

Hello. I am Lt Col Cody Chiles. This tutorial was generated to give you additional context to support Air Education and Training Command's Fall 2024 Gathering of the Torch Information Warfare session.

A scenario driven breakout session will be held at the end of the Information Warfare session. During the breakout session, you will play the leadership role as an Air Base Wing Command Team or Deployable Combat Wing Command Team. In response to the scenario, the Commander and Command Team will identify ways to apply Dr. Lowe's 7 Mindsets as a resource to inspire/identify courses of actions the Command Team should take to support wing and family readiness.

Scenario 1

DPRK Backs Russia's war against Ukraine. Luke and Holloman DCWs reinforce INDOPACOM and NATO forces (see slide 11 for visual depiction)

- North Korea sent their military to train with Russia.
- US and RoK intelligence indicate the North Korean forces will enter/support Russia's war against Ukraine.
- POTUS authorized a secret order for DCWs from Luke and Holloman to forward deploy to deter the DPRK from entering the war.
- You are notified those basic details about the secret deployment is leaked to the press by an unknown source.
- Local media capture the departure of the aircraft, but on scene PA reps get the media to agree to embargo the release of imagery until after the aircraft have safely arrived at their undisclosed locations.
- Social media is running rampant with misinformation about the whereabouts for the DCWs, and the level of threat they are under.
- Spouses are also fueling the sensationalism with frantic messages across social media platforms because "their spouse won't respond to their calls/texts and didn't tell them where they deployed to."

What actions will you take as the ABW Command Team responsible for supporting the Deployed Combat Wing and their families?

Think operationally – to support physical, operational and/or online security....

Think about down and in communications, up and out communications....

This is Scenario 2 for AETC's Fall 2024 Gathering of the Torch Information Warfare session.

In this scenario you will play a critical leadership role as the Air Base Wing Command Team responsible for supporting the families of a Deployed Combats Wing.

In this scenario, the year is 2027. The Deployable Combat Wing from you base is forward deployed to reinforce the US force posture in the Pacific, with the mission of deterring the Chinese Communist Party from using military force to overthrow the Taiwan's government.

Early on Sunday morning you receive media alerts with the headline - "Island Under Siege: U.S. Personnel Targeted in Surprise Attack by Chinese Forces"

- It is unknown if it was a planned strike or the result of a miscalculation between tactical forces deployed in the region.
- You are the home station Air Base Wing Command Team. You reported to the Emergency Operations Center at your home station, and just received confirmation the Deployable Combat Wing from your base was attacked.
- Shortly thereafter, Media embeds in Tinian reported there are an unknown number of casualties; however, major facilities housing U.S. forces were destroyed.
- The attack prompted immediate calls by elected officials for an immediate retaliatory response. President Trump authorized a U.S. Carrier Strike Group forward deployed to the Philippine Sea to execute a counterstrike on a Chinese aircraft carrier associated with attack; and it was subsequently destroyed.
- The international community is watching closely as tensions rise and senior defense officials attempt to deescalate the situation.
- The Dead, Injured and Mission count is still unknown after more than 48 hours, however, intel confirmed media reports are accurate and both US aircraft and personnel were the primary targets of the attack.
- Social media is rampant with calls for information, help and revenge.

What actions will you take as the ABW Command Team responsible for supporting the Deployed Combat Wing and their families?

Think operationally – are any actions required to support physical, operational and/or online security....

Think about down and in communications, up and out communications....

This is Scenario 3 for AETC Fall 2024 Gathering of the Torch Information Warfare session.

This scenario builds off of scenario 2. In scenario 3 the Chinese Communist Party ordered an offensive cyber-attack on the United States in response to the U.S. sinking the Chinese aircraft carrier.

Early on Sunday morning you wake up to find your power is out. You quickly browse through your phone and see you received media alerts with the headline - "Cyber Chaos: Power Grid Attacks Plunge U.S. Cities into Darkness Amid Rising China Conflict"

- Coordinated cyberattacks target major U.S. cities, causing widespread blackouts.
- Officials suspect Chinese interference with power as part of broader strategic operations.
- When you arrive in the EOC you learn whole of government efforts are already underway to restore order and prevent further disruptions.
- In the EOC you are also immediately briefed by Civil Engineering that the Base generators can only support mission essential operations. (The CDC, DFAC, Base housing, Commissary and BX power are all out)
- Again - You are operating in communication degraded environment due to the power outage. Only base facilities with backup generators have power. The status of off base infrastructure is still being assessed by the EOC staff.

What actions will you take as the ABW / supporting Command Team?

Think operationally – to support physical, operational and/or online security....

Think about down and in communications, up and out communications....

This is Scenario 4 for AETC Fall 2024 Gathering of the Torch Information Warfare session.

As our world continues to advance in technology, our ability to stay connected through numerous social media platforms has and will continue to be a vital means for leaders across our force to communicate with Airmen and their families.

Social media is a tremendous resource that can support communication with our Airmen and their families when used appropriately. Unfortunately, as you will hear

firsthand from Brig Gen Leard, the trend of social media scams using false identities continues to be a challenge for senior leaders across the Department of Defense.

This scenario places you in the center of one of those scams.

- In this scenario you are a Deployable Combat Wing Commander and Command Team currently in the “rest” phase of the deployment cycle. Your wing just returned from a deployment to an austere location the Pacific.
- On a Thursday evening your Dataminr account alerts you about a news story with your name in it.
- **The Headline reads – “Air Force Commander Impersonated Online: Dozens of Gen X Romance Seekers Swindled.” The story states your pictures and likeness were used to swindle dozens of people seeking true love.**
- You immediately text your Public Affairs officer, and they share a screen shot of a message they just received from a private citizen to inquire “if the Wing Commander made it back from his deployment okay, and to ask why he has not responded to their messages in the past week....?”
- Within 12 hours of the notification, the PA and Intel team discover your information and likeness online (from personal social sites and the PA managed web and social sites) were used to create fake profiles on Match.com, Tinder, Only Fans and Facebook.
- The next morning, a stream of posts and subsequent derogatory memes are also shared to the Airman/NCO/SNCO Facebook group.
- On Friday afternoon Air Force Times, Military.com, CNN, Xinhua and RT International news stations all contacted your PA office requesting in person, phone or email interviews to address the issues.

What actions will you take as the Command Team?

Think operationally – how will you counter the information in the fake profiles, how can you get the fake profiles removed, what will you do to protect your identity....

Think about down and in communications, and up and out communications.... who needs to know the fake profiles exist? How do you explain this to friends, family, professional colleagues, and the chain of command....do they even need to know....if so, when, why and how?

Thank you and good luck with the scenarios. We look forward to hearing how you and your Command Team will use Doctor Lowe's 7 Mindsets as a resource to inspire your courses of actions!