



## ANNEX 3-30 COMMAND AND CONTROL

### INTEGRATING REGIONAL AND FUNCTIONAL AIR FORCE FORCES

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As previously stated, [airpower](#) is usually presented through a mix of regional and functional models, with the latter usually supporting the former. Functional forces usually maintain a separate organization from the supported regional organization, and are integrated in the theater through specially trained liaisons attached to the regional [commander, Air Force forces](#) (COMAFFOR). The functional capabilities most likely to be provided in such a supporting relationship are [air mobility operations](#), [space operations](#), [special operations](#), [cyberspace operations](#), and [nuclear operations](#).

### INTEGRATING AIR MOBILITY OPERATIONS

Because air mobility forces serve several regions concurrently, their employment should be balanced between regional and intertheater requirements and priorities. At the same time, the air mobility systems performing [intratheater](#) and [intertheater](#) missions within a given region should operate in close coordination to provide responsive and integrated aerial movement to the supported [combatant commander](#) (CCDR).

Carefully constructed [command relationships](#) can allow an interlocking arrangement to manage intratheater and intertheater air mobility operations. Normally, intratheater air mobility forces are attached to the [joint force commander](#) (JFC), with [operational control](#) (OPCON) as appropriate delegated to the COMAFFOR. Intertheater air mobility forces normally remain under the control of US Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM), delegated downward within Air Mobility Command (AMC) to Eighteenth Air Force (18 AF) as appropriate. Within a regional operation, the [director of mobility forces](#) (DIRMOBFOR), with the air mobility division (AMD) in the [air operations center](#) (AOC), provides the pivotal link between the intertheater and intratheater air mobility operations.

#### ***The Director of Air Mobility Forces***

Within an Air Force component, the DIRMOBFOR is the COMAFFOR's designated coordinating authority for air mobility operations. The DIRMOBFOR, normally a senior Air Force air mobility officer familiar with the [area of operations](#), coordinates on behalf of the COMAFFOR with the AMD in the AOC. The DIRMOBFOR may be sourced from within the geographic CCDR's organizations or USTRANSCOM. To ensure close coordination with the overall theater effort, the DIRMOBFOR is normally assigned to the COMAFFOR's special staff. In those instances when no [joint force air component commander](#) (JFACC) is designated, or the JFACC is from another Service, the

DIRMOBFOR should normally report to the COMAFFOR. The DIRMOBFOR's specific authorities and responsibilities include:

- ★ Coordinate the integration of intertheater air mobility support provided by USTRANSCOM.
- ★ In concert with the AOC commander, coordinate the employment of mobility air forces assigned or attached to the joint force.
- ★ Coordinate with the AOC commander and AMD chief to ensure all air mobility operations supporting the JFC are integrated into the air assessment, planning, and execution processes; and are deconflicted with all other air operations.
- ★ Assists in the integration and coordination of the multinational air mobility plan.
- ★ Coordinates with 618 AOC (Tanker/Airlift Control Center) and 18 AF (AFTRANS) to ensure joint force air mobility support requirements are met.
- ★ As the air mobility working group chair, reviews and recommends for or against mobility operations into theater airfields. Recommends aircraft defensive system policy, flyaway security team policy, operational support airlift aircraft operating policy, aircraft armor policy/requirements, and tactical approach requirements, and advises commanders on proposed operations into high threat airfields. For some very high visibility/high threat missions, gives positive launch recommendations.
  - ★ Acts as member of the joint logistics coordination board, chaired by the geographic CCDR's J4 (logistics directorate).
  - ★ Acts as the senior air mobility officer point of contact for all air mobility operations with the joint deployment distribution operations center, USTRANSCOM, AMC, 18 AF (AFTRANS), 618 AOC (tanker/airlift control center (TACC), the GCC J4, and the USTRANSCOM deployment distribution operations center.
  - ★ Participates in the daily video teleconference with USTRANSCOM J3 (operations directorate), and additional daily video teleconferences with 618 AOC (TACC).
- ★ Establishes air mobility priorities for air mobility liaison officers operating in theater.
- ★ Performs other duties as specified by the COMAFFOR.

Refer to Annex 3-17, [Air Mobility Operations](#), for more information.

## **INTEGRATING SPACE OPERATIONS**

Space presents another form of military operations that, much like air mobility, usually are best presented functionally to a regional commander through a supporting relationship if they are not attached. [Space command and control](#) brings another level of complexity because many space assets that support military interests come from a

variety of organizations, some outside of the Department of Defense (DOD). These capabilities often have nontraditional chains of command. In some cases, authority may be split between organizations due to shared [interagency](#) responsibilities. Much like air mobility through the DIRMOBFOR, space capabilities within a regional operation are normally focused by the designation of a single authority for space operations.

