

Deliberate and Crisis Action Planning and Execution System (DCAPES)

Executive Summary

- The Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center (AFOTEC) conducted operational testing of the Deliberate and Crisis Action Planning and Execution System (DCAPES) 4.0.1P1 in June 2005 at all nine combatant commands.
- Operational testing of DCAPES was adequate, with all four strategic server enclaves participating in the test.
- DCAPES 4.0.1.2P1 is effective and suitable, and has been recommended for fielding per data from Electronic System Center operational testing.
- Improved training for system administrators is suggested to ensure quality support for DCAPES.

System

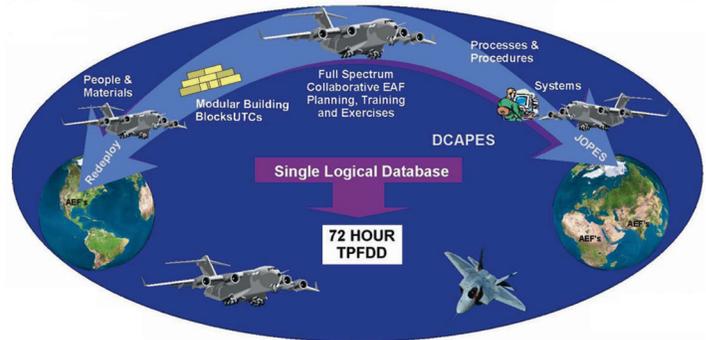
- DCAPES provides Air Force users with automated information system access to Joint Operations Planning and Execution System (JOPES).
- Numbered Air Force and higher echelons use JOPES to manage the Time-Phased Force Deployment Document.
- The Time-Phased Force Deployment Document includes manpower, personnel, and logistics data for operational planning.

Activity

- Since DCAPES and all JOPES users use Global Command and Control System-Joint (GCCS-J), DCAPES operational testing was conducted at the same time as GCCS-J testing.
- AFOTEC conducted operational tests of both GCCS-J 4.0 JOPES and DCAPES 4.0.1P1 in June 2005 at all nine of the combatant commands, as well as many of their key subordinate commands.
- The Joint Interoperability Test Command collected interoperability test data during the June 2005 test.

Assessment

- Operational testing of DCAPES was adequate, with all four strategic server enclaves participating in the test. Testing was done in accordance with a DOT&E-approved test plan.
- DCAPES testing revealed a very marked improvement over 2004 test results.
- DCAPES met its performance, timeliness, availability, supportability, functionality, survivability, deployability, and maintainability criteria.
- DCAPES met the key performance parameters for interoperability, the GCCS-J Block IV requirements, and the draft DCAPES Capabilities Design Document.



Mission

- Headquarters of the Air Force, through wing and base planners, utilize DCAPES to plan, source, mobilize, deploy, sustain, redeploy, and reconstitute forces.

- During the test, there was intermittent loss of connectivity by client machines.
- DCAPES 4.0.1.2P1 is effective and suitable, and has been recommended for fielding per data from Electronic System Center operational testing.
- System administrator training, standard operating procedures for system and database administrators, and file security was identified as shortfalls during operational testing.

Recommendations

The Air Force should:

1. Focus on improving training for system administrators to ensure quality support for DCAPES.
2. Establish standard operating procedures for system and database administrators to maintain the system.
3. Establish the ability to securely transfer files across the network.

AIR FORCE PROGRAMS