

Communications-Computer Systems

ENVIRONMENTAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT

This regulation establishes policy and procedures by which the Air Force and the Navy will jointly collect and distribute environmental data to support the missions of the Air Weather Service (AWS) and the Naval Oceanography Command (NAVOCEANCOM). It applies to all Air Force activities (including US Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard (ANG) units and members) and Navy activities involved in acquiring and disseminating environmental data.

Within the Air Force, this regulation is prescribed by AFR 700-12, Developing and Processing Communications-Computer Systems Publications. Send recommended changes to the Air Force Communications-Computer Systems Doctrine Office (AFCSDO) (AFCSDO, Keesler AFB MS 39534-6340). Direct minor inquiries to AFCSDO by telephone (AUTOVON 868-3410). Major command (MAJCOM) supplements to this regulation will be processed per AFR 700-12.

Within the Navy, send recommended changes to the Commander, Naval Oceanography Command (COMNAVOCEANCOM).

1. Terms Defined:

a. Telecommunications. Any transmission, emission, or reception of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, or information of any nature, by wire, radio, visual, or other electromagnetic systems. (JCS Pub 1)

b. Global Weather Intercept Program (GWIP). The GWIP is a joint Air Force and Navy effort to collect environmental data from foreign sources when the required data is not available through other sources or when the available data is not timely for Department of Defense (DOD) purposes. Data collected through the GWIP supports overall DOD air, land, and sea operations and DOD 1-1, Special Strategic Programs.

2. General:

a. Environmental forecasting support is required by virtually every echelon of command and organization in DOD. Within DOD, two principal activities are responsible for providing this support.

(1) The Air Force Air Weather Service (AWS), operating under the Military Airlift Command (MAC), provides support to the Air Force, Army, and other activities as directed by the Air Force Chief of Staff.

(2) The Commander, Naval Oceanography Command (COMNAVOCEANCOM), provides meteorological and oceanographic support to Navy and Marine Corps activities.

b. Weather data is required from sources throughout the world. This continuously updated data is analyzed and used to develop worldwide weather forecasts. The expeditious

collection, processing, and distribution of this data are prerequisites for effective and timely environmental support for global military operations. This environmental support is a critical factor in decisions concerning direct mission application, execution, and command and control. The major sources of data are:

(1) The interception of weather data transmissions originated by member and nonmember countries of the World Meteorological Organization through the GWIP.

(2) Interconnection with United States national meteorological telecommunications systems.

(3) Interconnection with foreign meteorological telecommunications systems.

(4) The environmental reports originated by DOD activities throughout the world.

(5) Environmental satellites. (Acquisition and dissemination of this type data are covered in other interservice agreements.)

c. To collect and distribute environmental data throughout the world expeditiously, the Air Force operates and maintains the Automated Weather Network (AWN), and the Navy operates and maintains the Navy Environmental Data Network (NEDN). The AWN is a DOD-approved global system for the exchange of environmental data. The NEDN is a DOD-approved system for the transmission of oceanographic and other maritime-oriented environmental products.

3. Policy. The Air Force and Navy use computers and automated data processing techniques to collect, edit, process, and disseminate basic environmental data to operational forces and other military activities. Because so many of these functions are complementary, it is Air Force and Navy policy to use supporting Air Force and Navy environmental resources, where appropriate, to the mutual benefit of both services to achieve an integrated, economical, and effective DOD data collection, processing, and distribution system.

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(See signature page for summary of changes.)

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4. Responsibilities:

a. Air Force. Within the Air Force, AWS is responsible for providing environmental forecasting support, and the Air Force Communications Command (AFCC) is responsible for providing the necessary telecommunications systems to meet the AWS mission.

(1) AWS acquires and operates information processing centers designed specifically to process environmental data. Examples include the Air Force Global Weather Central and the Environmental Technical Applications Center. AWS also acquires and operates some environmental telecommunications systems and other terminals at forecasting locations, such as base weather stations and theater forecasting units. AWS develops and determines Air Force requirements for environmental data and will:

(a) Assign liaison personnel to the Automated Weather Network Management Center (AWNMC) to assist in managing and processing Air Force environmental data requirements. This assistance includes determining, identifying, assigning, and scheduling environmental data to be collected through the GWIP and other sources.

(b) Designate a single point of contact at HQ AWS to be responsible for Air Force matters concerning environmental data and environmental data information processing centers. Identify the point of contact to AFCC and the Navy.

