ANNEX 3-60 TARGETING

BASIC ENCYCLOPEDIA NUMBER (BEN) AND DPI STANDARDIZATION

Last Reviewed: 14 Feb 2017

Entity, or target, identifiers are a unique alphanumeric convention that can be assigned to a range of entities, including facilities, individuals, equipment, organizations, and virtual. One example of an identity identifier target ID is the widely recognized BEN system. All involved targeteers should understand an operation's theater BEN plan. While many targets already have unique entity identification assigned, many identified during combat do not. Without an established plan for assigning BENs, components may take it upon themselves to assign them, creating the potential for confusion and incompatibility with targeting automation and databases. Confusion can adversely affect the battle rhythm, or worse, result in targeting errors. Ensuring standardized joint desired point of impact (JDPI) numbering is also important, especially given that the majority of JDPI production will be tasked to multiple supporting organizations. A theater DPI registry may ensure standardization of DPIs and eliminate duplication and possible error.

The naming convention should address both static and mobile targets. It is usually not feasible to assign standard BENs to mobile targets including high-value targets. However, for proper data base management, such mobile targets still require some sort of identification. While the numbers may not be actual BENs, the theater should have procedures to identify the target that aligns with the naming convention within CJCSI 3370, Target Development Standards. Again, air operations center (AOC) planners should understand the naming convention of CJCSI 3370 and theater procedures to minimize targeting errors and the time needed for effective air planning.

Proper database management is necessary for effective targeting. Joint Targeting Toolbox (JTT) is the tool of record for the joint targeting community. However, there are still systems used in the field that are "stovepiped" and cannot talk to JTT or store data within MIDB. If support organizations lack appropriate interoperable systems and databases, it is the responsibility of the supported entity to work with the supporting entity and targeting and systems maintenance staffs to develop procedures (in peacetime) to overcome the difficulties associated with using systems that are not interoperable. There are many users of information in the AOC. Ideally, everyone should work from the same databases (i.e., data and imagery) to facilitate effective use of manpower and coordination.

Targeteers should coordinate with many different teams to ensure the flow and management of data and database information in the AOC is as seamless as possible.[18] Those with whom targeteers should coordinate include (but are not limited to):

* Analysis, Correlation, and Fusion Team (ACF Team). The ACF Team in the intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance division (ISRD) is responsible for updating enemy order of battle (EOB) databases. Targeteers should be able to pull from this database to ensure targeteers are using the most current EOB.

* ISR Operations Team. The ISR Ops Team in the ISRD is responsible for planning and coordinating intelligence-gathering missions by air component assets. They also have insight into intelligence-gathering platforms that the air component does not own, including spacecraft. Ensuring targeting and collection management databases are the same may reduce the time required to task collection assets to support targeting efforts, especially in the case of dynamic targeting.

* Targets and Tactical Assessment (TGT/TA). The TGT/TA team is comprised of two primary cells, the target development cell and the TA cell, which provide direct support and embedding of personnel to other AOC divisions to ensure continuity in the targeting effort. This team provides full-spectrum effects-based approach to operations (EBAO) based targeting development, solutions, and products/materials in support of the air tasking cycle. It is also responsible for assessing the immediate results and effects of capability employment during tactical operations. These assessments may lead to some type of follow-on action by friendly forces.

* Senior Intelligence Duty Officer (SIDO) Team. The ISR Team in the combat operations division (COD), led by (and sometimes consisting only of) the SIDO, provides intelligence support to ATO execution in the areas of analysis, collection management, targeting, and assessment. Access to the Joint Targeting Database (JTDB) within the MIDB enables the seamless targeting support when the ATO requires modification. This access is magnified when supporting dynamic targeting operations, especially those involving time sensitive targets (TST).

* Operational Assessment Team (OAT). The OAT in the SD is responsible for determining whether or not desired effects are being created and if those effects are leading to the attainment of COMAFFOR and JFC objectives. Since the JTDB within the MIDB is used by the OAT, specific targets can be tracked to specific effects and objectives.

* Strategy Plans Team. The strategy plans team in the strategy division is responsible for building the overall air component strategy and is responsible for producing the Joint Air Operations Plan (JAOP). This phase of planning may involve a need to access the JTBD within MIDB in order to support JAOP creation.

---

[18] See Air Force Instruction 13-1 AOC, Volume 3 "Operational Procedures-Air Operations Center (AOC)" for an expanded discussion on AOC divisions and teams.