### ***Space Coordinating Authority***

Within a regional operation, the JFC should delegate [space coordinating authority](#) (SCA) to facilitate unity of effort with DOD-wide space operations and non-DOD space capabilities. Although JFCs may retain authority at the JTF level, they should normally delegate SCA to the component commander who provides the preponderance of military space capabilities, the requisite ability to command and control them, and the resident space expertise. In most cases, the COMAFFOR provides these capabilities through the Air Force's organic space command and control infrastructure.

Responsibilities of SCA include:

- ★ Recommend appropriate command relationships for space forces to the JFC.
- ★ Establish, deconflict, prioritize, and recommend military space requirements.
- ★ Recommend guidelines for employing space capabilities, such as [rules of engagement](#) (ROE), for the joint force.
- ★ Guide strategy development, operational planning, and space integration.
- ★ Provide status of space assets that affect the [joint operations area](#) (JOA) to key theater staffs.
- ★ Maintain [space situational awareness](#).
- ★ Ensure optimum interoperability of space assets with coalition forces.

### ***The Director of Space Forces***

Within an Air Force component, the [director of space forces](#) (DIRSPACEFOR) serves as the senior space advisor to the COMAFFOR. The DIRSPACEFOR, an Air Force space officer, coordinates, integrates, and staffs activities to tailor space support to the COMAFFOR. In addition, when the COMAFFOR is delegated SCA, the DIRSPACEFOR works the day-to-day SCA activities on behalf of the COMAFFOR. If the COMAFFOR is neither delegated SCA nor designated as the JFACC, the COMAFFOR should establish a space liaison to the JFACC. The DIRSPACEFOR is part of the COMAFFOR's special staff. As is the case with the DIRMOBFOR, the COMAFFOR may choose to make the DIRSPACEFOR available to the JFACC in those cases when the COMAFFOR is not dual designated as the JFACC. Whether a permanent member of the theater major command staff or provided to the theater by Air Force Space Command (AFSPC), the DIRSPACEFOR should be pre-identified to allow

that officer time to become familiar with that theater's space requirements. The DIRSPACEFOR's specific responsibilities include:

- ★ Recommend appropriate command relationships for space forces to the COMAFFOR.
- ★ Advise on establishment, deconfliction, and prioritization of operational military space requirements.
- ★ Recommend policies for employing space capabilities, such as ROE.
- ★ Provide senior space perspective for [strategy](#) and daily guidance development, effects and target selection, and space integration throughout joint operations.
- ★ Monitor status of space forces that affect the JOA and provide status to JFC staff and components.
- ★ Maintain space situational awareness.
- ★ Request space inputs from JFC staff during planning and operations.
- ★ Coordinate optimum interoperability of space assets with coalition forces.
- ★ Execute day-to-day SCA responsibilities on behalf of the COMAFFOR or represent the COMAFFOR's equities if SCA is retained by or delegated to another commander.
- ★ Advise the COMAFFOR on command and control of Air Force space forces if another component is designated JFACC.

Refer to Annex 3-14, [Space Operations](#), for more information.

## INTEGRATING SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Commander, US Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) exercises [combatant command \(command authority\)](#) (COCOM) of worldwide special operations forces, while the geographic CCDR exercises OPCON of [assigned/attached](#) Air Force special operations forces (AFSOF) through the commander of the [theater special operations command](#). For conventional missions, the COMAFFOR may receive OPCON or [tactical control](#) of Air Force special operations forces (AFSOF) assets when directed by the JFC. However, in most cases, AFSOF will only normally be in a [direct support](#) relationship with conventional assets. When SOF operate in concert with "conventional" JTFs, they normally take the form of a separate [joint special operations task force](#) (JSOTF) within the JTF, commanded by a joint force special operations component commander (JFSOCC). AFSOF, like all Air Force units, organize using the [air expeditionary task force](#) construct. Due to their unique relationship with USSOCOM, AFSOF deployed unit designations differ slightly from the conventional Air Force model. Although the names differ (e.g., expeditionary special operations wing [ESOW] vice

AEW), AFSOF organizational patterns are similar to conventional unit orientation and functionality. Once deployed, JTF commanders establish appropriate command and control for SOF units. AFSOF force presentation is discussed in Annex 3-05, [Special Operations](#).

