



Right Image

Right Place

Right Time

Fireworks explode behind the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Benfold (DDG65) in Yokosuka, Japan on Jan. 1, 2016. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Adrienne Powers)

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Calendar

Events, conferences, workshops, & professional development opportunities.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
11 MAR 2016	DINFOS Grand Opening of new wing	DINFOS, Fort Meade
22-23 MAR 2016	Joint Combat Camera Planning Group (JCCPG)	San Antonio, TX
11-15 APR 2016	Metadata Summit (at Fort Gordon)	Augusta, GA
19-22 APR 2016	Archive Conference at the National Archives	Washington, D.C.
26 APR 2016	Defense Visual Information Steering Committee (DVISC)	DMA, Fort Meade
19-22 MAY 2016	DC Video Shoot Off	Washington, D.C.
26 JUN - 2 JUL 2016	DoD Worldwide Military Photographer's Workshop	Anchorage, AK

Award Season

It's that time of year again...Award Season. When everyone starts gathering the remarkable imagery they've shot over the course of the past 365 days to compete against the best each Service has to offer. Below is a cheat sheet to help guide you through the different programs offered.



DINFOS oversees and administers the Communicators of Excellence (COE) Awards Program, an umbrella of various competition and awards programs designed to honor and recognize excellence and achievement in mass communications and media by military photographers, videographers, graphic artists, journalists, and production professionals.

VISUAL INFORMATION AWARDS PROGRAM (VIAP)

The Visual Information Awards Program is designed to recognize, reward, and promote excellence among military communicators, including photographers, videographers, journalists, mass communication specialists and graphic artists for their achievements in furthering the objectives of military photography, videography, and graphic arts as a command information and documentation media within the military. You can find the standard operating procedures here: <http://www.dinfos.dma.mil/Portals/66/Documents/About/Awards/VIAP%20SOP%202015.pdf>

THOMAS JEFFERSON (TJ) AWARDS

The Thomas Jefferson Awards Program is a competition for Department of Defense military and civilian, traditional (print), digital media, and broadcast journalism. The annual contest is sponsored by the Defense Media Activity (DMA) and the Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (OASD/PA) to stimulate and reward excellence and professionalism in DoD communications media. Prior to the annual Thomas Jefferson Awards competition, each Service judges its own entries and selects the best entry in each category to represent that service in the final inter-service competition. You can find the standard operating procedures here: http://www.dinfos.dma.mil/Portals/66/Documents/About/Awards/TJA/TJAwardsSOP2015_current.pdf

VISUAL INFORMATION PRODUCTION AWARDS (VIPA)

The Visual Information Production Awards (VIPA) program recognizes the best Department of Defense VI productions achieving the official communication requirements of a Military Component or subordinate organization. The principal intent of the VIPA program is to recognize the effective, purposeful use of the powerful, but relatively expensive, video production medium. Standards to be used in evaluating the effectiveness of VI Productions include: achievement of communication objectives; appropriate use of the video medium; creativity of the approach used to communicate; and the production value of the end product. All VI productions accepted for the VIPA competition must be nominated by their respective Military Component VI management office and comply with the approval, review, clearance, and distribution procedures in DoD Instruction 5040.07 "VI Productions." You can find the standard operating procedures here: <http://www.dinfos.dma.mil/Portals/66/Documents/About/Awards/VIPA%20SOP%202015.pdf>

MILPHOG Tips for 2016

Staff Sergeant Vernon Young Jr. ([see biography here](#)), a U.S. Air Force photojournalist assigned to Airman Magazine, at the Defense Media Activity was selected as 2014 Military Photographer of the Year for a series of 25 images captured of Airmen on-the-job, Soldiers, Sailors and their families, respectively. He was gracious enough to share some tips for success and what he feels are some resources that helped him be successful when shooting throughout the year...

“When I’m working throughout the year, I’m looking to capture the essence of every assignment and align my entire package of imagery with commander priorities. If my subject is hot or cold, I need to be hot or cold with him/her to truly capture it. I’m looking for moments that push each story forward.

The military photographer of the year competition has always seemed so far out of reach for me. This past year I learned that submitting for a competition of that magnitude takes an entire year of engaged shoots, networking with more subjects, completing the day-to-day mission and meeting the commander’s priorities. I believe if you focus on taking the most awesome pictures at every turn, you’ll miss the day-to-day life and the mission the Air Force is entrusting you to complete. Step back for a moment before each shoot, think about how to align it with the priorities, develop a plan and execute the shoot to reach the desired impact.