- The Strategy Guidance Team. The strategy guidance team is responsible for the AOC's transition from operational-level to tactical-level planning and culminates in the air operations directive (AOD). The guidance provided is typically short-range; 24-hours to 10 days from execution. This team develops operational guidance, prioritizes operational and tactical objectives, and determines tactical allocation.

- Space Operations Specialty Team (SOST). The SOST consist of space operators assigned from multiple services to support theater operations. They are embedded into the Strategy, Plans, and Combat Operations Divisions to fulfill multiple roles to serve as theater advisors for space capabilities (national, military, civil, commercial, and foreign). (See Annex 3-0, *Operations and Planning*, and AFTTP 3-1.AOC, 30 March 2016, for more information.)

- Information Operations/Non-Kinetic Operations Team (IO/NKOT). The IO/NKOT provides the focal point for ensuring the synchronized planning, execution, and assessment of IO and nonlethal capabilities into the targeting cycle to create nonlethal effects. Its primary operations are electronic attack (EA), electronic warfare support (ES), space control, offensive cyberspace operations (OCO), and defensive cyberspace operations (DCO). Additionally, the IO/NKOT serves as the integration point employing information-related capabilities (IRC) via military support operations (MISO), operations security (OPSEC), and military deceptions (MILDEC). The IO/NKOT leads and develops IO and non-kinetic capability requirements as part of the effects-based approach to targeting for both preplanned situations via the ATO cycle and dynamic situations. (See Annex 3-0, *Operations and Planning*, Annex 3-12, *Cyberspace Operations*, Annex 3-13, *Information Operations*, Annex 3-14, *Space Operations*, Annex 3-51, *Electronic Warfare*, and AFTTP 3-1.AOC, 30 March 2016, for more information.)

In addition, targeteers should also coordinate with the following liaisons. Each liaison represents their component or agency, and provides critical communication to the targeting process. This communication includes the submission of targets for consideration, coordination of targeting information, coordination of targeting capabilities, targeting support, and many other functions. Please reference AF Doctrine Annex 3-0 for more information. The following list is not all inclusive:

- Battlefield Coordination Detachment (BCD). The BCD is the Army Forces (ARFOR) commander's liaison to the supporting air component commander's AOC. BCDs are assigned to Army service component commands of geographic combatant commands with duty at each numbered Air Force with a geographic AOC. The BCD expedites the exchange of information digitally and performs face-to-face coordination with elements in the AOC. (See Annex 3-03, *Counterland Ops*, and AFTTP 3-1.AOC, 30 March 2016, for more information.)

- Special Operations Liaison Element (SOLE). The SOLE is a joint element provided by the joint force special operations component commander (JFSOCC) or joint special operations task force (JSOTF) commander. SOLE personnel work with the various AOC functional areas to ensure that all SOF targets, SOF teams, and SOF

air taskings/missions are deconflicted, properly integrated, and coordinated during all planning and execution phases. (See Annex 3-0, *Operations and Planning*, Annex 3-05, *Special Operations*, and AFTTP 3-1.AOC, 30 March 2016, for more information.)

The main targeting database is the modernized integrated database (MIDB) with its associated data access layers, which can be accessed via the joint targeting toolbox (JTT) and command and control (C2) tools like the Theater Battle Management Core System (TBMCS). Problems with compatibility between different versions of MIDB within the AOC weapons system versus the MIDB installed at combatant commands and DIA has forced targeteers in some theaters to utilize workarounds in order to transfer data between systems. Specialized databases also exist with functional tools like Joint Capabilities Analysis and Assessment System and the Space Integrated Planning Service (SIPS). Given the potential for incompatibility and diverging information, a thorough understanding of the interoperability and processes to maintain synchronicity between databases and C2 tools is necessary for successful execution of operations.

Steps have been taken to prevent datum errors. CJCSI 3900.01D, *Position (Point and Area) Reference Procedures*, was produced to provide clear guidance on the use of both horizontal and vertical datums and standard coordinate and height formats for most operations. The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) produces all new maps with the WGS-84 datum and in joint operations users should now reference horizontal and vertical coordinates to this datum. GPS also broadcasts its coordinates in this same datum. However, some possibility for error still exists. NGA reproduces certain older maps that use a WGS-72 datum. Also, if one is forced to use local maps, different countries use different datums. Most of the time, utilizing datum conversion software can minimize the possibility for error. In any case, targeteers should understand the different datums used in their theater prior to hostilities so measures can be taken to ensure accurate coordinates are provided to warfighters.

Limiting the number of datums used in theater is the obvious solution. However, as this is not always possible, especially in coalition operations, targeteers should be aware of the different datum needs of all the capabilities that may be used in the operation.