

BOMBER MARITIME OPERATIONS

Executive Summary

There is a need to better educate our joint forces on B-52H, B-1B, and B-2 capabilities/limitations and their emerging roles/missions. Additionally, there is a need to improve bomber aircrew situational awareness when they approach a maritime force in a hostile environment. This publication "arms" bomber strike mission participants with a comprehensive knowledge of relevant naval maritime procedures, typical fleet dispersal, and streamlined communications procedures. Pertinent bomber information included in this publication assists naval strike planners to more efficiently utilize bomber assets and improve joint training opportunities. A better-educated joint force and enhanced joint strike operations will result.

Bomber Operations

Chapter I assists naval personnel planning and executing joint operations with Air Force heavy bombers. It outlines B-52H, B-1B, and B-2 system capabilities/limitations and employment considerations. The information is largely distilled from Air Force Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (AFTTP 3-1, Volumes 19, 20, 23) publications. After providing weapon specific information, it closes with several comparative mission planning/communications/weapons capabilities tables.

Naval Maritime Force Composition

Chapter II describes naval surface assets and their contribution to the carrier battle group's air defense. It describes a typical composition of a carrier battle group (CVBG), a standard carrier airwing, and various platforms in an amphibious ready group (ARG). All the information provided in this section is geared towards improving situational awareness for bomber aircrews.

Command, Control, and Communications

Chapter III outlines command, control, and communications (C3) procedures that apply to strike operations involving both naval maritime assets and Air Force bombers. To assist the planner, bomber command and control (C2) is delineated and bomber tasking procedures are described. Finally, battle group joining procedures, including key communications procedures, are explained to assist with the integration of bomber assets with maritime forces.

Strike Tactics and Techniques

Chapter IV provides "how to" information for conducting strike operations with a composite force of naval and heavy bomber assets. It covers vital mission planning considerations for bombers as well as bomber-specific counter-sea and counter-land operations. Tactical employment of bomber weapons and preferred bomber techniques are also delineated.

CLASSIFICATION

This executive summary is unclassified. The publication itself is classified **SECRET**.