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Consolidated Comment Resolution Matrix

Major Combat Operations Joint Operating Concept

<p>STRATCOM PR11 CAPT Patton DSN: 271- 1660 pattonm@str atnets.stratc om.smil.mil or pattonm@str atcom.mil</p>	<p>GEN</p>			<p>U</p>	<p><b>Critical:</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> The MCO JOC contains no reference to nuclear combat operations. Of the four initial joint operating concepts of the U.S. military, the only mention of nuclear operations and nuclear capability requirements is currently found in the Strategic Deterrence JOC. This runs counter to current U.S. policy, which reserves the right to use nuclear weapons in wartime in pursuit of national objectives. Should potential adversaries believe the United States only views its nuclear arsenal as a deterrent, and not an available means of waging war if necessary, deterrence will inadvertently be undermined. Even within the limited scope of the current MCO JOC (i.e., regional powers only) there are a wide variety of contingencies that could require the United States to conduct nuclear combat operations in response to clear and present dangers. The capability to conduct nuclear combat operations needs to be briefly addressed within the document.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Completeness</p> <p><b>Sponsor Comment:</b> Added words to acknowledge the potential for conflict involving WMD and the necessity to be able to operate in such an environment. (p.1, lines 129-130; p.4, lines</p>	<p>A</p>
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