SOF can enhance operations across the range of military operations. SOF normally pursue SOF-unique objectives which prepare, shape or enhance broader JFC objectives. Due to specialized training which includes cultural, regional, and language orientation, SOF Airmen can provide key capabilities across the spectrum of irregular warfare tasks: [foreign internal defense](#), [counterinsurgency](#), [counterterrorism](#), [stability operations](#), and [unconventional warfare](#). They may also be tasked to operate in support of conventional objectives or require conventional support of their objectives.

- ✦ SOF may act as an [economy of force](#) measure by applying SOF unique capabilities against conventional targets to enhance joint air asset efficiency and effectiveness.
- ✦ SOF may conduct specialized operations beyond the capabilities of joint air component forces. For example, they may strike against [weapons of mass destruction](#) production or storage facilities inaccessible to joint air due to environmental or dispersal concerns.
- ✦ Because of unique training and multiple air/ground combat power delivery capabilities, SOF may synchronize with joint air component operations in a synergistic attack (e.g., terminal guidance operations).
- ✦ SOF may enhance joint air component operations with specialized personnel and platform capabilities to assist in locating deep targets.

Whether operating under control of the JFSOCC or in support of the COMAFFOR, SOF aviation missions are synchronized with other air activities supporting the theater [campaign](#). To ensure SOF aviation and surface assets are closely synchronized in all joint air operations, from planning through assessment, the JFSOCC provides the COMAFFOR a [special operations liaison element](#) (SOLE) to coordinate, deconflict, and synchronize SOF operations, strategy, and plans with other air operations. In return, the COMAFFOR may provide a [joint air component coordination element](#) (JACCE) to the JFSOCC.

### ***The Special Operations Liaison Element***

Whether operating autonomously or in conjunction with conventional forces, SOF aviation and surface assets should be closely synchronized with all joint air operations—from planning through execution—to provide coordination and deconfliction, prevent fratricide, and exploit synergistic effects.

The SOLE is a liaison team that represents the JFSOCC to the COMAFFOR. The SOLE synchronizes all SOF air and surface operations with joint air operations via the air tasking process. Additionally, the SOLE deconflicts SOF operations with other

component liaisons in the AOC. Specific functions include synchronization of SOF requirements into [air tasking order](#) (ATO) and [airspace control order](#) (ACO) generation, real time mission support within the AOC, operations and intelligence support for targeting, combat airspace control for prevention of fratricide, coordination with special plans functions, and coordination with the joint personnel recovery center. The SOLE also assists in the deconfliction of joint special operations areas and unconventional warfare operating areas with the COMAFFOR.

## INTEGRATING CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS

As with air mobility and space operations, global [cyberspace](#) capabilities may be presented to a regional commander through a supporting relationship, to supplement regional cyberspace capabilities. US Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM), as a [subordinate unified command](#) under USSTRATCOM, is the focal point for providing cyberspace capabilities to other CCDRs. Within USCYBERCOM, the Air Force [component](#) is 24th Air Force (24 AF) (Air Forces Cyber [AFCYBER]). 24 AF provides support through the 624th Operations Center (624 OC). To support regional operations, USCYBERCOM may also provide cyberspace expertise to regional staffs if necessary.

The 624 OC uses a process similar to the air tasking cycle to develop a [cyber tasking order](#) (CTO) for planning, coordinating, apportioning, allocating, executing, and assessing cyberspace operations. The CTO is derived from Commander, USSTRATCOM and Commander, USCYBERCOM orders and supported JFC orders. Every cyberspace operation during that period should be on the CTO for situational awareness and deconfliction purposes.

When the 624 OC is supporting a theater operation, the CTO development process is coordinated and integrated with the theater ATO development process. The 624 OC, using guidance from the supported COMAFFOR, helps develop cyberspace [courses of action](#) in support of theater operations. During the planning phase, the 624 OC uses COMAFFOR guidance, such as [rules of engagement](#), the [joint integrated prioritized target list](#), the [target nomination list](#), and the approved [master air attack plan](#), to finalize the CTO. After the ATO is finalized, the theater AOC disseminates it to all required users, including the 624 OC. 24 AF (AFCYBER) subsequently approves the CTO, ensuring it reflects theater taskings, and disseminates it to all required users including the theater AOC. The CTO tasks assigned and attached cyberspace forces to meet theater and global requirements for the next 24-hour period. Within the 24-hour period of execution, cyberspace tasking can occur dynamically to meet the supported commander's requests.

For further discussion, see Annex 3-12, [Cyberspace Operations](#).

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