
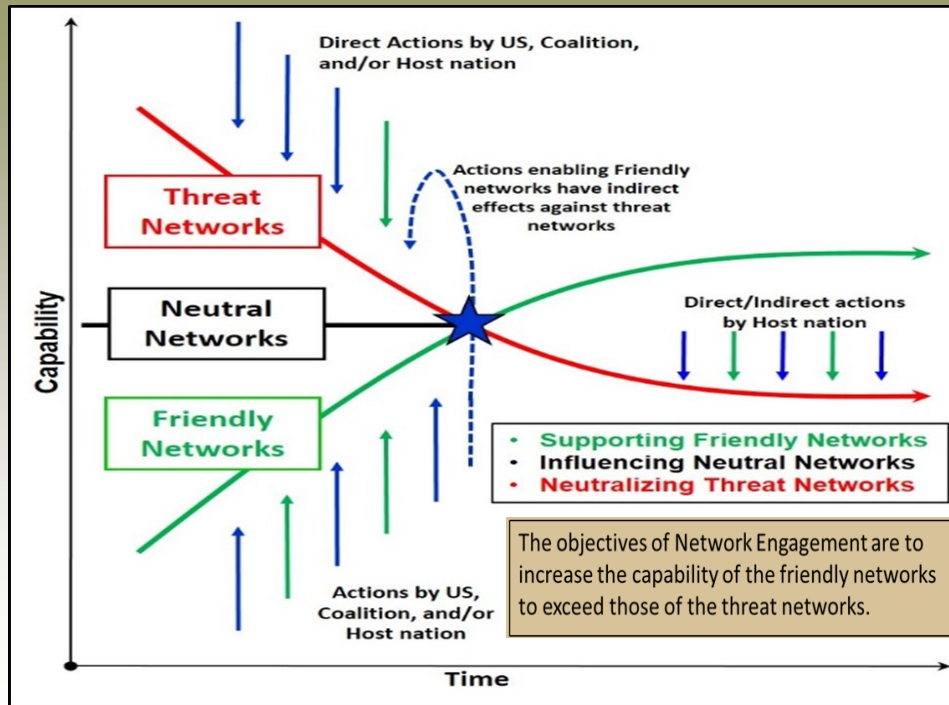


Attack the Network/ Network Engagement (AtN/NE) Pocket Guide

MCoE C-IED Integration Office, Fort Benning, GA 31905 OCT 2015

What is AtN/NE?

SUPPORT: Actions that support groups, individuals, a network or node of a network are intended to establish, reinforce, or set the conditions necessary for host nation (HN) or civil authorities to function effectively, add capability and increase in capacity.

INFLUENCE: The goal of influencing networks is to change or maintain perceptions, attitudes, and behavior of audiences to support the achievement of U.S., and HN objectives.

NEUTRALIZE: Neutralize is a tactical mission task that results in rendering enemy personnel or material incapable of interfering with a particular operation.

Description

Networks consist of three categories: friendly, neutral, and threat. There are many networks in each of these categories at any given time. At the tactical level, commanders should focus on those networks in their AO. Operational and strategic commanders focus on those networks that operate external to and within multiple brigade combat team areas of responsibility. However, these networks may impact and influence networks that are within the tactical commander's area of responsibility.

Types of Networks

FRIENDLY NETWORKS
 HN security forces
 Government officials
 Supportive business leaders
 Social leaders
 Village or tribal elders
 Active supporters (ethnic, religious, tribal, or regional affiliation elements)

NEUTRAL NETWORKS
 Village or tribal elders.
 Business leaders
 Social leaders
 Passive elements (ethnic, religious, tribal, and regional affiliations)

THREAT NETWORKS
 Regular or recognized military forces
 Village or tribal elders
 Irregular or insurgent (terrorist and guerrilla) forces
 Hybrid threats (such as insurgents working in conjunction with criminal organizations)
 Threat network facilitators (logisticians, financiers, recruiters)

References

ATP 3-90.37, Countering Improvised Explosive Devices, July 2014

ATP 5-0.6 Network Engagement

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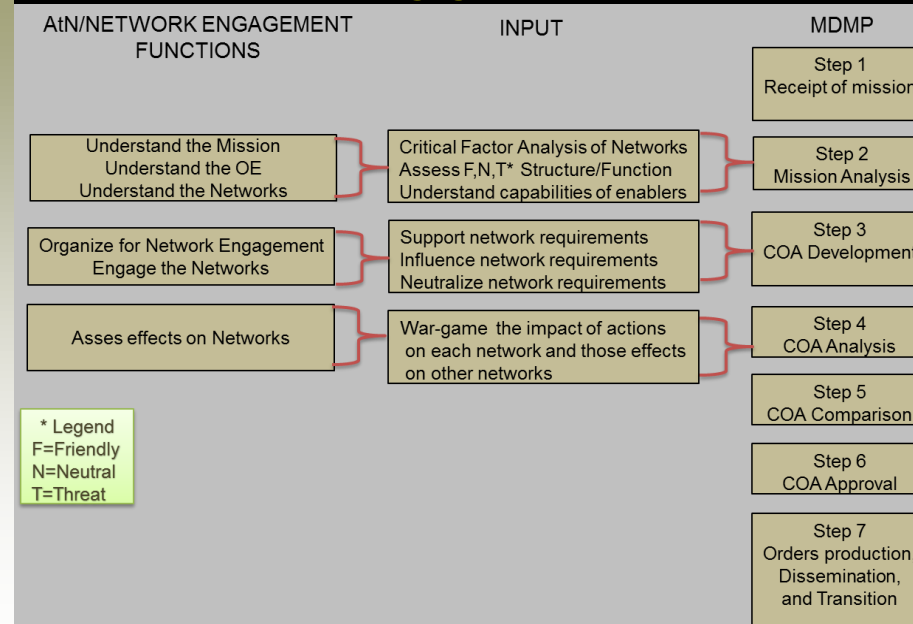
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https://atn.army.mil/dsp_template.aspx?dpID=243

Understand the Mission

Within the context of AtN, commanders and staffs need to plan on long-duration security. Additionally, commanders and staffs need to understand how to effectively interact with friendly networks, influence neutral networks, and engage threat networks to build situational understanding.

AtN/Network Engagement within MDMP



Frame the Operational Environment

Effective and ongoing operational environment analysis is part of mission analysis and helps identify specific features of the environment supporting the growth and sustainment of networks. During the IPB process, the intelligence staff identifies characteristics of enemy, terrain and weather, and civil considerations that are relevant to the mission.

SUPPORT



INFLUENCE



NEUTRALIZE

Understand the Networks

Understanding friendly, neutral, or threat networks begins with a basic appreciation of the nature of adaptive networks and their structure, characteristics, dynamics, and purpose. Commanders achieve a common understanding and a common operational picture through an analysis of the human networks within the AO.

Organize for the Fight

Commanders organize for the fight by identifying, organizing, and directing complementary effects of combined arms and joint capabilities in the planning and execution of AtN activities. These actions include coordinating and synchronizing.

Interact with and Engage the Networks

Interacting with and engaging networks require the use of lethal and nonlethal means to support, influence, or neutralize network members, cells, or the entire network. As part of this effort, commanders select, prioritize, and match effective means of interacting with friendly networks, influencing the neutral network, and neutralizing threat networks.

Assess the Effort

Assessment occurs throughout the AtN operations process. The assessment process is continual and is directly tied to the commander's decisions throughout the planning, preparation, and execution of operations. Commanders and staffs determine the conditions required and the desired effects to measure the success of AtN activities and refine subsequent missions.