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FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



AIR FORCE GLOSSARY

GLOSSARY - A

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ABBREVIATIONS

A-2	intelligence directorate (AFFOR staff)
A-4	logistics directorate (AFFOR staff)
AAA	antiaircraft artillery
AADC	area air defense commander
AADP	area air defense plan
AAF	Army Air Forces
AAGS	Army air-ground system
AAMIMO	Advanced Aerospace Medicine for International Medical Officers
AAT	airfield assessment team
AB	air base
ACA	airspace control authority
ACC	Air Combat Command; air component commander
ACCE	air component coordination element
ACE	airborne command element
ACF	analysis, correlation, and fusion
ACM	airspace control measure
ACO	airspace control order
ACP	airspace control plan
ACS	Agile Combat Support
AD	air defense
ADA	air defense artillery
ADC	air defense commander (Navy)
ADCON	administrative control
ADR	airfield damage repair
ADS	air defense sector
AE	aeromedical evacuation
AECM	aeromedical evacuation crew member
AECT	aeromedical evacuation control team
AEF	air expeditionary force

AEG	air expeditionary group
AES	air expeditionary squadron
AETF	air expeditionary task force
AEW	air expeditionary wing
AF	Air Force
AFAux	Air Force Auxiliary
AFB	Air Force base
AFCEC	Air Force Civil Engineer Center
AFCENT/CC	Commander, Air Force Central Command
AFCYBER	Air Forces Cyber
AFDD	Air Force doctrine document
AFFOR	Air Force forces
AFI	Air Force instruction
AFIMS	Air Force Incident Management System
AFIOC	Air Force Information Operations Center
AFLE	Air Force liaison element
AFLOA	Air Force Legal Operations Agency
AFMLOC	Air Force Medical Logistics Operations Center
AFMOA	Air Force Medical Operations Agency
AFMS	Air Force Medical Service
AFMSA	Air Force Medical Support Agency
AFNETOPS	Air Force network operations
AFNORTH	Air Forces Northern
AFNOSC	Air Force Network Operations and Security Center
AFNSEP	Air Force National Security and Emergency Preparedness Agency
AFOSI	Air Force Office of Special Investigations
AFPAC	Air Forces Pacific
AFPD	Air Force policy directive
AFR	Air Force Reserve
AFRC	Air Force Reserve Command
AFRCC	Air Force Rescue Coordination Center
AFSOAC	Air Force special operations air component
AFSOAD	Air Force special operations air detachment
AFSOAE	Air Force special operations air element
AFSOC	Air Force Special Operations Command
AFSOF	Air Force special operations forces
AFSPC	Air Force Space Command
AFSPC/CC	Commander, Air Force Space Command
AFSTRAT	Air Forces Strategic

AFTC	Air Force Targeting Center
AFTH	Air Force theater hospital
AFTRANS	Air Forces Transportation
AFTTP	Air Force Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures
AGE	aerospace ground equipment
AI	air interdiction
AIA	Air Intelligence Agency
ALCF	airlift control flight
ALCT	airlift control team
ALLOREQ	allocation request
ALO	air liaison officer
ALSA	Air Land Sea Application Center
ALZ	assault landing zone
AMC	Air Mobility Command
AMCT	air mobility control team
AMD	air mobility division
AMLO	air mobility liaison officer
AMOG	air mobility operations group
AMOS	air mobility operations squadron
AMOW	air mobility operations wing
AMS	air mobility squadron
AMX	air mobility express
ANG	Air National Guard
ANGLICO	air and naval gunfire liaison company
ANGUS	Air National Guard of the United States
ANR	Alaska NORAD Region
AO	area of operations
AOA	Amphibious Objective Area
AOB	air order of battle
AOC	air operations center
AOD	air operations directive
AOG	air operations group
AOI	area of interest
AOR	area of responsibility
APEX	adaptive planning and execution system
APF	aerial port flight
APOD	aerial port of debarkation
APOE	aerial port of embarkation
APS	aerial port squadron
AR	air refueling
ARC	Air Reserve Components

ARCT	air refueling control team
ARFOR	Army forces
ARRS	Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service
ARS	Air Rescue Service
ASAT	anti-satellite
ASD(HA)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
ASF	aeromedical staging facility
ASOC	air support operations center
AST	airfield survey team
AT	antiterrorism
ATC	air traffic control
ATO	air tasking order
ATP	allied tactical publication
ATT	affiliation training team
AvFID	aviation foreign internal defense
AW	air warfare (Navy)
AWACS	airborne warning and control system
AWC	air warfare commander (Navy)

