

National Defense University



Joint Force Leadership

Keystone 25-2 June 2025



Overview

Mission Command

Role of the CSEL

Best Practices



Mission Command

"Operating on intent through trust, empowerment, and understanding" - cucs

Definition

The conduct of military operations through decentralized execution based on mission-type orders

-Joint Pub 3-0

Attributes

- **√** Trust
- **✓**Intent
- ✓ Understanding

"Mission Command is essential at the operational and strategic level."

"Enables speed, agility, and decisiveness at the tactical level while providing the necessary decision space at the higher level for the up and out engagement to anticipate and set conditions."

-Senior FO/GO



- Emphasize/Reinforce Bond between JFC/CSEL
 - BFC/KLE
 - Battle Rhythm
 - Travel





- Codify CSEL role in Mission Command
 - Decision-Making Styles
 - Staff, Services, CCMDs, and FOAs





- Understand Complexity in CCMDs/JTFs
 - Command Messaging
 - Info Sharing









- Inform future JFCs on how to employ CSELs
 - Support to JTF HQs





Mission Command Role of the CSEL

- Help Set Conditions for Subordinates' Success
- Ensure Understanding of Mission/Intent
- Help Subordinates w/ Efforts in Line with CDR guidance
- Recommend When Needed on Resource Allocation

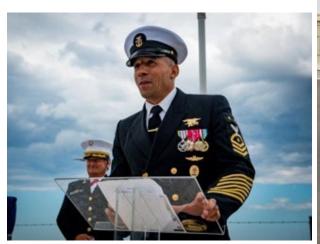






Mission Command Role of the CSEL

- Build Trust for Commander...Transparency
- Ensure Common Understanding throughout Subordinate Units and HQ Staff
- Foster Trust within the organization
- Always Answer the WHYs











Command Senior Enlisted Leader Best Practices

- You do NOT have a comfort zone
- Create other leaders through:
 - Empowerment
 - Inclusion
 - Transparency
 - Constructive Feedback
 - Trust

Don't be a Tourist. You Have a Job to do!





Command Senior Enlisted Leader Best Practices

- You must be well versed on DIMEFIL, PMESII, JIIM
- Understand the Joint Force and Global Integration
- Understand Partnerships and Collaboration
- Learn and Know Joint Doctrine
- Understand Foundational Documents
 - NSS, NDS, NMS
 - UCP, JSCP, GCP, OPLANS, CONPLANS
 - DPG, GFMAP, CRA



Questions

KEYSTONE 25-2

June 2025