

ACTIVITY REPORT: DSIAC Webinar, Wed. 27 JAN 2021

DTIC/IAC FA: Joseph L. Haack. IAC FA, USSOCOM

SUBJECT/TOPIC: *Directed Energy (DE) Intermediate Force Capabilities (IFCs):
Relevant Across the Range of Military Operations.*

Presenter/Briefer: David B. Law, *Chief Scientist, Joint Intermediate Force Capabilities Office (JIFCO);
responsible for vehicle stopping technologies, sensors... (BIO/Photo Unavailable).*

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DSIAC-Webinar-DE-I
ntermediate-Force-Ca

Executive Agent Planning Guidance March 2020:

“To emphasize the contributions of intermediate force capabilities to the Joint Force ... **the Joint NLW Directorate will be renamed the Joint Intermediate Force Capabilities Office.**”

DAVID H. BERGER
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps
Executive Agent for Non-Lethal Weapons

- Formally known as “Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate established at Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA”.

Discussion: The primary focus on this Webinar was on non-lethal technologies and employment considerations for Operations in the “Gray Zone” IE “Below armed Conflict”. Good examples of traditional military power in the form of Armored Combatant Vehicles engaging civilian youth throwing rocks. In todays world of cellphones and mass media, the Strategic effect of Information Operations can take an incident like this to sway world opinion on a country and or their policies. Like the saying goes, one OOPs removes 100 gold stars, in real time. Another was on the expansion of China’s maritime reach through the creation of artificial islands in contested waters, suddenly going from fishing atolls to military bases seemingly overnight while using commercial and private fishing vehicles to create a buffer zone and hamper international military maneuvers deliberately, collecting information and creating success in their objectives without firing a shot.

Next was an overview of current non-lethal technologies in use by DoD and DHS, followed up with new research initiatives in this field of study. Links were provided for further information on any of the topics.

The other area explored was the use of IFC, Intermediate Force Capabilities as it pertains to Direct Energy (Not-Lethal) technologies, from lasers that produce a safe but very uncomfortable super heat on the skin, sound/voice projection at distance and use of other EW technologies for ground vehicle immobilization and ship immobilization. One aspect of this is a new study to create not policy but messaging for the use of and first use of LE (Laser Energy) non-lethal weapons by DoD. This is to counter the narrative of imagery created in Science Fiction from War of the Worlds, Star Trek and Star Wars; the death rays! In Science fiction we also see use of non-lethal technology that can be used to support he message, IE “Set Phasers on Stun”. It is important in messaging for Information Operations to understand your target audience and tailor messaging to them specifically.

This topic, technologies and *method de employ* are essential for the warfighter to accomplish their missions, especially when dealing with mass populations associated in Mega Cities and HA/DR missions. The fact remains we put most of our research funding into kinetic weapons, support and logistics, less than 1% into non-lethal technologies. These technologies are vital for the warfighter commander, on land, sea and air to accomplish their mission, win the information war (IO) and minimize collateral damage to infrastructure and populations, saving not only lives of DoD and civilians, but at a tremendous savings by minimizing the forces required and the time to accomplish the mission.

Way Ahead: Recommend this Webinar and more like it to the CCMD (Combatant Command) Strategy Planners, Information Operations Cells, MISO Cells and Intel Directorates for information and coordination directly, not only for the technology but for the messaging aspect. I have shared this webinar with SOCOM J2, J5, J3IO POCs, SOF ATL ST and the USSOCOM Joint Special Operations University.

End.-----JLH