DEFINITIONS

active air defense. Direct defensive action taken to destroy, nullify, or reduce the effectiveness of hostile air and missile threats against friendly forces and assets. Also called **air defense**. (JP 3-01)

active defense. The employment of limited offensive action and counterattacks to deny a contested area or position to the enemy. (JP 3-60). [*Active defense operations attempt to intercept CBRN weapons en route to their targets.*] (Annex 3-40) {Words in brackets apply only to the Air Force and are offered for clarity.}

administrative control. Direction or exercise of authority over subordinate or other organizations in respect to administration and support. Also called **ADCON**. (JP 1)

aerial port. An airfield that has been designated for the sustained air movement of personnel and materiel as well as an authorized port for entrance into or departure from the country where located. Also called **Aport**. See also port of debarkation; port of embarkation. (JP 3-17)

aerial port of debarkation. “The geographic point at which cargo or personnel are discharged. [JP 4-0]” For unit requirements, it may or may not coincide with the destination. Also called **APOD**. (Note: Definition is for port of debarkation from JP 4-0; it has been adapted for specific use with APOD).

aeromedical evacuation. The movement of patients under medical supervision to and between medical treatment facilities by air transportation. Also called **AE**. (JP 4-02)

air and missile defense. Direct [active and passive] defensive actions taken to destroy, nullify, or reduce the effectiveness of hostile air and ballistic missile threats against friendly forces and assets. Also called **AMD**. (JP 3-01)

air apportionment. The determination and assignment of the total expected effort by percentage and/or by priority that should be devoted to the various air operations for a given period of time. (JP 3-0)

airborne mission coordinator. The designated individual that serves as an airborne extension of the component commander or supported commander responsible for the personnel recovery mission. (JP 3-50) [*The coordinator who serves as an extension of the executing component's personnel recovery coordination cell (PRCC) and coordinates the recovery effort between the combat search and rescue task force (CSARTF) and the PRCC (or joint personnel recovery center) by monitoring the status of all CSARTF elements, requesting additional assets when needed, and ensuring the recovery and supporting forces arrive at their designated areas to accomplish the PR mission. The component PRCC or higher authority may designate the AMC. The AMC appoints, as necessary, an on-scene commander. Also called **AMC**.*] (Annex 3-50) {Italicized definition in brackets applies only to the Air Force and is offered for clarity}

air bridge. An air refueling operation that extends the unrefueled range of aircraft transiting from the continental United States and a theater, or any two theaters. This operation reduces the number of aircraft on the ground at forward staging bases, minimizes potential en route maintenance delays, enables airlift assets to maximize their payloads, and facilitates rapid transit of combat aircraft to area of operations. (Annex 3-17)

air defense. Defensive measures designed to destroy attacking enemy aircraft or missiles in the atmosphere, or to nullify or reduce the effectiveness of such attack. See also active air defense; aerospace defense; passive air defense. (JP 3-01) [*Defensive measures designed to destroy attacking enemy manned or unmanned air vehicles in the atmosphere, or to nullify or reduce the effectiveness of such attack.*] (Annex 3-01) {Italicized definition in brackets applies only to the Air Force and is offered for clarity}

air domain. The atmosphere, beginning at the Earth's surface, extending to the altitude where its effects upon operations become negligible. (JP 3-30)

airdrop. The unloading of personnel or materiel from aircraft in flight. (JP 3-17)

air expeditionary force. An organizational structure to provide Air Force forces and support on a rotational, and thus relatively more predictable basis. They are composed

of force packages of capabilities that provide rapid and responsive airpower. Also called **AEF**. (Annex 3-30)

air expeditionary task force. The organizational manifestation of Air Force forces afield. The AETF provides a joint force commander with a task-organized, integrated package with the appropriate balance of force, sustainment, control, and force protection. Also called **AETF**. (Annex 3-30)

Air Force Emergency Management Program. The single, integrated Air Force program to coordinate and organize efforts to prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the direct and indirect consequences of an emergency or attack. (AFI 10-2501)

Air Force special operations forces. Those Active and Reserve Component Air Force forces designated by the Secretary of Defense that are specifically organized, trained, and equipped to conduct and support special operations. Also called **AFSOF** (JP 3-05).

