

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER  
AIR COMBAT COMMAND**

**AIR COMBAT COMMAND MISSION  
DIRECTIVE 202**



**28 SEPTEMBER 2023**

**Mission Directive**

**NUMBERED AIR FORCES—  
HQ FIRST AIR FORCE (AIR FORCES  
NORTHERN AND AIR FORCES SPACE)**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This mission directive implements guidance in AFI 38- 101, *Manpower and Organization*. Its purpose is to prescribe unit mission, command relationship, and responsibilities of HQ 1 AF (AFNORTH and AFSPACE). This mission directive applies to 1 AF (AFNORTH and AFSPACE) and subordinate active duty units and personnel, and those assigned or attached Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard units and personnel or mobilized members performing federal missions. This mission directive does not apply to the United States Space Force. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained IAW AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and disposed of IAW the Air Force Records Information Management System Records Disposition Schedule. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the OPR using DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route DAF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. Submit requests for waivers through the chain of command to the publication OPR for non-tiered compliance items. This publication may not be supplemented or further implemented or extended.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This document has been revised and must be reviewed. Changes include, sections 1.4, 2.4 and 3.4 which were added to reflect the gained Air Forces Space mission and responsibilities.

**1. Mission.** The First Air Force (Air Forces Northern and Air Forces Space) Commander (1 AF (AFNORTH and AFSPACE)/CC), under Commander, Air Combat Command (COMACC), is assigned five missions:

1.1. As 1 AF (AFNORTH and AFSPACE)/CC, ensure assigned, and/or attached Air Force Forces (AFFOR) are combat ready to conduct full-spectrum air sovereignty, homeland defense (HD), civil support (CS), security cooperation (SC), and space support operations.

1.2. As Commander of the Continental United States (CONUS) North American Aerospace Defense (NORAD) Region (CDRCONR), Command and Control (C2) defensive counter air (DCA) and air sovereignty operations as directed by Commander, NORAD (CDRNORAD).

1.3. As Commander, Air Forces Northern (CDRAFNORTH), plan, C2, and assess full spectrum air and space power capabilities as directed by Commander, United States NORTHERN COMMAND (CDRUSNORTHCOM) to support HD, CS, and SC preparation and operations. AFNORTH is the Air Force Service Component Command to United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM). CDRAFNORTH, is delegated service Anti-Terrorism (AT)/Force Protection (FP) mission/activities within the Area of Responsibility (AOR) by CDRUSNORTHCOM. CDRAFNORTH also functions as Commander, Air Force Forces (COMAFFOR) for USAF gained, assigned, and attached forces to USNORTHCOM.

1.4. As Commander, Air Forces Space (CDRAFSPACE), plan, execute, and provide air component support as directed by Commander, United States SPACE COMMAND (CDRUSSPACECOM). AFSPACE is the Air Force Service Component Command to United States Space Command (USSPACECOM). CDRAFSPACE also functions as COMAFFOR for USAF gained, assigned, and attached forces to USSPACECOM.

1.5. As First Air Expeditionary Task Force Commander (1 AETF/CC), provide “specified” Administrative Control (ADCON) responsibilities to assigned and/or attached expeditionary forces as denoted in the ACC G-series expeditionary unit activation orders. All expeditionary units are under ADCON of the COMAFFOR, the AF Service Component/CC (CDRAFNORTH and CDRAFSPACE), through the 1 AETF.

## **2. Command:**

2.1. 1 AF (AFNORTH and AFSPACE)/CC reports to COMACC for Service issues.

2.2. CDRCONR reports to CDRNORAD and the bi-national chain of command for alliance Air Sovereignty and DCA issues.

2.2.1. CDRCONR, as directed by CDRNORAD, performs functional command responsibilities as Combined Forces Air Component Commander (CFACC), Area Air Defense Commander (AADC), and Airspace Control Authority (ACA). Performs COMAFFOR and 1 AETF/CC functions as required.

