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**Operations**

**MISSION ASSURANCE**



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This directive implements DoD Directive (DoDD) 3020.40, *Mission Assurance (MA)*, and DoD Instruction (DoDI) 3020.45, *Mission Assurance Construct*, and incorporates the Critical Asset Risk Management (CARM) Program to execute defense critical infrastructure (DCI) requirements. It provides Air Force policy on the implementation of Mission Assurance. This publication applies to all civilian employees and uniformed members of the Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, contractors and consultants, and non-DoD U.S. Government Agencies whose personnel, by mutual agreement, require support from or conduct operational activity with the Air Force. This publication may not be supplemented. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using the AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Form 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. Ensure all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule located in the Air Force Records Information Management System.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This publication is substantially revised from the previous version and must be completely reviewed. Major changes include recent programmatic and publication changes, Headquarters Air Force (HAF) realignment, and changes to the partner programs under MA. It integrates the CARM Program into MA policy. In addition, this publication revises and establishes the roles and responsibilities of HAF, major commands (MAJCOM), field operating agencies (FOA), and direct reporting units (DRU) for MA.

**1. Policy.** It is Air Force policy to prioritize Mission Assurance efforts to fulfill critical DoD and service-specific strategic missions. These include DoD or component-level mission-essential functions and combatant command execution of operations plans, concept plans, and core joint mission-essential task. The Air Force shall:

1.1. Establish policy and implement MA as a process to protect or ensure the continued function and resilience of capabilities and assets by refining, integrating, and synchronizing the aspects of the Air Force Mission Assurance-Related Programs and Activities (MARPA) in accordance with DoDD 3020.40. Authorizes and establishes Deputy Chief of Staff Operations (AF/A3) as the Air Force's OPR with sufficient authorities to accomplish assigned tasks including MA process execution across the AF. Maintains CARM Program and associated program element code (PEC) to execute DCI requirements.

1.2. Appoint a general officer or member of the senior executive service (SES) from AF/A3 as the AF MA lead, responsible for integrating MA efforts across the AF.

1.3. Establish an MA Forum, and processes necessary to synchronize the MARPAs and provide an enterprise-wide, integrated organizational perspective to MA policy development, risk management framework, resource advocacy, oversight, implementation, and training.

1.4. Implement the DoD MA Construct and incorporate the CARM Program to identify, assess, manage, and monitor the risk to task critical assets and DCI deemed essential to strategic mission execution.

1.5. Collect, analyze, and disseminate MA-related information enhancing risk-management decision processes to execute the National Defense Strategy.

1.6. Direct all AF tenant units on an installation or residing in separate defense agency-owned or commercial leased spaces, to participate in applicable installation MA structures and processes. AF owned installations or spaces shall include DoD tenant units in applicable installation MA structures and processes.

1.7. Direct specific functional offices to assume OPR duties for each program falling under the MA umbrella. At the same time, directs these OPRs to continue these duties and incorporate the MA guidance necessary to synchronize and integrate program objectives. The Air Force MARPAs derived from DoDD 3020.40 are listed in [Table 1](#)

**Table 1. AF MA-Related Programs and Activities (MARPA).**

| <b>MARPA</b>   | <b>HAF OPR</b>   |
|--|------------------|
| Adaptive Planning  | AF/A8            |
| Antiterrorism  | AF/A4            |
| Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) Survivability                      | AF/A10           |
| Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear high-yield Explosive (CBRNE) Preparedness | AF/A4            |
| Continuity of Operations   | AF/A3            |
| Critical Asset Risk Management (DCI)   | AF/A3            |
| Cybersecurity  | SAF/CN & AF/A2/6 |
| Defense Security Enterprise  | SAF/AA           |
| Emergency Management   | AF/A4            |
| Energy Resilience  | SAF/IE           |
| Fire Prevention and Protection   | AF/A4            |
| Force Health Protection  | AF/SG            |
| Insider Threat   | SAF/AA           |
| Law Enforcement  | AF/A4            |
| Munitions Operations Risk Management   | AF/SE            |
| Operational Energy   | SAF/IE           |
| Readiness Reporting  | AF/A3            |

## **2. Roles and Responsibilities.**

### **2.1. Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force (SAF/AA). SAF/AA will:**

- 2.1.1. Participate in the AF MA Forum and serve as the OPR for programs and activities under their purview (see [Table 1](#)).
- 2.1.2. Inform the AF MA office of any identified concerns of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States.
- 2.1.3. Provide SMEs to participate in MA processes as requested.

### **2.2. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition (SAF/AQ). SAF/AQ will:**

- 2.2.1. Maintain responsibility for the acquisition and sustainment of prioritized systems and assets identified as critical.
- 2.2.2. Incorporate MA risk remediation and mitigation plans, as appropriate, into industrial preparedness, contracting, services acquisition, science and technology, and life cycle management policies, procedures, and planning.
- 2.2.3. Serve as the MA Defense Industrial Base (DIB) functional area lead, and provide a DIB functional area representative to the AF MA forum as needed.
- 2.2.4. Interface with AF senior leadership and advocate for resources to support high-priority DIB requirements.

