

# EMERALD EXPRESS 03: JOINT URBAN OPERATIONS OIF INSIGHTS & OBSERVATIONS INFORMATION PAPER



*"Military operations are but one means of influencing the will of an enemy or noncombatants. Economic, political, media, and other means may be of equal or greater in effectiveness. The application of these means is often magnified in urban areas."*

- Dr. Russell Glenn

**Introduction.** *Emerald Express 03: Joint Urban Operations OIF Insights & Observations (EE 03)* is a co-sponsored US Marine Corps (USMC) and US Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM) event on the *Joint Urban Warrior (JUW) 04 Pathway*. It will be a 2 ½ day seminar conducted 23-25 September 2003 in Quantico, VA.

**Purpose.** *EE 03* will review observations and insights from joint urban operations in OIF. Its twin purposes are to identify potential near-term actions to enhance joint urban operations, and to ground future joint urban operations concept development and experimentation in the most recent operational experience. Consideration will be given to:

- Service and functional actions and insights from a joint and combined perspective.
- Joint and combined military actions and insights from the perspectives of non-combatants, opponents, and the broader elements of national power (interagency, political, and economic).

**Participants.** *EE 03* is targeted at decision makers at the operational and major unit level. The main body will be commanders, planners, and key players at the Brigade/Regiment and above, **and their non-military peers**. Attendees will either have played a significant role in recent major combat operations and the subsequent consolidation and transition, or will be decisively engaged in preparing for future operations. Substantial General Officer and senior civilian participation is envisioned.

## Objectives

- Review the OIF military "ground truth" to establish a shared point of departure.
- Consider the JUO-related observations, issues, and insights of key players and organizations, in and beyond the military, to identify key effects that significantly impacted the end-state.
- Identify the overall top issues from OIF urban operations for immediate recognition and for future concept development and experimentation.

**Background.** Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) is the DOD Executive Agent for Joint Urban Operations (JUO). *Joint Urban Warrior (JUW)* is co-sponsored by the USMC (MCCDC) and JFCOM (J-9 / JUO Office) to develop

understanding of the **future operational and tactical linkages between the Joint Force Commander and his components**. The JUO 2-Star Senior Advisory Committee (SAC) oversees Service, Combatant Command, interagency, and multinational representation, coordination, and participation.

The intent for *JUW Pathway 04* is to "step to the future" by reviewing recent experiences to better understand current JUO effectiveness, and applying that insight to future JUO concept development and experimentation. *EE 03* is the key event for the "current" side of *JUW Pathway 04*. The insights from *EE 03* will directly feed the "future" side of the pathway through *JUW War Game 04*, exploring how a 2015 joint force can integrate innovative urban operational concepts, organizational approaches, and new capabilities to maximize joint urban operational *effectiveness* in a GWOT scenario. *EE 03* also feeds *Expeditionary Warrior 04*, the USMC Title X effort exploring USMC-SOCOM operational integration in the near term.

The *Emerald Express* program of insights and observations from actual operations has as its model *Exercise Emerald Express* conducted by the Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force in 1995. That event was the first of several large-scale interagency exercises that addressed operations from a comprehensive military and interagency perspective. Past Wargaming *EE* events have reviewed MEU (SOC) operations in Kosovo, Albania, Bosnia, Turkey, and East Timor/Indonesia. The *Emerald Express* model's consideration of non-combatants and all elements of national power applies strongly to joint urban operations, particularly to the consolidation and transition phases of the USECT framework of JP 3-06, *Doctrine for Joint Urban Operations*.

## Contact Information

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