

Information Operations Key Terms

Here are some key terms to keep in mind as we go through this unit. Some of these terms are applicable in understanding IO but are necessarily applicable to the PA role in IO.

-- **Computer Network Attack** - operations to disrupt, deny, degrade, or destroy information resident in computers and computer networks or computers and networks themselves.

-- **Information Assurance** - Information Operations that protect and defend information systems by ensuring their availability, integrity, authentication, confidentiality, and nonrepudiation. This includes restoration systems by incorporating protection, detection, and reaction capabilities.

-- **Information-based processes** - Processes that collect, analyze, and disseminate information using medium or form. EX: Strategic Recon assets.

-- **Information Environment** - The aggregate of individuals, organizations, or systems that collect, process, or disseminate information, including the information itself.

-- **Information Superiority** - The capability to collect, process, and disseminate an uninterrupted flow of information while exploiting or denying an adversary's ability to do the same.

-- **Information System** - The entire infrastructure, organization, personnel, and components that collect, process, store, transmit, display, disseminate, and act on information.

-- **Information Warfare** - Information operations conducted during a time of crisis or conflict to achieve or promote specific objectives over a specific adversary or adversaries.

-- **Special Information Operations** - Information operations that, by their sensitive nature and due to their potential effect or impact, security requirements, or risk to national security of the US require special review and approval process.