Armed Forces

Focus Questions: What are Taiwan Army experiences with PSYOP forces employed in the response operations to Typhoon Morokat? How will you prepare for disaster relief missions in the future – focusing on the information environment? What are the opportunities for multi-lateral IO cooperation with the Taiwan military?

Asia-Pacific Challenges

Representative from Australian Armed Forces

Focus Questions: What are the Australian vital interests and to what extent does it rely on international partners to sustain regional stability? What are the Australian defense plans to integrate IO into the operations force, training, and leader development? How does Australia plan and conduct “influence/information operations” in the region?

Panel Discussion: Addressing Asia-Pacific Challenges

Col Arthur Tulak, USA, USARPAC G7, Information Operations (Moderator)

Panelists from the day’s presentations will answer questions regarding addressing Asia-Pacific challenges. They will address what efforts are under way to build partner capacity within the region and what opportunities there are for multi-lateral IO cooperation across the militaries in the Pacific Theater.

Day One Wrap-Up: COL Dave Grohoski, USA (Ret)



Day Two Opening

COL Dave Grohoski, USA (Ret)

Keynote Address

MAJGEN (AUS) Richard Burr, Deputy Commanding General, USARPAC

The rise of militaries across the Theater coupled with the U.S. Rebalance efforts have resulted in a shifting landscape of the balance of military power. MG Burr will discuss this, and how peacetime information operations help to achieve greater transparency and cooperation.

Keynote Address

MajGen Gregg Sturdevant, USMC, J5, USPACOM (*Invited*)

The disputed areas (e.g. Paracel Islands, Scarborough Shoal, Spratley Islands, Senkaku Island, etc.) involve diplomatic, information, military and economic instruments of national power. Each claimant has vital interests at stake; each has a “tipping point” when escalation of force could result in an armed conflict. MajGen Sturdevant will discuss what can/should be done within the information environment to avoid conflict and to maintain peace within the island chain.

Information Operations in the Pacific Region

COL Arthur Tulak, USA, USARPAC G7, Information Operations

Focus Question: Describe the Asia-Pacific information environment and what USARPAC does to effectively operate within that congested/contested environment. What are USARPAC/PACOM current efforts to strengthen partnerships; what is the role of IO in support of theater security cooperation? What TTPs exist between USARPAC and partner nations; how can we improve these TTPs? What exchanges are currently managed as part of security cooperation among the PACOM Service Components?

Panel Discussion: Leveraging the IE as Allies and Partners in the Asia-Pacific Region

COL Arthur Tulak, USA, USARPAC G7, Information Operations

Speakers from the day’s program will speak on how we can leverage the IE as allies and partners to achieve a stable security environment that is acceptable (if not ideal) for all participants. Panelists will also discuss the barriers to multinational cooperation, how they can work together in the IE from a military perspective, and how bilateral military cooperation and efforts to achieve interoperability can help to improve cooperation and communalization of inform and influence activities.

Nexus of Commerce, Diplomacy, Security, and Human Migration

Mr. Robert Giesler (*Invited*)

Mr. Giesler currently works for DARPA; he is a retired Army Officer, retired Senior Executive Service with DoD, and has experience working in industry and academia (Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab). His areas of expertise include information operations, strategic communications, policy and operations.

EW in the Asia-Pacific Congested/Contested Spectrum

WgCdr John Clifford, OBE RAF (Ret)

The electromagnetic environment or domain is rapidly being recognized globally as a critical warfighting maneuver space across the spectrum of conflict. Commercial enterprises, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and the military oftentimes compete with one another for access to EM capabilities and the use of critical infrastructure.

Focus Question: Why and how is Electronic Warfare (EW) still relevant in a period when cyberspace operations and space operations appear to receive inordinate focus from various militaries? What contributions does EW make to information operations and general all-round war-fighting success? How is EW evolving and what do militaries in the PACOM region need to do to ensure future success in the EM domain?

Timed Influence Net Model

Lt General Robert Elder, USAF (Ret), Research Professor, George Mason University; AOC President

A Timed Influence Net Model was used in computational experiments to gain insights into the decision calculus of key actors and the effectiveness of potential US actions and responses to ongoing trends and potential decision points in the South Asia region. The modeling objective is to inform potential US shaping and crisis de-escalation actions. The model workflow was designed to support potential use by COCOM staffs responsible for building engagement and shaping plans, support Combatant Commander (CCDR) situational understanding and crisis anticipation, as well as provide support for CCDR operational design activities.

Topic TBD

Brig Gen Edwin “Skip” Vincent, AF (Ret), Soft Power Solutions

HA/DR and Security

Mr. Ron Hahn, Vice President, EMS Strategies, Information Solutions Group, URS Corporation

Mr. Hahn will discuss operations within the contested and congested information environment with particular focus on addressing the region’s critical infrastructure vulnerabilities and how that can affect HA/DR operations and security for USPACOM and the Asia-Pacific Theater.

Modular and Scalable Intelligence Systems

Representative from PLATH (*Invited*)

Fast changing threats and missions require adaptive and future-proof Intelligence system. The presentation will emphasize the resulting challenges system: open system architecture, modularity, scalability and mass data handling and will show several solution approaches.

Target Audience Analysis

Mr. Nigel Oakes, FRI, CEO, SCL Group - Behavioural Influence (*Invited*)

Opinion Research for Business

Representative from Opinion Research for Business (ORB), United Kingdom

Polling frequently yields insight into issues, interests, positions and motivations for individuals, groups, and nations. What strategic insights can be gained through the examination of public opinion across the PACOM AOR? How can issues such as wellbeing, perceptions of state institutions, and attitudes toward foreign actors help guide Information Operations? Furthermore, what are some of the key social and economic developments that may impact stability and strategic partnerships throughout the region in near future?

Satellite Imaging of the Asia- Pacific Region

Dr. Gerry Power, Chief Research Officer, M&C Saatchi World Services (*Invited*)

and

Representative from Digi Globe/Geo Eye, United Kingdom (*Invited*)

Panel Discussion: Addressing Information-Related Concerns in the Asia-Pacific Contested Areas

Mr. Simon Bergman, M&C Saatchi World Services (Moderator)

Panelists will identify the key nodes, key roles and influential users present challenges and opportunities. They will speak about the technologies and techniques available to assist operational planners to correctly and quickly identify the right nodes, select the right targets, and coordinate/de-conflict these efforts.

Day Two Wrap-Up

COL Dave Grohoski, USA (Ret)