(2) AFCC is designated as the Air Force standard communications-computer systems manager for all communications-computer systems concerned with environmental telecommunications support and will:

(a) Operate an AWNMC to be responsible for coordinating the interception, collection, and dissemination of environmental information between the Air Force and the Navy.

(b) Manage the GWIP.

(c) Designate a single point of contact at HQ AFCC to be responsible for Air Force environmental communications-computer systems telecommunications matters. Identify the point of contact to AWS and the Navy.

(d) Acquire, operate, and maintain communications-computer systems equipment (including weather intercept facilities) necessary to fulfill Air Force weather intercept and relay tasks. This includes contractor-operated and -maintained weather intercept facilities and contractor-provided data services when the required data is not available from sources identified in paragraph 2b.

(e) Acquire, operate, and maintain AWN communications-computer systems telecommunications facilities, equipment, and circuits for the Air Force to deliver environmental data to, and receive required data from, AWS environmental information processing centers. This includes automated and manual weather relay facilities of the AWN. Examples are Automated Digital Weather Switches and Weather Intercept Control Units.

(f) Develop, publish, and distribute procedures for Air Force and Navy activities operating terminations on the AWN.

(g) Coordinate, with the Navy focal point, actions affecting environmental telecommunications support to the

Navy prior to implementation.

(h) Distribute, according to Air Force and Navy requirements, environmental data made available to the Air Force.

b. Navy. COMNAVOCEANCOM is responsible for providing meteorological and oceanographic support to Navy and Marine Corps activities. The Commander, Naval Telecommunications Command (COMNAVTELCOM), is responsible for providing the necessary telecommunications systems to carry out COMNAVOCEANCOM missions.

(1) COMNAVOCEANCOM will:

(a) Designate a Navy single point of contact to be responsible for Navy environmental data and environmental telecommunications matters and identify the point of contact to AFCC and AWS. This point of contact will maintain close liaison with COMNAVTELCOM.

(b) Fully coordinate, with the Air Force focal points, actions affecting environmental telecommunications services to the Air Force prior to implementation.

(c) Acquire and operate, for the Navy, communications equipment and circuits necessary to deliver available environmental data to, and receive required data from, the AWN.

(d) Be responsive to Air Force direction for weather intercept facilities operated in support of the GWIP.

(e) Assign liaison personnel to the AWNMC to assist in managing and processing Navy environmental data requirements. This assistance includes determining, identifying, assigning, and scheduling environmental data to be collected through the GWIP and other sources.

(f) Distribute, according to Air Force and Navy requirements, environmental data made available to the Navy.

(2) COMNAVTELCOM will:

(a) Ensure adequate programming for telecommunications equipment as necessary to fulfill Navy intercept and relay tasks.

(b) Develop, publish, and distribute procedures for Navy and Air Force activities operating terminations from Navy telecommunications systems.

c. Joint. The Air Force and Navy will jointly:

(1) Plan, conduct, and evaluate ways to improve environmental telecommunications systems.

(2) Develop, maintain, and publish, through the AWNMC, a coordinated list of weather data broadcasts which provide required environmental data. AFCC will be responsible for publishing the list. This list primarily supports the interception of environmental data through the GWIP and secondarily supports Air Force tactical and Navy fleet intercepts. AWS and NAVOCEANCOM use this list as a basis for GWIP resource allocation to collect environmental data and eliminate duplication in data intercept. When existing resources are either inadequate or not available, the service originally generating the environmental data requirement will be responsible for obtaining the necessary resources to collect the data.

(3) Identify and coordinate foreign weather broadcasts

which provide required environmental data and, within authorized resources, assign specific targets to designated stations in the GWIP. The purpose of this coordination is to eliminate duplication of effort in weather intercept operations.

(4) Allocate resources dedicated to environmental data acquisition and dissemination. Resources committed to this effort will not be removed without prior coordination and concurrence of the two departments.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE AIR FORCE AND THE NAVY

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This revision corrects Navy office symbols; separates Air Force responsibilities of AFCC and AWS for clarity; separates Navy responsibilities of COMNAVTELCOM and COMNAVOCEANCOM; requires AFCC, AWS, and the Navy to designate single points of contact to be responsible for their respective areas of responsibility; and changes the publication from an Air Force 100-series communications-electronics regulation to an Air Force 700-series communications-computer systems regulation.

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