**2.3. Air Force Deputy Chief Information Officer (SAF/CN). SAF/CN will:**

2.3.1. Participate in the AF MA Forum and serve as the OPR for programs and activities under their purview (see [Table 1](#)).

2.3.2. Provide subject matter experts (SMEs) to participate in MA processes as requested.

**2.4. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Energy (SAF/IE). SAF/IE will:**

2.4.1. Participate in the AF MA Forum and serve as the OPR for programs and activities under their purview (see [Table 1](#)).

2.4.2. Provide SMEs to participate in MA processes as requested.

**2.5. Secretary of the Air Force Inspector General (SAF/IG). SAF/IG will:**

2.5.1. Provide SMEs to participate in MA processes as requested.

2.5.2. Ensure the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI), in coordination with the AF MA office, provides policy and oversight regarding intelligence, threat, and counterintelligence (CI) support to the AF MA community stakeholders as needed.

**2.6. Air Force Chief of Safety (AF/SE). AF/SE will:**

2.6.1. Participate in the AF MA Forum and serve as the OPR for programs and activities under their purview (see [Table 1](#)).

2.6.2. Provide SMEs to participate in MA processes as requested.

**2.7. Air Force Surgeon General (AF/SG). AF/SG will:**

2.7.1. Participate in the AF MA Forum and serve as the OPR for programs and activities under their purview (see [Table 1](#)).

2.7.2. Provide SMEs to participate in MA processes as requested.

**2.8. Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Cyber Effects Operations (AF/A2/6). AF/A2/6 will:**

2.8.1. Participate in the AF MA Forum and serve as the OPR for programs and activities under their purview (see [Table 1](#)).

2.8.2. Advise the AF MA Forum on MA equities related to: intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, AF Intelligence Community, Joint Worldwide Intelligence Communication System, cyber assurance, threat analysis and reporting necessary to meet continuing responsibilities for AF MARPAs.

2.8.3. Provide SMEs to participate in MA processes as requested.

**2.9. Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (AF/A3). AF/A3 will:**

2.9.1. Serve as the OPR for programs and activities under their purview (see [Table 1](#)).

2.9.2. Serve as the Air Force MA OPR. In that role AF/A3 shall:

2.9.2.1. Establish the MA Forum and lead processes necessary to synchronize the MARPAs.

2.9.2.2. Establish MA goals, objectives, and standards; and conduct MA education outreach and training as needed.

2.9.2.3. Implement the DoD MA Construct, which is the DoD's approach to manage risk to the Department's strategic missions.

2.9.2.4. Ensure relevant, timely, and actionable information is shared with MA community stakeholders.

2.9.2.5. Provide staffing and resources the MA Integration Lead Division (AF/A3OB) needs to fulfill its responsibilities under the DoD MA Construct.

2.9.2.6. Participate in Joint Staff (JS) Mission Assurance Coordination Board (MACB) forums, as prescribed in DoDD 3020.40.

2.9.2.7. Support the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff's (CJCS) integrated MA Assessment Program (MAAP).

**2.10. Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering, and Force Protection (AF/A4). AF/A4 will:**

2.10.1. Participate in the AF MA Forum and serve as the OPR for programs and activities under their purview (see [Table 1](#)).

2.10.2. Provide SMEs to participate in MA processes as requested.

2.10.3. Support the CJCS's integrated MAAP.

**2.11. Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Programs (AF/A8). AF/A8 will:**

2.11.1. Participate in the AF MA Forum and serve as the OPR for programs and activities under their purview (see [Table 1](#)).

2.11.2. Serve as the AF planning, programming and associated resources allocation lead for AF MARPAs.

2.11.3. Provide SMEs to participate in MA processes as requested.

**2.12. Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration (AF/A10). AF/A10 will:**

2.12.1. Participate in the AF MA Forum and serve as the OPR for programs and activities under their purview (see [Table 1](#)).

2.12.2. Provide SMEs to participate in MA processes as requested.

2.13. All other HAF Agencies will: Participate in the MA Forum and provide SMEs as requested.

**2.14. Major Command Commanders, FOA, and DRU Commanders will:** Develop, coordinate and implement MA activities, policies and procedures for the oversight, execution, management, and administration of the programs under their command to support the MA Construct. Organizations with task critical assets will carry out CARM programmatic responsibilities.

2.15. AF Installation Mission Support Center (AFIMSC) and Primary Support Units (PSUs) will: Review, coordinate and implement MA activities, policies and procedures for the oversight, execution, management, and administration of programs to support the MA Construct. AFIMSC is to coordinate with the MAJCOM gatekeeper role in support of the MAAP.

