Imagery Analyst (96D)

Having access to the correct information is absolutely necessary to plan for our national defense. Intelligence specialists, like the Imagery Analyst, are integral to providing Army personnel with information about enemy forces and potential battle areas. Intelligence specialists use aerial photographs, electronic monitoring and human observation in order to gather and study information that’s required to design defense plans and tactics.

The Imagery Analyst is primarily responsible for supervising and analyzing aerial and ground permanent record imagery developed by photographic and electronic means. Some of your duties as an Imagery Analyst may include:

- Studying aerial photographs of foreign ships, bases and missile sites
- Planning and recommending the use of imaging sensors for reconnaissance and surveillance missions
- Using electronic, mechanical and optical devices, as well as photogrammetry, in order to obtain information from imagery
- Obtaining intelligence by studying and analyzing imagery products
- Determining target coordinates for accurate location of imagery analysis findings
- Identifying enemy weapons and equipment defenses
- Analyzing military installations and lines of communications
- Studying land and sea areas that could become battlegrounds in time of war

TRAINING

Job training for an Imagery Analyst consists of nine weeks of Basic Training, where you'll learn basic Soldiering skills, and 20 weeks of Advanced Individual Training and on-the-job instruction, including practice in intelligence gathering. Part of this time is spent in the classroom and part in the field. Some of the skills you'll learn are:

- Planning aerial and satellite observations
- Preparing maps and charts
- Analyzing aerial photographs
- Preparing intelligence reports
- Using computer systems
HELPFUL SKILLS
Helpful attributes include:

- An interest in reading maps and charts
- An interest in gathering information and studying its meaning
- An ability to organize information
- An ability to think and write clearly

ADVANCED RESPONSIBILITIES
Advanced level Imagery Analysts supervise and train other Soldiers within the same discipline. As an advanced level Imagery Analyst, you may be involved in:

- Studying and analyzing imagery produced by aerial sensor systems and hand-held photography
- Conducting mission planning and selecting entry zones
- Computing distances, areas and volumes by manual and automated means on oblique and pan imagery
- Analyzing industrial facilities and their components on aerial imagery
- Maintaining imagery analysis library and files

RELATED CIVILIAN JOBS
The skills you learn as an Imagery Analyst will help prepare you for a future with federal government agencies such as the Central Intelligence Agency or the National Security Agency. The training you receive in collecting, recording, analyzing and distributing tactical and technical intelligence information will prepare you for other fields, such as research or business planning.

Due to your extensive experience with maps and aerial photographs, you might consider a career as a surveyor, cartographer, photogrammetrist or surveying technician. These positions generally involve determining property boundaries and providing data relevant to the shape, contour, location or dimension of land or land features. You’d most likely be qualified to work for engineering, mapmaking, mining, land evaluation and construction companies.

RELATED ARMY POSITIONS
- Signals Intelligence Analyst (98C)
- Human Intelligence Collector (97E)
- Topographic Analyst (21U)
- Topographic Surveyor (21S)