air interdiction. Air operations conducted to destroy, neutralize, or delay the enemy's military surface capabilities before it can be brought to bear effectively against friendly forces, or to otherwise achieve objectives that are conducted at such distance from friendly forces that detailed integration of each air mission with the fire and movement of friendly forces is not required. (JP 3-03)

airland. Move by air and disembark, or unload, after the aircraft has landed or while an aircraft is hovering. (JP 3-17)

airlift. Operations to transport and deliver forces and materiel through the air in support of strategic, operational, and/or tactical objectives. (Annex 3-17)

Airman. The term Airman has historically been associated with uniformed members of the US Air Force (officer or enlisted; regular, reserve, or guard) regardless of rank, component, or specialty. Today, Department of the Air Force civilians and members of the Civil Air Patrol, when conducting missions for the Air Force as the official Air Force Auxiliary, are incorporated within the broader meaning of the term when there is a need to communicate to a larger audience within the Service, either for force development purposes or for clarity and inclusiveness by senior leaders when addressing a larger body of personnel. All Airmen, military and civilian, support and defend the Constitution of the United States and live by the Air Force core values. (Volume 2)

air mobility. The rapid movement of personnel, materiel, and forces to and from or within a theater by air. See also air refueling. (JP 3-17)

air mobility division. Located in the joint air operations center to plan, coordinate, task, and execute the air mobility mission consisting of the air mobility control team, airlift control team, aerial refueling control team, and aeromedical evacuation control team. Also called **AMD**. (JP 3-17)

air movement. Air transport of units, personnel, supplies, and equipment including airdrops and air landings. (JP 3-17)

air operations center. The senior agency of the Air Force component commander that provides command and control of Air Force air and space operations and coordinates with other components and Services. (JP 3-30)

air parity. A condition in the air battle in which no force has control of the air. (Annex 3-01)

airpower. The ability to project military power or influence through the control and exploitation of air, space, and cyberspace to achieve strategic, operational, or tactical objectives. (Volume1)

air refueling. The refueling of an aircraft in flight by another aircraft. (JP 3-17). [*The capability to refuel aircraft in flight, which extends presence, increases range, and serves as a force multiplier.*] (Annex 3-17) {Words in brackets apply only to the US Air Force and are offered for clarity.}

airspace control. Capabilities and procedures used to increase operational effectiveness by promoting the safe, efficient, and flexible use of airspace.(JP 3-52) [*Airspace control operations may begin prior to (and continue after) combat operations and may transition through varying degrees of civil and military authority. Airspace control does not restrict the authority of commanders to conduct operations. However, the airspace control procedures within the JOA are approved by the JFC and are derived entirely from the JFC's authority.*] [Annex 3-52] {Words in brackets apply only to the US Air Force and are offered for clarity.}

airspace control authority. The commander designated to assume overall responsibility for the operation of the airspace control system in the airspace control area. Also called **ACA**. (JP 3-52)

airspace control order. An order implementing the airspace control plan that provides the details of the approved requests for airspace coordinating measures. It is published either as part of the air tasking order or as a separate document Also called **ACO**. (JP 3-52)

airspace control plan. The document approved by the joint force commander that provides specific planning guidance and procedures for the airspace control system for the joint force operational area. Also called **ACP**. (JP 3-52)

airspace control procedures. Rules, mechanisms, and directions that facilitate the control and use of airspace of specified dimensions. See also airspace control authority; airspace control order; airspace control plan. (JP 3-52)

airspace control system. An arrangement of those organizations, personnel, policies,

procedures, and facilities required to perform airspace control functions. Also called **ACS**. (JP 3-52).

airspace coordinating measures. Measures employed to facilitate the efficient use of airspace to accomplish missions and simultaneously provide safeguards for friendly forces. Also called **ACM**. (JP 3-52)

airspace management. The coordination, integration, and regulation of the use of airspace of defined dimensions. (JP 3-52)

air superiority. That degree of dominance in the air battle by one force that permits the conduct of its operations at a given time and place without prohibitive interference from air and missile threats. (JP 3-01) [*That degree of **control of the air** by one force that permits the conduct of operations at a given time and place without prohibitive interference from air and missile threats, including cruise and ballistic missiles.*] (Annex 3-01) {Italicized definition in brackets applies only to the Air Force and is offered for clarity and is consistent with the discussion of “control of the air” in JP 3-30, page I-1.}

air supremacy. That degree of air superiority wherein the opposing air force is incapable of effective interference within the operational area using air and missile threats. (JP 3-01) [*That degree of **control of the air** by one force that permits the conduct of its operations at a given time and place without effective interference from air and missile threats, including cruise and ballistic missiles.*] (Annex 3-01) {Italicized definition in brackets applies only to the Air Force and is offered for clarity and is consistent with the discussion of “control of the air” in JP 3-30, page I-1.}

