Info Power News replaces IPOWER News

Starting in 2019, this newsletter will now be titled Info Power News.

Remarks by Vice President Pence on the Administration’s Policy Toward China (Vice President Pence, 4 Oct 18)

“...But I come before you today because the American people deserve to know that, as we speak, Beijing is employing a whole-of-government approach, using political, economic, and military tools, as well as propaganda, to advance its influence and benefit its interests in the United States.

China is also applying this power in more proactive ways than ever before, to exert influence and interfere in the domestic policy and politics of this country...”

Information Joint Function Training

The JIOWC Enterprise Operations Division recently released the first of three training packages that will address the Information Joint Function. The initial package is a pre-doctrinal basic familiarization for the joint function, providing some initial information to the Joint Force while doctrine is developing. The second package, projected for release in February 2019 and third package scheduled for release in the summer of 2019. The familiarization training can be found at: Information Joint Function Familiarization - 25 Sep 2018. (CAC Required). If you cannot access the training and have not received it already, contact one of the Info Power News POCs for a copy.

MARINE CORPS BULLETIN 5400 – Establishment of Information as the Seventh Marine Corps Warfighting Function

"The Marine Corps issued MCBUL 5400 announcing the Commandant’s approval of Information as the seventh Marine Corps Warfighting function. This joins the already other established warfighting functions of command and control, fires, force protection, intelligence, logistics, and maneuver. This aligns with joint doctrine. The MCBUL notes that Marine Corps doctrinal publications will now be updated to incorporate the Information function and the lexicon will be incorporated into formal school programs of instruction."

“How the Joint Staff’s cyber role has changed" (Fifth Domain, Mark Pomerleau, 12 Dec 18)

““We need to increasingly treat Cyber Command as a high-demand, low-density resource where we have to acknowledge there’s not enough capacity to do everything we want,” Adm. Michael Rogers told the Senate Armed Services Committee in February.

“We need a prioritization, a risk-based model about how we’re going to allocate our capabilities and we’ve got to continually reassess this just like we do with ballistic missile defense, with ISR, with SOF force, we shouldn’t be viewed any differently.””
“Sen. Warner Warns China, Russia are Accelerating Cyber, Disinformation Capabilities” (USNI News, John Grady, 10 Dec 18)
“WASHINGTON, D.C. - The vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence gave a sobering assessment of the expanding ability of Russia and China to interfere with U.S. institutions through cyber and disinformation campaigns.”

Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.) said the General Accountability Office “found almost all our new weapons systems are vulnerable” to cyber attacks, he said in a Friday speech at the Center for a New American Security.”

“The new way the Army will conduct information operations” (Fifth Domain, Justin Lynch, 19 Nov 18)
“A new guide from the U.S. Army tells soldiers thinking about information warfare missions to consider a simple task: build a street map. Such a map should include details about if a United Nations representative is nearby, whether a natural disaster took place and what kind of graffiti covers the walls. Layered with different attributes, events and details about communications, the map could provide a clear picture of which messages may work in specific locations.”

“It’s a new era for cyber operations, but questions remain” (Fifth Domain, Mark Pomerleau, 28 Sep 18)
“U.S. officials are lauding new offensive cyber authorities provided by the executive branch and Congress that allow for quicker decisions on whether to make a cyberattack. The Trump administration replaced an Obama administration policy, known as Presidential Policy Directive 20, with a new policy known as National Security Presidential Memorandum (NSPM) 13. The new policy allows the president to delegate certain cyber authorities to the secretary of defense for particular missions.”

“Shanahan: cybersecurity will become new measure for industry” (Fifth Domain, Aaron Mehta, 19 Sep 18)
“NATIONAL HARBOR, Md. – The Pentagon is preparing to press the defense industry to increase its cyber security, with Deputy Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan saying it will become a key measurement for how industry is judged by the department. “This is a public service announcement for those of you from industry, especially for those of you that are in the, I'll call it, higher tiers,” Shanahan told an audience at the annual Air Force Association conference Wednesday.”

“Putin developing fake videos to foment 2020 election chaos: 'It's going to destroy lives'” (The Washington Times, Ben Wolfgang, 2 Dec 18)
“AUSTIN, Texas — U.S. leaders say Vladimir Putin used a familiar cyber playbook to “muck around” in the midterm elections last month, but intelligence officials and key lawmakers believe a much more sinister, potentially devastating threat lies just down the road — one that represents an attack on reality itself. Policy insiders and senators of both parties believe the Russian president or other actors hostile to the U.S. will rely on “deep fakes” to throw the 2020 presidential election cycle into chaos, taking their campaign to influence American voters and destabilize society to a new level.”

“Dictionary.com’s 2018 Word Of The Year Is…Misinformation” (Dictionary.com, 30 Nov 18)
“The meaning of misinformation is often conflated with that of disinformation. However, the two are not interchangeable. Disinformation means “deliberately misleading or biased information; manipulated narrative or facts; propaganda.” So, the difference between misinformation and disinformation comes down to intent.”
“Marines looking to integrate new information capabilities” (C4ISRNET, Mark Pomerleau, 11 Dec 18)

“The Marine Corps has famously claimed that every Marine is a rifleman, but the Corps has moved 1,000 personnel in the last two years to focus on cyber, electronic warfare, signals intelligence and information operations. These moves have come at the cost of infantry, “a pretty big cost to go pay for the Marine Corps,” Kenneth Bible, deputy director of the C4 directorate and deputy chief information officer, said Dec. 6 at the Charleston Defense Contractors Association Defense Summit. “The commandant really had to go think about taking that out of the structure to create these [units] across the Marine Corps.””

“The Marines’ new ‘blueprint’ for information capabilities” (C4ISRNET, Mark Pomerleau, 25 Dec 18)

“The Marine Corps is drafting a plan to inform how it designs capabilities for its nascent information forces. Among the three priorities for the Deputy Commandant for Information, stood up in 2017, is using the new Marine Expeditionary Force Information Groups, or MIGs. These teams will work on all information-related capabilities, providing commanders a clearinghouse of options including cyber, intelligence, electronic warfare and information operations.”

“Project Troy: How Scientists Helped Refine Cold War Psychological Warfare” (The Atlantic, Audra Wolfe, 1 Dec 18)

“The phrase Cold War didn’t always refer to a time period. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, the very years that the battle lines between the United States and the Soviet Union were being drawn, U.S. foreign-policy strategists used the phrase to invoke a specific kind of conflict, one carried out by “means short of war.” If, as NSC-68, a key document of U.S. strategy, asserted in 1950, the United States and the Soviet Union were locked in an ideological clash of civilizations, a battle between “slavery” and “freedom,” a victory by force would be hollow. If the United States wanted to defeat communism, it needed to do so “by the strategy of cold war,” combining political, economic, and psychological techniques.”

JIOWC Force Development Training Intelinok webpage

JIOWC has created several short, computer-based training modules including: Assessment Primer, IOII for the IO Planner, MILDEC refresher, IO in the Joint Planning Process, Threats in the IE, and Information Joint Function Basic Familiarization. These modules can be reached via the hyperlink embedded in this item’s title.

Info Power News:

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