

25 AUGUST 2008

Certified Current, 1 October 2014

Operations



AIR FORCE DOCTRINE

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OPR: LeMay Center/DD
Supersedes AFPD10-13, 1 October 1998

Certified by: AF/A3/5 (Lt Gen Daniel J. Darnell)
Pages: 5

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Air Force doctrine is a statement of officially sanctioned beliefs and warfighting principles, which describe and guide the proper use of Air Force forces in military action. It is authoritative but requires judgment in application. This directive provides guidance for the development and coordination of Air Force, joint, and multinational doctrine.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

The title of the AFPD is changed from Air and Space Doctrine to Air Force Doctrine to reflect the Service-specific nature of the information contained herein (title, page 1); the name of the organization is changed to the LeMay Center for Doctrine Development and Education (the LeMay Center) (para. 3.1.); the commander is designated as the Air Force executive agent to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force for basic and operational Air Force doctrine (para 3.1.); the LeMay Center is organized under Air University (para 3.5.); references to documents and Air Force organizations are updated for accuracy (throughout).

1. The Air Force will develop, promulgate, and teach this doctrine as a common frame of reference for the best way to employ airpower. Most importantly, doctrine provides the foundation for Air Force policies which guide our personnel as they organize, train, equip, plan, employ, and sustain Air Force forces.
2. Air Force doctrine describes missions, tasks, warfighting organization, and operating environments; guides commanders on employment of Air Force capabilities; guides weapon development programs and force planning; guides organizational and personnel policies; provides the foundation for training and pro-

fessional development of Air Force personnel; and provides the foundation for Air Force contributions to joint and multinational doctrine development. Development will follow the processes described in Air Force Instruction (AFI) 10-1301, Air Force Doctrine.

3. The following responsibilities and authorities are established:

3.1. The LeMay Center for Doctrine Development and Education (the LeMay Center) will act as the Air Force single point of contact for the development, dissemination, and advocacy of all Air Force, joint, and multinational doctrine, at both the basic and operational levels. The Commander, LeMay Center, is the Air Force executive agent (EA) for basic and operational Air Force doctrine and in this capacity reports directly to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force for all doctrinal matters.

3.2. The LeMay Center will conduct the Air Force doctrine development program. The LeMay Center designates an office of primary responsibility (OPR) within its organization for Air Force basic and operational level doctrine and joint and multinational doctrine programs for which the Air Force has been designated lead agent (LA). When required, the LeMay Center may designate a major command (MAJCOM); direct reporting unit; field operating agency (FOA); numbered Air Force (NAF), when a component of a unified command; or Headquarters Air Force directorate as OPR for Air Force operational level, joint, or multinational doctrine projects. The LeMay Center will gather, share, and distribute information by direct communication with those Air Force organizations that have pertinent capabilities and expertise, as needed, to perform its duties. The LeMay Center will coordinate on joint doctrine for which the Air Force is not designated LA. The LeMay Center will coordinate directly with joint and sister Service doctrine development offices as necessary on matters related to Service, joint, and multinational doctrine development. The Commander, the LeMay Center, will communicate with these agencies at the general/flag officer level.

3.3. The LeMay Center works policy and advocacy issues for doctrine matters. The LeMay Center Liaison Division (LeMay Center/DL) at the Pentagon will act as the point of contact for Headquarters Air Force on doctrine matters and conduct formal joint doctrine coordination in accordance with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction 5711.01B, Policy on Action Processing. The LeMay Center also completes Headquarters Air Force doctrine coordination for final approval of the capstone and keystone Air Force doctrine documents (AFDDs) by the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. The LeMay Center is responsible for format guidelines, final editing, and overseeing design and layout, as well as establishing and maintaining distribution lists. SAF/AA is responsible for budgeting and printing those AFDDs approved for printing.

3.4. MAJCOMs may be assigned responsibility for Air Force or joint doctrine development projects when the appropriate expertise is not resident at the LeMay Center. They will normally provide technical review for doctrine development in their areas of responsibility. Either MAJCOMs (for Air Force Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures [AFTTP] 3-1 or 3-3 series) or the issuing organizations are responsible for developing, coordinating, and publishing AFTTP and Air Force Pamphlet tactical doctrine manuals. They also ensure that all tactical doctrine manuals and pamphlets are consistent with Air Force and joint doctrine as coordinated through the LeMay Center during technical coordination in compliance with AFI 33-360, Publications and Forms Management. Additionally, MAJCOMs will comment on various Air Force, joint, bilateral, or multinational doctrine development projects as requested, in accordance with AFI 10-1301.

