



ANNEX 3-04 COUNTERSEA OPERATIONS

MARITIME COMMAND AND CONTROL

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In joint maritime operations, [command and control](#) (C2) is normally directed either from a command ship, a carrier strike group, or the lead ship in an Expeditionary Strike Group, or surface action group. The command ships have the most robust capabilities for establishing a sea-based joint force air component commander or joint force maritime component commander (JFMCC). The mobile air base and layered defense system represented by aircraft carriers and their surface screening units (cruisers, destroyers, and frigates) create a network of control options. Depending on the ships capabilities, it can integrate as part of the maritime C2 system as well as a part of the maritime layered defense system. The maritime command and control structure may differ from those used in a land-based operation and may require establishing a regional or sector [area air defense commander](#) in order to integrate and best utilize unique maritime capabilities and operations.

The [airspace control authority](#) (ACA) may designate commander, Navy forces or JFMCC as the control authority for a specific airspace control area or sector for the accomplishment of a specific mission. The massing of maritime forces into a battle force of combined arms (air, surface, and undersea) under a single commander reduces the front to be defended, enhances mutual support, and simplifies identification and deconfliction of friendly aircraft and other air defense measures. To ensure seamless integration, [unity of effort](#), and minimal interference along adjacent boundaries, the commander responsible for the maritime airspace sector should coordinate with the ACA on the items from JP 3-52, [Joint Airspace Control](#).

Maritime Airspace Sector Commander Coordination Responsibilities

- ✦ Procedures for coordination of flight information.
- ✦ Clearance of aircraft to enter and depart the maritime airspace sector.
- ✦ Procedures for assisting and coordinating with airspace control elements that respond to adjacent or supporting component commander.
- ✦ Procedures for deconfliction of operations during transitional operations and during operations in overlapping airspace areas.

Where no sector control authority is designated by the ACA and where joint operations composed of adjacent maritime and land environments exist, specific control and defensive measures may be a composite of those measures normally employed in each environment. The [joint force commander](#) for such operations needs to ensure detailed coordination of control and defensive measures with the affected air, land, and maritime

commanders. The exchange of liaison personnel at the joint force level will facilitate coordination to ensure:

- ✦ Establishment of procedures for integration and coordination of joint air operations along adjacent boundaries.
 - ✦ Agreement on procedures for coordination of flight information, clearance of aircraft to enter and depart the adjoining airspace, and the coordination of airspace control services.
 - ✦ These coordination items should be clearly stated in the [airspace control plan](#) and daily special instructions as required.
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