When it comes to selecting imagery for a competition, you should have a variety of events, ceremonies, after duty shoots, sports and possibly some field training. Most of these shoots will be assigned to you throughout the year and you need to make the most of them to communicate and capture those priorities. If they’re not assigned to you, go out there and find a way to fit them into the goals of your commander. As a photojournalist, you must be clever, innovative, forward thinking and balanced.

Picture stories have always been tough and the layout can present many problems. I’d look to use imagery that pushes your story forward. Visual variety is key when laying out any photo story.

I’ve learned a lot from mentors at the DC Shootoffs, the Advanced Photojournalism Course at Syracuse, DoD Worldwide Military Photographers Workshop and Eddie Adams Workshops. Each experience added a little bit more resiliency and hunger to capture the people that make our military and world what it is today.

The Thomas Jefferson Awards and Visual Information Awards programs are both very important to our career field because it gives the storytellers an opportunity to see the best of the best work throughout the year, it gives the world the chance to reflect on the best military work and finally the subjects that were captured throughout the year get to relive their triumphs.”

To view more of SSgt. Young’s work and other 2014 winning entries, please go to <https://viap.dinfos.dma.mil/Winners/2014?competition=MILPHOG&categoryId=17>



2014 First Place Picture Story, “Survivor,” produced by SSgt. Vernon Young, Jr.

VI Policy Update

New Actions

- Joint Pub 3-61 “Public Affairs” was published 17 November 2015 and includes a new chapter on Visual Information. JP 3-61 also changes the definition of “Combat Camera” and formalizes the concepts of “Directed” and “Derivative” imagery in doctrine.

Pending

- DoDI 5405.03 “Development of Proposed Public Affairs Guidance (PAG)” is awaiting final signature. It includes VI planning considerations, transmission to DVIDS and JCCC coordination.
- DoDI 5410.20 “Public Affairs Relations with For-Profit Businesses and Business Industry Organizations” awaiting OMB listing in Federal Register. This establishes new policy on commercial use of DoD Visual Information, including “Notice of Limitations for Public Use” for all DoD Websites/Social Media Sites displaying DoD Visual Information galleries.

Under Development

- Major DoD VI Policy “Revision Trifecta” Reboot:
 - Rescind DoDI 5040.07 “Visual Information Productions” and incorporate VI Production policy into new DoDI 5040.02 as an enclosure
 - Revise DoDI 5040.02 “Visual Information” to incorporate VI Productions while deleting enclosures on DVIAN, VIRIN, and VISION ID
 - Establish a NEW separate DoD VI Standards document to incorporate VIRIN, Vision ID, DVIAN, and other standard VI metadata

VI Articles of Interest:

Six Photographers Each Have A Photo Session With The Same Man – See the Results

<http://mostexcitingplanet.com/six-photographers-each-have-a-photo-session-with-the-same-man-the-results-will-definitely-surprise-you/>

360fly Pushes Into Virtual Reality Sports And Gives A Sneak Peek At Its 360-Degree Camera Drone

<http://techcrunch.com/2016/01/04/360fly-pushes-into-virtual-reality-sports-and-gives-a-sneak-peek-at-its-360-degree-camera-drone/>

The FAA Requires Registration For All Drones (UAVs) Starting December 21, 2015

<http://www.popphoto.com/faa-will-require-registration-for-all-drones-uavs-starting-december-21-2015>

PROOF: Picture Stories

<http://proof.nationalgeographic.com/2016/01/05/piecing-together-time-in-the-ultimate-brain-puzzle/>



Did You Know?

