



CURTIS E. LEMAY CENTER

FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



ANNEX 3-14 SPACE OPERATIONS

EXECUTION (SPACE)

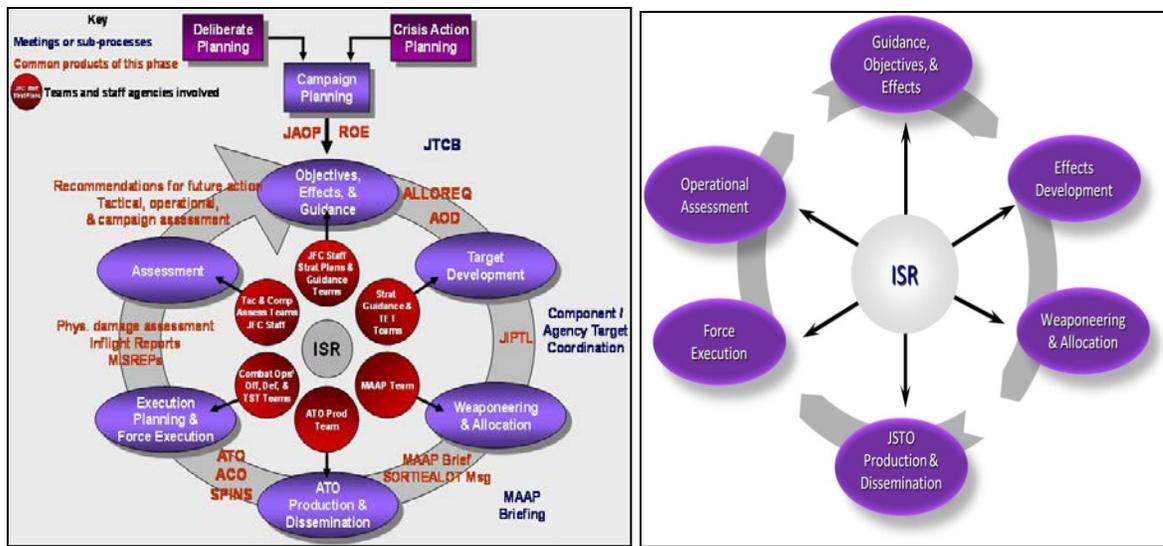
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Execution is a dynamic combination of global and theater operational processes requiring timely integration throughout the joint operation plan. Timely integration is especially critical for space operations.

Global Space Operations

USSTRATCOM executes operations based on global requirements for national defense, requests from multiple theaters, and maintenance of on-orbit space assets. Space forces are continuously employed and executing the Joint Space Tasking Order (JSTO). This requires timely deconfliction and integration with other elements of the theater operation. Integrating various space-related or space-based capabilities on behalf of USSTRATCOM is accomplished by the Joint Space Operations Center (JSpOC) through deliberate coordination processes with the theater [air operations center](#) (AOC).

The employment of space forces at the operational level is accomplished through tasking orders that deconflict and integrate the full range of space operations with theater operations. The space and air tasking cycles must be integrated. Figure 4.1 provides a comparison of the air tasking cycle and the space tasking cycle. The space tasking cycle approximates the air tasking cycle but is not identical. The depiction of the air tasking cycle shows theater AOC teams and products. See the figure **Air Tasking Cycle and Space Tasking Cycle** and the topic [614th Air and Space Operations Center](#) for more details on the space tasking cycle and the comparable products that the 614 AOC generates.



Air Tasking Cycle and Space Tasking Cycle¹

614 AOC/JSpOC

The 614 AOC/JSpOC tracks assigned and attached space forces and assets. It serves as the focal point for coordination and reachback support for organic theater space personnel and regional space operations requirements. The JSpOC translates CDRUSSTRATCOM's OPORDs and CDR JFCC SPACE guidance into the JSTO. JSTOs task and direct assigned and attached space forces to fulfill theater and global mission requirements in support of national objectives.

Theater Space Operations

There are space forces deployed to support theater operations. These forces are integrated into various levels of command within the joint force. Depending on theater requirements and the global situation, the Secretary of Defense may attach these forces to geographic combatant commanders conducting combat operations.

When deployed, Air Force space forces are normally attached to an AETF under the operation control (OPCON) of the commander, Air Force forces (COMAFFOR). When the COMAFFOR is dual-hatted as the joint force air component commander (JFACC), the JFACC is normally given tactical control (TACON) of other Service space forces in excess of their organic requirements. The COMAFFOR/JFACC should integrate and task assigned, attached, and sister Service forces into operations via the AOC and the air tasking order (ATO) process. Air Force space experts are matrixed across the AOC, ensuring space capabilities and effects are integrated into theater operations via the ATO for deployed theater space forces and JSTO for global space forces.

Integrating Global With Theater Space Operations

Properly generated and coordinated plans are key to successful integration of global and theater operations. Command relationships allow theaters to coordinate with

¹ Annex 3-0, [Operations and Planning](#) and JFCC SPACE C2 CONOP.

STRATCOM, as the supporting commander, to integrate space capabilities. An option for command relationships is to use an establishing directive between the JFACC and the CDR JFCC SPACE. If the theater COMAFFOR is dual-hatted as the JFACC, the DIRSPACEFOR serves as the JFACC's focal point for coordinating, integrating, and synchronizing global and theater space operations.

The JSpOC normally integrates its supporting operations with theater operations because the supported theater commander drives tasking requirements. If more than one theater is being supported, the JSpOC will provide prioritized support to all theaters.
