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Operations

AIR RESERVE COMPONENT FORCES

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Within the United States Air Force, Total Force is more than a policy; it is an operational imperative. Virtually no mission in the Air Force today can be fully successful without the synergistic teamwork of the Regular Air Force (RegAF), Air National Guard (ANG), and the Air Force Reserve (AFR). This AFD implements the SecDef 's Total Force policy first established in August, 1973, as well as Chapters 1003, 1005, 1007 and 1211 of Title 10, United States Code, and Title 32, United States Code. Policy in this directive is implemented by AFI 10-301, *Responsibilities for Air Reserve Component Forces*. This directive applies to all Air Force personnel including AFR and ANG.

Note: For purposes of this publication, RegAF is not inclusive of retired members. Also, this publication deals only with the military components (RegAF, ANG and AFR) of the Total Force.

Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AFMAN 37-123, *Management of Records* and disposed of in accordance with the *Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS)* located at <https://afrims.amc.af.mil/>

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This revision updates terminology to properly reflect the Air Force Reserve as a major command, adds the Air Reserve Personnel Center (ARPC) and the Readiness Management Group (RMG) as organizations requiring coordination for mobilization of individual mobilization augmentees (IMAs), and highlights the role of Total Force Integration concepts in the structuring of Air Force roles and missions.

1. By definition (10 USC 8062(d)), the Air Force consists of the Regular Air Force, the Air National Guard (ANGUS) of the United States, the Air National Guard while in the service of the United States, and the Air Force Reserve. The AFR and the ANG are referred to as the Air Reserve Components or ARC, and together with the regular component create a Total Force that provides air, space and cyber power for the joint warfighter through the entire continuum from peacetime/rotational operations through wartime operations.

Under the Total Force Policy established by the Department of Defense (DoD) in 1973, both regular and reserve assets are considered as parts of a single United States military resource. All aspects of regular and reserve forces must be considered when determining an appropriate force mix. Significant factors include contribution of forces to national security, availability of forces in view of time, statutory or regulatory constraints, and the cost to equip and maintain forces. Considerations unique to ANG units include their dual state and Federal (Title 10) missions. ARC forces will be staffed and trained to meet the same training standards and readiness levels as Regular Component forces, and supplied with the same equipment on an equal priority. Equipment may not be withdrawn, diverted, or reassigned to the regular component for other commitments, or for the Security Assistance Program, without the advance written approval of the Secretary of Defense (SecDef) or Deputy Secretary of Defense.

1.1. Reserve force requirements will be included in Air Force planning to ensure resources are made available to staff, equip, upgrade, train, and evaluate ARC units and individuals as well as RegAF units and individuals.

1.2. Within the Department of the Air Force, the regular component will implement Total Force policy by including ARC forces in deliberate and crisis action planning and employment actions.

1.3. The ANG and AFRC will prepare to meet their wartime requirements as members of the Total Force. Where appropriate, they will perform peacetime missions as an adjunct to training for wartime missions and as directed in cases of support to civil authorities during disaster responses. To ensure responsiveness and combat readiness, ARC forces will be continuously evaluated, modernized and trained as a critical element of the Total Force that can be seamlessly employed alongside regular component counterparts.

1.4. When not mobilized, ARC forces complement the regular component through a system of volunteerism. This volunteerism supports Total Force policy and is a force multiplier for meeting short-term and rotational operational requirements. Major contingencies requiring a large amount of ARC support may require a formal declaration authorizing some level of mobilization.

1.5. ARC personnel policies will be consistent with those established by the Secretary of the Air Force and Headquarters US Air Force (HQ USAF). The Director of ANG is responsible for the administration of personnel and policies governing the ANG, and the Commander, Air Force Reserve Command is responsible for the personnel and policies governing the AFR.

2. The Total Force Integration concept is utilized in reshaping Air Force roles and missions to effectively meet evolving national security goals. To this end, regular component and ARC units may be integrated in an expanded variety of the proven associate constructs, to include Classic Associate, Active Associate (and a variant on Active Associate referred to as Community Basing), ARC Associate, Integrated Associate or Fully Integrated Associate (refer to Glossary for definitions). Conversely, stand-alone ARC units may still be organized to take advantage of state or regional demographics, and often will not be located at major, multi-squadron bases as is normally the case with regular component resources. These units are termed "unit equipped", and provide the additional benefit of implementing a strong relationship with the civilian community, which helps build public support for the Air Force as a whole.

