Combat Camera
Support to Information Operations

CDR Tom Cotton, USN
Joint Combat Camera Program Manager

"Right Image, Right Place, Right Time"
Agenda

• Mission
• What We Can Do For You
• Joint Interest Imagery
• Determining Requirements
• Tasking Combat Camera
• Service Capabilities
• Doctrine
• Useful References

"Right Image, Right Place, Right Time"
Mission

The mission of COMCAM forces is to provide the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS), the military departments, combatant commands, and JTFs with a directed imagery capability in support of operational and planning requirements through the full range of military operations.

**Combat Camera Forces are an Operational Asset** designed to assist in shaping the information landscape.

"Right Image, Right Place, Right Time"
What COMCAM Can Do For You

- Helps Commanders UNDERSTAND, VISUALIZE, DESCRIBE, AND DIRECT their forces by providing/exploiting high-quality battlefield video and still imagery.

- Counter adversary misinformation, disinformation and propaganda.

- Document key events such as training of a host country's police, defense, and special operations units. These products can support a myriad of activities such as foreign internal defense, information operations (IO) and military information support operations (MISO) campaigns.

- Support gathering of site exploitation or imagery for forensic documentation of evidence, and legal proceedings.

- Provide historical documentation, public information, or evidentiary foundation.

- Provide intelligence documentation to include imagery for facial recognition, key leader engagements, and support special reconnaissance.
Joint-Interest Imagery

Imagery that depicts subjects of known or probable interest to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, or more than one DoD Component.

"Right Image, Right Place, Right Time"
COMCAM imagery from Hurricane Sandy highlights U.S. military support -- President Obama with Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano holds a photo showing Air Force crews offloading Southern California Edison power repair equipment from a C-5 Galaxy on Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh, N.Y., Nov. 1, 2012. The Defense Department initiated the airlift operation to aid recovery efforts in hurricane Sandy’s aftermath.  

US Army photo by Master Sgt. Corine Lombardo

By Courtney Kube, NBC News Producer

Marines used a KC-130 cargo plane to evacuate about 20 Americans from the U.S. Embassy in Juba, South Sudan, on Friday in a move to protect personnel from the deteriorating security situation.

The Pentagon said two KC-130s made the trip, but only one landed. One aircraft hovered overhead as a back-up, in case they needed additional room or the first aircraft encountered any problems.

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A Nepalese soldier carries a young earthquake victim from a U.S Marine Corps UH-1Y Venom helicopter assigned to Joint Task Force 505 to a medical triage area at Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu, Nepal, after a 7.3 magnitude earthquake struck the country, May 12. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Gunnery Sgt. Ricardo Morales/Released)

U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Jessica Gomez, from Carey, Idaho, cares for an injured child in a triage at the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, Nepal, May 12. The child is a victim of a 7.3 magnitude earthquake that hit Nepal May 12 following a 7.8 earthquake that struck Nepal April 25. Gomez is part of Joint Task Force 505 participating in Operation Sahayogi Haat. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Mandaline Hatch/Released)

“Right Imagery for the Right Message”

"Right Image, Right Place, Right Time"
Determine Requirements

Plan
What imagery will you need to best support your products and narrative?

Prioritize
What capability is most important?
What images are most important?

Execute
How will you get the team to the right place at the right time?

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TASKING COMBAT CAMERA

- COMCAM forces, until placed under the operational or tactical control of deployed forces, belong to their particular Service.
- CCDRs should use the GFM tool to request COMCAM to the AOR. Once in theater, it’s up to the J3/J39, to whom COMCAM is normally assigned, to integrate COMCAM into operations.
- Support aspect – transportation, resupply, bandwidth and transmission capability, office space, berthing, and access to internet all need to be included.
  - The RFF needs to be specific, ie:
    • What capabilities are needed?
    • What equipment and support do they need?
    • Security clearance level?

For additional information, contact the Joint Combat Camera Program Manager at (703) 697-0216 or DSN 328-0216
COMCAM Unit Locations

55th COMCAM OPS:
(301) 677-7488, DSN 622

55th Combat Camera Company, Fort Meade, MD

1st Combat Camera Squadron, Charleston AFB, SC

4th Combat Camera Squadron, Charleston AFB, SC

OPS Cell, Air Force Public Affairs Agency
(210) 395-1772/1773, DSN 969

982nd Combat Camera Detachment OL-A, Hurlburt Field, FL

982nd Signal Company Combat Camera (Airborne), East Point, GA

JS J39/DMA Joint Combat Camera Program Manager
(703) 697-0216, DSN 227

MARFORPAC
Camp Smith, Oahu, HI

MRFORNORTH/MARFORES
New Orleans, LA

Combat Camera Detachment OL-C, March ARB, CA

Marforpac, Camp Smith, Oahu, HI

1ST Combat Camera Squadron, Charleston AFB, SC

4th Combat Camera Squadron, Charleston AFB, SC

OPS Cell, Air Force Public Affairs Agency
(210) 395-1772/1773, DSN 969

982nd Signal Company Combat Camera (Airborne), East Point, GA

982nd COMCAM OPS: (687) 420-1654
Still and video acquisition of all operations to include land, static airborne, air assault, and Fast Rope Insertion Extraction System operations.

