National Military Command Center (NMCC)

Proficiency Code: A

Though it is not technically a network, the Nation Military Command Center (NMCC) is an integrally crucial portion of the military command and control structure. The NMCC is located in the Joint Staff area of the Pentagon and is responsible for the generation of emergency action messages (EAM) to notify launch control centers, nuclear submarines, reconnaissance aircraft and battlefield commanders around the world. In order for the decision makers involved in generating these messages to have the best and most up to date information available, a highly reliable, dedicated network is required.

The National Military Command System (NMCS) is the priority component of the Department of Defense Information Network (DoDIN) designed to support the President of the United States (POTUS), Secretary of Defense (SecDef), and the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) in the exercise of their responsibilities. The NMCS provides the POTUS and the SecDef with all the information, warning, and intelligence data they need to make accurate and timely decisions and the means to transmit orders to the combatant commands. The NMCC receives data from various Command & Control (C2) centers of the combatant commands though the National Military Command System (NMCS). It also receives data from other defense agencies such as the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA).

Both the communication of warning and intelligence from all sources and the communication of decisions and commands to military forces require that the NMCS be a responsive, reliable, and survivable system. An enduring command structure with survivable DODIN systems is both required and fundamental to NMCS continuity of operations.

The NMCS functions with several command nodes:
• NMCC.
• National Airborne Operation Center.
• United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) command center.
• USSTRATCOM and United States Northern Command mobile consolidated command centers.
• Other command centers as designated by SecDef.

Support of the NMCS is the priority function of all primary and alternate command centers. These centers are continuously staffed and ready for use, linked by reliable GIG infrastructure and supported by warning and intelligence systems. The NMCS also includes infrastructure connecting NMCS centers with primary and alternate command centers located at combatant command headquarters (HQ), service HQs, other designated commands and agencies that provide support through GCCS, and major intelligence, direction, analysis, and indication and warning centers.