3. In situations where mobilization is required, units shall be mobilized based on Unit Type Code (UTC) capability assigned against the unit and the Combatant Commander's (CCDR) requirements. When complete units are required, the mobilization requests should include reserve command and administrative

personnel as well. ARC forces will be given equitable opportunity to fill command roles during contingency operations.

4. The following responsibilities and authorities are established:

4.1. Command jurisdiction for non-mobilized ANG units is vested in the governor of the state, commonwealth, or territory, or in the President in the case of the District of Columbia. Communications to and within the National Guard Bureau (NGB) on matters pertaining to ANG units will be coordinated through the Director of ANG.

4.2. Program Action Directive (PAD) 97-09, directed the reassignment of all forces of the Air Force Reserve, to include IMA's, except those assigned to USSOCOM, to Air Force Reserve Command. Thus, Administrative Control (ADCON) of non-mobilized Air Force Reserve personnel (including IMAs) is exercised through the Commander, Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) who is, in turn, responsible to the Chief of Staff, USAF.

4.3. Per AFDD 2, when ARC unit forces are mobilized, Operational Control (OPCON) of those forces transfers in accordance with SecDef orders. The Commander of Air Force Forces (COMAFFOR) receives specified ADCON over all attached forces. Short of full mobilization, ADCON (other than specified ADCON) will remain with AFRC or ANG, as appropriate, unless a specific agreement is made to integrate the ARC and regular components.

4.4. Mobilization manpower sourcing from the ARC will be determined by the gaining MAJCOM in concert with HQ USAF and the ARC. Mobilization of IMAs will be coordinated with RMG via HQ AFRC.

4.5. The Director, NGB and AFRC/CC will develop and justify their programs and submit them to the Air Force Corporate Structure for inclusion in the Air Force budget.

5. In some cases, policy directives and instructions will not be applicable to ARC units in nonmobilized status. Applicability to the ARC is determined in conjunction with the National Guard Bureau and AF/RE.

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6. See [Attachment 1](#) for the terms used in this policy.

Michael W. Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

AFDD 2, *Organization and Employment of Aerospace Power*

AFI 10-301, *Responsibilities of Air Reserve Component (ARC) Forces*

AFI 36-2629, *Individual Mobilization Augmentee Management*

AFMAN 37-123, *Management of Records* (soon to be renumbered as AFMAN 33-363)

JP 01-2, *Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms*

Title 10, United States Code

Title 32, United States Code

Program Action Directive (PAD) 97-09, dated 22 Sep 97

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADCON—Administrative Control

AFR—Air Force Reserve

AFRC—Air Force Reserve Command

ANG—Air National Guard

ARC—Air Reserve Components

ARPC—Air Reserve Personnel Center

CCDR—Combatant Commander

COMAFFOR—Commander of Air Force Forces

IMA—Individual Mobilization Augmentee

MAJCOM—Major Command

OPCON—Operational Control

RegAF—Regular Air Force

RMG—Readiness Management Group

UTC—Unit Type Code

Terms

Activation—The process of placing members of the selected reserve on active duty. Activation includes all forms of mobilization and active duty other than for training, including full mobilization (10 U.S.C. § 12301(a)), partial mobilization (10 U.S.C. § 12302), and the Presidential Reserve Call-Up (10 U.S.C. § 12304) as well as consensual, or voluntary service under 10 U.S.C. § 12301(d), generally referred to as volunteerism. The term nonmobilized is understood to be the opposite of activated; i.e., peacetime duty or

training in the form of inactive duty for training, annual tours, additional flying training periods or proficiency training, and school tours.

Active Associate Unit—An integration model where a reserve component unit has principal responsibility for weapon system or systems, which it shares with one or more regular component units. The ARC and regular component units retain separate organizational structures and chains of command. Varying degrees of functional integration are based on memoranda of understanding.

Administrative Control—Direction or exercise of authority over subordinate or other organizations in respect to administration and support, including organization of Service forces, control of resources and equipment, personnel management, unit logistics, individual and unit training, readiness, mobilization, demobilization, discipline, and other matters not included in the operational missions of the subordinate or other organizations. Also called ADCON. [JP 1-02]

ARC Associate Unit—An integration model where two or more ARC units integrate with one retaining principal responsibility for a weapon system or systems, which are shared by all. Each unit retains separate organizational structures and chains of commands. Varying degrees of functional integration are based on memoranda of understanding.