Operate under all weather and lighting conditions with both conventional and special operations units.

Can deploy on very short notice to support any level of combat force projection.

Advanced tactical training to include Jumpmaster, HALO, Pathfinder, Combat Lifesaver & Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC), Combatives, and advanced marksmanship techniques.

Dual photo/video capability in High Definition (HD) per Soldier.

Multi-media and graphics design creation, editing, and production.
COMCAMS Capabilities

Navy Expeditionary VI Capabilities

- Still, video, and infrared thermal imaging acquisition of maritime and expeditionary operations.
- Operate under all weather and lighting conditions to conduct Fast Rope Insertion Extraction System operations; Visit, board, search, and seizure (VBSS) operations; maritime interdiction operations; and amphibious reconnaissance.
- Aerial still/video imagery acquisition. Qualified naval air crewmen (fixed and rotary wing platforms).
- Navy photographers/videographers are assigned and are organic to Aircraft Carriers, Large Deck Amphibious Ships and Navy Public affairs Support Element Centers, Facilities and Detachments.

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Air Force

• Provide aerial qualified (fixed or rotary) and ground personnel capable of day or night, all-weather imagery (i.e., still or video) acquisition, processing, and rapid transmission.

• Trained and equipped to operate in austere environments (support to conventional and special operations forces).

• Deployable imagery editing (classified and unclassified).

• Satellite transmission (DVID, BGAN)

• Advanced weapons training, Hand-to-hand combatives, Close Quarters Battle, SERE/water survival

• Air Force photographers/videographers are assigned separately. Air Force is in the process of consolidating photo/video.
Marine Corps Capabilities

• Still and video acquisition of all Marine operations to include Fast Rope Insertion Extraction System operations and Visit, board, search, and seizure (VBSS) operations.

• Operate under all weather and lighting conditions.

• Prepare and design a designated product to support a specific theme or message and print the product as hand-bills, leaflets, or other print products.

• Units equipped with a Tactical Imagery Production System (TIPS) can mass produce or reproduce high volume print products.

• Aerial still/video imagery acquisition with qualified air crewmen.

• Marine Corps photographers/videographers are assigned separately, they are usually not dual-qualified or equipped.
Doctrine

- “Commanders…will plan for, task, sustain, and employ COMCAM forces. Commanders will also expeditiously process…COMCAM imagery.” - CJCSI 3205.01D

- “Identify a COMCAM POC in the J-39 (Information Operations)…to serve as…Joint Combat Camera Team tasking authority when teams are deployed…The POC will provide guidance and tasking direction to ensure COMCAM teams provide adequate coverage of critical events, and to maximize the teams’ responsiveness.” - CJCSI 3205.01D.

- Non-alteration policy “prohibit[s] alterations includ[ing] the addition, removal, or changing of photographic details." However, certain modifications or enhancements to official DoD images for specific purposes are still authorized. - DoDI 5040.02
Joint Combat Camera Program Manager (JCCPM):

CDR Tom Cotton - thomas.h.cotton.mil@mail.mil
301-222-6516 OR 703-697-0216

• Combat Camera guidance found in Appendix 10 to Annex C of OPLANs and CONPLANs

• Joint COMCAM/VI Smart Book
  • Online at:
  • Includes COMCAM capabilities briefing and VI planning template
• The DIMOC Joint Combat Camera Center (JCCC) is the central DoD reception and distribution point for COMCAM and all other DoD imagery. (per DoDI 5040.02)

• Simultaneously support the operational and planning requirements of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Services, the COCOMs, the Defense Agencies and other DoD components.

• Provide an enabling architecture to synchronize and integrate the various DoD imagery capabilities.

• Coordinate imagery requirements.

• Create DVIDS feature pages, 360 reports and misc. other DVIDS support

• **JCCC Planner/Liason Officer:** 301-222-6273, DSN 733-4273

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**Products and Services**

- Provide centralized Joint Visual Information and Combat Camera (COMCAM) proponency, policy, program management, and operational support for DoD, other Government Agencies and the public.

- **Provide current imagery to the DoD**
  - www.defenseimagery.mil

- **Manage VI archival record center for DoD**
  - Visual Records Center

- **Provide VI policy and proponency for DoD**
  - VI Policy

- **Provide strategic & operational Joint COMCAM coordination**
  - Combat Camera

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## Contacts

### Joint Combat Camera Program Manager
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OR 301-222-6516, DSN: 733-6516  
NIPR: thomas.h.cotton.mil@mail.mil

### Defense Imagery Management Operations Center (DIMOC)  
### Joint Combat Camera Center (JCCC)
DSN: 733-4273 COMM: (301) 222-6273  
After Hours: (703) 675-9521  
NIPRNET Email: jccc@mail.mil  
SIPRNET Email: jccc.dma@mail.smil.mil

### DIMOC Customer Service
Email: dvicustomerservice@defense.gov  
Toll Free: (888) PH-DIMOC (743-4662)  
DSN: 795-9872 COMM: (570) 615-9872  
Questions?