



INFORMATION-RELATED CAPABILITIES: MILITARY INFORMATION SUPPORT OPERATIONS (MISO)

Last Updated: 28 April 2016

[Military information support operations](#) (MISO) are defined as “planned operations to convey selected information and indicators to foreign audiences to influence their emotions, motives, objective reasoning, and ultimately the behavior of foreign governments, organizations, groups, and individuals in a manner favorable to the originator’s objectives.”¹ MISO may attempt to either induce change in foreign attitudes and behavior or reinforce existing attitudes and behavior. MISO at the combatant command level usually resides in the combatant commander’s (CCDR) J39 directorate or in a military information support task force (MISTF), which includes a MISO planner as a member of the [joint IO cell](#) or [joint IO staff](#).

The final approving authority for themes normally resides at the national level but is usually delegated to a geographic CCDR or joint task force commander during times of crisis. At the Air Force component level, MISO planners may be part of the joint force air component commander (JFACC’s) IO team, or may be retained as part of the commander, Air Force forces’ (COMAFFOR’s) staff. It is essential for the MISO planner to represent COMAFFOR/JFACC requirements to MISTF for integration into the joint force commander’s overall plan. Additionally, MISO planners should closely coordinate with [military deception](#), operations security, [public affairs](#), and other [information-related capability](#) leads to ensure the integrity and consistency of themes, messages, images, and actions.

¹ JP 3-13.2, [Military Information Support Operations](#).



Capt. Abraham Alvarenga of the 102nd Group Support Battalion, 71st Theater Information Group assigned to Task Force Larimar, visits the Dominican Republic's Barahona province, May 7, 2014. The Military Information Support Operations group interviewed members of the community regarding the general and specialized medical services they received at no cost during the annual bilateral humanitarian exercise known as Beyond the Horizon. Such face-to-face communications are critical to MISO's mission today.
