Global integrated intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) homeland operations are distinguished from other global integrated ISR operations in that specific legal authorities/restrictions are involved that limit the role of the military and intelligence personnel. Examples of these legal restrictions include Executive Order (EO) 12333 (Intelligence Oversight), Title 10, Title 32, Title 50 authorities, and the Posse Comitatus Act of 1878.

Air Force global integrated ISR operations are capable of confronting the external threat as well as assist with domestic operations (or Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA)) but must do so through a clear delineation of responsibility and authority. Air National Guard (ANG) units with ISR capabilities can, with proper authorization and while in the proper status (Title 32, USC), support DSCA operations.

Incident Awareness and Assessments (IAA) is similar to ISR. ISR is conducted outside the United States over foreign territory or within the United States during homeland defense events, while IAA is conducted within the United States for civil support operations. DODIAA operations focus on providing timely and usable information to all levels of command and to local, tribal, state, and federal leaders in order to save lives, reduce human suffering, and protect property. DOD policy restrictions may require seeking DOD approval before using unmanned aerial systems (UAS) for IAA. Before using a UAS for IAA, commanders need to abide by all applicable policy restrictions.

Legal Authorities for Homeland Operations

Natural or man-made disasters and special events can temporarily overwhelm local, tribal, state, and non-military federal responders. The DOD has a long history of supporting civil authorities in the wake of catastrophic events. Legal authorities for such operations are described in Air Force Doctrine Annex 3-27, Homeland Operations. The parameters under which DOD operates are different in the US than they are overseas. Military commanders’ requirement for accurate intelligence demands that force protection information and counterintelligence are integrated into domestic support operations. These expectations pose unique issues in the information and intelligence gathering arena. DOD intelligence components are subject to one set of rules referred to as intelligence oversight (EO 12333). DOD personnel not in a position to collect intelligence are subject to a different set of rules governed by DODD 5200.27, Acquisition of Information Concerning Persons and Organizations Not Affiliated with the
Department of Defense. Therefore, the commander should direct his need for information or intelligence to the right component—the component with the capability and authority to achieve the commander’s intent. For additional information on Homeland operations refer to Annex 3-27, Homeland Operations.

COUNTERDRUG OPERATIONS

Air Force global integrated ISR support to counterdrug operations are planned, coordinated, and controlled through joint interagency task forces (JIATFs) and JTFs. US Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM), US Pacific Command (USPACOM), and US Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) oversee regional JIATFs and JTFs for counterdrug operations within their respective AORs. Intelligence directorates within each JIATF and JTF are the focal points for tactical and operational intelligence support for DOD agencies.

The global integrated ISR support activities linked with counterdrug operations are Counterdrug Intelligence Preparation for Operations (CDIPO) and detection and monitoring (D&M). CDIPO identifies likely trafficking routes and recommends the efficient allocation of scarce resources to locate, track, and apprehend drug traffickers.

D&M is an important part of the overall drug interdiction process. The goal of D&M is to provide early notification to DOD agencies and enable them to conduct interdictions and searches for contraband. See figure on DOD Assets used for detection and monitoring.