

Cyber defense generating doctrine changes

"We're focused on providing a professional team of elite, trusted, precise, disciplined cyber warriors who defend our networks, provide dominant effects in and through cyberspace, enable mission command, and ensure a decisive global advantage."

- LTG Rhett Hernandez

Commanding General of U.S. Army Cyber Command, 2nd Army
Army News Service, 26 July 2012

Over the past decade, the operational environment has changed dramatically and the LWN has become a critical part of that change. The Army depends on cyberspace operations, the GIG, and LWN NETOPS to defend our network. The defense of our network allows sustained operations in support of mission command to enable unified land operations. The DOD Strategy for Operating in Cyberspace established cyberspace as an operational domain which impacts Signal support to military commanders. As a relevant operational domain, cyberspace along with the GIG and LWN, must be defended.

The Signal Center of Excellence is developing FM 6-02, Signal Operations as the primary Signal doctrine reference. FM 6-02 will discuss how the Signal Regiment supports the Army's mission across the range of military operations. FM 6-02 will establish the Signal Regiment's roles and responsibilities of signal operations providing the essential capabilities that enable and support the Army's mission at all echelons. This includes the responsibility to defend our network within the cyberspace domain.

The DOD definition of cyberspace is "the global domain con-

sisting of interdependent networks of information technology infrastructures, and includes the Internet, telecommunications networks, computer systems, and embedded processors and controllers." The GIG, as the DOD part of cyberspace, links to national and global cyberspace and interacts with the national information infrastructure, and global information infrastructure respectively. The LWN is the Army's portion of the GIG.

FM 6-02 will discuss NETOPS which is defined as the activities conducted to operate and defend the GIG and LWN which contribute to the defense of cyberspace.

The Signal Regiment's core competencies define the Signal Regiment's distinct, unique, and valuable contribution in support of mission command to unified land operations. NETOPS is the Signal Regiment's core competency/critical task which supports defense of the LWN. The components of NETOPS are: enterprise management, network assurance, and content management.

Through the core competency of NETOPS, the signal regiment provides geographical combatant commanders the personnel and tools to collect, transport, process, protect, and disseminate information. The NETOPS and defense

capabilities provided by Signal Soldiers play a critical role in enabling combat successes and prevailing in the information war.

FM 6-02 will provide the tactics and procedures associated with NETOPS. FM 6-02 will also provide the doctrinal foundation for the overall guidance and direction pertaining to mission command of Army communications networks and information services across the range of military operations.

Future Signal Army Techniques Publications will provide greater detail regarding how the Signal Regiment will accomplish its mission. The Army Techniques Publications will expand upon the roles, responsibilities and support discussed within FM 6-02.

Questions, comments, and recommendations related to Signal Doctrine can be provided via e-mail at usarmy.gordon.sigcoe.mbx.gord-fg-doctrine@mail.mil.

ACRONYM QuickScan

DOD - Department of Defense
FM - Field Manual
GIG - Global Information Grid
LWN - LandWarNet
NETOPS - Network Operations