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**Operations**

**AIR AND SPACE DOCTRINE**

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(Lt Col David C. Martin)  
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Certified by: HQ USAF/CC  
(Gen Michael E. Ryan)  
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### ***SUMMARY OF REVISIONS***

**This document is substantially revised and must be completely reviewed.**

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

- 1.** The Air Force will develop, promulgate, and teach this doctrine as a common frame of reference for the best way to employ air and space forces. 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 will describe air and space missions, tasks, and operating environments, guide commanders on employment of air and space power, guide weapon development programs and force planning, guide organizational and personnel policies, provide the foundation for training and professional development of Air Force personnel, and provide the foundation for Air Force contributions to joint and multinational doctrine development. Development will follow the processes described in AFI 10-1301, *Air and Space Doctrine*.
- 3.** The following responsibilities and authorities are established:
  - 3.1.** Headquarters, Air Force Doctrine Center (HQ AFDC) is the lead agent (LA) for basic and operational Air Force doctrine. HQ AFDC performs these duties for joint and multinational doctrine when the Air Force is designated LA. HQ AFDC designates the primary review authority (PRA) for Air Force basic and operational level doctrine and joint and multinational doctrine programs for which the Air Force has been designated LA. When required, HQ AFDC may designate a major command (MAJCOM), direct reporting unit (DRU), field operating agency (FOA), numbered air force (NAF,

when a component of a unified command) or Air Staff directorate as PRA for Air Force operational level, joint, or multinational doctrine projects.

3.2. HQ AFDC will act as the Air Force single point of contact for the development of all Air Force, joint, and multinational doctrine, at both the basic and operational levels. It will conduct the Air Force doctrine development program. HQ AFDC 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. HQ AFDC is a DRU reporting directly to the Air Force Chief of Staff. HQ AFDC will serve as the coordinating review authority (CRA) for joint doctrine and tactics, techniques, and procedures for which the Air Force is not designated LA. HQ AFDC will coordinate directly with the Joint Warfighting Center (JWFC), the Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC), the Naval Doctrine Command (NDC), and the Marine Corps Combat Development Command (MCCDC) on matters related to joint doctrine development. The HQ AFDC Commander will communicate with these agencies at the general officer level.

3.3. HQ AFDC works policy and advocacy issues for doctrine matters. HQ AFDC, Air Force Liaison Division, Pentagon, will act as the Air Staff point of contact for doctrine matters and conduct formal joint doctrine coordination in accordance with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction (CJCSI) 5711.01, Policy on Action Processing. HQ AFDC also completes Air Staff doctrine coordination for final approval of the 1- and 2- series Air Force Doctrine Documents (AFDDs) by the Air Force Chief of Staff. HQ AFDC is responsible for format guidelines, final editing, and overseeing design and layout, as well as establishing and maintaining distribution lists. SAF/AAD is responsible for budgeting and publishing AFDDs.

3.4. MAJCOMs may be assigned responsibility as PRA for Air Force or joint doctrine development projects when the appropriate expertise is not resident at the HQ AFDC. They will normally be designated technical review authority (TRA) for doctrine development in their areas of responsibility. They are responsible for developing, coordinating, and publishing Air Force Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (Interservice) (AFTTP(I)), AFTTP 3-series documents, and Air Force Pamphlet (AFPAM 11-2-series) tactical doctrine manuals. They also ensure that all tactical doctrine manuals and pamphlets are consistent with Air Force and joint doctrine and provide copies to the HQ AFDC. Additionally, MAJCOMs will comment on various Air Force, joint, or multinational doctrine development projects as requested. AFI 10-1301 sets forth specific procedures for commenting.

3.5. Air University provides research support to the HQ AFDC, MAJCOMs, and FOAs for doctrine development projects. Air University is also responsible for doctrine education within the Air Force.

3.6. Numbered air forces 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. The Air Staff International Standardization Office (HQ USAF/XOOX (ISO)) will coordinate for staffing multinational doctrine projects such as NATO Standardization Agreements (STANAGs); Air Standards and Advisory Publications of the Air Standardization Coordinating Committee; and those agreements of the American, British, Canadian, and Australian (ABCA) Armies and Navies that can affect air forces.

4. Related documents are AFI 10-1301; AFI 33-360, Volume 1, *Publications Management Program*; Joint Pub 1-01, *Joint Publication System*; and Joint Pub 1-02, *DOD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms*.
5. See **Attachment 1** for references and supporting information.
6. See the HQ AFDC WWW site at <http://www.hqafdc.maxwell.af.mil> for the Air Force Doctrine Hierarchy.