air tasking order. A method used to task and disseminate to components, subordinate units, and command and control agencies projected sorties, capabilities and/or forces to targets and specific missions. Also called **ATO**. (JP 3-30)

air terminal. A facility on an airfield that functions as an air transportation hub and accommodates the loading and unloading of airlift aircraft and the intransit processing of traffic. (JP 3-17) [*The airfield may or may not be designated an aerial port.*] (Annex 3-17) Italicized definition in brackets applies only to the Air Force and is offered for clarity}

alert order. 1. A crisis action planning directive from the Secretary of Defense, issued by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, that provides essential guidance for planning and directs the initiation of execution planning for the selected course of action authorized by the Secretary of Defense. 2. A planning directive that provides essential planning guidance, directs the initiation of execution planning after the directing authority approves a military course of action, but does not authorize execution. Also called **ALERTORD**. (JP 5-0)

alliance. The relationship that results from a formal agreement between two or more nations for broad, long-term objectives that further the common interests of the members. (JP 3-0)

all-source intelligence. 1. Intelligence products and/or organizations and activities that incorporate all sources of information in the production of finished intelligence. 2. In intelligence collection, a phrase that indicates that in the satisfaction of intelligence requirements, all collection, processing, exploitation, and reporting systems and resources are identified for possible use and those most capable are tasked. (JP 2-0)

allocation. Distribution of limited forces and resources for employment among competing requirements. See also apportionment. (JP 5-0) Note: Specific allocations (e.g., air sorties, nuclear weapons, forces, and transportation) are described as allocation of air sorties, nuclear weapons, etc.

analysis and production. In intelligence usage, the conversion of processed information into intelligence through the integration, evaluation, analysis, and interpretation of all source data and the preparation of intelligence products in support of known or anticipated user requirements. (JP 2-01)

antiradiation missile. A missile which homes passively on a radiation source. Also called **ARM**. (JP 3-01)

antiterrorism. Defensive measures used to reduce the vulnerability of individuals and property to terrorist acts, to include rapid containment by local military and civilian forces. Also called **AT**. (JP 3-07.2)

apportionment (air). The determination and assignment of the total expected effort by percentage and/or by priority that should be devoted to the various air operations for a given period of time. Also called **air apportionment**. (JP 3-0)

apportionment. In the general sense, distribution of forces and capabilities as the starting point for planning, etc. (JP 5-0).

area air defense commander. The component commander with the preponderance of air defense capability and the required command, control, and communications capabilities who is assigned by the joint force commander to plan and execute integrated air defense operations. Also called **AADC**. (JP 3-01)

area of operations. An operational area defined by the joint force commander for land and maritime forces that should be large enough to accomplish their missions and protect their forces. Also called **AO**. (JP 3-0)

area of responsibility. The geographical area associated with a combatant command within which a geographic combatant commander has authority to plan and conduct operations. Also called **AOR**. (JP 1)

assessment. 1. A continuous process that measures the overall effectiveness of employing joint force capabilities during military operations. 2. Determination of the

progress toward accomplishing a task, creating a condition, or achieving an objective. 3. Analysis of the security, effectiveness, and potential of an existing or planned intelligence activity. 4. Judgment of the motives, qualifications, and characteristics of present or prospective employees or “agents.” (JP 3-0)

assign. 1. To place units or personnel in an organization where such placement is relatively permanent, and/or where such organization controls and administers the units or personnel for the primary function, or greater portion of the functions, of the unit or personnel. 2. To detail individuals to specific duties or functions where such duties or functions are primary and/or relatively permanent. (JP 3-0)

asymmetric. In military operations the application of dissimilar strategies, tactics, capabilities, and methods to circumvent or negate an opponent’s strengths while exploiting his weaknesses. (JP 3-15.1)

attach. 1. The placement of units or personnel in an organization where such placement is relatively temporary. 2. The detailing of individuals to specific functions where such functions are secondary or relatively temporary. (JP 3-0)

attack assessment. An evaluation of information to determine the potential or actual nature and objectives of an attack for the purpose of providing information for timely decisions. (JP 3-14)

Aviation Foreign Internal Defense. Programs for assessing, training, advising, assisting and equipping host nation aviation forces in the sustainment, employment, and integration of airpower to support their internal defense and development programs. Also called **AvFID.** (Annex 3-05)
