



CURTIS E. LEMAY CENTER

FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



ANNEX 3-30 COMMAND AND CONTROL

THE JOINT AIR COMPONENT COORDINATION ELEMENT

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The [commander, Air Force forces](#) (COMAFFOR), when acting as the [joint force air component commander](#) may establish one or more joint air component coordination elements (JACCEs) with other [component](#) commanders' headquarters to better integrate the air component's operations with their operations, and with the supported [joint task force](#) (JTF) headquarters (if the theater COMAFFOR is designated in support to a JTF) to better integrate air component operations within the overall joint force. When established, these elements act as the COMAFFOR's primary representatives to the respective commanders and facilitate interaction among the respective staffs. (Note: in previous Air Force doctrine, the JACCE was simply known as the ACCE.)

The JACCE facilitates integration by exchanging current [intelligence](#), operational data, and support requirements, and by coordinating the integration of COMAFFOR requirements for [airspace coordinating measures](#), [fire support coordinating measures](#), [close air support](#), [air mobility](#), and space requirements. As such, the JACCE is a [liaison](#) element, not a command and control node; thus, the JACCE normally has no authority to direct or employ forces. The make-up of the JACCE is dependent on the scope of the operation and the size of the staff they liaise with. Element expertise may include plans, operations, intelligence, [airspace management](#), logistics, space, and air mobility, as needed. The JACCE also communicates the JFC's or component commander's decisions and interests to the COMAFFOR. However, the JACCE should not replace, replicate, or circumvent normal request mechanisms already in place in the component/JTF staffs, nor supplant normal planning performed by the [air operations center](#) (AOC) and [AFFOR staff](#). The JACCE director is the COMAFFOR's personal and official representative, and as such should have sufficient rank to effectively work with the component or JTF commander to which he or she is attached. Finally, to maintain proper perspective and focus, the JACCE director should not normally be dual-hatted as the commander of a tactical unit.

Normally, the JACCE should:

- ★ Ensure the COMAFFOR is aware of each commander's priorities and plans.
- ★ Ensure the COMAFFOR staff coordinates within their surface component/JTF headquarters counterparts to work issues.
- ★ Ensure appropriate commanders are aware of the COMAFFOR's capabilities and limitations ([constraints](#), [restraints](#), and restrictions).

- ✦ Ensure appropriate commanders are aware of the COMAFFOR's plan to support the surface commander's scheme of maneuver and the JFC's intent and objectives.
- ✦ Facilitate COMAFFOR staff processes with the surface/JTF commanders. Provide oversight of other COMAFFOR liaisons to component/JTF headquarters staffs, if directed.
- ✦ Ensure information flows properly between the AOC, sister components, and JFC.

For further readings on recent JACCE operations in Afghanistan, see the article "NATO Air Command–Afghanistan: The Continuing Evolution of Airpower Command and Control" in [*Air and Space Power Journal*](#).