3.5. The LeMay Center is aligned under Air University, which provides research support to the LeMay Center, MAJCOMs, and FOAs for doctrine development projects. Air University is also responsible for doctrine education within the Air Force.

3.6. NAFs serving as Air Force component commands to combatant commands will participate in joint doctrine development by providing comments on joint doctrine projects in the same manner as MAJCOMs.

3.7. AF/A5XX will coordinate for staffing multinational doctrine projects such as NATO Standardization Agreements; Air Standards and Advisory Publications of the Air and Space Interoperability Council Standardization Coordinating Committee; and those agreements of the American, British, Canadian, and Australian Armies and Navies that can affect air forces.

4. See [Attachment 1](#) for references and supporting information.

MICHAEL B. DONLEY
Secretary of the Air Force

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

CJCSI 5120.02A, Joint Doctrine Development System, 31 Mar 07
CJCSI 5711.01B, Policy on Action Processing, 25 Oct 03
JP1-02, Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms
AFI 10-1301, Air and Space Doctrine, 25 Jul 05
AFI 33-360, Publications and Forms Management, 18 May 06

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFDD—Air Force doctrine document
AFI—Air Force instruction
AFPAM—Air Force pamphlet
AFTTP—Air Force tactics, techniques, and procedures
CJCSI—Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff instruction
DRU—direct reporting unit
EA—executive agent
FOA—field operating agency
JP—joint publication
LA—lead agent
LeMay Center—The Curtis E. LeMay Center for Doctrine Development and Education
MAJCOM—major command
NAF—numbered Air Force
OPR—office of primary responsibility

Terms

Basic Doctrine—States the most fundamental and enduring beliefs that describe and guide the proper use, presentation, and organization of air and space forces in military action. It describes the “elemental properties” of air and space power and provides the Airman’s perspective. Because of its fundamental and enduring character, basic doctrine provides broad and continuing guidance on how Air Force forces are organized, employed, equipped, and sustained. Because it expresses broad, enduring fundamentals, basic doctrine changes relatively slowly compared to the other levels of doctrine. As the foundation of all air and space doctrine, basic doctrine also sets the tone and vision for doctrine development for the future. AFDD 1 is the Airman’s basic doctrine. (AFDD 1)

Executive Agent—An executive agent within the Air Force will be delegated from the Secretary of the Air Force or Chief of Staff, United States Air Force, to a subordinate to act on the Secretary's or Chief of Staff's behalf.

Joint Doctrine—Fundamental principles that guide the employment of US military forces in coordinated action toward a common objective. Joint doctrine contained in joint publications also includes terms, tactics, techniques, and procedures. It is authoritative but requires judgment in application. (JP 1-02)

Operational Doctrine—Doctrine that guides the proper organization and employment of air and space forces in the context of distinct objectives, force capabilities, broad functional areas, and operational environments. Operational doctrine provides the focus for developing the missions and tasks that must be executed through tactical doctrine. Doctrine at this level changes a bit more rapidly than basic doctrine, but usually only after deliberate internal Service debate. (AFDD 1)

Tactical Doctrine—Describes the proper employment of specific Air Force capabilities and their inherent assets, individually or in concert with other capabilities and assets, to achieve desired effects and objectives. Tactical doctrine considers particular objectives (e.g. stopping the advance of an enemy armored column) and conditions (threats, weather, terrain, etc.) and describes how Air Force assets are employed to accomplish the tactical objective (B-1s dropping anti-armor cluster munitions, etc.). Tactical doctrine, in the form of techniques and procedures, also gives detailed guidance on how to develop functional capabilities and accomplish combat support tasks (civil engineers repairing facilities, services technicians providing beddown support, etc.). Tactical doctrine is codified as tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) in Air Force TTP 3-X series manuals. Because tactical doctrine is closely associated with employment of technology, change may occur more rapidly than to the other levels of doctrine. Also, due to their sensitive nature, some of these documents are classified. (AFDD 1)