GLOBAL INTEGRATED ISR

Last Updated: 19 June 2012

Global integrated intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) operations are conducted in, from, and through all domains, across the range of military operations (ROMO), in all phases of operations, and in complex uncontested, contested, and denied operating environments. Space-based sensors perform ISR operations that can contribute to battlespace awareness in all domains. ISR operations focused on the space domain were addressed in the preceding section on space situational awareness (SSA). This section discusses ISR operations conducted *from* space. ISR from space can be categorized as ISR operations in the space domain that support military operations in other domains. Space operations units typically operate military and national-level assets, including satellite payloads, ground-based radars, and other sensors which collect information to support strategic-, operational-, and tactical-level decision making. Forward units can access this data through tools and distributed operations.

Global integrated ISR is defined as cross-domain synchronization and integration of the planning and operation of ISR assets; sensors; processing, exploitation and dissemination systems; and, analysis and production capabilities across the globe to enable current and future operations.[1] ISR consists of separate elements but requires treatment as an integrated whole in order to be optimized. Whether space operations differ from air operations, the Air Force conducts global integrated ISR operations through the same five-phase process: planning and direction; collection; processing and exploitation; analysis and production; and dissemination.[2]

With proper planning and direction, ISR information can be collected, processed, exploited, analyzed, produced, and disseminated on such diverse subjects as indications and warnings (I&W) (to include ballistic missile attack), targeting analysis, friendly and adversary courses of action (COA) development, adversary capability assessment, battle damage assessment, or battlespace characterization. Types of data and information collected from space can include signals intelligence and full spectrum geospatial intelligence. The ability to dynamically re-task sensor coverage and integrate all-source ISR information is a force multiplier for military operations. Information collected from space-based sensors can be used by the space operations community, but it must also be made available to the entire ISR enterprise.

[1] Annex 2-0, *Global Integrated ISR Operations* per Core Function Master Plan for Global Integrated ISR, dated Aug 2010.
[2] Annex 2-0, *Global Integrated ISR Operations*.

For theater commands, embedded collection managers funnel intelligence collection requirements to a corresponding AOC for sensor tasking and collection. Collection requirements management (CRM) is the synchronization of timing of sensor collection with the operational scheme of maneuver and specifies what intelligence to collect. Intelligence analysts drive this process by providing theater collection managers with detailed intelligence requirements which are translated into intelligence tasking for collection assets. Collection operations management (COM) specifies how to satisfy the intelligence requirement and involves mission planning functions for sensors which the joint force commander (JFC) has operational control (OPCON). In theater commands, both CRM and COM functions typically reside at the corresponding AOCs for theater-assigned ISR assets. OPCON of military space-based ISR sensors belongs to USSTRATCOM, and the data from these sensors may service multiple theaters simultaneously. However, the concepts of COM and CRM also apply to space-based ISR sensor collection planning. The term requirements manager is used to identify those engaged in receiving, integrating, and processing requests for intelligence information and tasking and levying intelligence needs on organic, theater, and national collection systems.

Collection requirement management is primarily an intelligence staff function accomplished in conjunction with an all-source intelligence production organization. The CRM function begins with the collection plan and continues through the following tasks: (1) receipt and analysis of requirements; (2) determination of asset/resource availability and capability; (3) resource tasking or requests to task; (4) evaluation of reporting and user satisfaction; and (5) update of the collection plan.

Collection operations management is an intelligence staff function based on collection tasking and mission guidance developed in support of information requirements. The COM function relies heavily on supporting organizations that own and operate collection and exploitation assets or resources. The following tasks are associated with the function: (1) planning, scheduling, and control of collection operations; (2) execution of collection operations; and (3) exploitation and dissemination of results.

COCOM of military space-based ISR sensors belongs to USSTRATCOM, and the data from these sensors may service multiple theaters simultaneously. However, the concepts of COM and CRM also apply to space-based ISR sensor collection planning. The Defense Intelligence Agency is the defense collection manager and exercises collection management authority. TACON of some space-based ISR assets may be assigned to theater commanders. Translation of intelligence tasking to mission planning functions will still be accomplished by the units assigned to JFCC SPACE.

As with nationally-operated space-based ISR assets, juggling multiple theater intelligence tasking requests for military-operated space-based ISR assets is complex. Determining which intelligence needs are satisfied requires careful management using commonly understood ISR prioritization schemas. These prioritization schemas are intelligence discipline-specific within the entire intelligence community ensuring intelligence collection unity of effort. In general, space-based ISR sensor planning and

collection architectures now strive to use integrated, common ISR processes to ensure enterprise-level unity of effort.