



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING



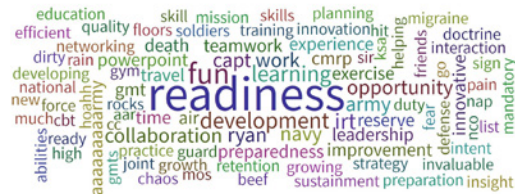
The Premier Military Training Platform for a Secure and Prosperous America

SEPTEMBER 2020 | NEWSLETTER

IRT Goes Virtual for Annual Workshop

From September 1 through 3, the IRT Annual Joint Workshop for Operational Mission Planners went virtual. This online event equipped mission planners with the tools, resources, and knowledge to ensure operational excellence in FY 2021 while maintaining separation and minimizing travel to keep people safe from COVID-19.

When you hear the word training, what other words come to mind?



Real-time word cloud generated by workshop attendees.

Hosted by the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) and IRT program managers, the workshop delivered a combination of prerecorded videos and live audience question-and-answer sessions. Interactive polling enriched the experience, soliciting feedback to gauge understanding of the topics and add humor. The workshop hosts connected to the audience through personalized introductions and directly addressed incoming questions both in the main webinar as well as individual breakout sessions.

Representing more than 70 units across the country, 110 mission planners, along with 20 facilitators, participated in the workshop. Attendees came from all service branches: 40% Army, 30% Navy (with 6% Marine Corps), and 40% Air Force. Together the joint Services will lead a roster of twenty-seven missions in more than seventeen states and counting.

Interactive breakout sessions detailed specifics for mission participants according to their service component, FY 2021 missions, and training exercise types, such as civil engineering and medical missions. Guest remarks between sessions from IRT community partners reinforced the value of partnerships and shared valuable lessons learned for Service Members to use in crafting operational excellence for the year ahead. In this and future newsletters, we will highlight the annual award ceremony recipients and their contributions to IRT. This month, we feature the 351st Civil Affairs Command and the Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska.

This virtual workshop demonstrated resilience, flexibility, and innovation in the face of challenges. We hope to reconvene in person next year but stand ready to deliver this workshop as most appropriate given the evolution of circumstances and forthcoming guidance.

View the [IRT YourTube channel for videos and messages](#) from the workshop.

ENHANCE MILITARY READINESS

IRT provides hands-on, real world training to improve readiness and survivability in contingency environments

STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS

IRT builds and strengthens civil-military partnerships, often in remote areas

BRING BUSINESS REFORM

IRT is a collaborative program that leverages military contributions and community resources to multiply value and cost savings for participants

IRT TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

- Operational Resilience
- Contingency Operations
- Collaboration Using Technology

COMMUNITY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Mr. Chris Price

Qawalangin Tribe
City of Unalaska



“We really appreciate the team being here and all the hard work. We are super excited to have the IRT team in our community and look forward to a great [continued] partnership.”

IRT leaders and staff are closely monitoring the COVID-19 public health situation. We provide updated information on our website concerning its effect on our FY 2020 missions. Please check irt.defense.gov regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.



IRT.DEFENSE.GOV



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CIVIL-MILITARY PARTNERSHIP OF THE YEAR

The Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska with the 351st Civil Affairs Command, Functional Specialty Team received the IRT Civil-Military Partnership of the Year award for exemplary collaboration, resourcefulness, and incorporation of multiple occupational specialties during the Qawalangin Tribe Civil Affairs Assessment IRT mission. This award represents the values of the IRT program, including improving readiness and building strong civil-military partnerships. It is suited for partnerships bringing multiple skill sets together in the training exercise and demonstrating the spirit of collaboration.

CO-RECIPIENT: CITY OF UNALASKA,
QAWALANGIN TRIBE



Community partners from the City of Unalaska worked with the Qawalangin Tribe to prepare, plan, and gather requirements for this year's mission in the Aleutian Islands, more than 800 miles from Anchorage. The mission of the Qawalangin Tribe is to keep the cultural and traditions of indigenous peoples alive while maintaining environmental stewardship for generations to come.

CO-RECIPIENT: 351ST CIVIL AFFAIRS COMMAND
FUNCTIONAL SPECIALTY TEAM



The 351st Civil Affairs Command, from Mountain View, California, conducted initial engagements throughout the mission planning process with key community leaders to evaluate needs assessment requirements. The specialty team brought planners from civil affairs, civil engineering, and medical occupations together as well as others, as needed, to assist the Qawalangin Tribe.

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Jul 02-Sep 26: Operation Footprint (SWIF), NM
- Sep 01-Sep 30: Mare Island Cemetary Mission, CA
- Sep 30: FY22 Community Applications Due
- Oct 27-29: IRT PM Quarterly Working Group
- Nov 11: Mare Island Cemetery DV Day, CA
- TBD: Multiple FY21 Initial Planning Meetings (IPM)
- TBD: Multiple FY21 Mid Planning Meetings (MPM)

2020 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

- First Lieutenant Jessica Campbell, Army Reserve
- Captain Jason Schwartz, Army National Guard
- Major Andrew Chrestman, Marine Corps Reserve
- Commander Kent Bubel, Navy Reserve
- Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Adamich, Air National Guard
- Lieutenant Colonel Joshua Furby, Air Force Reserve