

Intelligence Corps – Soldier

Manui Dat Cognitio Vires

Knowledge gives strength to the arm



The Intelligence Corps is one of the smallest Corps in the British Army with approximately 1750 serving Officers and Soldiers. However, what the Corps lacks in size it more than makes up for in impact and influence.

Throughout history it has always been important for a military commander to obtain and understand information with regards to their enemy. Modern military operations are now almost entirely dependant upon the provision of accurate, timely intelligence which allows the military commander to plan and execute operations. It is the role of the British Army's Intelligence Corps to provide the commander with situational awareness and intelligence to support his decision making process, whilst at the same time protecting our own understanding from hostile interests.

The Intelligence Corps task organisations to collect information, which is analysed, interpreted, and assessed, converting it into timely and actionable intelligence. There are many types of intelligence; however the main areas are:

Types:

- **Operational Intelligence** Provides commanders with decision support for operations.
- **Counter Intelligence** Concerned with identifying and counteracting the threat to Security posed by hostile groups involved in espionage, sabotage, subversion and terrorism.
- **Operational Intelligence Linguist – OPMI (L)** After an intensive 18 month language course, Intelligence Corps Linguists apply their new language skills in a variety of contexts. Linguists could find themselves liaising with local civilians, analysing intercepted communications or interpreting for senior officials. (For detailed information, please refer to the Linguist information guide)

Sources:

- **Human Intelligence** Information obtained from human sources.
- **Imagery Intelligence** Images sourced by sensors ranging from ground based to unmanned aerial vehicles to space based.
- **Signals Intelligence** Gained through interception of communications.
- **Exploitation** Derive intelligence from both material and personnel using scientific, technical and specialist collection activities and sources.

The Intelligence Corps covers the entire range of potential intelligence from strategic Government level to operational contingency planning and increasingly, tactical support to commanders.

Opportunities:

Intelligence Corps Soldiers are employed in a wide variety of challenging and rewarding roles in many different locations. Intelligence Corps Operators are provided a unique opportunity to cross train in:

- **Material and Personnel Exploitation (MPE)**
- **Specialist Debriefing**
- **Close Operational Intelligence Support**
- **Counter Intelligence Duties**
- **Cyber Threat Analysis**
- **Covert Surveillance Duties**
- **Imagery Analysis**
- **Strategic Level Assessment**
- **Electronic Warfare Support**
- **Languages (For Linguists)**

THE INTELLIGENCE CORPS - SOLDIER

Operator Military Intelligence (OPMI) is the main trade within the Intelligence Corps and it has numerous sub-disciplines within it. An OPMI (male and female) will be trained to analyse and process information from a wide range of sources in order to establish what the opposing forces are doing and to understand the human terrain. In addition, they will also ensure that the British Army is fully protected from the dangers of Espionage, Terrorism, Subversion and Criminality.

OPMI's may find themselves writing documents which inform very senior military commanders about an unfolding situation in a far flung corner of the world; or could be patrolling with the infantry in order to gain information about local dynamics. Whilst it is important to understand what the enemy are doing it is also vital to ensure that the Army remains protected from those wishing to collect information upon it. Therefore, an OPMI can also find themselves screening locally employed civilians to ensure that they are not engaged in espionage or briefing a Commanding Officer in the UK about how a cyber attack may effect his unit.

Diversity is the key word when describing the career opportunities available to an OPMI. After a few years gaining experience in their role, an Intelligence Corps soldier may wish to specialise in a particular intelligence discipline. Such specialisations include training to be an imagery analyst responsible for interpreting imagery. Other opportunities include being able to train as a Human Intelligence specialist. There are also specialist roles in counter and signals intelligence. The Intelligence Corps also supports specialist units within the military.

The jobs are extremely varied, unusual, challenging and never dull. And, because the Corps is small, the quality of each and every member of the Corps is vital to the successful fulfilment of the Intelligence Corps' varying roles.

Developed Vetting is required for all Intelligence Corps personnel, and the majority of personnel require additional clearances. All security clearances are assessed on a case by case basis; however there are certain criteria which must be met, including 10 years residency in the UK. Further advice on your individual background and circumstances is available from the Intelligence Corps representatives.

What is the Intelligence Corps looking for...?

- Minimum 5 GCSEs (C grade and above) including English Language, maths and 3 other academic subjects
- Flexibility/adaptability
- Sharp thinkers
- Inquisitive minds
- Excellent communication skills
- Physically and mentally robust
- Mature, confident, driven, organised
- An abundance of common sense

What can the Intelligence Corps offer me...?

- Real responsibility, even at junior level
- Make a difference
- Varied career
- Skills that are marketable outside of the Army, so once you have completed your military career, you can continue working in areas that interest you
- Your work will have an impact on the way that the Army and other government departments do business
- You will work with some of the brightest and capable soldiers in the Army

What does selection look like...?

Intelligence Corps Soldier Selection is a specialist selection phase which takes place after candidates have successfully passed through the National Recruitment Centre assessments to join the Army. Candidates must achieve a minimum GTI of 55 and an IDST grade of A or B. Soldier Selection is held over 3 days and the process is designed to identify candidates who may be suitable for a career as either an Operator Military Intelligence or an Operator Military Intelligence (Linguist). Potential Soldiers who are interested in a military career with the Intelligence Corps are required to complete our selection testing and interviews which include assessments in your ability and potential in:

- Verbal and written briefing skills
- Teamwork
- Thinking on your feet
- Academics
- Information extraction
- Communication
- Current Affair knowledge
- Modern Language Aptitude Test (MLAT)

Candidates will also have the opportunity to speak with current Intelligence Corps Soldiers about their careers in the Corps and they will also receive detailed briefings about potential roles that they could work within should they successfully pass the selection assessments.

Interested in a career in the Intelligence Corps?

Intelligence Corps Selection Team

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