Classic Associate Unit—An integration model where a regular component unit retains principal responsibility for a weapon system or systems, which it shares with one or more reserve component units. Regular and ARC units retain separate organizational structures and chains of command. Varying degrees of functional integration are based on memoranda of understanding.

Command—The authority that a commander in the Armed Forces lawfully exercises over subordinates by virtue of rank or assignment. Command includes the authority and responsibility for effectively using available resources and for planning the employment of, organizing, directing, coordinating, and controlling military forces for the accomplishment of assigned missions. It also includes responsibility for health, welfare, morale, and discipline of assigned personnel. [JP 1-02]

Combatant Commander—A commander of one of the unified or specified combatant commands established by the President. [JP 1-02]

Community Basing—A variation on the Active Associate model where regular component forces are garrisoned at an ARC unit location. Support functions traditionally provided on a full service installation (housing, medical, commissary, BX, etc) are instead available in the local community.

Full Mobilization—Expansion of the active Armed Forces resulting from action by Congress and the President to mobilize all Reserve Component units in the existing approved force structure, as well as all individual reservists, retired military personnel, and the resources needed for their support to meet the requirements of a war or other national emergency involving an external threat to the national security. [JP 1-02]

Fully Integrated Unit—An integration model where members from different components comprise a single organization, falling under the same chain of command.

Gaining Command—The major command, field operating agency, or other organization to which units or individuals are assigned upon mobilization.

Integrated Associate Unit—An integration model where members of two or more components belong to one unit with administrative control and support provided by the respective components via detachments.

Mobilization—The process by which the Armed Forces or part of them are brought to a state of readiness

for war or other national emergency. This includes activating all or part of the Reserve Components, as well as assembling and organizing personnel, supplies, and materiel. [JP 1-02]

Nonmobilized—See Activation.

Operational Control—The authority to perform those functions of command over subordinate forces involving organizing and employing commands and forces, assigning tasks, designating objectives, and giving authoritative direction necessary to accomplish the mission. Operational control includes authoritative direction over all aspects of military operations and joint training necessary to accomplish missions assigned to the command. Operational control should be exercised through the commanders of subordinate organizations. Normally this authority is exercised through subordinate joint force commanders and Service and/or functional component commanders. Operational control normally provides full authority to organize commands and forces and to employ those forces as the commander in operational control considers necessary to accomplish assigned missions; it does not, in and of itself, include authoritative direction for logistics or matters of administration, discipline, internal organization, or unit training. Also called OPCON. [JP 1-02]

Partial Mobilization—Expansion of the active Armed Forces resulting from action by Congress (up to full mobilization) or by the President (not more than 1,000,000 for not more than 24 consecutive months) to mobilize Ready Reserve Component units, individual reservists, and the resources needed for their support to meet the requirements of a war or other national emergency involving an external threat to the national security. [JP 1-02]

Readiness Management Group—An organization established by AFRC to provide readiness oversight of all Individual Mobilization Augmentees

Regular Air Force—The component of the Air Force that consists of persons whose continuous service on active duty in both peace and war is contemplated by law, and of retired members of the Regular Air Force. [10 USC 8075]

Selected Reserve—Those units and individuals within the Ready Reserve designated by their respective Services and approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff as so essential to initial wartime missions that they have priority over all other Reserves. All Selected Reservists are in an active status. The Selected Reserve also includes persons performing initial active duty for training. [JP 1-02]

Selective Mobilization—Expansion of the active Armed Forces resulting from action by Congress and/or the President to mobilize Reserve Component units, Individual Ready Reservists, and the resources needed for their support to meet the requirements of a domestic emergency that is not the result of an enemy attack. [JP 1-02]

Short of Full Mobilization—Includes partial mobilization, Presidential Reserve Call-up, and volunteerism.

Specified ADCON—Exercise of authority over subordinate or other organizations with respect to certain elements of administration or support, including accomplishment of assigned tasks for operational missions; support of operational and exercise plans; organization, training, equipping, and sustaining forces for in-theater missions; establishment of force protection requirements; and discipline. Exercised by Commander holding OPCON over attached forces.

Unit Type Code—A Joint Chiefs of Staff developed and assigned code, consisting of five characters that uniquely identify a “type unit”. [JP 1-02]