2.3. CDRAFNORTH is under the combatant command authority (COCOM) of CDRUSNORTHCOM.

2.3.1. 1 AF (AFNORTH and AFSPACE)/CC is also CDRAFNORTH and under operational control (OPCON) of CDRUSNORTHCOM. CDRAFNORTH and the AFNORTH staff conduct planning, execution, and assessment of air domain strategic, operational, and tactical issues in support of, and reporting to, USNORTHCOM.

2.3.2. CDRAFNORTH is the COMAFFOR for assigned, gained, or attached forces to 1 AETF and reports through the administrative (ADCON) chain to ACC and Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

2.3.3. CDRAFNORTH, as directed by USNORTHCOM, performs functional command responsibilities as Joint Force Air Component Commander (JFACC), AADC, ACA, Space Coordinating Authority (SCA) duties and under Collections Operations Management (COM) authority, will plan, task, schedule and control Incident Awareness and Assessment (IAA)/Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) processing, exploitation, and dissemination.

2.3.4. CDRAFNORTH, as the Air Force Service Component Command to USNORTHCOM, recommends resourcing requirements, planning decisions, programming guidance, and conducts advocacy with Headquarters Air Force for submission within Program Objective Memorandums and Future Year Defense Programs. This includes conducting and participating in analysis of missions, objectives, alternative methods to accomplish objectives and allocation of resources.

2.4. CDRAFSPACE is under the combatant command authority (COCOM) of CDRUSSPACECOM.

2.4.1. 1 AF (AFNORTH and AFSPACE)/CC is also CDRAFSPACE and under OPCOM of CDRUSSPACECOM. CDRAFSPACE and the AFSPACE staff conduct planning, execution, and assessment of air component space support component support to space operations, and reports to USSPACECOM.

2.4.2. CDRAFSPACE is the COMAFFOR for assigned, gained, or attached forces to 1 AETF and reports through the administrative (ADCON) chain to ACC and Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

2.4.3. CDRAFSPACE, as the Air Force Service Component Command to USSPACECOM, recommends resourcing requirements, planning decisions, programming guidance, and conducts advocacy with Headquarters Air Force for submission within Program Objective Memorandums and Future Year Defense Programs. This includes conducting and participating in analysis of missions, objectives, alternative methods to accomplish objectives and allocation of resources.

### **3. Responsibilities:**

3.1. As 1 AF (AFNORTH and AFSPACE)/CC:

3.1.1. Ensure operational readiness of assigned or gained forces for homeland defense, civil support, security cooperation mission sets and theater wide contingency missions. As 1 AETF/CC present forces in support of NORAD, USNORTHCOM, and/or USSPACECOM operations.

3.1.2. Perform the following functional duties/responsibilities as directed by appropriate military authority: COMAFFOR, CFACC/JFACC, ACA, search and rescue, AADC, SCA, IAA/ISR and COM.

3.1.3. Provide USAF specialty training to develop Rescue Coordinator Center Watch Standers and Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers for the USAF.

3.1.4. Directs Civil Air Patrol-United States Air Force (CAP-USAF) to conduct Air Force assigned missions within the CONUS AOR. Ensures CAP-USAF organization is trained and equipped to conduct Grants Management responsibilities on behalf of SECAF and Congressional charters. Historically, SECAF designates 1 AF (AFNORTH and AFSPACE)/CV as the USAF Board member on the CAP Board of Governors.

3.1.5. Be prepared to execute other tasks as directed by COMACC.

3.2. As CDRCONR:

3.2.1. Serve as COMAFFOR, in support of US Element NORAD, and provide continuous C2 of assigned and attached air domain AFFOR via the 1 AETF to include NORAD AF DCA forces in the CONR and/or NORAD AO as directed.

3.2.2. As COMAFFOR provide for training, evaluation, support, and sustainment of assigned and attached forces, facilities, and systems to ensure successful execution of CDRNORAD directed missions.

