INT-10: Area Intelligence Methodology

The Area Intelligence File

Fusing separate baselines into one current, shared picture of your area — and keeping it alive after you stop running it.

BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT

INT-10 is the capstone of the Intelligence series: it teaches a family and group how to fuse multiple members' INT-02 (Radio Traffic Situational Analysis) and INT-08 (Reading Your Ground: Pattern of Life Analysis) reporting into one persistent Area Intelligence File, keep that file current over time, and turn it into a short briefing leadership can actually use. It is not a new collection discipline — it does not re-teach reading a net or reading a street — and it is not a substitute for either prerequisite course.

Two correct baselines can still miss the picture.

A member running a clean RTSA baseline on the local net and a member running a clean pattern-of-life baseline on their street can both honestly report "normal" while something area-wide is actually shifting that neither one can see alone. Separate observations are not automatically a shared picture — that only happens when somebody deliberately fuses them, rates what's reliable, and keeps the result current.

A baseline tells you what's normal on your patch of ground. An Area Intelligence File tells your group what's normal — and what's changing — everywhere at once.

KEY CONCEPTS

Area Intelligence File (AIF)	The single, persistent document holding a family and group's fused, current picture of its area — organized by named area, baseline domain, and source, and never trusted past the point it was last updated.
Fusion	Merging two or more members' separate reports into a single AIF entry — resolving corroboration or conflict rather than filing each report separately.
Source reliability / information credibility	The dual-axis rating carried over from INT-04, applied before a report enters the file — separating trust in the source from trust in this specific piece of information.
Area Intelligence Summary (AIS)	The short, prioritized briefing pulled from the AIF for leadership — built to be read, not to contain everything the file knows.

COURSE LESSONS

01	**From Baselines to a Picture**	Why two correct, separate baselines still aren't a shared area picture, and where the AIF fits in your group's information flow.
02	**Architecture of the Area Intelligence File**	The sections a working AIF needs and why each one earns its place — you leave with a template you can start using.
03	**Fusion Methodology**	Merging multiple members' reports into single entries: corroboration, conflict, and rating what you're told before it goes in the file.
04	**Maintenance Battle Rhythm**	Keeping the file alive: update triggers, information decay, version control, and who can see and edit it.
05	**From Picture to Decision**	Turning a full file into a short briefing leadership will actually read, prioritized against what they need to decide.
06	**Capstone Practical: Redbud Hollow**	Fuse several weeks of fictional RTSA and pattern-of-life logs into a complete AIF and a finished briefing — the course's actual test.

DOCTRINAL SOURCES

FM 2-0	Dept. of the Army (2004 ed.)	Framework for situation development and intelligence input to the common operational picture — this course scales that down to family and group size.
FM 34-2-1	Dept. of the Army (1991)	Doctrine on reporting flowing from collection into a usable picture.
FM 2-22.3	Dept. of the Army (2006)	Source of the reliability / credibility rating this course references from INT-04.
MCRP 2-10A.1	U.S. Marine Corps (2018)	Signals reporting discipline underlying this course's RTSA inputs.