MATTHEW DONOVAN  
Acting Secretary of the Air Force

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

DoDD 3020.40, *Mission Assurance*, November 29, 2016, Change 1 September 11, 2018

DoDI 3020.45, *Mission Assurance (MA) Construct*, August 14, 2018

AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, March 1, 2008

***Prescribed Forms***

None

***Adopted Forms***

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AF**—Air Force

**AF/A2/6**—Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Cyber Effects Operations

**AF/A3**—Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations

**AF/A4**—Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering, and Force Protection

**AF/A8**—Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Programs

**AF/A10**—Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration

**AF/SE**—Air Force Chief of Safety

**AF/SG**—Surgeon General of the Air Force

**AFIMSC**—Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center

**AFMAN**—Air Force Manual

**AFPD**—Air Force Policy Directive

**CARM**—Critical Asset Risk Management

**CBRN**—chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear

**CBRNE**—chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosives

**CJCS**—Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

**DCA**—defense critical asset

**DCI**—defense critical infrastructure

**DIB**—defense industrial base

**DoD**—Department of Defense

**DoDD**—Department of Defense Directive  
**DoDI**—Department of Defense Instruction  
**DRU**—direct reporting unit  
**HAF**—Headquarters Air Force  
**JS**—Joint Staff  
**MA**—Mission Assurance  
**MAAP**—Mission Assurance Assessment Program  
**MACB**—Mission Assurance Coordination Board  
**MAJCOM**—major command  
**MARPA**—Mission Assurance-Related Programs and Activities  
**OPR**—office of primary responsibility  
**OSD**—Office of the Secretary of Defense  
**PEC**—program element code  
**PSU**—primary support unit  
**SAF**—Secretary of the Air Force  
**SAF/AA**—Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force  
**SAF/AQ**—Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition  
**SAF/CN**—Deputy Chief Information Officer  
**SAF/IE**—Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Energy  
**SAF/IG**—Secretary of the Air Force Inspector General  
**SES**—senior executive service  
**SME**—subject matter expert  
**TCA**—task critical asset

### *Terms*

**Asset**—A distinguishable entity that provides a service or capability. Assets are people, physical entities, or information located either within or outside the United States and employed, owned, or operated by domestic, foreign, public, or private sector organizations.

**Defense critical asset (DCA)**—An asset of such extraordinary importance to operations in peace, crisis, and war that its incapacitation or destruction would have a very serious, debilitating effect on the ability of the DOD to fulfill its missions.

**Defense critical infrastructure (DCI)**—Department of Defense and non-Department of Defense networked assets and facilities essential to project, support, and sustain military forces and operations worldwide.



**Hazard**—A condition that potentially causes injury, illness, or death of personnel; damage to or loss of equipment or property; or mission degradation.

**Infrastructure**—The framework of interdependent physical and cyber-based systems comprising identifiable industries, institutions (including people and procedures), and distribution capabilities that provide a reliable flow of products and services essential to the defense and economic security of the United States, to the smooth functioning of government at all levels, and to society as a whole.

**Integration**—The arrangement of efforts to reduce redundancy and operate as a whole.

**Mission Assurance (MA)**—A process to protect or ensure the continued function and resilience of capabilities and assets – including personnel, equipment, facilities, networks, information and information systems, infrastructure, and supply chains – critical to the execution of DoD mission-essential functions in any operating environment or condition.

**Mission Assurance assessment (MAA)**—Assessment of the discipline under the mission assurance umbrella (antiterrorism; DCI; chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosive preparedness; chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear survivability; emergency management; cybersecurity; explosives safety; physical security; continuity of operations, force health protection) to identify vulnerabilities and gaps that could prevent accomplishment of a unit, installation, or higher authority mission.

**Mission Assurance Construct**—The DoD-wide risk management approach that synchronizes and integrates aspects of multiple security, protection, and risk management efforts throughout DoD to manage the risk to the Department’s strategic missions. The MA Construct is made up of four process: identification, assessment, risk management, and monitoring.

**Mission Assurance Coordination Board (MACB)**—A Governance structure co-led by OSD and JS focused on issue resolution for defense critical assets (DCAs) and select task critical assets (TCAs).

**Risk**—The probability and severity of loss linked to threats or hazards and vulnerabilities.

**Risk management**—A process by which decision makers accept, reduce, or offset risk and subsequently make decisions that weigh overall risk against mission benefits. Risk management is composed of risk assessment and risk response.

**Task critical asset (TCA)**—An asset of such extraordinary importance that its incapacitation or destruction would have a serious, debilitating effect on the ability of one or more DoD or OSD Components to execute the capability or mission-essential task it supports. TCAs are used to identify defense critical assets (DCAs).

**Threat**—An adversary having the intent, capability, and opportunity to cause loss or damage.

**Vulnerability**—A weakness or susceptibility of an installation, system, asset, application, or its dependencies that could cause it to suffer a degradation or loss (incapacity to perform its designated function) as a result of having been subjected to a certain level of threat or hazard.