3.2.3. Conduct air supremacy/sovereignty operations in the CONUS Region, to include atmospheric surveillance, warning, attack characterization and airspace control.

3.2.4. Execute assigned missions to defend against aerial incursions and attack(s) on the CONUS Region in accordance with CDRNORAD direction and NORAD rules of engagement.

3.2.5. Be prepared to provide support to Canadian and Alaskan NORAD Regions as directed by CDRNORAD.

3.2.6. Conduct operations, within the CONR operational area, as CFACC, ACA, AADC and SCA as directed by CDRNORAD.

3.3. As CDRAFNORTH:

3.3.1. Provide C2 of assigned and attached AFFOR. Provides full spectrum airpower capabilities in homeland defense, civil support, and security cooperation operations. Execute assigned missions in accordance with CDRUSNORTHCOM's direction and established rules of engagement.

3.3.2. Perform COMAFFOR functions to provide continuous C2 and sustainment of Air Force air and space forces assigned or attached in the USNORTHCOM AOR.

3.3.3. As COMAFFOR, provide theater specific training, evaluation, support, planning, and sustainment of forces, facilities, and systems to ensure successful execution of missions directed by CDRUSNORTHCOM.

3.3.4. Provide coordination and support to other USNORTHCOM components and/or Federal/State/Local inter-agency partners as directed by CDRUSNORTHCOM.

3.3.5. Conduct JFACC, ACA, AADC, SCA, search and rescue, and COM roles or be prepared to conduct IAA or ISR activities as directed by CDRUSNORTHCOM. Conduct direct liaison between USNORTHCOM, other service components, DOD staffs, and other Federal/State/Local inter-agency partners as necessary. Keep appropriate higher headquarters informed.

3.3.6. Conduct Security Cooperation planning and execution for Canada, Mexico, the Bahamas and the Island Nations of the Turks and Caicos at the direction of USNORTHCOM.

3.4. As CDRAFSPACE:

3.4.1. Plan, coordinate, and direct air power in accordance with USSPACECOM's direction.

3.4.2. Coordinate with combatant commands and military services for airpower efforts in support of USSPACECOM.

3.4.3. Develop, coordinate, and execute air component policy, guidance, and orders supporting USSPACECOM operations.

3.4.4. Provide air power subject matter expertise to current and future USSPACECOM operations and requirements.

3.4.5. Support the DoD Human Space Flight Support (HSFS) manager (CDRUSSPACECOM) by executing delegated HSFS DoD program management, operational, and tactical roles and responsibilities.

3.4.6. Provide oversight, resourcing, and administrative support to 1 AF Detachment 3 (Det 3) and other forces assigned to support USSPACECOM.

3.4.7. Serve as the USSPACECOM coordinating authority for contingency rescue and air component responsible for developing recommendations to USSPACECOM J3 regarding the strategy, doctrine, tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) for the joint employment of HSFS operations contingency rescue forces for the recovery of astronauts and space vehicles in support of USSPACECOM's Unified Command Plan (UCP) responsibilities.

3.4.8. Provide C2 for attached HSFS forces as delegated by USSPACECOM. Coordinate with supported and supporting forces, as required.

MARK D. KELLY, General, USAF  
Commander

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

AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, 23 March 2020

AFI 38-101, *Manpower and Organization*, 29 August 2019

***Prescribed Forms***

None

***Adopted Forms***

DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AADC**—Area Air Defense Commander

**ACA**—Airspace Control Authority

**CAP**—Civil Air Patrol

**COMACC**—Commander, Air Combat Command

**CFACC**—Combined Forces Air Component Commander

**COM**—Collection Operations Management

**CONR**—Continental United States North American Aerospace Defense Command Region

**CONUS**—Continental United States

**HSFS**—Human Space Flight Support

**IAA**—Incident, Awareness and Assessment

**ISR**—Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance

**JFACC**—Joint Forces Air Component Commander

**NORAD**—North American Aerospace Defense Command

**SCA**—Space Coordinating Authority