

Synthesis Group Wrap-up

First Impressions, Shrewd
Observations, Learned
Considerations, Pithy Comments

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The Synthesis Group...

- A panel of senior personnel to provide a broader overview across the meeting
- Helps Working Groups keep perspective
- Identifies and address themes and key thoughts, which are used in the formulation of their report

The Synthesis Group

- Lead - Terry McKearney
- WG 1 - Greg Melcher, Doug Hales, CAPT Dave Newton, Theo Geinelas
- WG 2 - Sean Bourdon, Alan Zimm
- WG 3 - Dale Reding, Julie Seton
- WG 4 - Denis Bergeron, Francine Desharnais
- WG 5 - Duane Boniface, Ralph Klingbeil

How the Synthesis Group Works

- Members assigned to each Working Group
- Observe deliberations of Working Groups
- Keep notes on:
 - Major themes discussed in Working Group
 - Issues that are:
 - Recurring
 - Vexing
 - Progress on addressing “Output” questions
- Periodically meet
 - Compare notes
 - Gauge overall progress of workshop
 - Suggest “mid-course” corrections if needed
 - Submit inputs to final report

The “Outputs” - or Key Questions

- What are the questions that need to be answered by the analysis community in regards to MDA?
- What types of analysis and what tools/models are required to help the operational community answer the operational questions regarding MDA, and do they currently exist?
- What skill sets, agency representation, etc. should be part of an MDA analysis community? What type of forum is suitable to ensure that proposed initiatives to build an MDA analysis community do not fail?
- What are the ways forward to identify and transform available and new data into actionable information that will allow deterring and thwarting pirate attacks?
- How can we understand the current and projected costs of action and inaction in relation to anti-piracy operations?
- What are the data fusion, modeling, and predictive methodologies that could provide actionable advantages to vessels that are potential targets of pirates?

Are presentations, deliberations, discussion driving to the answers to these questions?

What We'd Like to Share

- Big issues
 - What's important from the deliberations?
- Threads
 - Major themes that transcend the WGs
- Deltas
 - What might have we missed?
- Way ahead
 - How can we build on what we've done?

Big Issues

- Information central to MDA
 - Sharing, processing, understanding, acting on are all tough
 - Information processes, networks, protocols, organizations
- Lording over the rings
 - Bands of surveillance, actions based on geography and ability to react
- MDA is interagency and beyond “Whole of Government”
 - Constrained by legal, regulatory, policy structures
 - Actors come from different backgrounds, cultures
 - Needs, objectives, funding all different
- MDA cuts a wide swath
 - Everything from piracy to polar ice cap shrinking
 - All impact, influence MDA activities, requirements
- The Bad Guys are increasingly sophisticated
 - And difficult to understand
 - Have ready access to the data they need
 - “Tension” between open society and security

Threads

- Legal, regulatory issues a common concern
- The importance of cognitive perspective in MDA activities
 - Recognizing the threat
 - Recognizing your role in the larger process
- Need for better CONOPS
 - Interdisciplinary, coalition, interagency
 - Tend to be organizationally optimized
- Fragmentation
 - Resources
 - Rich agency, poor agency
 - Bureaucratic
 - No cross cutting organizational structure (i.e., NORAD)
 - Information
- Piracy a microcosm of larger MDA efforts

Deltas

- Finding common language, cultures, understandings
 - Affects information sharing
- No common architecture for MDA-related information, C²
- Assessing quality of information
 - ..and when we have what we need
- Gaps in the rings
- “Human element” needs more emphasis
 - HSI, cognitive, value of experience
- Boundaries between operational information and intelligence
 - Cross cueing ineffective but needs to be done rapidly
 - How do you aggregate random bits into intel?

Way Ahead

- More precise discussion of analytic techniques
 - How can OR can help with problems?
- OR can help with link between decision making and information
- Optimization could be useful in many MDA-related problems
 - Asset allocation
- Metrics for various MDA activities
- OR for MDA needs to focus on the operators
- Need “systems of systems” approach
 - “Elegant solution for the patch work”
 - How can analysis address this?
- Need standard data sets and data standards
 - Critical to analysis efforts

Exceedingly Clever Comments

- You can't aim a duck to death
- Best intentions do not trump legislation
- Everyone will sign up to changing laws, but no one wants to change
- Fragmented governance
- MDA isn't an "it," it's a "process"
- Bad robots are coming!
- It's not just about information - both bits and bangs are needed

Discussions and questions

Back-ups

Some thoughts on individual WGs

Just to get the juices flowing

WG1-Policy and Laws

- How can OR help in MDA policy evaluations?
 - OR techniques in policy analysis?
- How are non-military MDA participants using OR?
 - Police, commerce, fisheries, etc.
- Data issues cited in TOR
 - Addressed?

WG2 - Blue Water MDA

- Persistence of ISR in deep waters
 - Is it?
- Best practices discussion
 - Looks interesting
 - Go beyond blue water?
- Lots on tools and techniques

WG3 - International MDA

- Problems of the boundaries
 - International and region waters related issues
- Persistence of ISR in deep waters (again!)
 - Is it?
- Discussion of missions
 - Looks interesting

WG4 - National Waters MDA

- Problems of the boundaries (again!)
 - International and region waters related issues
- Environmental issues and OR
 - Hot and timely topic
 - How can military OR help?
- Coalition and multinational stressed
 - Lessons for OR?

WG5 - Piracy

- “Social Science” OR
 - Been a hot topic lately
 - Can we learn anything about the needed techniques from the WG 5 deliberations?
- Strong international flavor
- Modeling piracy could be a real challenge