F. WHITTEN PETERS  
Acting Secretary of the Air Force

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

CJCSI 5711.01, *Policy on Action Processing*

JP1-01, *Joint Publication System*

JP1-02, *Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms*

AFI 10-1301, *Air and Space Doctrine*

AFI 33-360, Volume 1, *Publications Management Program*

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**ABCA**—American, British, Canadian, and Australian

**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

**CRA**—Coordinating review authority

**DRU**—Direct reporting unit

**FOA**—Field operating agency

**HQ AFDC**—Headquarters, Air Force Doctrine Center

**ISO**—International standardization office

**JP**—Joint publication

**JTTP**—Joint tactics, techniques, and procedures

**LA**—Lead agent

**MAJCOM**—Major command

**MCCDC**—Marine Corps Combat Development Command

**NAF**—Numbered air force

**NATO**—North Atlantic Treaty Organization

**NDC**—Naval Doctrine Command

**PRA**—Primary review authority

**STANAG**—NATO standardization agreement

**TRA**—Technical review authority

**TRADOC**—Army Training and Doctrine Command

**WWW**—World wide web

### *Terms*

**Basic Doctrine**—Fundamental and enduring beliefs that describe and guide the proper use of air and space forces in military action. It describes the “elemental properties” of air and space power and provides the airman’s perspective. Basic doctrine provides broad and continuing guidance on how Air Force forces are organized and employed.

**Combined Doctrine**—Fundamental principles that guide the employment of forces of two or more nations in coordinated action toward a common objective. It is ratified by participating nations. See also joint doctrine; multi-Service doctrine. (Joint Pub 1-02)

**Coordinating Review Authority**—An agency appointed by a Service or combatant command to coordinate with and assist the primary review authority in doctrine development, evaluation, and maintenance efforts. Each Service or combatant command must assign a coordinating review authority. If so authorized by the appointing Service or combatant command, coordinating review authority comments provided to designated primary review authorities should represent the position of the appointing Service or combatant command with regard to the publication under development. See also joint doctrine; joint tactics, techniques and procedures; lead agent; primary review authority. (Joint Pub 1-02)

**Joint Doctrine**—Fundamental principles that guide the employment of force of two or more Services in coordinated action toward a common objective. It will be promulgated by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in coordination with the combatant commands, Services, and Joint Staff. See also Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction; combined doctrine; doctrine; guidance; joint publication; joint tactics, techniques, and procedures; joint test publication; multi-Service doctrine. (Joint Pub 1-02)

**Joint Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (JTTP)**—The actions and methods that implement joint doctrine and describe how forces will be employed in joint operations. They will be promulgated by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in coordination with the combatant commands, Services, and Joint Staff. See also joint doctrine. (Joint Pub 1-02)

**Lead Agent**—Individual Services, combatant commands, or Joint Staff directorates may be assigned as lead agents for developing and maintaining joint doctrine, joint tactics, techniques, and procedures (JTTP) publications, or joint administrative publications. The lead agent is responsible for developing, coordinating, reviewing, and maintaining an assigned doctrine, JTTP, or joint administrative publication. See also coordinating review authority; joint doctrine; joint tactics, techniques, and procedures; primary review authority. (Joint Pub 1-02) [*HQ AFDC, performs the duties of the Lead Agent for the Air Force.*] {Italicized definition in brackets applies only to the Air Force and is offered for clarity.}

**Multi-Service Doctrine**—Fundamental principles that guide the employment of forces of two or more Services in coordinated action toward a common objective. It is ratified by two or more Services, and is promulgated in multi-Service publications that identify the participating Services, e.g., Army-Navy doctrine. See also combined doctrine; joint doctrine; joint tactics, techniques, and procedures. (Joint Pub 1-02)

**Operational Doctrine**—Describes more detailed organization of air and space forces and applies the

principles of basic doctrine to military actions. Operational doctrine guides the proper employment of air and space forces in the context of distinct objectives, force capabilities, broad functional areas, and operational environments. Basic doctrine and operational doctrine provide the focus for developing the mission and tasks that must be executed through tactical doctrine.

**Primary Review Authority (PRA)**—The organization assigned by the lead agent to perform the actions and coordination necessary to develop and maintain the assigned joint publication under cognizance of the lead agent. See also lead agent. (Joint Pub 1-02)

**Tactical Level Doctrine**—Describes the proper employment of specific weapons systems individually or in concert with other weapon systems to accomplish detailed objectives. Tactical doctrine considers particular tactical objectives and tactical conditions and describes how weapon systems are employed to accomplish the tactical objective. Tactical doctrine is codified in Air Force Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (AFTTP) 3-series manuals.

**Technical Review Authority (TRA)**—The organization tasked to provide specialized technical or administrative expertise to the primary review authority or coordinating review authority for joint [*or Air Force*] publications. See also coordinating review authority, primary review authority. (Joint Pub 1-02) {Italicized definition in brackets applies only to the Air Force and is offered for clarity.}