- The Defense Imagery and Video Distribution System (DVIDS) was functionally transferred from U.S. Army Central to the Defense Media Activity (DMA) in 2015.
 - In addition to the inherent system and workflow efficiencies gained through this consolidation of media activities, placing DVIDS under DMA is also bringing greater program transparency and oversight for the entire Department. For example,
 - DMA convened the inaugural DVIDS Change Control Board (CCB) on January 11th, 2016. Voting representatives from the four Military Services and the Coast Guard participated in this first meeting. The purpose of the standing CCB is to gain concurrence on proposed DVIDS change items; prioritize effort of approved change items; communicate intended future DVIDS capabilities; solicit proposed change items and capability from clients and stakeholders.
 - DMA will convene the inaugural DVIDS Governance Board (DGB) in February 2016 after a snow day postponement of the January 26th session. Senior Public Affairs (PA) and VI voting representatives from the four Services and the Coast Guard will discuss future directions for the DVIDS program. The DGB serves as the senior PA and VI governance forum providing structured leadership and joint decision making for common processes, policies and programs related to DVIDS.
- The Defense VI Steering Committee approved two changes to the long-standing VIRIN standard that were recommended by a Joint Working Group.
 - The first change is to allow for the substitution of a Defense VI Activity Number (DVIAN) in place of the VISION ID for VI products that are produced by more than one VI/PA professional; such as short and long form scripted/edited videos.
 - The second VIRIN change is to increase the sequence number field from three digits to four in order to allow for multiple scenes/assignments in same day; whereby the first digit represents the scene/assignment and the next three digits are the related sequences/images.
- The DIMOC VI Records Center (DVIRC) in Riverside California reported the digitization of 35,302 legacy physical VI records in FY2015. This included 17,556 video tapes, 14,536 films, and 3,210 still images. The contract is in the third year of digitizing physical media and making the imagery accessible to DoD and the public.
- The Joint Combat Camera Center reported that 269,839 new VI digital assets were received and added to the DoD collection during FY15. This included 25,543 new digital videos and 244,296 new digital still images. Virtually all of these new VI assets were ingested directly through DVIDS, which was designated by DVI as the single reception point for new DoD digital VI content in October of 2014.
- The DIMOC VI Services Center (DVISC) at Tobyhanna Army Depot reported in-processing 149 new VI productions into the DoD inventory in FY15. They also answered and completed 8,147 customer inquiries/requests from across the Department during this same period.
- Content and metadata from the Defense Automated VI Systems (DAVIS) is now being transferred into the DIMOC Library Management System to enable easier discovery and access to all the DoD VI productions. Legacy VI Production tape masters are being digitized and all VI productions in the inventory will eventually be available for viewing and download once these visual records are linked up with the transferred DAVIS metadata.
- The Defense Instructional Technology Information System (DITIS) database will be retired in 2016 and all legacy DITIS metadata will be transferred to the Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) Initiative for record keeping and discovery purposes.

VISION IDs

Use your Vision ID!

DIMOC has noticed a lot of images coming in through DVIDS without assigned Vision IDs as part of the VIRIN. It is imperative that all photographers and videographers have a Vision ID and use it as part of the VIRIN in each asset sent to DVIDS. This is a critical part of DIMOC's archival processes and ensures each image or video has a unique identifier.

If you don't have a Vision ID, or can't remember it, be sure to register or log in at <https://vipro.defenseimagery.mil/>. Remember, your assigned Vision ID is yours forever. If you need further assistance, please send an email to dma_heat@mail.mil.

Transferring Older Imagery?

Do you have older imagery in storage? Coordinate and contact DIMOC first before sending! Email DIMOC's Archivist, Julia Hickey, at julia.s.hickey.civ@mail.mil, or call 301-222-6525; she will provide an initial survey and instructions for preserving your historic imagery.

Additional Training Opportunities

DC Shoot Off Video Workshop - 19-22 May 2016 - Washington, D.C. - The Shoot Off Video Workshop in Washington DC mentors military, civil service, and government multimedia journalists with an emphasis on Video Fundamentals. Participants are given the tools and Advanced Techniques to become better storytellers. For more information, go to <http://videoshootoff.femath.com/>

DOD Worldwide Military Photographer's Workshop - 26 June - 2 July 2016 - Anchorage, Alaska - The purpose of this workshop is to enhance visual communications skills in conjunction with photographic knowledge, proficiency and qualifications. DoD photographer, videographer and photojournalist attendees will work with an acclaimed faculty of photojournalism professionals who will provide professional instruction and critiques in assigned small group settings designed to challenge attendees' visual communication abilities while working a specific photographic story/assignment produced during the week. For more information, go to: <http://www.dimoc.mil/workshop/>

Caption Training - Learn more information about common errors in DoD captions and upcoming changes to the DoD Captioning and Style Guide at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDU8ZYSiq1A>

