Mission Command for Force 2025 and Beyond

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Mission Command

Unified Land Operations

How the Army seizes, retains, and exploits the initiative to gain and maintain a position of relative advantage in sustained land operations through simultaneous offensive, defensive, and stability operations in order to prevent or deter conflict, prevail in war, and create the conditions for favorable conflict resolution.

Nature of Operations

Military operations are human endeavors. They are contests of wills characterized by continuous and mutual adaptation by all participants. Army forces conduct operations in complex, ever-changing, and uncertain operational environment.

Mission Command Philosophy

Exercise of authority and direction by the commander using mission orders to enable disciplined initiative within the commander’s intent to empower agile and adaptive leaders in the conduct of unified land operations.

Guided by the principles of...

- Build cohesive teams through mutual trust
- Create shared understanding
- Provide a clear commander’s intent
- Exercise disciplined initiative
- Use mission orders
- Accept prudent risk

The principles of mission command assist commanders and staff in balancing the art of command with the science of control.

Mission Command Warfighting Function

The related tasks and systems that develop and integrate those activities enabling a commander to balance the art of command and the science of control in order to integrate the other warfighting functions.

A series of mutually supporting tasks...

Commander Tasks:
- Drive the operations process through the activities of understand, visualize, describe, direct, lead and assess
- Develop teams, both within their own organizations and with unified action partners
- Inform and influence audiences, inside and outside their organizations
- Conduct military deception
- Conduct civil affairs operations

Staff Tasks:
- Conduct the operations process (plan, prepare, execute, assess)
- Conduct knowledge management and information management
- Synchronize information-related capabilities
- Conduct cyber electromagnetic activities

Leads

Supports

Additional Tasks:
- Conduct airspace control
- Install, operate, and maintain the network
- Conduct information protection

Enabled by a system...

- Personnel
- Information Systems
- Facilities and Equipment
- Networks
- Processes and Procedures

Mission Command System:

Together the mission command philosophy and warfighting function guide, integrate, and synchronize Army forces throughout the conduct of unified land operations.
The Future Army’s Emerging Path Forward

Deep Future (Could Do + Should Do)
- Revolutionary, concept-based, technology informed investments to build an Army that is...
- Significantly improved, organized, and enabled to conduct expeditionary maneuver with operationally significant forces able to respond and influence events at speed
- Leverages new operational concepts, technologies, and force designs to get the most force at the least cost in terms of money and manpower, balancing if not inverting the tooth-to-tail
- Focus is on new technologies, operational concepts, processes, and force design improvements that allow us to innovate as well as guide Force 2025

Force 2025 (Can Do + Should Do = Must Do)
- Focused investment, informed by concepts and technology, to...
- Implement key changes to become leaner, more lethal, expeditionary, and agile, with greater capability to conduct decentralized, distributed, & integrated operations
- Focus on decisions and priorities regarding current technology that allows us to maintain overmatch, while driving critical capability and technology development needed for the future

Army 2020
- Reinvesting in modernization, with selected improvements to...
- Rebuild readiness and produce a more globally responsive and capable, and leaner Army, with an improved, resilient network
- Leverage leader development, human performance and professionalism
- Focus on executing decisions already made, capturing lessons learned, and setting conditions for the future

Army 2014
- Taking risk in modernization, focusing on Intellectual and organizational change...
- Reorganize the Army and develop an expeditionary mindset to be more responsive
- Reorganize bureaucracy and processes to simultaneously adapt and innovate to maintain the Army’s position of relative advantage and set conditions for the future

Victory Starts Here!
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