DINFOS Training and Professional Development Opportunities

The Defense Information School (DINFOS) has a long-standing mission of producing outstanding Public Affairs and Visual Information personnel for the U.S. Department of Defense. We are a component of the Defense Media Activity. For more information visit us at http://www.dinfos.dma.mil/DinfosWeb/CourseInfo/course_catalog.aspx



Advanced Electronic Journalism Course (4 weeks) 12 students

Class 030 – 16 Jun – 15 Jul 2016
Class 040 - 26 Sep - 24 Oct 2016

Intermediate Public Affairs Specialist Course (2 weeks) 24 students

Class 020 – 22 Feb – 4 Mar 2016
Class 030 – 4 – 15 Apr 2016
Class 040 - 6 - 17 Jun 2016

Joint Contingency Public Affairs Course (2 weeks) 16 students

Class 010 – 22 Feb – 4 Mar 2016
Class 020 – 25 Apr – 6 May 2016

Joint Intermediate Public Affairs Course (5+ weeks) 24 students

Class 010 – 11 Jan – 18 Feb 2016
Class 020 – 7 Jun – 15 July 2016

Joint Senior Public Affairs Course (2 weeks) 16 students

Class 020 – 25 Jul – 5 Aug 2016
Class 030 - 12 - 23 Sep 2016

Public Affairs Qualification Course (PAQC) (9 weeks) 60 students

Class 020 – 4 Jan – 9 Mar 2016
Class 020 – 10 Mar – 13 May 2016
Class 030 - 16 May - 29 Jul 2016
Class 040 - 1 Aug - 6 Oct 2016

Combat Camera Leadership Course (2 weeks) 24 students

Class 010 – 6-17 June 2016 (*Note the only iteration offered in 2016)

Broadcast Management Course (2 weeks) 12 students

Class 020 - 24 Mar - 8 Apr 2016

Content Management Course (4 weeks) 16 students

Class 020 - 21 Mar - 15 Apr 2016
Class 030 - 25 Apr - 20 May 2016

Visual Information Management Course (2 weeks) 24 students

Class 020 – 21 Mar - 1 April 2016
Class 030 - 2 - 13 May 2016
Class 040 - 25 Jul - 5 Aug 2016

Intermediate Photojournalism Course (8 weeks) 18 students

Class 020 -- 7 Mar - 2 May 2016
Class 030 – 9 May - 7 Jul 2016
Class 040 - 25 Jul - 21 Sep 2016
Class 050 - 26 Sep - 23 Nov 2016

Digital Multimedia Course (7 weeks) 24 students

Class 030 - 21 Mar 0 6 May 2016
Class 040 - 24 May - 15 Jul 2016

Intermediate Videography Course (3 weeks) 8 students

Class 040 – 4 Mar – 8 Apr 2016
Class 050 – 18 Apr – 20 May 2016
Class 060 – 2 Jun – 8 Jul 2016
Class 070 - 27 Jul - 31 Aug 2016

Photo Highlights



Service members from several units at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan pay their respects during a fallen comrade ceremony held in honor of six Airmen Dec. 23, 2015. The six Airmen lost their lives in an improvised explosive attack near Bagram Dec. 21, 2015. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Robert Cloys)



U.S. Marines with Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response-Africa practice landing MV-22B Ospreys at night aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Kearsarge (LHD 3), in the Mediterranean Sea, Oct. 19, 2015. SPMAGTF-CR-AF, based out of Morón, Spain, are a self-sustaining crisis response force prepared for the protection of American personnel and facilities on the African continent, when directed by U.S. Africa Command. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Jalen D. Phillips)



A Portuguese Air Force member looks out the back of a Canadian C-130 before conducting High Altitude Low Opening parachute jumping training in support of Trident Juncture 2015 near Beja Air Base, Portugal, Oct. 29, 2015. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Luke Kitterman)



A U.S. Air Force F-15E Strike Eagle is parked after landing on Nov. 12, 2015, at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. Six F-15Es from the 48th Fighter Wing deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and counter-ISIL missions in Iraq and Syria. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Cory W. Bush)

SUBMISSIONS: If you have something you think should be included, please email content for EYE on VI to: EYE on VI Editor/POC: TSgt Chris Bevins; christopher.m.bevins2.mil@mail.mil, Ph: 301-222-6535

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